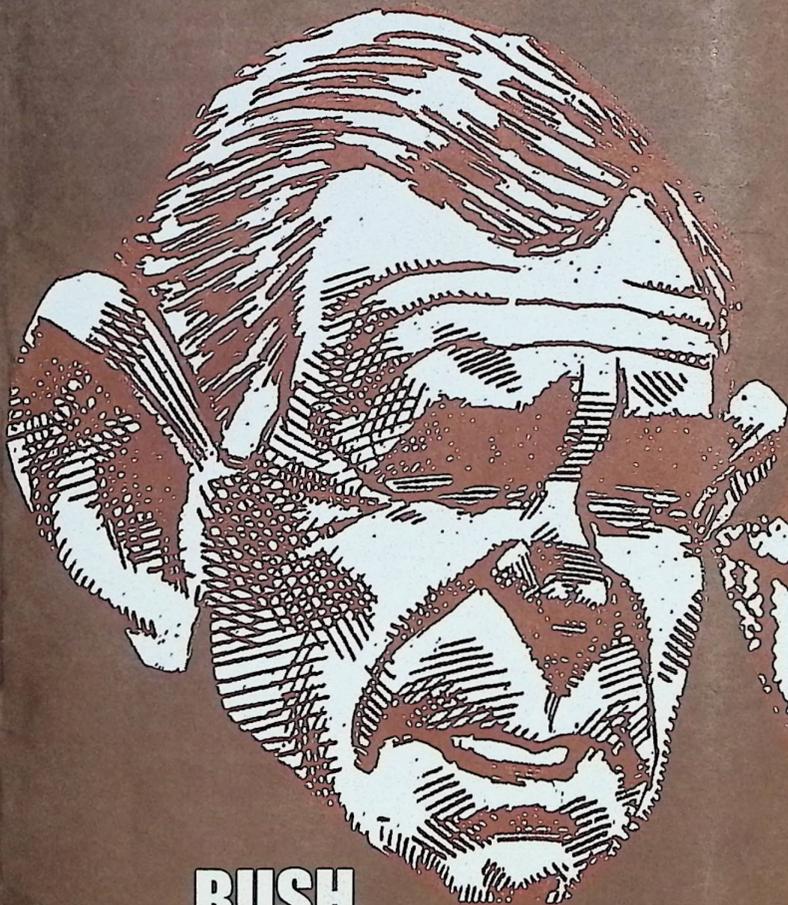


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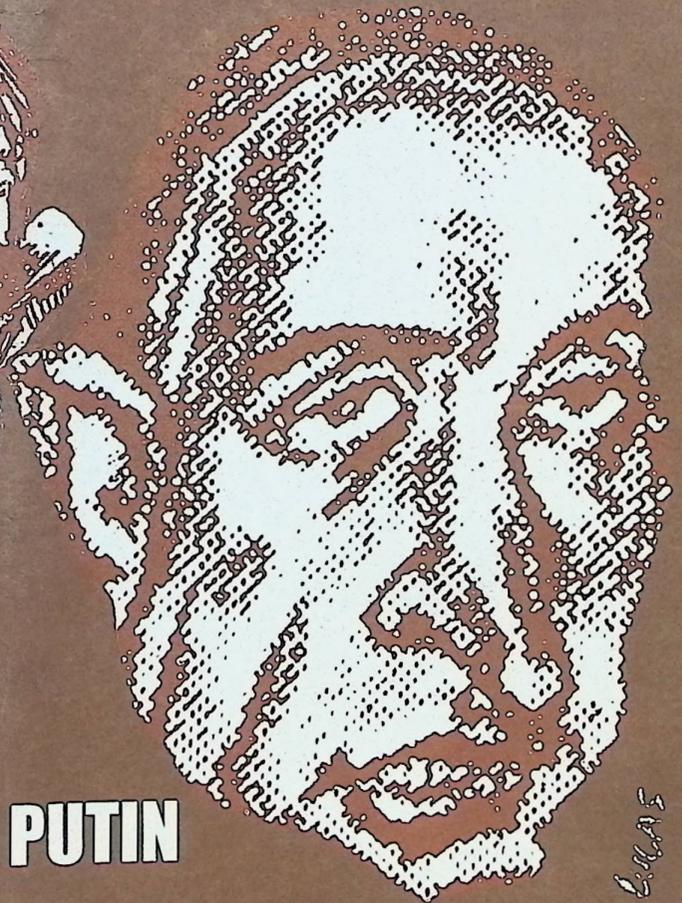
ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH SOVIET PEOPLE VOL. 12 #6, FEB. 2004

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## WHAT HAVE THESE TWO PRESIDENTS IN COMMON?



**BUSH**



**PUTIN**

***They Pray to God and they Prey on the People***

MLUCAS

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2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress will be in  
Toronto, Canada, September 2004.  
We will open up in 2004 a financial  
campaign for  
**\$20,000**

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# An open Letter Concerning Our 2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress

As we begin preparations for the Second World Congress of our International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People for the month of September of this year, we seek your advice and thoughts concerning the event. Regrettably we must inform you that our efforts to locate the event in Europe have thus far have been unsuccessful. As a result, the only possible location for the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress is Toronto, Canada, under circumstances similar to the 2001 Congress, which might include even greater difficulties in obtaining visas.

We believe it is unnecessary to dwell here on the terrible wars, invasions and highly political reasons and events that have come into force since the First World Congress. You will recall our initial 1st Congress took place within days of the unprecedented destruction of the World Trade Centre and loss of more than 3,000 lives in New York city. That terrible event has been widely and shamelessly used and has become the all-embracing US smokescreen and excuse for ferocious and aggressive actions by Imperialist monopoly.

In particular, we point out the Bush administration in the USA and the Blair government of Great Britain. It is obviously true that rather than a deterioration of Imperial military action that could lead to the furtherance of Friendship, Solidarity and Peace, exactly the contrary confronts us all. Falsely proclaimed by the Imperialists as a "Clash of Civilizations" between the "Muslims and Christians", the world now has expanded aggressive wars for oil and gas resources. You are aware that it has remained our contention that the growing war and violent situation against the countries of Central and Southern Asia and the Middle East is a further encroachment and assault on these

people by the Western Imperialist powers, in particular, we accuse the above mentioned states of the USA and Great Britain. Together with other developed monopoly capitalist economies and systems and based on their insatiable consumption of energy, oil and gas resources, the military occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan and the continuing refusal of the rights of the Palestinian people, coupled with US outright rejection of the historic role of the United Nations Organization, threatens not only regional wars and conflicts, but in reality raises escalating threats of possible world war. The presence of US, British and other military forces within the boundaries of country after country, underlines the global threat, firstly for the occupied countries. Particularly notable in this regard are the oil rich and pipeline hosts of former Soviet Republics, including Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenia, Kirghizia and others.

This is only a partial recitation of issues that will properly belong before our proposed Second World Congress. They arise and are integral to our ongoing program of Friendship, Solidarity and Peace that we have advanced during the almost twelve years of NSC publication, which is the organ of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People. Let us be absolutely clear: in no way, and under no circumstances does our organization support "terrorism", whether it be practiced by the US-British Imperialist "terror bombing" and military and economic theft and subjugation of whole countries and peoples; or develops from actions such as destroyed the central symbol of US imperialism, the World Trade Center, causing the loss of thousands of lives.

But, when we compile all of

**To: Members of the International Council, Readers and Subscribers, Friends, Fellow Travelers...and Those Who Wish To Be...**

the numbers of "terror" killings of innocents by the Imperialist military and bombing actions and compare it with the numbers of colonial and neo-colonial victims in the Imperialist subjugated "colonial" lands of the earth, monopoly Imperialist war and aggression, unacknowledged, "terrorist guilt" stands as a mountain besides a tiny molehill in any historic sense.

As for our World Congress at this juncture of time, in all frankness, and truth, questions have been raised, particularly from some leading Soviet "friends", as well as by others, to the real effectiveness of another Toronto, Canada based Congress, together with important issues, as to how greater and more effective assistance can be developed for our Soviet friends and the restoration of Socialist future for all of the dismantled Soviet Republics.

Throughout our activities, during the past many years, we have stated correctly and in all honesty, that we are not a "political party". We have repeatedly called for the restoration of Soviet Socialism in whatever forms the Soviet people should decide, and we repeat that proposal with deep sincerity of purpose and desire in this **Open Letter**. During the passing years, we have waited patiently and with highest hopes to hear of the emergence and rebuilding of a genuine Marxist-Leninist political party of the working class, in all of the now separate and

now isolated Republics, formerly constituting the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. But now, we are forced to believe that the Soviet Union cannot and will not be reconstituted without the real development of such a revolutionary proletarian led political force, welded to a massive movement of the people for that end.

It has been disheartening and frustrating to witness the division of the left political forces in the dismembered USSR and failure to achieve these essential political formations to this date. We have witnessed what has appeared to us to have been a heroic effort in that direction, but to date, emergence of multiple "Communist" forces has meant failure in that direction. In all humility we have come to the conclusion that the rejection of the Marxist-Leninist revolutionary understanding and practice that defended and built the former Soviet Socialist Union or that might restore it now, is the direct result of the failure to comprehend the essential Marxist-Leninist truth, that while the working class and people under certain conditions can and will carry through revolutionary action, **they are the only force that can create revolution. Alienation of the proletariat creates a disaster.** Communist Parties that fail to understand this simple Marxist-Leninist theoretical role are doomed to failure because of bureaucracy, and as a result, are alienated from the working class and people.

It is not for us to point fingers or make recriminations to the Soviet people on this score, but history dating back to the internal struggle within the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the emergence of bureaucratic treachery as shown in the Krushchev-to-Gorbachev-Yeltsin mis-leadership seems to indicate this with crystal clarity.

We have concluded (even at this distance) that this abandonment of Leninist leadership had alienated the working class of the Soviet Union and brought installation and growth of bureaucratic, self-serving forces. We suggest that this is what lies at the heart of the current debacle in all of the former Soviet Republics. Again, it is not our place to state definitive and final answers as to why such a desperate situation continues

in the former Soviet Republics. We state clearly, that such definitive answers must come primarily from the Communist Parties.

But on a wider scale, who can ignore the fact that from the time of the advent of the Krushchev leadership, and the "demonization" of the Leninist policies of Stalin in the former USSR, practically **every Communist Party world-wide, likewise suffered divisions and splits with loss of basic relations**



**with their native working classes and people.** In case after case, parliamentary and reformist revisions replaced adherence to and promotion of the revolutionary role of the working class. Seeking the "respectability" of Social Democratic avenues became all too common.

We raise these questions with our readers, Executive members and supporters, because at this juncture, while we begin preparations for our World Congress and with the establishment of the Russian Society for Friendship with Foreign Countries, we believe that without an open, critical and self-critical discussion of the issues and problems suggested above, we will achieve few meaningful conclusions.

We have been made aware that despite the efforts of our many friends and supporters in the former Soviet Republics, we have little assurance that we can expect a representative delegation from there, due to the economic and political situation there. We believe that points to and suggests that our 2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress, necessarily held in Toronto, Canada, might not achieve the success we would expect. In turn, that raises the question: does the expenditures and frustrations we might encounter with finances and obtainment of visas at that time, merit the consideration of a possible postponement?

We believe that without greater assurances pointing to our success and honest tackling of the manifold and complex problems, we must

begin our preparations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress with great care and in a struggle for clarity. Bluntly, we believe, if as a result of our Congress a clear focus fails to emerge as to the road ahead, we would not succeed. We need assurances of wider, more thoroughly involved delegates from the corners of the world, and firstly, from former USSR, in order to achieve a meaningful success in establishing a world-wide movement for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People as a broad front movement.

It is for these reasons we are taking this measure to openly address you. Your opinion, and that of your organization is of vital and great importance. We appeal to you to discuss and address your conclusions to us as soon as it is possible. No final decision on the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress can be made and we earnestly solicit your views.

In this we would welcome any and all proposals critical and otherwise as to the work of Northstar Compass and of the International Council, past and future. For our part, we propose a continuation of our long established non-party basis as an international journal, carrying the "rays of light in the deepening gloom of Imperialist power", we proclaimed in our first issue twelve years ago.

The programs, historic in every respect of "Friendship, Solidarity (Internationally) and Peace", are indispensable. While we do not suggest they contain revolutionary political powers, among the working people these are of top rank and for all who stand steadfast against the wars and depredations on all continents.

With open frankness, honesty and clarity, they must be maintained and in this monopoly, Imperialist dominated era, emphasized and given new life. This is an important part of the "road to the future!"

Sincerely we address you...

FOUNDING MEMBERS OF  
NORTHSTAR COMPASS &  
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

**Michael Lucas, Editor and  
Chairman**

**Ray Stevenson, Associate  
Editor**

## This IS the USA!

The cost of the war in Iraq at the end of 2003 was \$100 billion.

32% of so-called precision-bombs dropped on Iraq civilians were NOT precision-guided.

USA under Bush has now a \$374 billion deficit as of the end of 2003.

The record for most bankruptcies in 2002 was 1.57 millions.

As Governor of Texas, George Bush executed more prisoners (152) than any other governor in US history.

America is the only country openly to acknowledge executing children. ■

## NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT?

By GREG PALAST

On the Bush State of the Union Message last month.

Go ahead George, and lie to me. Lie to my dog. Lie to my sister. But, don't you ever lie to my kids!

Deep in your State of the Siege lecture last month, long after sensible adults turned off the tube or kicked in the screen, you came after our children. **"By passing the No Child Left Behind Act"** you said: *"We are regularly testing every child...and making sure they have better options when schools are not performing."*

You said it...and then that little tongue of yours came out; that weird way you stick your tongue out between your lips like the little kid who knows he's fibbing. Like a snake licking a rat. I saw that snaky tongue dart out and I thought, *"He knows"*.

And what you know Mr. Bush is this: you've ordered this testing of the children in order to hunt down, identify and target for destruction the hopes of millions of children you find too expensive, too heavy a burden, to educate.

## SPECIAL FOR NORTHSTAR COMPASS



Here's how **"No Child Left Behind"** and your tests work in the classrooms of Houston and Chicago. Millions of 8 year olds are given lists of words and phrases. They are graded, like the USADA beef: some prime, some OK, many failed.

Once the kids are stamped and sorted, the parents of the marked children will ask you to fill your tantalizing promise, *"to make sure they have better options when schools are not performing."*

But there is no better **"option"**, is there Mr. Bush? Where's the money for better schools to take the kids getting crushed in cash-poor districts? Where's the open door to the rich suburban campuses with the big green lawns for the dark kids with the test-score mark of Cain?

And if I bring up the race of the kids with the low score, don't get all snippy with me, telling me that it's not the color of the kids you went to school with at the Philips Andover Academy.

You know and I know that the testing is a con. There is no better **"option"** at the other end. The cash went to the end in the inheritance tax, that special program to give every millionaire's son another million.

But you'll tell me George, that you took tests as a youth. I know you did. And you scored on the Air Guard flight test 25 out of 100, one point above too dumb to fly. But you zoomed past the other would-be fly boys. They were stamped. **"Ready for Vietnam"**. And you took a test to get into Yale. And though your pet rock scored a wee bit higher than you, your grandpa on the Yale board provided you the better **"option"** which got you in.

Here in New York City, your educational Taliban, like the Republican Mayor Bloomberg, had issued an edict to test the third-graders. Winnow out the chaff and throw them back, exactly where they started, to repeat the same failed program another year. In other words, the core edict of **"No Child Left Behind"** is that failing children will be left behind another year. And another year and another year.

You know George and I know that this is not an educational opportunity at all program – because you offer no opportunities, no hope, no plan, no funding. Rather it is the new Republican Social Darwinism, educational eugenics: Identify the nation's loser class early on. Trap them, then, train them cheap. The system will provide the new worker drones of capitalism that will clean the toilets at the rich Yale Club, to punch the McDonald's cash registers color-coded for illiterates, to pamper the winner-class on the higher floors of the new service economy order. ■

# DIVIDE & RULE

By V. RATSMAN  
National Chairman  
Canadian Friends  
of Soviet People  
Nova Scotia



Capitalism as an economic system takes no prisoners. Its brutal laws dictate that, when your opponent is down, you take full advantage of the opportunity to strengthen your own position, downgrading, or even killing your competitor's business in the process. The philosophy behind this system is very simple "Every Man for Himself" and "May the Strongest Win". This manner of operating an economic system has inevitably resulted in a growing concentration of economic power in the hands of fewer and fewer people.

This method of running the world is fundamentally endorsed by all of the capitalist governments in all countries. Yes, there are differences of shade between them, as some clearly are more socially oriented than others, but none of them will challenge the fundamental principles of the system. And since social services are costly, countries with the fewest services will gain advantage over their competitors. Thus we see today an attack on the living standards of the working class in all the developed nations and an ever-greater concentration of wealth accumulating at the top.

It would be fair to lay the blame for this trend today at the foot of the United States of America, since all of the capitalist states participate in this process. Individual countries through economic unions and large free trade pacts to strengthen their positions vis a vis the world competitors, thereby dividing the world into a handful of large competing regions. It hardly needs to be said that democracy is not enhanced by this process, as individual countries yield more and more of their powers to larger and often un-elected boards and commissions, who rule on the basis of what is in the best interest of the multinationals within their collective region, in order to keep them competitive with outside forces.

To enforce and strengthen this process even further, countries which are un-cooperative or outright oppose it are threatened with economic boycotts, sanctions, embargoes and even military intervention. In this process the USA, as the strongest nation and at the head of NATO, leads the wolf pack in the attack. Frequently its intelligence apparatus zero in on the local sensitivities within the country, stirring up discord and mistrust among its people, thereby forcing the government to react. These secretive actions are further re-enforced by the seeding of inaccurate, misleading and outright false information among the population, thereby further eroding the support and authority of the government. At the opportune moment, when the political climate is considered ripe, they strike, overthrow the government and replace it with a number of handpicked individuals, who dance to the capitalist tune like puppets on a string.

Large countries, which could form a threat to US hegemony of the world, like the Russian Federation, China, and ultimately even the European Union, will be threatened with division of their own territories as the battle for hegemony progresses. Carving them up into smaller units reduces the possibility of any of them becoming a serious challenge to the USA, something that the US has vowed to prevent.

A few examples - The former Soviet Union's 15 Republics were broken up into 15 independent countries after the dissolution of the USSR. One by one of the new rulers of these countries, many of them are anything but democratic, have taken the bait (*bribes might be a better word*) of US dollars in so-called "aid", usually in exchange for US military presence on their territory. Multinational corporations are not far behind, with their greedy eyes

focused on access to each nation's resources. Out of these 15 separate countries in ex-USSR, only the Russian Federation with its huge land mass and rich resources and still in possession of a large weapons arsenal, could yet present a challenge to US hegemony, even though its erstwhile powers are reduced considerably. That is why one might expect in the coming years that friction and turmoil will be generated in the Russian Federation, in an effort to split the country into many independent pieces. The seemingly unsolvable problem in Chechnya for example, maybe just a forerunner of what is to come in this scenario.

The former Yugoslav Federation is another example. Unwilling to conform to the rules of the New World Order, and being located in the heart of Europe, it simply had to go. The Balkan region, which has a long and a very troubled history, succeeded after World War II in uniting a number of ethnic peoples into the Yugoslav Federation, which under its own form of socialism managed to live peacefully together for about 50 years. After the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the return to capitalism in most East European nations however, Yugoslavia was considered out of step with the rest of Europe and old feuds were re-awakened to ensure its break-up. In this case, military force was used to ensure its success.

A region to watch today is South America, which the USA attempts to bring under its umbrella through the Freed Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). However, some countries prefer a different trade pact, uniting just the South American nations, which are at a more equal level in their development. With the backing of the USA, the democratically elected government of Venezuela

was already overthrown once, albeit this coup was reversed in two days. And there's hardly any need to mention the Middle East, as the process of dividing and carving up the Arab world is presently on-going for everyone to see.

China has the potential to become perhaps the greatest challenger to US hegemony. It's own brand of "Chinese Socialism" now incorporates more and more capitalist methods, including the great inflow of multinationals and its own growing capitalist class, which is represented even in the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China! In the long run, this does not bode well for China's huge working class, as they will be subjected to the same pressures on wages and social services as the working peoples everywhere. Stirring up troubles to split China into smaller segments may be just a matter of time.

There is huge opposition to these developments in all corners of the world, as evidenced by the massive demonstrations at every international meeting of the world's powerful leaders. But despite some delays and victories achieved in this manner, the process continues to role along. Many people who thought that the end if the Cold War and the bi-polar world that existed before the fall of the Soviet Union, would see great benefits for the common people, now are beginning to realize that the uni-polar world led by the United States of America is bringing more harm than good. And for all the old rhetoric about the Soviet Union, and Ronald Reagan's description of the USSR as the "evil empire", it is becoming evident day by day that such an empire is rapidly developing in the land if the former accuser, the USA!

### FACTS! FACTS! FACTS!

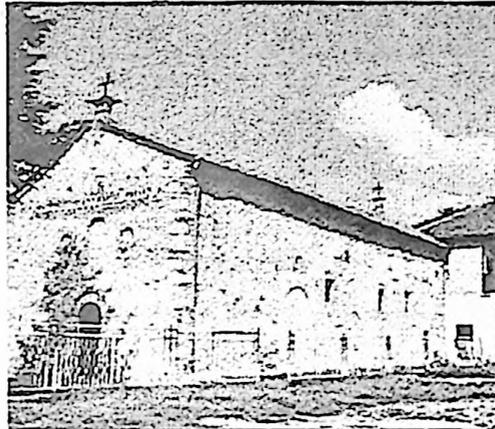
- \* 9 million US workers were unemployed in 2003.
- \* US has incarcerated 700 people from around the world at the Guntanamo Bay in Cuba.
- \* US is responsible for 40% of the world's military spending.
- \* Average wealth of each of Bush's 16-person cabinet is \$10.9 million

As for the people in the former Soviet Union, while a few have made fortunes in the past ten years, most are worst off now than before the collapse of their country. And while it is understandable that they do not want to return to the former system as was practiced after 1953, they would be wise to reconstruct

socialism on the existing remnants and start building anew. They were the pioneers of the first Socialist State in the world. Next time they could be the pioneers of the best Socialist State on this earth. They would do not only themselves, but all working people of the world a huge favour!

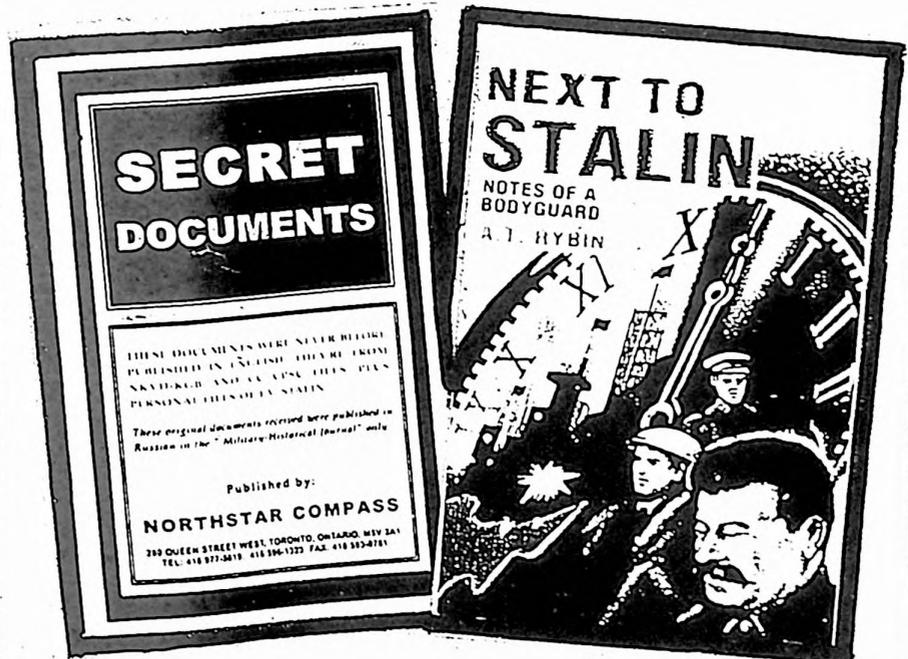
### WHO SUPPORTED AND SUPPORTS TERRORISM?

Under the eyes of NATO occupiers, the KLA (Kosovo Liberation Army has driven out the Serbian inhabitants, destroyed most Serb cultural heritage as was this Holy Trinity Monastery near Musutite which was built in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. US-NATO did not make any arrests. UN declared this a historical sight



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# NEWS FROM FORMER USSR

## MOSCOW, THEN AND NOW

NSC Correspondent

When Moscow was still the capital of the Soviet Union, one of the greatest features was the absence of organized crime, minimal petty crime and an almost absolute safety for its citizens, foreign tourists, diplomats, officials and foreign students. You could walk the streets of Moscow during the day or in the middle of the night and be totally free of any fear or threat of an attack or robbery. Many foreign students studied there free of charge, at the Lumumba Friendship University, to get a free education they could use to help improve conditions for the people back in their country.

Editors of NSC

### FOREIGN STUDENTS NOW DREAD MOSCOW STREETS

By Beth Mydans  
New York Times Service

The morning starts with 100 push-up for Constant Olivier Diboi Kath, as he prepares for the most dangerous moment of his day – his subway ride to the chemistry class on the other side of the city.

Diboi Kath, 23 years old, is an exchange student from Cameroon, and like many other African college students in Russia, he says that he feels threatened by racist thugs, every time he leaves his dormitory.

He has been beaten, abused during his 5 years at the People's Friendship University, where about one third of the students come from developing countries.

Since Perestroika and since coming to power in Russia, first Yeltsin, then Putin, the racial attacks on foreigners are growing – against Asians, Arabs and especially against Blacks and some of the victims include even diplomats of these countries. Last year Ambassadors from 37 African countries appealed to the Russian Foreign Ministry for protection for

their citizens. The human rights organization also blames the connivance of the police in these attacks.

The rise of skinhead groups is alarming and they enjoy support of the Russian Orthodox Church, since the church keeps very mum on these attacks, because it itself preaches Russian chauvinism instead of tolerance or internationalism.

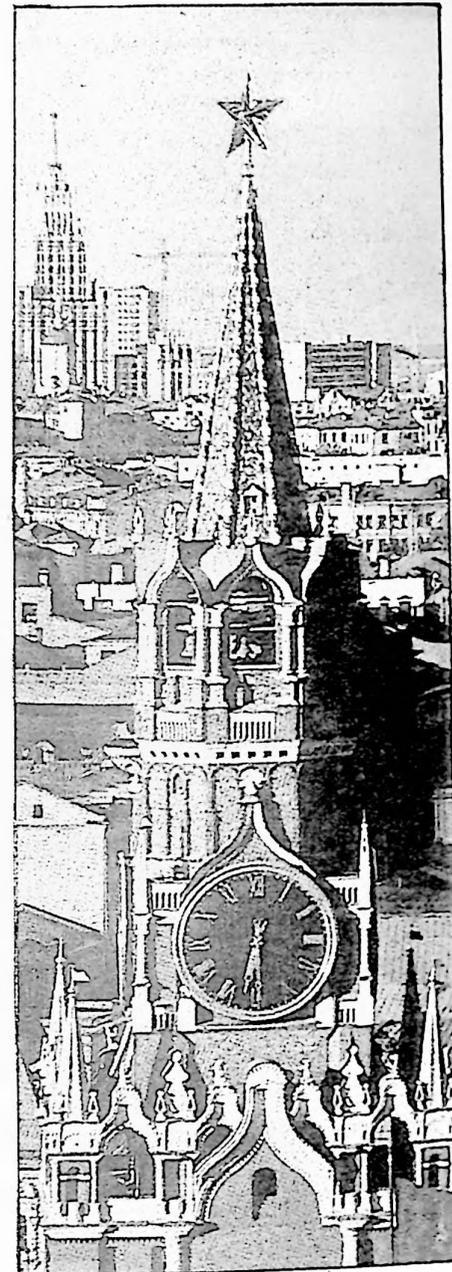
Some experts say that there are about 200 publications in Russia with racial overtones. The lack of a real and concerted struggle by the government of Putin or a crackdown on these skinheads, helps to promote them as "patriots".

Attacks such as happened last summer in Moscow at a McDonald's restaurant where a 19-year old medical student from Malaysia was beaten up because she was wearing a head scarf. The skinheads motto is "Russia is for Russians!"

The complete silence of the Russian Orthodox Church, the Putin's police and the whole government, helps to blame all foreigners for the terrible economic hardships of the country.

Most of these students just want to finish their University courses and get back home.

Yes, it's a far cry from Soviet times when streets were safe, there was internationalism practiced and any racism was dealt with harshly. Thousands of foreign students studied free in the USSR, received stipends and felt as if they were



home.

But that was Soviet "dictatorship"! Now it's Putin's "democracy".

**Can you see a difference?**

From newspaper "FORWARD"  
Minsk, Byelorussia

### OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT A.G. LUKASHENKO OF BELARUS

In the last few months most people living in Minsk, as all over our Republic are in a terrible state of economic hardships due to the unwarranted rise in costs for rent, communal services, not keeping up with the wages of the workers or their pensions. A case in point, during these hard winter months, the cost of hot water rose by 60% while the wages either were frozen or only

raised not even by 30%.

The state media always praises the growth of industry, but does not mention the privatization and the ongoing path towards capitalism which is self-evident. The main reason is the government's policy of more and more privatization of national industries and more and more foreign ownership.

We, the representatives of left opposition, we demand the lowering of the costs of social service as they were when the Soviet Union was existing.

We want you to listen to the people!



We demand less graft and more accountability to the people of Byelorussia!

We demand of you as president, to take steps to save the people from poverty, destitution, sicknesses and

start the improvement in health care, social services and put a stop to capitalism in Byelorussia!

All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks of Byelorussia



Braving a snowstorm last December 6, 2003, scores of protestors in Minsk demonstrated against capitalism and hardships.

### BOUGHT AND PACKAGED!

The New Russian Duma deputies met and the information that was given to the deputies by Putin's crony, the newly elected speaker Gryzlov, was that the pro-Putin party has now 300 seats, since they were able to get the dozen independent deputies to join the pro-Putin block.

Due to the revisionist policies of Zyuganov of the CPRF, they have only 52 seats.

Each new deputy received many perks, among them a free cell phone, courtesy of Mr. Soros!

Socialist Democracy must be ingrained in social behavior as well as political structure. Without its inclusion in the social practices of every day, life, no matter how successful the political structures are, democracy will not be able to exist in a true and effective sense.

## 72 HISTORICAL SOVIET VIDEOS TO CHOOSE FROM!

Let us know and we shall send you a Video Catalogue for your perusal and order.

### KOMSOMOL AND COMMUNIST POLITICAL PRISONERS

These are the young Komsomols and Communists are in prison as political prisoners in Odessa jails, Ukraine. The four pictured below are from Russia, Ukraine and Pre-Dniester Republic.

Others are Oleg Akekseev, Sergel Berdyugin (died in prison) Alexander Herasymov, Bogdan Zinchenko, Niunaz Polska, Evgeny Semenov, Amdrey Yakovenko

NSC and International Council has sent letters of protest to President Kuchma of Ukraine.



IGOR DANYLOV



ANNATOLEY PLEVO



ILYA ROMANOV



ALEXANDER SMIRNOV

## Sadistic games around the freedom for the Lithuanian communist Mikolai Burokiavicus

By Vladimir Pronin

As the developing situation showed, Communists and all patriots were happy that finally Mikolas will be free, because all of the facts pertaining to this provocative arrest were fabricated, and this was even admitted by the provocateurs who in January of 1991 organized this provocation. The Vilnius court therefore decided to free Mikolas on January 15, 2004, after being in jail for 10 years.

At the beginning, everything was going well for his freedom. At the end of October 2003 the deputy and member of the European Parliament for external affairs, member of the CC of the Communist Party of Greece, Stratis Korakos, visited Mikolas in jail and also visited the former Secretary for ideology of the Lithuanian Communist Party, O. Kulolialis. They discussed the falsification of the charges, the perspective of the legalization of the Lithuanian Communist Party and the joining of Lithuania the European Union and NATO.

During this meeting, Mikolas gave a letter to the comrades about the fabrication of charges against him and the background of the former president of Lithuania putting pressure on the Vilnius Court regarding Mikolas. The behind the scenes ongoing manipulations were tremendous and the idea was to not let the courts know all of the details as to how the fabrications against Mikolas were fabricated and by whom, including the illegal banning of the Communist Party of Lithuania.

The fabrications and the dismembering of the USSR was also laid at the feet of Gorbachev, who in 1991 gave his consent to the banning of the CPL. This is a historic falsification. This falsification was condemned even by the Russian Duma which sent a letter to the president of Lithuania, blaming Gorbachev and his ideological chief Yakovlev, plus documents by the Committee for the Rights of Freedom.

The leadership of the illegal (so far) Communist Party of Lithuania made statements that describe the falsification of the Lithuania joining USSR. That was blamed on the CPL instead of telling the truth that the majority of the people voting to join the USSR when the danger of fascism was very real. Also, when the 1991-92 debacle took place, there were still existing Soviets of Lithuania and the changes for the worst happened only after August 1992.

It is self-evident that the leadership of Lithuania decided to make certain that Mikolas suffers, because of his dedication and patriotism to Socialism, and thus his freedom was cancelled.

It is only through the international solidarity movement that Mikolas Burokravicus can be freed or his sentence reduced in this his 70<sup>th</sup> year. We have to break the imposed silence about this travesty of justice in Lithuania and in all other former Soviet republics. The more the people know about the treatment and injustice to Mikolas, the more people will demand his freedom.

*Unfortunately we had to shorten the article, even though it contains details of the legal wording of sentencing and other manipulative actions by the Lithuanian government.*

## \$42.9 BILLION REMOVED FROM RUSSIA IN 2003

From Pravda (RU)

Net removal of capital by individual Russian businessmen is going on unabated, and last year there was \$42.9 billion removed to offshore banks while in 2002 there was removed \$8.1 billion. This was reported last month by the Russian Central Bank.

**In 2001 the outflow of capital from Russia to off shore banks was a record high of \$14.8 billion.**

### COMMENT:

*Where is the demand and censure motion by Zyuganov and the CPRF members of the Russian Duma, demanding President Putin's resignation because of this robbery of the country?*

## MOST RUSSIANS BELIEVE THEY HAVE NO INFLUENCE OVER NATIONAL DECISION-MAKING

From Pravda, Jan.20/04

1,500 people took part in this survey and only one quarter of all Russians (24%) believe that democracy is primarily the power of the people. A further 20% said that democracy means the protection of human rights while 19% believe it means freedom of speech plus other answers. Curiously, 5-6% are convinced that democracy in Russia is characterized by anarchy plus a free press and the liquidation of Soviet power.

However, 92% of respondents said that Russian citizens either have no power to influence important national decisions or have very limited influence. Only 6% held the opposite view. Interestingly, most of those who believe in the ability to influence important decisions were members of the armed forces, while business entrepreneurs mostly said that their influence over such matters is limited(!?)

**YOU HAVE AN OPINION ABOUT NSC? WRITE!**

## LIVING WAGE IN RUSSIA NOT ENOUGH EVEN FOR A BRITISH CAT

From PRAVDA

The living wage for most workers is practically the same as the living optimum of a British cat.

In general, a British dog owner spends about 982 Pounds per year to maintain his pet. Keeping a cat is cheaper, about 476 pounds a year.

Sainsbury's Bank of GB issued a report saying that the whole of British nation spends 11, 23 billion pounds a year for domestic pets; the average means 586 pounds on average per dog and 328 pounds per year per cat.

According to the official report of the RF Central Bank, one British pound is about 53 rubles. So, the living wage in Russia is practically

the same as the living optimum of as British cat. Is this funny or is it more likely a tragedy?

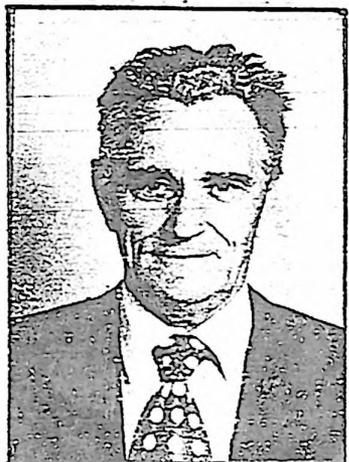
**COMMENT:**

*Well blimey!! Mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the noon-day sun. No wonder we didn't hear about the cats. They were loaned to Eastern Europe to work in the Actuarial Departments.* ■

## **Destruction of personality under conditions of social discomfort** *(Psychological notes)*



Olga Antipina, Psychologist



Professor Vladimir Herasymchuk

The most important feature of the contemporary World War is the global attack of the world's fascism and terrorism, under the leadership of the United States of America, on the interests of the working people and young national states of all the continents and regions. American imperialism uses more and more modern weapons in this battlefield,

including the weapons of mass destruction. But in the middle of this battle is human psychology, human soul. Washington's strategic goal is to destroy the personality of the Homo Sapiens. This process includes both the spiritual area of the society life and the physiological essence of a human being. Gradually, the whole nations are being wiped off the face of our planet. For example, the population of Ukraine during the last 10 years of the so-called "democratic" reforms has diminished by almost 4,5 million. This is similar to our losses during the WWII. In Russia every year the population diminishes to a degree compatible with losing one medium size Russian region. ("Pravda", 20/11/2003).

The whole armada of means and methods of bourgeois propaganda is nowadays, just as in the past, aimed at the destruction of the Soviet personality - formed in the Soviet times personality of a human being. Well-known ex-Soviet dissident who nowadays became passionate defender of the Communist idea, Alexander Zinoviev, explains: *"Throughout the whole Soviet history the West conducted a non-stop war against our country: firstly it tried to destroy USSR through the nazi Germany efforts during the WWII and then, immediately after that war was over, it started the so-called "cold war" that lasted almost half of a century. This was a real war, not some sort of a peaceful competition, as some want us to believe today. It was a war of a new type. From the West's side it included enormous masses of people and far more means than for WWII were used for it. And we should be surprised not by the fact that USSR has collapsed, but that it was able to resist for so long the enemies whose joint forces were 10 times bigger than his."* ("Communist", 06/01/2004)

At the same time, we have to take into consideration that this war is far from over. It continues. The ideological means and methods of the struggle, aimed at the destruction of personality of a Man-Creator, are now being used under the new conditions - those of an extreme social discomfort. As we know, before the Soviet people did not know what unemployment is. They were buying the objects of first necessities at symbolical prices, almost for free. Education, medical care, were free also. And then, suddenly, people, fooled by the

enemy's propaganda, almost voluntarily rejected all of this... Instead they have received a mirage, a fantasy "paradise" of the consumer society... All this appeared to be a road to nowhere. Social discomfort, dead end road...

Modern social, political and economical shake-ups in our country, sharp falling of the material and spiritual level of people's lives, mass unemployment, deepening of the gap between the rich and the poor, growth of the political and cultural illiteracy of the people and lowering of their general development level have lead to sharp worsening of the psychological and physical condition of society as a whole and of its citizens as privates. What we see is the disturbance of people's adaptation to the new, discomfort living conditions. The feeling of frustration appears and tends to grow - that is a feeling of suffering about life's misfortunes and of seeing no exit, no light at the end of the tunnel. Stress becomes more frequent and far deeper. This leads to development of various nervous and psychiatric diseases. In such situation a man can rarely find a constructive way out of this dead end road. Appropriate conditions are being created for further brainwashing of the already fooled citizens, by means of the bourgeois propaganda. That is why we are more and more often facing destructive behaviour of so many people. Its essence is in the ethical and psychological derivation from the norms, demolition and final destruction of the personality.

In order to weaken this process, to protect the people from the negative influence of the destructive environment we have to know the peculiarities of such influences, the main forms of the destructive behaviour. One of these forms is the desire of a man to escape from reality. Our current government practically would like to achieve ethico- psychological degradation of our people. That is why it encourages such degradation. Among the means used by men in order to escape from the discomfortable reality are alcohol, drugs and other toxically dangerous substances. For the same purpose various games, including computer games, sexual amorality, the so-called "modern" pop music etc are also being used.

But due to the deeper and deeper sinking of a human being into

the mist of alcoholic, narcotic or ideological mirage the rose view of the world disappears. It is impossible to escape the reality. The real road into the World of justice, equality and fraternity is the way of struggle. The problem is that those who suffer the sickness of spirit, are unable to fight! Continuing searching for a way out of the horrible daily life, physically and emotionally weakened man often ends his life tragically. More and more often we see such a form of destructive behaviour as suicidal - that expresses itself in the desire to end life voluntarily. Especially quickly grows the number of suicides since 1992, that means since the total capitalist reformation of our republic. According to the data of Association of Psychologists and Psychiatrists, as result of suicides Ukraine loses annually 1,5 times more people than from the homicides. Annually 13-14.000 people take their own lives.

What is the way out of this current situation? How to achieve the halt of this process of spiritual and physical destruction of a human personality? In order to do that, we must first of all, end the situation of social discomfort in our society. And there is only one way towards the realisation of this goal - that is the resurrection of our socialist Motherland. "Drugs abuse is a form of a *"shadow"* of our society,"- says psychiatrist from Dnepropetrovsk L.S. Saut. - "The way towards overcoming drug problem goes through positive changes in the society itself." ("Dovitni ogni", May 2003, no. 18)

Translated from Russian by  
Irina Malenkov

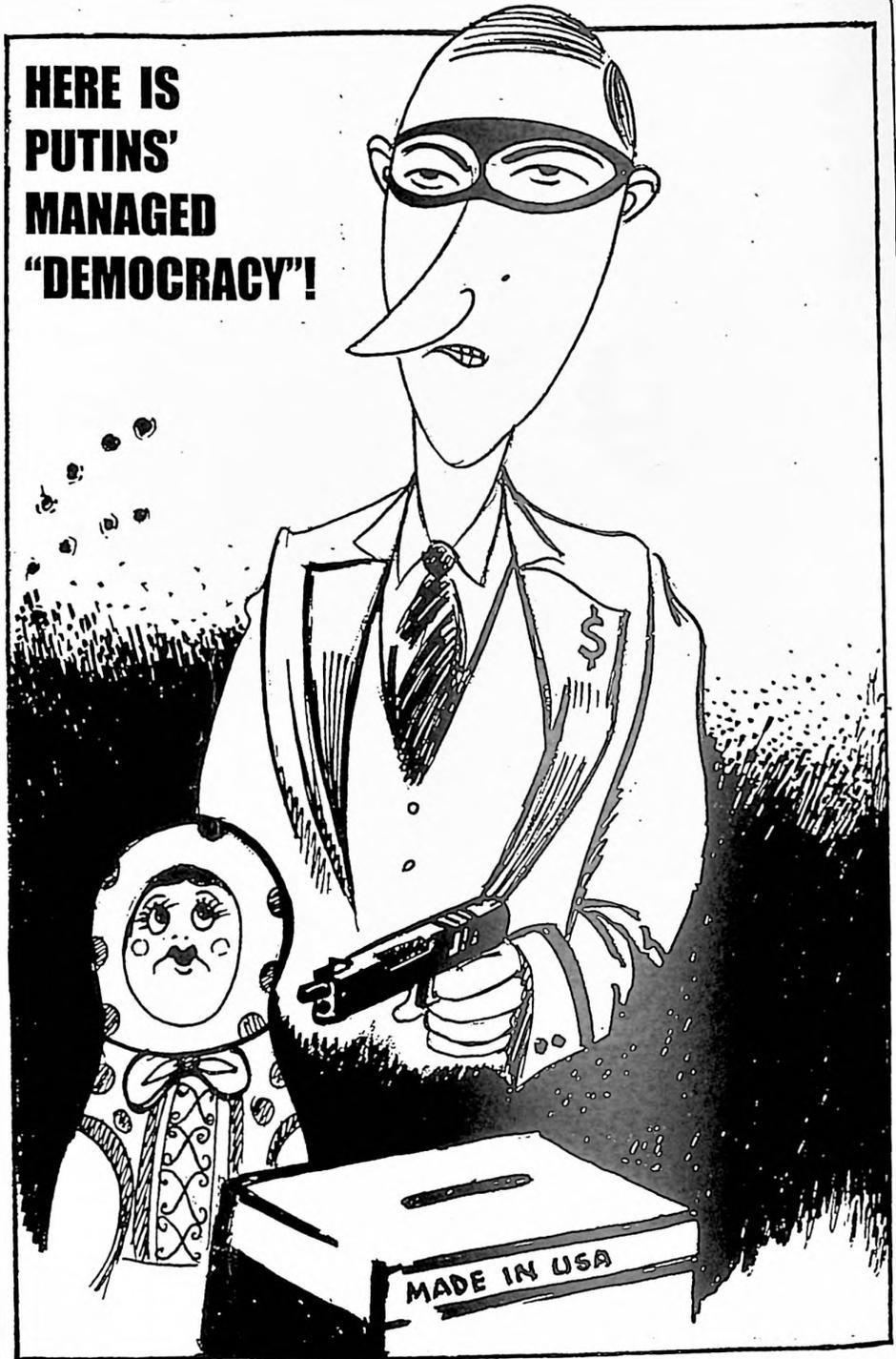
From newspaper  
**BOLSHEVIK**  
Odessa, Ukraine

### IS THIS A COMMUNIST?

In the center of Symferopol, in the Park of Victory, there is a monument to the glorious defenders of Symferopol against German fascists. In bitter fighting here it was where German fascism suffered a great defeat. The Monument had a Soviet tank on a pedestal, the first Soviet tank to enter Symferopol during the Great Patriotic War. In this Victory Park there is a cemetery for the Soviet soldiers who perished during this titanic struggle. The Soviet tank that is on the pedestal entered Symferopol on April 13, 1944.

## With the coming Russian election for President next month...

**HERE IS  
PUTINS'  
MANAGED  
"DEMOCRACY"!**



This park and this monument stood on the same place since 1944, until Leonid Grach, a member of the Communist Party of Ukraine, First Secretary of the Crimean Republic, returned from a visit to Brussels to meet other statesmen. Upon his return, he decided, without asking the people of Symferopol that he, together with the Russian Orthodox Patriarch, to demolish the Victory Park, take the Soviet Tank off and find another place for it. What was his reason?

He wants to build a Church-Cathedral and call it in memory of Alexander Nevsky.

Mr. Grach should remember, as a "communist" that this Church that stood there until 1930, was the center of all counter-revolutionary activities in Crimea of the White Guards and elements that fought against Soviet power and murdered people en masse.

# INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## ORANGE CODE TERROR ALERT BASED ON U.S. FABRICATED INTELLIGENCE

From Center For Research on  
Globalization

Last December 24, during the high holiday season, US intelligence forced the British, the French airlines to cancel, to abort, to change the routes, all based on US government saying that there are terrorists ready to hijack the planes and crash these airplanes into USA's targets. They actually forced these governments to have F-16 jets patrolling the skies.

Following the investigations by the French authorities, the al Qaeda terrorists turned out to be a five year olds boy, an elderly Chinese lady and a Welsh insurance salesman. A routine identity fiasco had contributed to breaking the holiday spirit across the US and France, Britain and even Mexico.

Was this incompetence or was it deliberate? Either way - a US public inquiry into the workings of the Homeland Security Department is long overdue.

After France exposed this farce, it was only on January 2, 2004 that the US authorities admitted that they were in error.

Manufacturing disinformation by the Homeland Security to create an atmosphere of fear and intimidation is not only a criminal act - it is an act of treason, because it emanates from the highest level of the US State Department.

## CAN YOU TELL THE DIFFERENCE?

By "TRUTH.ORG"

Here's part of what a reader wrote recently to the "Truth.org"-USA about Bush and Hitler.

"So far, I've seen nothing to eliminate the possibility that Bush is on the same course as Hitler. And I've seen too many analogies to dismiss the possibility ---

The propaganda. The lies. The rhetoric. The Nationalism. The flag

waving. The pretext of "preventive war." The flaunting of international law and international standards of justice. The disappearances of "undesirable" aliens. The threats against protestors. The invasion of a non-threatening nation. The occupation of a hostile country. The promises of prosperity and security. The spying on ordinary citizens. The incitement to spy on one's neighbours - and report them to the government. The arrogant triumphant pride in military conquest. The honouring of soldiers. The tributes to "fallen warriors". The diversion of money to the military. The dehumanization of government appointed "enemies". The White House establishment of "Homeland Security". The dehumanization of all "foreigners." The total lack of interest in the victims of the government policy. The incarceration of the poor and mentally ill. The growing prosperity from military ventures. The illusion of "goodness" and primacy. The new einsatzgruppen forces. Assassination teams. Closed extralegal internment camps. The militarization of the domestic police. Media black-out of non-approved issues. Blacklisting of protestors - including the no-fly lists and photographing dissenters at rallies.

There isn't much doubt in my mind - anyone who compares the history of Hitler's rise to power and the progression of recent events in the USA, cannot avoid the parallels.

**It's incontrovertible!**

## US fighter escorts worry pilots

From USA TODAY

Pilots and traffic control officials in the US are expressing deep concern that the US fighter pilots that are told to deploy because of the perceived threat of terrorist attacks and hijacking, state that the risks are too great and are causing worries, near accidents and panic for the passengers, due to the Homeland Security alertness.

Captain Stephen Luckey,

chairman of the US Air Line Pilot Association's security committee said that the benefits of fighter-jets escorts are not worth the potential risks. His union represents over 50,000 commercial pilots and they are of the same opinion.

Since the September 11<sup>th</sup> attack in 2001, there were over 1,600 fighter-jets intercepting commercial airlines, with many near collisions and near misses. Not only that, but with some trigger-happy fighter pilots, there were even some shoot-outs.

Luckey and other pilots charge that in many instances the US fighter pilots got so close to the commercial airliners that the commercial pilots had to take evasive actions in order not to have a collision and hundreds of deaths.

## NAZI NOSTALGIA SWEEP GERMANY-

based on article in The Scotsman

The German computer website "panorama-berlin.de" - has now become the most visited site in all Germany and it is being promoted with big money with the aim of getting the German youth to have nostalgic notions about Hitler's Nazi Germany.

This is very cleverly promoted satisfying an historical hunger.

Berlin was planned by Hitler after the Nazis after their New World Order victory, to be "Hitler's Rome" of the 1,000-year Reich, complete with triumphal avenue and a huge dome that would sit 180,000 people to listen to Nazi leaders promote fascism.

There are already posters and an animation of this plan by Hitler and his architect Albert Speer and the promotion is going into high gear now.

## "Bush Planned Iraq Invasion Before Sept. 11-Report"

By BILL HOWARD -Reuters

Former Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill charged in a new book that President Bush entered office in January 2001 already intent on invading Iraq and was in search of

way to go about it.

O'Neill was fired in December of 2002 as part of a shake-up of Bush's economic team, has become the first major Bush administration insider to launch an attack on the president.

He likened Bush at Cabinet meetings to a "blind man in a room full of deaf people", according to the excerpts from a CBS interview to promote book by former Wall, Street Journal reporter Ron Suskind, "The Price of Loyalty."

To go to war, Bush used the argument that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction and had to be stopped in the post Sept. 11, 2001 world. The weapons of mass destruction have not been found.

"From the very beginning, there was a conviction that Saddam Hussein was a bad person and that he needed to go." O'Neill said in the CBS "60 Minutes" TV interview. "For me, the notion of pre-emption, that the US has the unilateral right to go whatever we decide to do, is really a huge leap."

There are memos the CBS was told, one of them marked "Secret" which said already: "Plans for Post-Saddam Iraq".

## BENT ON WAR

O'Neill charges in the book that Bush was determined to find a reason to go to war and he was surprised that no one on the National Security Council questioned why Iraq should be invaded. The president said to us: "Go find me a way to do this!"

Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean accused Bush of using very questionable pretenses to justify the war with Iraq. He said: "The country deserves to know - and the president needs to answer - why the American people were presented with the misleading and manufactured intelligence as to why going to war with Iraq was necessary. These outstanding questions must be answered."

The book contains about 19,000 documents provided by O'Neill. O'Neill was fired by Bush, due to his disagreements over taxes. He spent two difficult very years in Washington, joining the Bush administration. ■

# U.S. PILOT SHOULD BURN, AS I AM BURNED:

The picture above shows Ali Sabbas, a 13 year old Iraqi boy who lost both arms during the bombing of Iraq, said: "I hope that the pilot who hit our house would be burnt as I am burned and as my family were burned!"

Images of Ali Abbas crying in excruciating pain in a Baghdad's hospital drew international attention. British doctors have since fitted him with artificial arms.

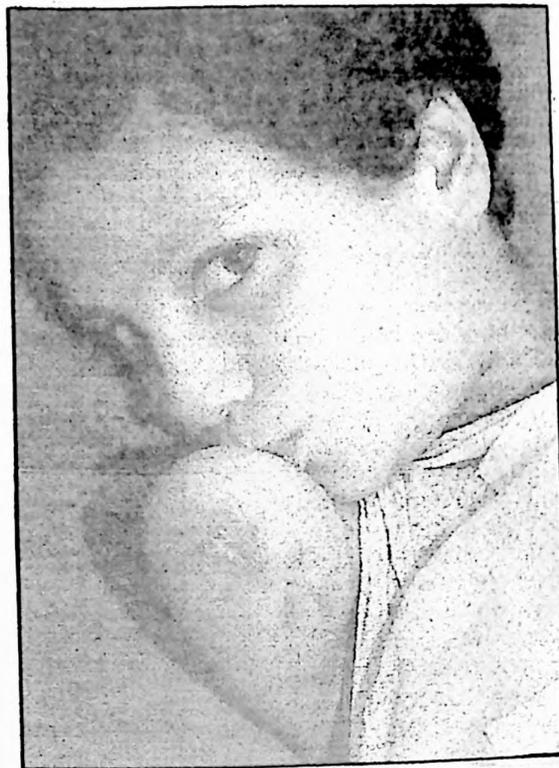
"I keep asking myself: why are they bombing Iraqi people? What have we done to them? Ali said in an interview with the Independent Television. Ali also criticized the British for their part in the war.

"When I was in the hospital they (Britain) sent me letters, but they still helped the Americans to bomb us!"

He recalled as he was being rushed to the hospital without his two arms, bleeding, screaming in pain - they were stopped by US soldiers.

"They asked questions like: Where are you going? Where are you heading? Who is this? Then they looked at my two arm stumps and just said - this is hopeless. But they did not help us to get to the hospital quicker at all. My uncle was left to drive through many road blocks and I passed out from the pain."

Ali was airlifted to a hospital in Kuwait as arranged by the Iraqi doctors who had to push their way



From The Ottawa Citizen, Oct. 2003

through the red tape of the US forces and later was brought to Britain.

How many hundreds of cases like this that are never reported at all? ■

## GREEN PARTY TREATED NOW AS "TERRORISTS"!

By Frederick Sweet-Intervention  
Magazine - January 6, 2004 - USA

Doug Stuber wrote about this in the Fairfield County Weekly in NC: For the readers of NSC, Doug Stuber ran the election campaign in the US for the Ralph Nader's Green Party. He tried to board a plane for a speaking engagement in Prague, Czech Republic. With ticket in hand he was not allowed to fly that day.

Asking "why not" the US security officers told him at Raleigh-Durham airport that because of the sniper attacks, no Green Party personnel were allowed to fly overseas. The next morning he returned to the airport, and instead of the \$670 round trip ticket, was forced into a \$2,600 "same day" air fare.

In the next 24 hours things turned from bad to worse. Stuber arrived at the airport at 6 a.m. but his flight was not due for another six hours. He had plenty of time. At exactly 10.52 a.m. just before boarding began, he was approached by a police officer

Stanley (the same officer that ushered him out of the airport yesterday) who said that "he wanted to talk" Stuber went with the police officer, but told the officer that his flight is about to leave.

The officer took Stuber into a room and questioned him for an hour. At noon he was interrogated by two US Secret Service agents from the Homeland Security. They took pictures of Stuber with a digital camera right into his eyes, then asked about his family, who he knew, what the Green Party is up to and other questions.

The Secret Agents showed him a document on which was written that the Green Party is a terrorist organization. Stuber was then released by about 1 pm and he thought that he might still catch the flight.

The agents took Stuber to the airline counter, he bought the ticket and he thought that finally he will be allowed to board the plane.

He was again not allowed to board the plane, and the police officer told him to go by bus or car to Greensboro and said "go there, they don't know you there, be mum and you might get to Europe yet."

Stuber said that he could only conclude that the Green Party, whose values include nonviolence, social justice, etc. are now labeled as terrorists.

In Greensboro, after a short shower, and after he showed his passport, he was told that he could not fly overseas or domestically again. Undeterred, he next traveled an hour and a half to Charlotte. In Charlotte, the same thing happened to him. Then Stuber drove three hours back to his home - **after 43 hours of trying to catch a flight.**

He now knows that under the new Ashcroft-led Justice Department, the Green Party is labeled as a terrorist organization.

Once your name is added to the Security List by organizations that you do not know about, it is practically impossible to find out who did it or why, or, to get your name off the list! But no one will disclose as to which agency put your name on the list in the first place! ■

**DO YOU FIND NSC ARTICLES TOO LONG?**

## Facts do not lie!

29,000 American troops – which is close to the total of a whole army division have either been killed, wounded, injured, committed suicide or ill as to be evacuated from Iraq, according to the US Pentagon.

## HOPE AND GLORY

By Red Horizon

It is sometimes said that time stops for no one, and I can't help but agree with that now that I will have completed 70 years of my life in a few months time. Another thing that shows such a relentless progression is the continuous advancement in technology. With every year there are new inventions, new systems and new equipment that is supposed to improve our lives and make living easier. Whether that is really the case may sometimes well be questioned, because for many people, life today is much more stressful and hurried, and whether people are really happier than "in the good old days" may well be subject to doubt.

The days of every January for many people is also a time when they looked back over the past year, or if not a year, perhaps over a longer period of time. For me it was like that too. On one of those cold winter evenings the way we have them here in Canada, in the Maritimes, I sat near the fire of our wood stove which, besides our central heating system provides a nice warmth here in the basement of our house where I have my computer and some other equipment and from where I write my articles.

On that particular evening, while looking at the flames in the woodstove, I decided to retrieve and play a few old phonograph records, which had been stored in a box for a long time. Fortunately, we still have one of those, now nearly obsolete record-players, so that the records are not yet totally out of date, I must say, that it was rather enjoyable to listen once again to the old alto-saxophone of Freddy Gardner, the Dutch Swing College Band and

some others. Out of the box came also a record from the Maastreechter Staar with beautiful choir music. One of the selections on the record was the song "Land of Hope and Glory", sung beautifully by the Dutch choir. And then suddenly arose a question: Is there actually such a thing as a land of hope and glory? Hope for who? And glory for who? This music was written around the year 1902 and was a patriotic tribute to the British Empire. It speaks of "Truth, Right (Justice) and Freedom", beautiful ideals for which we are still striving more than 100 years later.

Perhaps such a land exists only in peoples' dreams. Hope for one person means often despair for another and glory for some means defeat and loss for others. In my socialist way of thinking however, I see this in the framework of the class struggle, a battle between a majority of people who work to make a living and the minority of exploiters who profit from that labour. The Socialist Revolution in 1917 in Russia undoubtedly gave great hope to the poor and the oppressed population of that country (and beyond) while evens of November 7, 1917 became a glorious chapter in the history of the Soviet Union. With the working masses as the victors in the struggle, I would be able to describe the young Soviet State as a land of hope and glory. For the Czar and his bourgeois followers, it was of course the exact opposite. There are still many other examples, such for instance as the fall of apartheid regime in South Africa, an event that gave great hope for majority of the black population that Truth, Justice and Freedom would now prevail and would be the beginnings of a better life. But let us now take a more global view at our world of today.

Which country would you declare the land of hope and glory? We live in a time of great unrest everywhere in the world. Our private lives are becoming more and more hurried, and pressures to maintain our achieved standard of living are increasing steadily. Our democratically chosen governments have lost a good deal of their power through the signing of the free trade agreements and through the process of privatization, so that their ability to influence our lives has become less and less. The balance between the

public interest and the interests of private business conglomerates, do more and more favour the businesses, whose budgets nowadays are sometimes greater than the budgets of some individual states. And the scandalously high salaries and bonuses of business executives are in stark contrast to the growing poverty among the people.

At the international level we see, after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, which functioned as a counter-balance to the United States, a new situation consisting of a Unipolar superpower, the United States which sees the whole world as its "sphere of influence" and who doesn't shrink from using force, even when the large majority of the world population disapproves of such action. "What's good for the USA is good for everyone" seems to be the motto of the Americans, and whoever disagrees with that can expect "serious consequences". And furthermore: "Do as I say, not as I do." Furthermore, global rules and statutes apply to everyone, except to America or Americans.

The promised international aid that were made by the "rich" countries to the less developed nations in order to bring them to a higher standard of living (0.75% of GDP was adopted) as the standard amount, has fallen far short of the objective. In fact, sometimes the complete opposite of aid is being practiced, like in cases of the dumping of surplus food supplies in local markets, which end up putting local producers out of business, or the introduction of the genetically modified seeds which destroy centuries-old local practices. Also the use of patent laws by big pharmaceutical companies on medicines which are absolutely essential for the health of large populations in the Third World, but who do not have the financial means to purchase them, can be seen as a case of placing private profits before the saving of human lives.

In the meantime, a new arms race has been initiated by the United States, including "usable" nuclear weapons, the development of shields to intercept rockets, the so-called Star Wars project that will cost untold billions of dollars. At the same time there is no money to act against the danger of global warming (the

Kyoto Accord), something about which scientists have very great concerns and warn us, that unless action is taken now, it may in due course spell the end of human life on earth.

I could continue raising more alarm-flags, but it seems clear to me that a land of hope and glory can scarcely be found anywhere today. A global society (and that is what we have now under globalization) that is based on regulation by market forces and pursuit of maximum profits, which advocates unrestricted growth despite the great disastrous consequences, which frequently places private profits ahead of human well being and which uses the might and power of the strongest to dominate and oppress the weaker, such a society for the large majority of people never becomes a world of hope and glory. But, this is how capitalism and imperialism works as it spreads its wings further and further over the entire globe.

We have to build the world of Truth, Justice and Freedom so that it is applicable to everyone, every man, woman and child, wherever they may live. We have to build a society with a structure, where the riches of the world are divided in a just manner, where technological advances, especially where it pertains to health and living conditions of people, are used first and foremost in places of the greatest need, not in places that produce the largest profit. We have to work towards a world in which all people have the opportunity to earn a living for themselves in a socialist co-operative community, where collective responsibility for the well-being of each individual is the dominant force. That these ideas cannot be reached under an economic capitalist system which values competition to the death is not yet universally understood. From my vantage point however, it requires a revolutionary change in the power structure that rules the world today. Then and only then, can we speak of a world that is truly a Land of Hope and Glory. ■

In 2001 - 90% of US people approved of Bush's presidency, but as of January 16, 2004 it was only 53% and falling.

## UNDOCUMENTED, JAILED MIGRANT WORKERS ORDERED TO REGISTER FOR US MILITARY

By Daniel Gonzalez -

The Arizona Republic - Jan 13, 2004

The Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio, citing war and terrorism concerns, said that he is ordering all undocumented immigrants currently in jail to register for the US Army draft.

"My point is, if you come here illegally and you are going to receive benefits from this great country, you should follow the law and register for the Selective Service, and you should fight for this country", Arpaio said.

There are in this county only, about 500 undocumented immigrants housed in the county's jail system who have not complied with the 1980 US Federal Law that requires all men between 18 and 26 to register for the draft, regardless of their immigration status. An additional 2,300 inmates, out of a total 8,700 inmates (in this county of Arizona only - so imagine how many in the whole of USA?) will also be ordered to register, because they failed to do so earlier.

The USA's draft ended 30 years ago and was replaced by an all-volunteer military. Some members of the US Congress proposed reinstating the draft, this is still in the offing, depending on the future plans of Bush and his fight against "terrorism".

There is a promise that if they sign up for the draft - the benefits are promised, just so they will sign to be drafted and thus gain residence. ■

## AMERICA'S REFUGEES

By G.G. Yonkers, NY, USA

"Individuals have international duties which transcend the national obligations of obedience. Therefore (individual citizens) have the duty to violate domestic laws to prevent crimes against peace and humanity from occurring". Nuremberg War Crime Tribunal, 1950

More than once in the history of the United States of America, have its citizens risen against the prevailing laws to fight against the injustices of their



ruling class and escape from their oppression. Canada became their choice destination for American refugees who, who having opposed and disobeyed American laws, sought refuge in the country to their north. Perhaps, in not too distant future we will once again see this situation occur.

In the 1800's, during the days of slavery in the US, the Black American population frequently attempted to escape their white masters. They did this at the risk of death if they were captured. One of the most well known books, that covered the fate of six generations of one particular family was written by Alex Haley under the title "*Roots*". Americans and Canadians of those days who were sympathetic to the struggle of the slaves often risked their own lives trying to help them escape. The so-called "*Underground Railway*", which was a cover name for the route followed by the escapees, led from the South-Eastern USA northward to Canada, where they ultimately found the freedom they desired. Some Canadian communities formed by these people and those who fled during the American Revolution still exist to this day.

Another, more recent period of Americans fleeing to Canada occurred in the 1950's during the infamous McCarthy period. This group consisted of Communists, Socialists and other progressives who were being persecuted in the USA because of their political views. Many of them remained in Canada permanently to fight against the rightwing reactionary fascist policies in their homeland and abroad.

In the 1960's and early 1970's thousands of young men and women fled the USA to avoid being drafted into then US military and sent to fight in Vietnam - a war most of them bitterly opposed as being both unjust and unnecessary. Canada, once again served as the destination of choice for most of these young people and good many remained in Canada, even after they were allowed to return home without punishment.

Today, with America again embroiled in a war of its own masking, this time in Afghanistan and in Iraq, we may once again see a flood of refugees from America coming to Canada. In the years between the Vietnam War and the

present, the US has abolished the military draft and now operates with an entirely volunteer army. But its grandiose vision of an American Empire stretching from horizon to horizon wherever one may stand on earth, requires a huge number of troops, many of whom are now bogged down in an un-winnable guerilla war in both Iraq and Afghanistan. And the lack of international support for the US imperialist objectives, coupled with the refusal of the international community to assist the US with troops of their own, is threatening a hugely embarrassing defeat and an enormous costly failure for the Americans. Faced with this prospect, the Bush administration has quietly begun to resurrect the machinery necessary to re-institute the draft. The decision to do so may not have yet been made, but the ongoing preparations are an ominous sign for young Americans that Bush & Co. have in mind for them. Opposition to the war is growing in the US and Bush may yet not get elected (*or appointed*) for a second term, in which case the draft may not materialize. But the defeat of Bush is no forgone conclusion. One more reason for the youth of America to go out and ensure that the nightmare that is the Bush regime, is sent into oblivion. Lest you have to flee to Canada!

## The Colour of Bush's Sky

By WILLIAM RIVERS PITT  
*Truthout/Perspective*

During Bush's State of the Union speech last month, it took less than half an hour to taint the 215<sup>th</sup> Union address with bad face lies about Iraq.

The nonsense began in this order: The economy is growing stronger. The tax cuts are working. Public schools are flourishing. The Patriot Act is excellent. Everything is rosy in Afghanistan. The people of Iraq are free. Ending off with "I love God! I love soldiers! I love freedom! Went the drumbeat."

**LET'S JUST TAKE A FEW OF THESE IN ORDER:**

\* The Iraq lie came when Bush claimed that David Kay's weapon inspectors had found materials and equipment to construct weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. In point of fact, Kay and his people found no such thing, just as the denigrate UNMOVIC inspectors likewise found no such thing. The promised 26,000 liters of anthrax, 38,000 liters of botulinum toxin, 1,000,000 pounds of sarin and mustard and VX nerve gas, the 30,000 munitions to deliver this stuff, the mobile biological weapon labs, and the uranium from Niger that so disgraced the State of the Union speech Bush gave, somehow failed to turn up. Bush dared, in this speech, to claim that, "*No one can doubt the word of America*". Unfortunately, a vast majority of people now doubt the word of the American President. Perhaps this failure is a matter of syntax. According to Bush, once again, we should be looking for "nuclear materials. Maybe the US and UN inspectors happened to have just misread the package labels in Tikrit.

\* Iraq is now free, and the only people killing American soldiers are lingering defenders of Saddam Hussein. In fact, most of the insurgents against the American occupation despise Hussein. They are nationalists, defending their country against a foreign force they see as usurpers. As for freedom, it is not nearly on the table. Shia, Sunni and Kurd tremble on the edge of a civil war, and the American administrators are using spit and baling wire to keep the lid on. Meanwhile, pipe dreams about power transfer become less tenable by the hour.

\*According to President Bush, it is "condescending" to suggest that democracy can never take root in the Middle East. There are two amusing facets to this one. First, it is axiomatic that true democracy can never be brought anywhere effectively at a point of a gun without razing the existing society completely to the ground, as was done in Japan and Germany. If George Bush has suggested that we grind every aspect of culture and infrastructure to powder in the Middle East, a necessary aspect of the plan proposed, that particular bit

*continued on Page 20*

# Top Zionists inside the Bush-Cheney Regime

By VICKI ANDRATA  
From ReportersNotebook.com

The Zionist lobby has many Think Tanks, that provide future advisors to the various administrations, both Republican and Democrat. During the Clinton administration, the Zionist lobby provided officials from the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, like Martin Indyk. During this Bush Jr. administration, many of the officials that are now in his administration came from the Republican "think-tank", like the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) and the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA).

(1) **RICHARD PERLE** - One of Bush's foreign policy advisors. He is the Chairman of the Pentagon's Defense Policy Board. A very likely Israeli government agent. Perle was expelled by the US Senator Henry Jackson's office in 1970s, after the National Security Agency (NSA) caught him passing Highly Classified (National Security) documents to the Israeli Embassy in Washington. He later worked for the Israeli weapons firm - Soltam. Perle came from one of the above mentioned pro-Zionist "Think Tanks" AEI. Perle is one of the leading pro-Israel fanatics leading the war in Iraq, mongering within the Bush administration and now in the US media.

(2) **PAUL WOLFOWITZ** - Deputy Defence Secretary, and a member of Perle's Defence Policy Board, in the Pentagon. Wolfowitz is a close associate of Perle and has close ties to the Israeli military. Wolfowitz came from the Zionist Think-Tank JINSA. He is the number two leader within the US administration in backing the attack on Iraq.

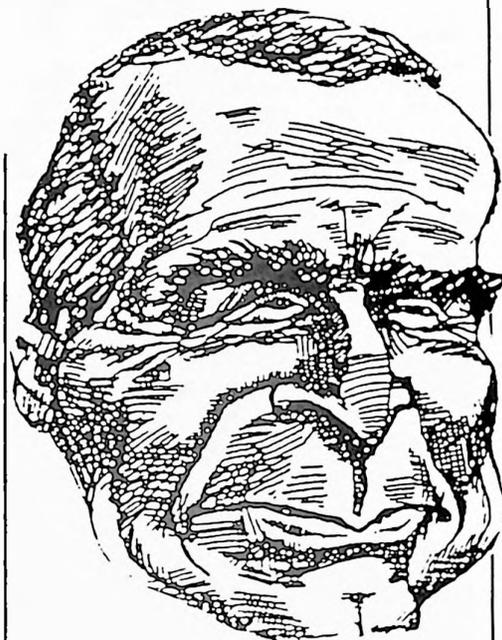
(3) **DOUGLAS FEITH** - The US Under Secretary of Defence and Policy Advisor at the Pentagon. A close associate of Perle and he served as his Special Council. Like others, Feith is a fanatical pro-Israel extremist, who has advocated anti-Arab policies in the past. He is

closely associated with the powerful "Zionist Organization of America", which even attacks Jews that don't agree with its extremist views. Feith frequently speaks at ZOA conferences. He runs a law firm, Feith and Zeill, which has only one international office, in Israel. The majority of their work is in representing Israeli interests. His own website states that they "represent Israeli Armaments Manufacturers". He in fact represents the Israeli war machine. He also comes from the Zionist Think Tank JINSA. He, together with Perle and Wolfowitz campaigned hard for the war on Iraq and Israeli participation.

(4) **EDWARD LUTTWAK** - Member of the US National Security Study Group of the Department of Defence at the Pentagon. Luttwak is also an Israel citizen and has for many years taught at a University in Israel. He very often writes for Israeli newspapers and journals. His extremist anti Arab and Palestinian views are permeating all of his articles.

(5) **HENRY KISSINGER** - One of the many Pentagon advisors, Kissinger sits on the Pentagon's Defence Policy Board under Perle. For a detailed information about Kissinger's evil past, read Seymour Hersch's book (*Price of Power: Kissinger in the Nixon White House*). Kissinger had part in the Watergate Crimes, Southeast Asia mass murders in Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos - installing of the Chilean mass murderer Pinochet - Operation Condor's mass killings in South America. He consistently advocated war against Iraq. Kissinger is the Ariel Sharon of the USA. Unfortunately, President Bush nominated Kissinger as Chairman of the September 11 Investigating Commission. It's like picking a bank robber to investigate a fraud scandal.

(6) **DOV ZAKHEIM** - US Under Secretary of Defence, Comptroller, and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the Department of Defence. He is an ordained Rabbi and is known to hold



Israeli citizenship. Zakheim, attended the Jewish College in London, England and became an ordained Orthodox Jewish Rabbi in 1973. He was the adjunct Professor at New York's Jewish Yeshiva University. He is very close to the pro-Israeli lobby.

(7) **KENNETH ADELMAN** - One of many Pentagon advisors, and he sits on the Pentagon's Defence Policy Board under Perle, who agitated for war against Iraq. Adelman is frequently a guest on the US mouthpiece Fox TV News, and expresses very extremist and often ridicules anti-Arab and anti-Muslim views. Through his hatred or stupidity, he actually called Arabs "anti-Semitic" on Fox News (11/28/2001), when he could have looked up in the dictionary that Arabs are by definition Semites.

(8) **I. LEWIS LIBBY** - He is Vice President Dick Cheney Chief of Staff. He is the chief pro-Israel advisor to Cheney, so it helps to explain why Cheney's gong-ho invasion of Iraq. Libby is a long time associate of Wolfowitz. Libby was the lawyer for the convicted felon and the Israel spy March Rich, whom President Clinton pardoned, in his last days as president.

(9) **ROBERT SATLOFF** - US National Security Council Advisor. He was the Executive Director of the Israeli lobby Think Tank, the "Washington Institute for Near East Policy". Many of these "experts"

come from this front group, like Martin Indyk.

**(10) ELLIOT ABRAMS** - National Security Council Advisor. He previously worked at the Washington Think Tank "Ethics and Public Policy Centre." During the Reagan Administration, Abrams was the Assistant Secretary of State, handling, for the most part, Latin American affairs. He played an important role in the Iran-Contra Scandal, which involved illegally selling US weapons to Iran to fight Iraq, and illegally funding the Contra rebels fighting to overthrow Nicaragua's legal Sandanista government. He also actively deceived three US Congressional Committees about his involvement and thereby faced felony charges based on his testimony. Abrams pleaded guilty in 1991 to two misdemeanors and was sentenced (after White House intervention) to only one year's probation and 100 hours of community service. A year later, former President Bush Sr. granted Abrams a full pardon. He was one of the most hawkish pro-Israelis in the Regan's Administration's State Department.

**(11) MARC GROSSMAN** - Undersecretary of State for Political affairs. He was the Director General of the Foreign Service and Director of Human Resources at the Department of State. He served in high positions in the Clinton administration, but Bush has promoted him to higher positions.

**(12) RICHARD HASS** - Director of the Policy Planning at the State Department and Ambassador at Large. He is the Director of the National Security Programs and Senior Fellow of the Council of Foreign Relations (CFR). He was one of the most hawkish in the Bush Sr. Administration who also sat on the National Security Council. He is also a member of the Defence Department's National Security Study Group, at the Pentagon.

**(13) ROBERT ZOELICK** - US Trade Representative, a cabinet level position. A hawk and a pro-Israeli fanatic, member of the National Security Council. He is also a member of the Defence Department's National Security Study Group, at the Pentagon.

**(14) ARI FLEISCHER** - Official White House spokesman for the



also a Senior Advisor to P Bush. Prior to his position, was a senior vice president Think Tank AEI. He accused October of 2003 of having a program, so that Bush can preparations to attack Syria Iraq. He must have forgott Zionist Israel has 400 warheads, some of which thermonuclear weapons (ac to a recent US Air Force report

Bush Jr. Administration. Very prominent in the Jewish community and is reported to have Israeli citizenship. He is very closely connected to the Zionist extremist group called the "Chabad Lubavitch Hasidics", who follow the Qabala, and hold very extremist and insulting views of non-Jews. Fleischer was the co-president of Chabad's Capital Jewish Forum. He received the Young Leadership Award from the American Friends of Lubavitch in October of 2001.

**(15) JAMES SCHLESINGER** - One of many Pentagon Advisors. He also sits on the Pentagon's Defence Policy Board under Perle who demanded the attack on Iraq. He is also a commissioner of the Defence Department's National Security Study Group at the Pentagon.

**(16) DAVID FRUM** - He is the chief White House speechwriter for Bush, behind the "Axis of Evil" label. His job was to lump all the lies and accusations together in order to make it look that Bush was justified in attacking Iraq.

**(17) JOSHUA BOLTON** - White House Deputy Chief of Staff. He was previously a banker, a former legislative aide and a prominent leader in the Jewish community.

**(18) JOHN BOLTON** - Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security. Bolton is

**(19) DAVID WURMSER** - Assistant to John Bolton. He also worked at the AEI with Bolton. His wife, Wurmster, along with Colonel Carmon, formerly of Israeli Intelligence, co-founded the East Media Research (MEMRI), a Washington Israeli outfit which distributes translated from Arabic news and they portray all Arabs in light and racist terms.

**(20) ELIOT COHEN** - Member of the Pentagon's Defence Policy under Perle, is another extreme pro-Israeli advisor to Bush. He just recently an opinion in the Street Journal in which he admitted his hatred of Islam, that Islam should be the enemy of terrorism.

**(21) MEL SEMBLER** - President of the Export-Import Bank of the States. A very prominent Republican and a former Finance Chairman of the Re National Committee. The US Import Bank facilitates trade between US businesses and countries - those with problems and Sembler gets banks in there.

**(22) MICHAEL CHERTOFF** - Assistant Attorney General USA, for the Criminal Division US Justice Department.

**(23) STEVE GOLDSMITH** - Senior Advisor to President Bush and Bush's domestic policy advisor. He also serves as a liaison, in the White House Office of Faith-Based Community Initiatives (*White House OFBC*) within the Executive Office of the President. He was the former Mayor of Indianapolis. He is a personal friend of Israeli Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert and has personal contacts in all spheres.

**(24) ADAM GOLDMAN** - White House Special Liaison to the Jewish Community.

**(25) JOSEPH GILDENHORN** - Bush's Campaign's Special Liaison to the US Jewish Business community. He was the DV finance chairman for the Bush campaign, as well as the campaign coordinator, and former Ambassador to Switzerland.

**(26) CHRISTOFER GERSTEN** - Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families at HHS. Gersten was the former Executive Director of the "*Republican Jewish Coalition*," husband of Labour Secretary, Linda Chavez - very pro-Israel.

**(27) MARK WEINBERGER** - Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Tax Policy.

**(28) SAMUEL BODMAN** - Deputy Secretary of Commerce. He was the Chairman and CEO of large Cabot Corporation, Boston, Massachusetts.

**(29) BONNIE COHEN** - Under Secretary of State for Management.

**(30) RUTH DAVIS** - Director of Foreign Service Institute, who reports to the Office of the Under Secretary of Management. This office is responsible for all the hiring and training for all Department of State staff (including Ambassadors).

**(31) LINCOLN BLOOMFIELD** - Assistant Secretary of State for Political and Military Affairs.

**(32) JAY LEFKOWITZ** - General Council of the Office of Budget and Management.

**(33) KEN MELMAN** - White House Political Director.

**(34) BRAD BLAKEMAN** - White House Director of Scheduling.

#### NOTE TO READERS

This article is an expose of Zionism, a reactionary political ideology, having nothing to do with race or country.

## TURNING IRAQ OVER TO IRAQIS - HUH?

By Vicki Andratas  
*Washington Post, Jan. 12, 2004*

The US Pentagon has awarded a \$96 million contract to the US communications equipment maker to run Saddam Hussein's old television and radio network, now called al-Iraqiya. Harris Corporation, based in Florida will operate the Iraq national newspaper, in addition to run the broadcast network, said Howard L. Lance, chairman of the company.

When US invaded Iraq, the state-run TV and radio and newspapers were seized by US authorities and have been run by the Bush appointed Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). The Iraqis boycotted this station, TV and newspapers, because they were too pro-United States.

There has been a great turnover of the US staff and the turmoil within the Iraqi staff. The media now is in US hands and is nothing more than the mouthpiece of the US occupying forces and has nothing to do with turning over Iraq to the Iraqis! ■

### The Color of Bush's Sky

*continued from Page 17*

applause would have been muted. Second, the main reason why democracy will have a hard time in the Middle East, is because it has been viciously repressed in places like Iran, Iraq and USA's friend Saudi Arabia, and this was all done under the American direction, by a number of people who attended Bush's speech - namely Cheney, Rumsfeld, Wolfowitz and Perle specifically - when they worked in other US state departments.

\* Afghanistan is apparently a wonderland of freedom, where the children are learning and all is well, according to President Bush. The fact that the Taliban is reforming there in strength, that the warlords are again a dominant force, that the opium industry is again flourishing, that the civilians are continuing being killed by American bombs, and that women again are being oppressed, never made it to Bush's speech. For

the second year in a row, the name of Osama bin Laden went completely unmentioned.

\* The tax cuts are working Bush said, and the economy is sound because of them. In fact, there are more than 2 million fewer jobs in America than when Bush took office. The tax cuts, which promised 300,000 new jobs per month, never reached even a third of that goal. Whatever jobs were created pay far less than the ones that were lost.

\* The math in his speech was pretty spacious. Bush praised the No Child Left Behind bill which he underfunded by \$7 billions. (*You can read the full story in an article in this issue*) He wants to pour money into the occupation of Iraq, an action that has already cost over \$200 billion. The incredible inaccuracy of all those numbers that Bush pulled out of the air will come to haunt the American people for years to come.

\* The sops thrown to the most extreme reactionary elements of his Republican Party were many and varied. He demanded that the religious groups get better funding, because they are denied federal money because they "*carry a Cross, or a Star of David, or a Crescent on the wall*". Actually dear George, its because the separation of church and state is clearly stated and outlined in the US Constitution that you want to revise.

US columnists had a field day after the State of the Union speech by Bush. New York Times wrote: "*So, Bush and the Republicans must figure that once they have won the election, they will have such a complete lock on power that they can break many of their promises with impunity. What will they do with that lock on power? Their election strategy - confuse the middle class, but feed the base - suggests the answer.*"

The best moments the Bush entourage thought would be when they filled the room with US soldiers resplendent in their uniforms. All the media and TV cameras flashed on the soldiers faces every time Bush pledged his undying respect for them, and every time he said that matters in Iraq are going famously well. The soldiers reacted with dead faces, and showed absolutely no emotion at all. ■

**JANUARY 19, 2004**

# **DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING'S BIRTHDAY AND A U.S. NATIONAL HOLIDAY**

By **JOHN SHUMAKER**

Greetings of Peace.

January 19th is a double National Holiday. It is Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday, he would have been 75 years old. It was also the 2004 Iowa Caucus, which did determine the Presidential nomination and the next President of the United States.

What do these two dissimilar events have in common, what are the points that connect them? They are these, after the coup d'etat of the USA in the 2000 election, through the hijacking of the Florida election with hanging chads, doodads, dieholds election machines that malfunctioned and touch screen computer voting machines that got lost and then disfranchised over 84,000 Black, Elders and Poor people's votes meant for Al Gore. The electoral assassination of the Country has been silently, secretly under a cloak and dagger done, and all hope had been lost.

## **MARTIN LUTHER KING: A TERRORIST**

By **GEOV PARRISH**

If Martin Luther King was alive today, he would be at risk for being imprisoned indefinitely, without charges or access to legal counsel, as an "enemy combatant".

He would be decried, by powerful figures inside and outside the government, as at worst a domestic terrorist, at best a publicity-seeking menace whose criticisms of America gave comfort to our unseen enemies.

King would not have the opportunity to engage in repeated nonviolent civil disobediences. US Media would be quickly bored by the spectacles; a nation, accustomed to police violence against protestors yawns at the tanks, rubber bullets, chemical weapons and "preventive" arrests, now commonly used against those who employ the same tactics King himself once used. The felony charges against King would put him away for years - if he were allowed



to stand trial at all. The FBI harassment that hounded King throughout his career would today be fiercer, and subject to no judicial oversight.

In America where a federal holiday served to both commemorate and sanitize history of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., White America has forgotten just how radical and controversial figure he was at his time. May of those changes - domestic terrorist, commie dupe, publicity hound - were leveled against King during the 14 long-but-so-short years of his national prominence. The police were violent. The church groups were criticized.

The differences today... are twofold. First, our government has granted itself enormously greater legal powers to crush dissent. And, secondly, much of the US public, taught by years of government regulations and the US media sensationalism, to dismiss dissenters as violent and illegitimate, is predisposed to let the government get away with it. Moral appeals by leaders like King would have far less chance to succeed. We no longer grant presumed moral authority to religious leaders or those who were wronged by the world; in today's media-saturated, scandal-obsessed age, King's moral failings might well be used to undermine his movement.

Moreover, today, we've heard before. The world is brought to our doorstep and many of us have chosen to tune out - out of despair that we ordinary people can do little to change things.

Ordinary people can change the world, of course - King is our country's shining example, recent enough that many of us were alive during his time. But this holiday is being sanitized with the passing year, and his image is being sanitized beyond recognition, become harder and harder to find as personal inspiration from his life or his politics.

This year 2004, even more so than the past, it has become essential to remember that Martin Luther King did far more than have a holiday. Along with Mohandas Gandhi, he was one of the best known and two most internationally recognized symbols of nonviolence in the 20th century. He spent his adult life defying authority and convincing a higher moral authority that he gave hope and inspiration to people of color on six continents.

He is remembered because he took serious risks and spoke the truth. He had more than a holiday. Unfortunately the present US government ignores his powerful indictment of poverty, the Vietnam War, the military-industrial complex. Today America fights two major wars on the far side of the world, and a third military wades quietly into a dozen more - all in non-combat countries - they're more time-consuming ever. But it's not likely we'll do much on the networks of communication pronouncing the spiritual death of America that would spend billions to kill and so little to help people. That's a little too touchy subject in America.

The literal whitewashing of history also serves another purpose: to locate American racism as something that happened in the South and our historical past. The Civil War and the Crow seems today as unthinkable as slavery itself. But struggles for racial equality happened in every state - not just in Mississippi.

### **SHOCKING, BUT TRUE!**

UN has said that that out of 192 countries in the UN, 130 or more have American presence on their territory.

Alabama and Georgia. As for our progress since then, consider this: the persistently huge economic gaps between white and non-whites; the horrific public health indices in some non-white areas, including the re-emergence of TB and widespread, endemic hunger among the non-white school districts; the near-complete dismantling of affirmative action; and the still-striking disparity between how America looks and how its leaders look. We still have a long, long way to go.

If the King of 1955 or 1995 were alive today, he'd be talking about all of this. King would also have something to say about America's eagerness to consider every human being of a particular shading as a potential terrorist. He would be accused of treason for his pacifism, as he was reviled for his "Communism" back in the day. Instead of the FBI trying to bring him down, he, and most of his associates, would be prosecuted under the anti-terrorism statutes. And the moral outrage of the Americans that made his work so effective? These days the Americans prefer denial.

Dr. King nonviolent martyr to reconciliation and justice, has now become a Hallmark Card, a warm, fuzzy, feel-good invocation, a reprieve for post-holiday shoppers, an excuse for a three-day weekend, a cardboard cutout used for photo ops by the same political leaders that wage constant wars in the world and let Black children starve. ■

*He deserves better! We all do!*

## QUESTIONS FOR OUR SOVIET FRIENDS.

*-Coming to terms with the past.  
-Working on the future.*

By **VIC RATSMA**

Chairman of the Canadian Friends of Soviet People

Something is bothering me. Here I am living in Canada, far away from my Soviet friends and trying to understand what is happening in former land of Socialism. I have lived long enough and been interested and involved in socialism long

enough to have read, heard and even seen many events as they unfolded over the years. Living on this side of the ocean, next door to the United States of America meant that, in general terms the Soviet Union was always portrayed in the media as an enemy, a land of many wrongs and with hardly any rights. Political discussions on international topics inevitably featured anti-Soviet speakers, painting all but the most dismal picture of life in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Fortunately I always viewed such descriptions with a lot of suspicion. How could it be, I thought, that in a land where the working people collectively have taken control of their destiny, that have done away with the former capitalist exploiters and were actively building a new society based on socialist principles, how could it be that life would be that bad?

In my search for the truth I soon came in contact with people who defended the Soviet Union. Many of them were Communists, others were Socialists and Peace activists, sympathetic to the USSR. I read Soviet books and magazines and spoke with Soviet visitors and gradually obtained a more balanced view of the realities of Soviet life. I visited Moscow in early 1980's, walked across the Red Square and visited the Kremlin.

Not everything I saw pleased me, nor, I am sure did everything pleased the Soviet people themselves. Nevertheless, when the Soviet State was dissolved, seemingly without much protest from the general population, it came as a shock. Surely things couldn't possibly be so bad that the very working class that started the revolution, that helped to save the world from fascism, would allow the passing of the controls of the State to the same capitalist exploiters that they threw out of the country seventy years earlier?

Since those dismal days, now more than 12 years ago, much has changed in the former Soviet Union. Inevitably there was a period of great confusion, uncertainty and instability in the change over to capitalism. Routines were upset, securities threatened, lives destroyed. Yet despite it all, despite the losses in jobs and social security, the outright theft of state property, the rise of

organized crime, the devastation of the ruble and the consequent virtual disappearance of people's savings, despite all of these things, the population appears to be in no mood to resurrect socialism. No matter how bad it now is, it seems clear that the socialism after 1953 is not being seen as an attractive and realistic alternative.

That's not saying much for socialism, or at least not the form of socialism that people remember being practiced after 1953. Today, there are those who defend the former system and there are those who denounce it. In the middle are the masses of people who thrust neither one of the two systems and therefore remain non-committal. They don't bother to vote and don't get involved, being concerned only with their own livelihood and survival. My analysis is that you cannot build socialism unless the people first come to the reconciliation with the manner in which socialism was practiced in the past, i.e. clearly identify of what went wrong after 1953, how it happened, admitting the errors and faults, even apologizing for the failures. Only after this process has take place can you begin to develop real socialism of the future. Socialism is the people's system and without the participation, of the people it cannot exist. Admission of failure is no shame. Building socialism is not an easy task, with Imperialism, encroaching at every step. And errors will be made. But without clearing the air and a Marxist-Leninist theory and approach, without public discussion and without a clear sense of renewal, I'm afraid it may be a long time we see the rise of the new Soviet Union.

So, my questions to our Soviet friends are:

- How are you reconciling the new socialism you are striving to establish with the socialism of the past?
- How do you plan to involve, or are involving the masses of the people in this process of reconciliation?
- Where are the Trade Unions, Youth and Social organizations in this process?

Please consider these questions seriously and remember, we are your friends and we only want to help you in whatever way we can.

## DISARMAMENT — AMERICAN STYLE

By Mark Engels Jr.

American foreign policy is best known in the world today as blatantly aggressive, conducted in a style that is reminiscent of the Wild West, lawless, violent and deadly. Truth has virtually no place in this environment. Like a horse with blinkers on, Bush & Co. barge ahead on their chosen path with little or no regard for either the consequences of their actions or the opinion of the large majority of people in the world.

Perhaps, one of the most insidious policies of the US applies to the issue of disarmament. It is now an already established fact that the war in Iraq had nothing to do with the disarming of Saddam Hussein, although that was submitted as the prime reason for going to war. Others targets of US, like Iran North Korea and little Cuba and Nicaragua are portrayed as dangerous to the security of the USA. Just imagine, Colin Powell, during a recent visit to Nicaragua, a country which has a barely-armed military, telling the government that they must disarm. (1)

Now, if the USA was doing any disarmament of its own, it would be reasonable to negotiate with others to do the same, but such is not the case. While the US defense (read offense) budget continues to increase and new weapons of mass destruction such as mini-nukes (2) and super-bombs are being developed, it doesn't negotiate with others for disarmament, it orders them to disarm or face the military wrath of the USA.

But what is even more striking is that the US has a program of Foreign Military Financing (FMF) which provides foreign countries with money to purchase American weapons (3). Do the Americans provide this financing only to so-called "democratic" countries? Not at all! The total of \$3.6 billion dollars in the year 2002 escalated to \$4.1 billion in 2003 and a projected \$4.4 billion in 2004, is being divided over

73 countries, including all of the former USSR republics, except Russia and Byelorussia, besides all of the former socialist nations of Eastern Europe except the GDR which is now part of Germany. Besides all the countries of former Yugoslavia, eight countries of the Middle East, including of course Israel which gets the bulk of the financing (*in excess of 2 billion dollars*) but also includes Egypt (\$1.3 billion dollars), supplies the 19 countries of Central and South America with the bulk of the money going to Colombia, but also Nicaragua (1), El Salvador and Argentina (*but not Brazil or Venezuela*).

Of course this is only the financing that the USA admits to through their FMF program. How many other programs for military financing they have and how much is done in a covert manner is an open question.

All of this foreign military spending is no doubt good for the US military-industrial complex, which is a huge part of the American economy and employs millions of workers. Still, this financing is ultimately done at the expense of the American taxpayer, who no doubt can think of better ways to spend their hard-earned tax dollars. Yet, worse than that, all of this spending on military equipment, as well as the training the US provides to foreign military personnel (*more than 91,000 projected for 2004*) can only add to the instability and insecurity of the world. Because the global arming of your "friends" can only lead to the arming of your enemies, which escalated the threat of war in virtually every region of the world. But then, perhaps that is just what America wants. For in all of its history, they have never been able to live without an enemy, something that can be verified by the fact that they have fought more wars than the 227 years of their existence as a nation. Opposition to the US bullying of the world will no doubt result in a growing resistance, which the US labels as "terrorism", opening the doors for perpetual war anywhere in the world. American demands for disarmament, while at the same time

arming its friends is a bad joke. with the Bush regime, what's more lie?

(1)Granma International:<http://www.granma.cu/ing/2003/noviembre03/mier12/45powell-i.html>

(2)The Toronto Star:<http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/ContentServer>

(3) Military Assistance:cbj05-mil.pc

## CREDO OF NORTHSTAR COMPASS

Northstar Compass is the publication of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Sov People, who are struggling to rebu socialism in the countries that hav for more than 70 years constitutec the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Northstar Compass carries on the traditions of the "Hands Off Russia Committee", th were established internationally in 1918 to help protect the young Soviet Republic from foreign intervention. Today, after the Sovi Union was dissolved against the wishes of the majority of its people the Soviet people are again lookin to their supporters abroad for assistance in rebuilding the once great Soviet State.

The International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Sov People unites — on an independe and non-partisan basis — all those organizations and individuals who support the above objective. In thi spirit, Northstar Compass publish articles of interest in this struggle, covering news and information or the contemporary situation inside former USSR, as well as related world news about the struggles against neo-liberal globalization a imperialism, now rampant in the world.

Additionally, Northstar Compass covers events and issues concer the friendship organizations associated with the International Council.

Northstar Compass thus acts as unifying force to consolidate and coordinate the anti-imperialist for of the world with the struggle for socialism and the restoration of t Soviet Union.

# GAG RULE

By CHRIS FLOYD

With thanks to J. E. Corlett - USA

Although the "conquest" of Iraq is unraveling into complete chaos and coming civil war, at least President Bush and his regime is winning his battle against another dangerous foe: American soldiers who were captured and suffered at the hands of Saddam Hussein's forces in the First Gulf War of 1991.

The Bush & Co. relentless fight to block the American Iraq war captives from receiving any compensation from the new Iraq, has eerie echoes of a similar US move, more than 50 years ago, to prevent American victims of Japanese torture from filing legal claims against their tormentors after the Second World War was finished. The two cases have been tied by a common ulterior motive: protecting the war booty as slush funds for "black ops" and crony kickbacks.

The 1951 peace treaty "ending" the American post-war occupation of Japan (*of course, let's not forget that the US troops are still there*) contained a curious provision, devised in secret by the US envoys to Japan. It blocked almost all claims for reparations "arising out of any actions taken by Japan and its nationals in the course of the prosecution of the Second World War". Considering that tens of millions of people were killed, robbed or forced into slave labour by the Japanese Imperialist regime, this shady codicil was generous indeed. Thus for half a century, American victims of Japan's slave labour program have had their claims for compensation stymied by their own US government. Why such legal protection for indefensible evils? US historian, Chalmers Johnston tells the sorry tale in the "London Review of Books."

As Japanese armies rampaged through Asia, they grabbed a staggering amount of loot from the conquered populations. New research reveals that Emperor 24 Hirohito set up a secret organization,

"Golden Lily", to keep this swag under Imperial control, dispatching family members to oversee the operation. Civilian slaves and POWs were used to build elaborate underground stashes throughout the conquered territories; when the sites were completed, the workers - and often the Japanese officers supervising them - were buried alive with the treasure, to ensure secrecy.

After Japan surrendered in 1945. American forces found some of these hoards, worth billions of dollars. Washington decided to keep these funds secret; public image exposure would have destroyed the fiction at the heart of the American-installed post-war government: that the Emperor of Japan - and most of the Japanese ruling elite - had been nothing but powerless figures in the Japan's wartime regime.

Instead, Washington used the money to bankroll covert operations by the newly formed CIA: an untraceable slush fund, free from US Congressional oversight, stashed under various fronts in **176 banks in 42 different countries**. Over the years, the money helped the CIA agency to overthrow governments, subvert elections, smuggle cash to despots like Saddam Hussein, arm terrorist paramilitaries in Latin America, establish its own venture capital funds to infiltrate the business world, and so on and sickeningly on.

One of the "Golden Lily's" chief bagman, Japanese gangland chief pro-American Yoshio Kodama, used these stolen billions, on behalf of the CIA to bankroll the pro-American political faction that has controlled Japan for almost 54 years. As Johnston reports, this Japanese gangster went to work for the CIA and, later became the chief agent for the Lockheed Aircraft Company, bribing and also blackmailing some world politicians to buy US military hardware.

So, when the US devised the 1951 Treaty, Washington could not allow compensation lawsuits, since that would delve into Japan's wartime - and post-war-finances. The money that might have been used for reparations had already been confiscated for the CIA. Many of the

Japanese officials involved in snatching this blood-soaked loot were now pro-American statesmen, spending billions on U. S. weapons and cutting sweet deals with US corporations. Tossing a few scraps of compensation to the broken, to the ravaged victims of war crimes, wasn't good for business.

Now here comes along George W. Bush - a proud scion of the CIA, whose headquarters bears his father's name - carrying on this tradition. In 2002, a US judge awarded American GI captives of Saddam Hussein First Gulf War almost \$1 billion dollars in compensation, to be taken from Iraqi assets frozen in the US since the Gulf War of 1991. But Bush has so far blocked successfully this award. Why? Because the money doesn't belong to Iraq anymore - it belongs to President Bush.

Just before invading Iraq in March of 2003, Bush signed an executive order confiscating those assets. At first, he insisted that this money desperately as needed for the "reconstruction" of the country that US was bombing. But, when the Gulf War victims said that they'd be happy to postpone the award - for years if necessary - to help Iraq get back on its feet, the Bush regime changed tack.

The Bush's minions now maintain that the money is gone, spent on, yes - on Iraq's "reconstruction" as the New York Times reported. In other words, its been given to Dick Cheney's Halliburton, the Bushist's fiefdoms of Bechtel and Carlyle, and to arms merchants like Yoso Kodama's old outfit, Lockheed (*now grown into the gargantuan oligarchopoly Lockheed Martin.*)

But of course, no one really knows where the money has gone. After all Bush & Co. maintain a bewildering array of slush funds for their ever-growing range of "black work", as Stalin like to call it - like assassinations, helping paramilitary operations by irregular mufti, bribes for warlords, torturers and Central Asian despots.

As the site **Slate.com** reports, even the recent \$87 billion war pork bill, contained \$9 billion in slush money for Don Rumsfeld, to spend at his whim" dark dosh for the various "secret armies" he's gathering, said the Los Angeles



Times newspaper.

Money for torturers, despots, and cronies - but no money - no law, no

justice - for America's GI's - drowned in the flood of greed and dominion. Behind all the scripted

rhetoric about freedom and this is the reality of imperialism!

## FEATURE ANALYSIS

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT- Can Consumer Power Lead the Way?

By A.M.STAR

In most political systems, political power is based on economic power. That is to say that those who wield political power do so on behalf of - or are in fact the same people - who possess economic power. Policies adopted by the government are therefore founded in the needs of those who own the means of production. The past few decades have seen an enormous shift in the concentration of power into fewer and fewer hands, with the budgets of the multinational corporations often far exceeding the budgets of individual countries. Globalization has made the position of the business world much more independent of national states and international businesses are frequently more powerful than any one state.

Historically, left wing parties and organizations have had as their first priority the forming of the government, followed by efforts to gain greater control over the economy. Today however, some argue that the economic powers of governments have been so drastically diminished through massive privatizations and free trade agreements, as well as through the international policies of the IMF and of World Bank, that the obtaining of **political** power is meaningless without first obtaining **economic** power by the people.

When the Great October Socialist Revolution took place in 1917, the first objective was to obtain political power through the overthrow of the

existing government, located in Petrograd. Shortly after the successful take-over, newspapers were distributed declaring:

*To the Citizens of Russia! The Provisional Government is deposed. The State Power has passed into the hands of the hands of the Petrograd Soviet of Workers' and Soldiers Deputies, the Military Revolutionary Committee, which stands at the head of the Petrograd proletariat and garrison."*(1)

Of course, despite the importance and the necessity of changing political power, the struggle for control of the nation was only just beginning and had to pass from political power to **economic power**. What lay ahead was the fight against the counter-revolutionary forces such as the Cossacks, the landowners, the nobility and others who held the economic power. However, the transfer of the economic power to the people came after the political power had been won. The question posed here, is whether under the current present conditions of concentrated globalized corporate, this sequence should be reversed?

In an article in THE NATION, November 24, 2003 under the title "Bring Haliburton Home", Naomi Klein discussed the priorities of the current anti-war organizations which are encompassed in the slogan "Bring the Troops Home Now", Klein argues that, if the troops did come home today, and if a true representative Iraq government was elected and in place, Iraq would still not be an independent nation, because all of the previously publicly owned machinery of the state (*the economic power*) has been placed in the hands of the American corporations. Klein argues that the anti-war movement should concentrate also its fire on *Canceling All Contracts, Ditching the Deals and Ripping Up the Rules*". Only the Iraqis can be masters in their own home.



Another article found November 2002 issue of leaning Belgian Internet publication UITPERS (3) puts the case in global context. Joost Ha describes the situation as *pr* in a yet to be published b under the title : "The re-conq Power" by

*"The international busine behaves like an un-temper mass of water, flooding ev and everyone in its way. national States nor any supra organization like the United have any grip on this. De decision-making and election less and less to people's ree such as poverty, le development, violations of rights, injustices, inequality, access to education and he these issues keep many busy. But people feel pow enact any changes. (Transle Dutch by W.V.R.).*

The solution, writes Ke lies in the shift of focus by organizations from political economic power. The mar is not one dimensional forc power exclusively lies owner-producer who can d conditions under which they It is high time that the c power of the global mu producers of products, is by international ce movement as a counterfor demand-side. The counterforce to this power organized global

movement with the power to issue demands to the multinationals, a movement that has the ability and means to take action when its demands are not heeded. The movement should focus on ensuring environment friendly processes for humans as well as animals, bargain for improved working conditions and wages, address the issue of child labour and later, include questions of poverty, inequality, human rights and a lack of freedom. These demands should not only apply to the organizations under review, but equally to its total supply chain.

The problem with left-wing organizations today, writes Kalshoven, is that they attached no consequences to the weakening position of national states vis a vis multinationals. The equality ideals of the Left that were put into law during the 20th century, came about through the powers of socialist-communist parties that could count on the considerable support of the labour-force. Today, the people still have plenty of ideals, but to implement them they have to go where the power is, and today, that power lies not with the government, but in the international market of supply and demand. It is the lack of organized demand that allows today's abuse of power by the business world. The suggested international consumers organization should be a movement larger than the present Left, that will provide it with new vigor, new opportunities and new perspectives. Perspectives and ideals that people can believe. We need to awaken to realities of our own economic power as consumers. Frank Kalshoven sees consumer power as THE most important counter-force to globalization in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. And since political power is based on economic power, the challenge to the Left is to organize its strength as consumers and re-conquer the economic power it once had.

#### WHAT DO NSC READERS THINK?

Nine members of Bush's cabinet are not only millionaires, but sit on Boards of Defense Contractors.

.....  
 Bush has downgraded or eliminated 200 public health and environmental laws.

# SPECIAL

## EVIDENCE OF AN INSIDE JOB- "ARREST THE PRESIDENT NOW!"

By EV PATERS

*"Something is rotten in the State of Denmark!" - Wm. Shakespeare's Hamlet, 1-4.90*

That was Prince Hamlet's baleful warning after the appearance of his father's ghost. Now, a modern man is waxing admonitory over the appearance of 3,000 ghosts in New York City.

In the USA, John Kaminski has written two riveting RM essays, both of which essentially report that experts who've analyzed the forensic evidence from the 9/11 terrorist attacks, have similarly concluded that "something is rotten in the USA!" Surprisingly, these experts have come to the evidentiary conclusion that the World Trade Center's collapse was caused:

- (a) Not, as has been suggested, by the failure of the steel support girders after fierce incendiary heat was generated from the fuel-laden jetliners, but...
- (b) but rather by controlled demolitions.

Kaminski summarizes the forensic experts' evidentiary arguments to buttress his essay's overarching thesis, which is-

- (1) The "How" - the WTC's destruction on 9/11/01 was accomplished through deliberate demolition, so it had to have been an inside job-
- (2) The "Who" - members of the Bush administration possessed enough knowledge to be directly implicated as either the ultimate masterminds or the penultimate co-conspirators behind the inside job; and -
- (3) The "Why" - the obvious motif underlying the Bush administration's collusion with Osama bin Laden in the perpetration of these terrorist attacks was elementary. For Mr. Bush himself would be the foremost beneficiary of these heinous criminal acts.

For instance the PNAC's think thank neo-conservatives provided the blueprint for Mr. Bush's serial petro-state wars, but it still constituted an unjustifiably bellicose foreign policy. That is, until 9/11/01, which provided the Bush administration with a pretextual excuse for launching its "Shock-and-Awe" campaign.

Readers who desire a more specific analyses of the forensic evidence and its implications must read Professor Walter Davis "September 11<sup>th</sup> and the Bush Administration: Compelling Evidence for Conspiracy".

#### Conclusions:

Mr. Kaminski's message is (a) to eschew Mr. Bush's rush to prematurely foreclose thought before we've fully considered the forensic evidence. (b) to carefully examine that evidence instead (c) to ask ourselves "If the terrible events of 9/11/01 were primarily an inside job, and thus Mr. Bush's historical analogue to Hitler's 1933 Reichstag fire, what now?" (d) If it proves to have been an inside job, to ensure that the prosecutorial implications will be swift and far-reaching, as in his titular exhortation: "Arrest The President (And His Cabinet's Co-Conspirator) Now" and (e) to proclaim the truth because it will set us free, even if nothing of legal consequences transpires!

**The Bottom Line:** Unless the laws of physics were temporarily suspended on 9/11/01, the essays of Mr. Kaminski and his cited experts certainly raise valid and disturbing questions; therefore, you should thoroughly examine both the forensic evidence and inferences drawn therefore before you decide whether Mr. Kaminski and Dr. Davis should be (a) peremptorily dismissed and ultra-cynical conspiracy theorists, or (b) accorded serious consideration as journalists and academics who've competently and conscientiously done their jobs!

Dear NSC readers:

**We need your financial help now**

# DID YOU KNOW?

NSC Reporter

*There are a lot of things in the news these days, but there is even more about which little is heard. Here, NSC provides you with some items that deserve to be better known.*

\* **WMD's**, or Weapons of Mass Destruction. Actually we've heard a lot about these, but did you know that the report Project for the New American Century, produced in 1998 by many of Bush's cabinet members, speaks of equipping the US forces with "advanced forms of biological weapons that may transform biological warfare to a "politically useful tool"?"

\* **IN TEXAS, YOU SAY?** All the time that the US was looking in Iraq for WMD's they found nothing. Well, not quite true. They did not find them in Iraq, but they did in Texas. You didn't hear about it on the CNN or Fox TV news or on any other major media, but last May, US Federal Agents arrested a white racist couple in a small town near Tyler, Texas, USA. The Feds seized a cyanide bomb, capable of unleashing a deadly poison cloud, a supply of chemical and components for additional WMD's, gas masks, over 100 conventional bombs, an arsenal of automatic weapons, silencers, and a million rounds of ammunition. If Muslims have been caught with these WMD's, fake ID's, gas masks and books on making explosives, it would have been front-page news for weeks on end. Talk about selective reporting!

\* **TRADE** - One of the favourite techniques used by capitalism for subjugating independent nations to the control of the powerful multinational corporations is through the signing of free trade agreements. But does this benefit the workers? Under the North American Free Trade (NAFTA), says Lori Wallach, the Director of Global Trade Watch:

"Most people in the three countries (US, Canada, Mexico) were losers. Only a few large corporations were major winners." Millions of Mexican rural people lost their livelihood and had to move to the cities as a result of their inability to compete with imported products.

\***SECURITY** - is a big issue in the USA nowadays. Latest word is that travelers using US airports will soon be "terror coded". Red indicates you are a high-risk, yellow means you're subjected to extra searches and if you're rated green, you're trouble free.

\***RELIGION** - George W. Bush says that the war in Iraq is not a war against Islam. Think the Muslims believe him? Not likely, after he authorized over 800 US Christian evangelists to go to Iraq armed with Arabic bibles, videos and religious tracts to "Save Muslims from their false religion". American Christian missionaries have declared "War for Souls", writes The Telegraph (UK).

\* **JUSTICE** - takes some strange twists sometimes. Take the Exxon-Valdez oil spill disaster in the seas off Alaska back in 1989. A jury held ExxonMobil solely responsible for the disaster and was ordered to pay \$5 billion dollars in damages to the native people in Alaska. Wonder how much ExxonMobil had paid ten years later? Not a penny, says Greg Palast in his book "The Best Democracy Money Can Buy" They managed to defraud the natives and settled for about \$50 million dollars, all of it covered by their insurance.

\***TALK RADIO** - programs are popular in the United States. People can phone in to a program and express their opinions about selected subjects. Usually the hosts are rightwing hacks, intolerant of anything but rightwing opinions. One host on radio station KFYI in Phoenix, Arizona, who calls himself "Your voice of reason" wanted to nuke Afghanistan, and another upon learning that a 23 year old Mid-East peace activist Rachel Corrie of USA, had been run over by an Israeli bulldozer, shouted "Back up and run over her again." KGYI is owned by the Texas Clear Channel, owners of no less than 1,200 radio stations

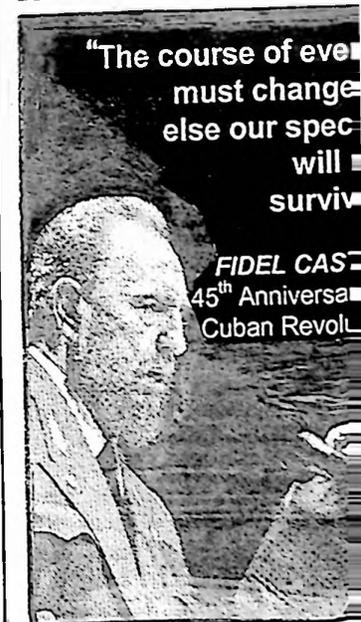


across the USA and a very financial contributor to George Bush.

\***REVOLUTION** - And here's s wisdom from the former president John F. Kennedy: " *Those who make peaceful revolution impossible, will make violent revolution inevitable.*

\***FASCISM** - And to conclude, s words from another (for national leader, Benito Muss " *Modern fascism, should proper called corporatism, since it is merger of state, military corporate power.* "

*Ahh, too bad that Georg doesn't read!*



"The course of events must change else our species will survive"

FIDEL CASTRO  
45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Cuban Revolution

**MISHKA SAYS...**

## A moment of opportunity



*"The United States will use this moment of opportunity to extend the benefits of freedom across the globe. We will actively work to bring the hope of democracy, free markets, and free trade to every corner of the world."*

(The National Security Strategy of the United States of America(1))

In September of year 2002, one year after the terrorist attack on New York and the Pentagon, the US published its "National Security Strategy" (NSS), a 35 page document that spells out the role which the USA intends to play, in what they call "**The New World after September 11th**". Although this document is written under the guise of ensuring the security of the American people, in reality it is a blueprint for American hegemony over the entire world. And while the NSS uses phrases that attempt to convince people of the lofty objectives, its real content is an aggressive imperialism as the document is based on, namely the "**Project for the New American Century: Rebuilding America's Defenses.**"

The NSS strategy consists of linkage of everything that (*corporate*) America stands for. Beginning with self-congratulatory comments about the great victory of Liberty over Totalitarianism (*which is how the demise of the Soviet Union is described*). It goes on to state that – "*freedom, democracy and free enterprise is now the single sustainable model for national success and these values are right and true for every person in every society.*"

With these words, and the details that follow them, the Bush regime puts the entire world on notice that the present administration of the USA has decided that the American

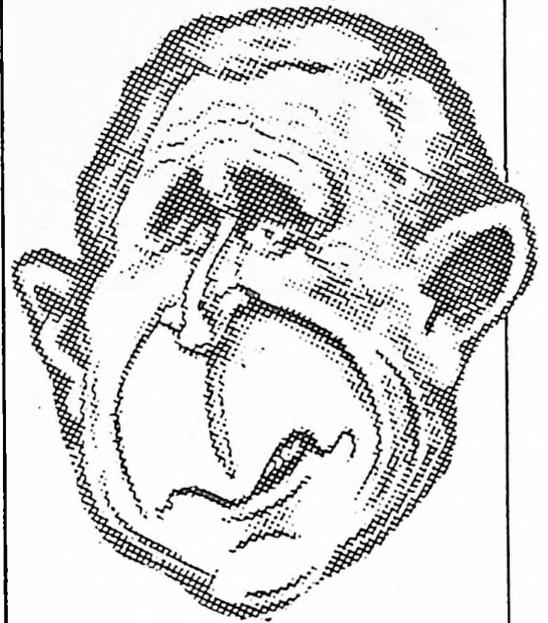
model of democracy, freedom, free enterprise and free trade as imposed by the World Trade Organization (WTO), the World Bank (WB) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is to be the model for the whole world, and that any nation not complying with this American demand, will be considered an enemy of the USA and hence suffer the consequences.

It doesn't take a lot of imagination to see that this dictatorial and outrageously ambitious program cannot produce the intended results. The world is far too heterogenous in its make-up to ever submit to a "*one size fits all*" policy. Differences in the economic development social and cultural practices and historical processes will always resist the implementation of foreign (*read US/capitalist/imperialist*) systems upon their native lands. This can already be clearly seen in Afghanistan and Iraq, the first two targets of the Bush regime. Military force can remove governments, but it cannot win the hearts and minds of the people, who will continue to undermine the US authority, imposed upon them and frustrate their will. We can be grateful right now that the resistance forces in Afghanistan and Iraq are keeping the US military tied down, thereby preventing them from further adventures into other territories identified by Bush & Co. as targets for their aggression.

It seems obvious to many, there does not yet appear to be such understanding inside the US Administration. On the contrary, just before last year's end, President Bush was provided with a Manifesto (2) by the Washington's war hawks, demanding regime change in Syria, Iran and Cuba-style blockade of North Korea, backed by planning for a pre-emptive strike on its nuclear sites. This Manifesto, presented as a "**Manuel for Victory**" in the war

on terror, also calls for Saudi Arabia and France to be treated not as allies but as rivals and possible enemies. The manifesto is contained in a new book by Richard Perle, a Pentagon advisor and an "*intellectual guru*" of the hard-line neo-conservative movement, and David Frum, a former Bush speechwriter credited with the infamous "*Axis of Evil*" concept. They gave a warning of a faltering of the "*will to win*" in Washington.

All of this warmongering must be done "*for the safety of Americans and American interests abroad*", all of whom are supposedly being threatened by these "*terrorists*" who hate freedom. What is clear however – is that without these so-called terrorists, none of this imperialist US policy, **which had been planned by the neo-cons for many years**, could be carried out. They needed an event frightening enough to obtain broad public support at home as well



as abroad, and with an international aspect that permitted the widest possible counter-action. That event was the hijacking of four commercial airlines September 11, 2001 and the subsequent attacks on New York's World Trade Center and the Pentagon, which cost the lives of some 2,900 people. The continuing secrecy surrounding the incredible so-called "*intelligence failure*", has only added to the speculation of complicity by the Bush regime in letting the attacks take place. The thing about terrorism that makes it so useful to the Imperialists, is that it is

easy to label any group that opposes the Imperialists line as "terrorists". And - since the US has declared that it has, and will protect its economic interests in every corner of the world, it opens the door for unlimited and global US intervention, anytime, anywhere. Terrorists, or what they label as such, are the best friends of the American neo-cons, the new global enemies who have opened the doors to US hegemony and the establishment of The New World Order. Is it surprising then that Osama bin Laden has not yet been captured? (4)

The effect of the NSS strategy is not limited to just US foreign intervention. US citizens are reapedly put on "high alert" and have seen the implementation of the Homeland Security Act, severely limiting the very freedoms they are supposed to be fighting for. One US journalist, writing for On Line Journal (3) describes Washington, D.C. as having "all the telltale signs of dictatorship and fascism abound", including concrete barricades and 8-foot walls around monuments. The Washington Monument is surrounded by an 8-foot wall, as the one that is now being built to barricade the West Bank. A similar wall surrounds the US Capitol- the so-called "people's house", and one has been erected on one side of the Supreme Court. The steps of Supreme Court are now largely restricted to access by "we the people".

The Washington Capital Building is constructing an underground security control center that will soon screen Girl Guides and 4-H Club members as suspected terrorists. If you are doing a news report or a documentary, and set down a camera tripod on the National Mall or at any of the monuments, you will be confronted by these nasty Park Police, who order you not to film or take photos without permission from the Park Police.

Retractable barricades now appear around the US Senate and House office buildings. Streets around Washington, with their barricades and guards, resemble Checkpoint Charlie in former East Berlin or the armistice sutte at Panmunjon on the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel of Korea. And, around the White House, the throngs of tourists now

have been replaced by chain-link fences, concrete barriers and menacing black Secret Service SUVs, squad carts, and security "men in black" armed to the teeth!

- (1) <http://www.whitehouse.gov/nsv/nss.html>
- (2) <http://www.telegrapj.co.uk/news>
- (3) <http://www.onlinejournal.com/>

(4) Reported on MSNBC News, Jan. 5, 2004. The US military may have missed chances to capture two of its most-wanted fugitives - Mohammad

Omar, the Taliban leader, and Ayma Zawahiri, deputy to Osama bin Laden during the past two years, because of the restrictions placed by the Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on Green Berets, in favour of two other components of the Special Operations Command, the Delta Force and SEAL Team Six. While the Green Berets were within 5 minutes of the sightseeing, they were not allowed to deploy. The Special Operations teams were sent in, but were too far away to be able to capture the fugitives.

Interesting? But why? ■

## ZIONIST FASCISM AT WORK!

Palestinians with hands raised are forced to live their home as an Israeli bulldozer destroys it during an operation in the West Bank city of Nablus. Thousands of homes and shops are destroyed by Israel soldiers, as demanded by Ariel Sharon, who is now implicated in a financial scandal and there are growing demands for him to resign. At this particular home, Israeli soldiers killed a 13 year old boy as he was running from the home when the bulldozer was wrecking it. ■



## AS I SEE IT...

JERRY MORSE



### WASHINGTON, D.C.

William Rehnquist, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of USA, is now backing off from "continued support" of the Bush administration. Let us remember that it was the Supreme Court's decision under this Chief Justice Rehnquist that legalized the illegal counting of the election results in Florida that put Bush into the Oval Office as president.

Because of Bush's illegal actions and of his Republican administration, this has forced the Supreme Court to look carefully at such acts as The Patriotic Act and the Protection Act, which were rammed through the US Congress by Bush and co. on October 26, 2001. This policy was in-acted yet in 1978 as the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) and the Supreme Court says that this act is interfering with the First Amendment of the US Constitution. They fear that the policies of Bush is destroying the democracy in the USA and making a mockery of the US Constitution.

Chief Justice Regnquist, along with Federal Justice administration want to safeguard democracy, however they now realize that this shall not happen with the present Bush regime in power.

President Bush and Cheney and other of his White House cronies, are thinking of bringing back "The Draft System", because the US soldiers who served their term of duty want to get out and do not want to rejoin again. The White House war hawks like John Ashcroft, Richard Perle, Paul Wolfowitz, Karl Rove and others, who never served or wore flack jackets, are looking to the US taxpayers to supply more money to give all the US soldiers \$5-\$10 thousand dollars each to stay in the army for another 3 years - after all,

there are other countries to attack and subjugate in the name of fighting "terrorism".

It certainly appears that the USA has over drained its supply of volunteers - or is it that the idea has finally dawned on US troops that they are not being welcomed with flowers in Iraq or Afghanistan, but with hatred, bullets and grenades !

## SALT & PEPPER ON WRY

Frank Ray Davis



**POLITICAL DEBT** - If Bush should win the next election, it would be downright ungrateful of him not to invite to the inaugural ball in Washington the old family friend and business associate who made it all happen, Osama bin Laden.

### TERRORIST NABS TERRORIST -

Saddam Hussein murdered thousands of people, so he's a terrorist. Dubya Bush murdered thousands of people, so he's **not** a terrorist. Saddam has invisible weapons of mass destruction, so he's a terrorist. Dubya has so many mass-destruction weapons that a computer would get a bellyache to count them, but he's not a terrorist. Saddam did not (*recently*) invade anybody, but he's a terrorist. Dubya illegally and with no authority from anybody but a born-again god on an off-day invaded Iraq, not to mention Afghanistan, but he's not a terrorist. Saddam grabbed control of Iraq's government, so he was a dictator. Bush has more powers, and regularly uses them, than any ruler since Ivan the Terrible, but he's not a dictator. Saddam violated human rights in Iraq. Dubya and his Gestapo-like crew are violating human rights at this moment in Iraq, Cuba and in the USA. So which one is the criminal? All of the above! Can somebody please recommend Dubya a good psychiatrist?

**LAST LIE NAILED** - When all the lies for going to war against Iraq had been demolished, Bush still desperately clung to one small semi-truism: Those poor freedom-starved Iraqis would be happy again just as soon as Saddam Hussein was knocked out of office. That sad-sack scarecrow of a man we saw being humiliated on television clearly is no longer in charge, so when do the US boys come marching home again whistling a victory tune? Or has even the last lie been demolished by Bush himself?

**CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION**- If Dubya Bush is as ravenously hungry for 4 more years as he seems, he'll need a vote-catching theme song. I just happened on one in an old-time religion hymn-book. Assuredly an unimpeachable source! The tune is called "**I will make you Fishers of Man**" and with a little cosmetizing with the milk of human kindness that globalization gives, it goes like this: "*I will make you flayers of men, slayers of men, slavers of men. I will make you murderers of men if you'll follow me*".

## QUOTES

The usual cause of most civil wars is nothing more complex or exotic than economic stagnation and deep poverty for mot of the people..

Researchers for the International Peace Academy, wrote in the work called "*Greed and Grievance*" published in year 2000, write that civil war economies enrich the key players on both sides and tempt them to prolong the conflict, not to end it. That is, unless it's a peoples revolution to overthrow the exploiting class.

### ISRAELI SOLDIERS REFUSE TO WEAR AMERICAN HELMETS THAT RESEMBLE THE NAZI SS.

The Israeli soldiers are being forced to economize due to the budget shrinking, recently bought cheap military helmets from USA's excess stocks. These helmets resemble the ones used by Nazi SS soldiers during WW II.

From PRAVDA-ru

# CAPITALISM WITH "CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS"

From PROLETRARSKAYA GAZETA - Russia

The liberal model of Russian reforms is collapsing. Therefore many Russian bourgeois economists have begun to subject the reforms and "reformers" of the 1990s to sharp criticism. The extremely low level of internal capital investments has led the Russian economy as a whole to catastrophic consequences. As of the year 2000 up to 60% of Russian capital has been flowing abroad through different channels. The economy of the country depends to a considerable degree on the export of oil and gas. Another negative factor is the large-scale import of foodstuffs and consumer goods, which Russia can produce inside the country. Up to 70% of real economic turnover is not taxed. This causes enormous damage to the state budget. Therefore certain bourgeois circles in Russia have begun to persistently insist on the intensification of state intervention in the economy of the country and even to voice doubts about the expediency of the privatization reforms.

At the same time, the Russian bourgeoisie understands very clearly that the revival of industrial production will be accompanied by the intensification of the exploitation of the workers. This is a natural phenomenon under capitalism and its basis. By the adoption of the new labor code the ruling Russian bourgeoisie has prepared the necessary legal foundation for this. With the increase in exploitation the workers will be forced to fight for their rights and vital interests, against the resistance of the exploiters. The practice of struggle, which is inevitable, will make it necessary for the proletariat to organize at the highest level to resist their oppressors, also, to lead all the oppressed masses who are passing over to the class struggle against exploitation in general. This is the main conclusion of Marxist science about classes and class struggle. This is repeatedly and convincingly confirmed by the historical practice of the struggle of the proletariat. The inevitability of such a development in the relations between the oppressors and oppressed creates panic and fear in the ranks of the Russian bourgeoisie. In view of this the highest echelons of authority are more and more persistently recommending using the "Chinese model of reforms" in Russia. What Concretely Began to Attract the Russian Bourgeoisie to the "Experience of Chinese Reforms"?

As their ideological idol, at the present time the Chinese revisionists are propagandizing Deng Shaoping, the Chinese Gorbachev. The Chinese revisionists, covering themselves with Marxist phraseology about the building of "socialism with Chinese characteristics" and with superficial Communist attributes, are building a savage capitalism based on the brutal

exploitation of the Chinese proletariat. This revisionist lie politically disorients the oppressed masses and holds in check the process of the class maturation of the proletariat.

At the same time, the ruling revisionist clique is cruelly suppressing any attempts by the oppressed masses to organizationally defend their rights and vital interests. In China the formation of any workers' organizations, capable of showing organized resistance to bourgeois oppression is forbidden. Specifically, the special features of the "Chinese experience" first of all interest the Russian ruling bourgeoisie, which has proven to be completely bankrupt politically and at the given moment it does not see any way out of the blind alley it created. In a number of cases the Russian authorities have willingly preserved or are restoring Soviet symbols, allegedly carrying out the will of the people. Thus certain circles of the Russian bourgeoisie are trying to prepare conditions for an easy passage to a "society of social justice" of the type of "Chinese socialism," but with "Russian characteristics." In proportion to the intensification of social-class tension in society, the Russian bourgeoisie will more and more resort to elements of "socialization," deprived of genuine socialist content.

They cannot introduce an openly fascist dictatorship, since they fear a social explosion from below. However, they are attempting to impose a police state on society under the pretext of fighting against "international terrorism." Psychologically, significant numbers of Russian citizens still have sympathies with their socialist past, and their hatred for fascism is massive and steady.

Many Russian citizens sincerely believe that China is building socialism, and that the revisionist CPC is a Communist Party. Many have no idea about the social-class reality of Chinese society.

Let us provide the Russian reader with little-known facts about the exploitation of the multimillion strong Chinese proletariat.

## THE SOCIAL POSITION OF CHINESE WORKERS

The Chinese authorities carried out a number of preliminary reforms to the labor legislation and in 1999 adopted a new code of labor laws. The new code in actuality liquidated all social safeguards for the workers, which they had won by persistent struggle. Although Article 73 formally proclaims the right of workers to social benefits, in actuality the right to free quality medical service, to unemployment and disability benefits, to a guaranteed pension is a fiction. In accordance with Articles 70 and 72 of the new labor code, such social welfare is realized by

insurance policies, i.e., it is paid for by deductions from the employers and from each worker personally for this purpose. The deductions from the worker depend on whether he or she is employed, the wages and the physical condition of the worker, i.e., they are objectively unstable, they are not guaranteed. The contributions to the social welfare fund by the owners are very frequently not made under different pretexts, especially in private enterprises. As a result of the increased number of cases of nonpayment by the owners into the social welfare fund, numerous conflicts between the workers' collective and the owners take place. In the state sector the tension over social benefits is lower than in the private sector. But at present the state sector in China is rapidly being destroyed.

The assertions of the Chinese revisionists, that the maintenance of the rates of economic increase in the country is achieved by the supremacy of the state sector, are pure lies. The rate of privatization of the state sector is increasing rapidly. This process is taking place not only with unprofitable, but also with completely profitable, flourishing enterprises. Their privatization is taking place mainly through the creation of shares and the free sale of these on the stock market. Of course the most profitable shares end up in the hands of the representatives of the directors and capitalists, who are getting rich through robbery in the private sector. The main flow of capital investments in the country originates from the private capitalist enterprises. Thus, at the end of the 1990s they made up half of the internal gross product of the country. In particular, in the private capitalist sector, the social position of the workers is most dramatic (the private sector is primarily in the hands of the domestic bourgeoisie).  
Conditions of Labor

The conditions of labor of the Chinese workers can perhaps be compared to the conditions of the European workers of the 19th century in the epoch of the industrial revolutions. The conditions of labor formally protected by legislation are completely ignored by the capitalists in the private sector. Moreover this arbitrariness takes place with the conscious connivance of the local authorities, the so-called Communist Party and the official trade unions, since domestic capital is closely related to the revisionist party-state structures. In other words, the revisionists serve the political interests of the Chinese capitalists and are themselves indebted to this capital.

According to Article 36 of the labor code, the duration of the workday may not exceed 8 hours, and the workweek 44 hours. However, according to Article 41 of the same code, the employer has the right to compel the worker to work an additional 36 hours per month. According to Article 44, the worker must receive 150% of his base pay for the regular days for overtime work after an eight-hour workday, 200% on weekends and 300% on holidays. But in actuality, especially in the private sector, the capitalists do not respect this law. The actual workday is stretched to 12 hours without any additional payments, i.e., in China the right to the eight-hour workday has in reality been liquidated.

The minimum wage for Chinese workers is established by the local authorities. In the industrial regions the hourly minimum is set at \$0.35 US; actually this wage is the maximum for the majority of workers. Workers from outside of the town earn considerably less after all forced deductions. In particular, deductions for the hostel for a man make up one-third of this wage (usually 10 to 15 people live in one room). Let us examine the rate of exploitation of Chinese workers based on a specific example, the production of sports footwear. The cost of a pair of sneakers in the West is between \$50 and \$100 US. Wages amount to less than one dollar for each pair of sneakers, i.e., real crumbs. The enormous profits obtained from the super-exploitation of the Chinese workers are appropriated by both domestic and foreign capitalists.

The Chinese revisionists willingly allow US corporations to grow rich from the brutal exploitation of the Chinese proletariat, since they themselves also are enriched from the speculation on the national living commodity, labor. The cheap Chinese labor force draws many companies from the USA, such as Nike, New Balance and Adidas. In view of this the US capitalists are shutting some plants in their country and are transferring production to China. At the state level a similar partnership is achieved on unequal conditions. Inequality in relation with foreign capital creates a dangerous threat to the Chinese economy as a whole. So far, the entrance of China into the World Trade Organization (WTO) has led to a negative trade balance of \$60 billion. This imbalance does not worry the US imperialists. The Chinese revisionists, the national trade partners of international capital, are also concerned only for their own immediate profit; the fate of the country and the Chinese working people does not concern them at all.

In the textile industry and in the production of sporting goods female labor is primarily used. Women workers are paid considerably less than men, although the law does not allow such discrimination. Women workers suffer particularly brutal exploitation. Pregnant women are unreservedly dismissed, also without any compensation. As a result, up to 60% of women workers older than 25 years cannot get married. Chinese women age rapidly because of the extreme intensity of labor. Lack of future prospects pushes many of them to commit suicide. At the age of 25 women workers are often laid off and replaced by younger ones from rural areas, who are forced to escape from the ruined villages in search of work. Even with the extremely harsh working conditions, the capitalists do not have a labor shortage because of the large influx of young people from the rural areas into the city. The legislation in effect formally recognizes the right of workers to a yearly paid vacation, but Article 45 of the labor code does not specify the procedure by which this is granted. Therefore in practice similar vacations do not exist. In the large industrial centers most workers are from outside of the town. The absence of vacations prevents them from seeing their family for 5 or more years. If they go home for any reason and for any period, the workers are forcibly dismissed without compensation. The mortality rate among industrial workers



## Worker Protests and Repression against Worker Activists

In the last 10 years more than 20,000 people have been sentenced to death in China. A significant number of them are workers, mainly from the ranks of the industrial proletariat. We are not dealing with repression against pro-Western dissidents, who are in favor of the complete subordination of China to the interests of the US imperialists. This unprecedented repression is unleashed against worker activists, to whom the interests of the US corporations are completely alien. Moreover, by such terror the Chinese revisionists are trying to satisfy the demand of the US imperialists and the WTO by ensuring social stability in the country, without worker protests, so that the capitalists can obtain not only a cheap, but also an obedient labor force in China. However, the spontaneous protests of the Chinese workers are continuing without let-up throughout the entire country. The basic reasons for the dissatisfaction of the workers are illegal dismissals, wage arrears, arbitrariness in hiring, violations by the exploiters of the existing labor legislation and so on. Basically the activity of the workers is at a low organizational level. True, there are exceptions to this rule.

In the past year, there was broad publicity about workers' protests in the industrial regions in the northeast of the country. Protests lasted several weeks in the city of Lyaoyan in Liaoning province. Many thousands of demonstrators protested against mass layoffs of workers in state enterprises, against the corruption of the administration and the lack of social benefits of the workers. This protest became even more massive after the arrest by the authorities of several workers' leaders in an important metallurgical combine in that city. Yao Fuxin, Xiao Yunliang, Pen Qingxiang, Wang Zhaoming, Guo Suxiang were arrested.

A similar situation occurred in Heilongjiang province, where one of the largest centers of the oil refining industry is located. On March 1, 50,000 workers held a demonstration against the reduction of social safeguards and the reduction in compensation of workers who are laid off. Similar protests also took place in other provinces of China: Shandong, Hebei, Tsinhay and the Xinjiang-Uigur autonomous region. Today a large number of worker activists are being thrown into prisons. The Chinese authorities completely hide the data about repression against workers.

Let us give some specific examples of repression against workers for their participation in the struggle for the defense of their social rights. Liao Shihua – a worker at the electrical machinery plant in the city of Changsha. He was arrested in July of 2002 and sentenced to a long period in prison on trumped-up charges. The bourgeois authorities accused him of trying to form an illegal organization for the purpose of overthrowing the state authority and disturbing the social order. In fact, he led a crowd considerably exceeds the average in the country because of the absence of elementary safety conditions. There is an especially high mortality rate

in the mining industry. The amount and procedure of granting compensation in the case of death or injury are not regulated by law. This question is resolved in favor of the employer. Compensation to the families of workers killed on the job amounts to at most several hundred dollars. In spite of this, rural young people continue to enter the mines, since the majority of them simply do not have other means of obtaining work and means of existence

## THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT IN CHINA

Trade union activity in China is regulated by the law "On Trade Unions." The only trade union association in the country is the All China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU). The formation and activity of other trade unions, workers' committees, strike committees or other workers' organizations are forbidden by law. The ban on the formation of independent trade unions is reinforced by an amendment to the law on trade unions, adopted in 2001.

The official trade union federation ACFTU fulfills the same task in the trade-union movement in China, as the bourgeois "trade union" federation FITUR (Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia) does in Russia. By its nature the ACFTU is not and, in accordance with international norms cannot be, a trade union, since it comprises both exploited and exploiters. The chairperson of the trade union is generally not elected by the members, but is appointed from above by the revisionist party-state apparatus (as was in actuality the case in the Soviet Union in the Khrushchev- Brezhnev period), i.e., there is a harsh dictate of the revisionist party-state elite with regard to the working masses.

The ACFTU in actuality stands completely on the side of the exploiters. In particular, it opposes strikes as a way to resolve disputes between the workers and their exploiters. The ACFTU is a supporter of the private sector with the most severe consequences for the workers; it supports all measures for the privatization of state enterprises. In cases of actions by the workers, brought to desperation by the robbery of the oppressors, the ACFTU actively participates in the detection, isolation and prosecution of worker activists. As a rule, such unrest flares up spontaneously. The revisionist trade union is either completely apathetic to the fate of the workers confronted with the savage arbitrariness of the capitalists, or it acts as the watchdog of the interests of capital and attacks and stifles any attempt of the Chinese workers to organize themselves and protect their interests. The revisionists act like hypocrites, trying to convince society that there are no irreconcilable class contradictions in China. Consequently they claim, there is no reason for the class struggle. The ACFTU is one of the key elements in the superstructure of the Chinese capitalist system, concealed under phrase-mongering about "socialism with Chinese characteristics." of workers, brought to desperation by the robbery of the exploiters, which stopped transportation along the streets of the city.

Liu Jingsheng – a worker in the chemical combine in the city of Tongyi. He was sentenced to 15 years in

prison on a trumped-up charge. In fact, he was punished for being active in the defense of workers' rights.

Peng Shi – an electrician. He was given a life sentence. In reality he was punished for leading the protest actions of the workers of the electro-technical plant against the arbitrariness of the local bourgeoisie in the city of Xiangtan in Hunan province.

Guo Xinmin – he was sentenced to two years in prison for leading the struggle of the public transportation workers in the city of Tianshui. The basic demand of the workers was to eliminate wage arrears.

Guo Qiqing – a worker in the chemical combine in Hubei province. He was sentenced to one year in prison for participating in a demonstration against the robbery of workers' wages by the local bourgeoisie.

Thus, the facts presented convincingly show that the claims of building "socialism with Chinese characteristics" are an outright lie or, at best, a grievous error based on complete political ignorance. Without a doubt, China is a capitalist country with a harsh police regime. Power in the country is held by a revisionist clique, which attempts to hide its bourgeois essence by lying about the building of "socialism with Chinese characteristics" and concealing it with communist attributes. This revisionist fraud by the Chinese "communists" has temporarily politically disoriented the Chinese

proletariat and is holding the class struggle in check. This is the special danger of revisionism! A similar situation is well-known to the Russian proletariat from the historical practice of Soviet social-imperialism of the Khrushchev-Brezhnev period. The objective historical process of the class struggle of the proletariat, up to its revolutionary victory and the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat, cannot be stopped either by fascist repression or revisionist fraud.

The decisive unmasking of the bourgeois essence of revisionism in all its manifestations and the explanation of its extreme danger to the class struggle of the proletariat is a most important task of the communists and class-conscious workers of all countries.

The ideas of socialism should be the ideological monopoly of the class-conscious organized workers, of their recognized political vanguard. It is dangerous to hand over this right to other classes and social strata of society. In particular, the representatives of the bourgeois intelligentsia, who have gone over to the class positions of the proletariat, must pose to themselves the problem of spreading socialist consciousness among the proletarian masses, proving the correctness of their knowledge by direct participation in the practical struggle together with the proletariat, not placing themselves above that class using their knowledge. ■

## The coming American presidential election and the coming "discovery" of Bin Laden. *By ERIC A. SMITH*

Unless preparations are made for its eventuality, the announcement of Osama bin Laden's capture will be the death knell for the 2004 U.S. Democratic Party presidential campaign. And, like the so-called "heroic rescue" of Jessica Lynch or the toppling of Hussein's statue by the so-called "jubilant throngs" of Iraqis, it needn't even be real.

So, the Democratic Party must have a pre-emptive strategy in place, the most obvious being, early in the game, to accuse the White House of sitting on bin Laden for political gain. A better one, I suggest, is to launch an independent investigation to find bin Laden first and announce the discovery before Bush's political operatives do; this would be a huge coup.

In case you have not been paying attention, this election year, the Republicans are playing a deadly game of attrition - death by a thousand tiny cuts, so to speak:

extreme gerrymandering in Texas, the recall of a Governor in California, the installation of in-auditable, easily "preprogrammed" direct recording equipment (DRE)-vote machines in as many counties as will allow them to be stuffed down their throats, relentless and bloody character assassinations in a bought-and-paid-for Murdoch-dominated media empire, absentee ballots counted by an untouchable firm located in Kuwait, stacked courts ready to deliver decisions for which 2000's Gore vs. Bush set the precedent.

The odds look dire for the Democratic Party in the US (*and by extension, the majority of Americans, though they are yet blissfully unaware of the tender thread from which all our liberties hang*).

But, in case you haven't connected the dots, this time the US Republican Party of Bush is playing for keeps.

Once the fix is in, there will be no turning back: by an inevitable, carefully planned coup, the neo-conservatives will have transformed America into an autocracy, and any political opposition will be just window dressing.

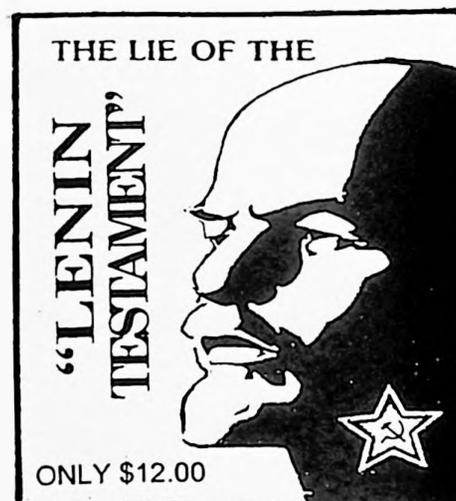
And so I challenge you: this is a battle that we, at all costs, must not

lose!

The consequences of losing to Bush and his war hawks will be incalculable: one by one, like dominos, institutions we cherish will fail – environmental laws, Social Security, independent media, health advocacy groups, assistance for the unemployed, impoverished and disenfranchised – and, foremost, the right to choose our leaders.

We will be left with one remaining liberty: the right to choose which products to buy to keep the militaristic money machinery well oiled, and its minders well heeled.

I appeal to all Americans: ■



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

December 29, 2003

The imperialist and invaders governments led by the U.S. and Great Britain have exhausted their fronts of occupation, due to the brave combat by the popular forces of liberation of Iraq and Afghanistan. They came with the dark intention of dominating and stealing the natural resources of those countries. Here in the U.S. the campaign is continuing against the North American people by the government of Bush and its police apparatus, with the aim of intimidating the people. This is an infantile process, creating imaginary ghosts of terrorism with absolute lack of respect for human dignity.

In the meantime I have received inhuman treatment, having been constantly transferred from jail to jail (this last one, the "Hudson County Correctional Center," makes 6 already). I have received blows and threats; the diet consists only of white bread, mashed potatoes and rotten meat, which has seriously damaged my stomach. The treatment I have received is the same as that received by thousands of immigrants throughout the country. This inhuman treatment is not only for immigrants of Arab, Islamic and South East Asian origin, but for immigrants from all parts of the world, especially the marginalized and working class.

I have the privilege of continuing to receive the monthly magazine Northstar Compass, which is an educational and progressive journal, which confirms that equality and justice are the roads to the objective goals of "Liberation and Socialism".

Our objective and interest is to fight for the peoples who are suffering from exploitation, racism and colonialism, and we are confronting them. We must make them respect our geopolitical rights. We must resist in order to preserve our natural resources and for our economies and to protect our human rights. We must resist the threat of the octopus with a thousand tentacles which is Imperialism led by U.S. Imperialism, responsible for all the massacres, destruction and exiles such as that of the Palestinian

people. The Zionist government of Israel, pushed by the U.S., has caused and is continuing to cause thousands of human losses. If the Israeli government persists in being used by the U.S., surely the last drop of blood of the Israeli people will be spilled. The native Palestinian people will never give up the right to their land. The military forces of the Israeli occupation are being used as cannon fodder, if they continue serving the interests of the imperialist U.S. government.

Brothers and Sisters, Comrades, our road in this class struggle is not easy, it is a road full of obstacles, but the North Star, which guides our road toward socialism, teaches us that our struggle is not one of races or religions, but it is a fight against exploitation.

I wish you happiness in the New Year and that we shall continue to hold high the name of our Comrade and Teacher V.I. Lenin: "Without revolutionary theory, there can be no revolutionary movement."

Farouk Abdel Muhti  
J#146160  
Unit B-100 West  
Hudson County Correctional Center  
35 Hackensack Ave.  
Kearny, NJ 07032

*This letter is from an Ukrainian political prisoner who is incarcerated with Farouk in a US jail.*

Dear comrades:

I was very glad that I got acquainted with Northstar Compass journal while in jail, because this journal is a defender of socialism, of the Soviet Union and struggling against Imperialism and for peace and understanding.

I came to America and through no fault of mine own I became jailed for political activities and spent already 18 months in an emigration holding facility. I signed a document that I was to be deported to Ukraine, but I am still in jail. They won't free me and they won't deport me back to Ukraine.

My family is a working class family living in Siberia and we know how to

struggle to live as we live in the Soviet Union. Let there be peace amongst all of us. Our struggle is ongoing and it will be victorious. Best to you and to the people of the Soviet Union.  
Compass.

Vasya Ivanov  
Kearny, NJ 0703  
Hudson County Jail #1431

NSC and International  
letters of protest to  
address. We ask our readers  
likewise.

FROM  
**CASTLEGAR, BC**  
CANADA

Dear friends:

It's goof to point out to  
of NSC as to how some  
former leaders and members  
CPSU are lying through their  
order to help the present  
leadership.

A perfect example is  
former member of the  
supposedly one of the  
the White House during  
instigated bloodshed  
known military leader. W  
Moscow in 1980's I saw  
documentary on the T  
Rutskoi. This man claim  
was doing great to live  
month with his young w  
To make ends meet h  
had to do preserves for  
canning ten jars. His fa  
live in an apartment, he  
story house. To get aro  
Rutskoi could only get  
afford a foreign made  
yes, he has all this an  
on \$300 per month he  
his family and afford to c

Nick Verigin

FROM  
**FRANCE**

Dear comrades of Edit-  
We send you  
greetings, especially f-  
the year of strug  
Imperialism, for the ri  
for revolution. We are  
common declaration  
occasion of the Eu  
Forum (held in Paris,  
by many Marxist-Lenin  
organizations - has  
by Northstar Compa

nevertheless a notable point that we would like to clarify. First, the text that was reprinted is only part of the declaration. The parts that are not mentioned are important ones. It would have been better to state that these were only "excerpts" not the full text.

With our militant greetings-  
For PCOF C.P.

*We apologize for this mistake and this omission shall be corrected and the full text shall be published in a future issue of NSC, since your e-mail arrived too late for this issue.* □

## GREAT NEWS!



From  
**The University British Columbia**  
Vancouver, BC, Canada

Dear Editor:

In response to a letter from Ray Stevenson, we are pleased that you will supply us with all the back copies of Northstar Compass that you published in the last 11 1/2 years.

We look forward to receiving the complete set for the UBC Library, Rare Books and Special Collections. We thank you for your contribution.

Sincerely  
George Brandak  
Manuscript Curator

FROM  
**KREMNICIA**  
SLOVAKIA

Dear friends at NSC:

Just to let you know some news regarding the Slovak Communist Party, since there was a power struggle inside the party. Some opportunist joined the party, rose in rank into its CC and got elected to the Slovak Parliament in the last election from the SCP.

His first act as a member was to vote against the CPS on the question of social policy. Somehow he managed to get away with this provocation and he also managed through some means to make the Communist Party of Slovakia take off from their logo the hammer and sickle.

After a 6 month struggle, he was kicked out of the party and now sits

as an "independent." Thus, the CPS lost one seat in parliament.

How true this is I do not know, but I heard here that the Socialist Parties and Communist Parties of Europe are going to meet in Berlin to set up a joint Socialist-Communist Party of the European Union. When I'll find out more, I shall let you know.

Vanya Kalashnikov

FROM  
**GATESVILLE, TX.**  
USA

Dear Editor:

With tyrant Bush's demagogic "exploration of Mars and beyond", we must be clear that what is wrong is not simply the militarization of space, but militarization as a whole. Just as with nuclear power, what is wrong basically is its development under the aegis of Imperialism, which implies not only the production of nuclear weapons as the main object, however disguised - but the inherent danger provided by monopoly capitalism and its thirst for huge profits.

The militarization of space is neither better or worse than the militarization of Africa, Europe, the Americas or the world's oceans. It's all equally harmful and equally unavoidable, as long as capital and capitalism rules.

Ana Lucia Gelabert

FROM A CAMBODIAN  
POLITICAL PRISONER IN U.S.A.

Dear Comrade Lucas at NSC:

Congratulations for this working class and people's rights monthly NSC magazine, which is full of information based on the principles of our teacher and Comrade Lenin. I am from Cambodia; I come from a working class family, which opposed the Royal Sihanouk's policies against the rights of our people who love freedom, equality, justice and good relations with our neighbors in the principle of mutual respect.

Our struggle is a symbol of freedom with rights. My name is Sory Soeum: I have been in US custody for over 20 months. The US administration ignores my rights and the rights of thousands of detainees and treats us as criminals.

I always opposed fascism, but the US policies practice fascism. It is our duty together to fight injustice and fascism. With the principles of our guide Lenin and my uncle Ho Chi Minh, we will win!

Respectfully

Sory Soeum #143136  
Unite B 100 West  
Hudson C.C.C.  
35 Hackensack, Ave.  
Kearny, NJ 07032- USA

*Dear readers: We urge you to send letters of support to Sory at the above address as did NSC and the International Council.* □

## PEOPLE'S HUMOUR IN IRAQ

An American, a Brit and an Iraqi are in a bar one night having a beer. The Yankee drinks his beer and suddenly throws his glass in the air, pulls out a gun and shoots the glass to pieces. He says "In the USA our glasses are so cheap that we don't need to drink from the same glass twice."

The Brit obviously impressed by this, drinks his beer, throws his glass in the air, pulls out his gun and shoots the glass to pieces. He says, "In the British Isles we have so much sand to make new glass, that we don't have to drink out of the same glass twice either."

The Iraqi, cool as a cucumber, picks up his beer and drinks it, throws his glass into the air, pulls out his gun and shoots the Yankee and the Brit. He says, "In Baghdad we have so many unwanted Yanks and Brits that we don't need to drink with the same ones twice." □

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