

northstar compass

Organ of the INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY OF SOVIET PEOPLE

VOL. 9 #10, MAY 2001 PRICE \$2.50

PEOPLE OF THE WORLD!

**ENOUGH OF
IMPERIALIST
INTRIGUES AND
WARS!**

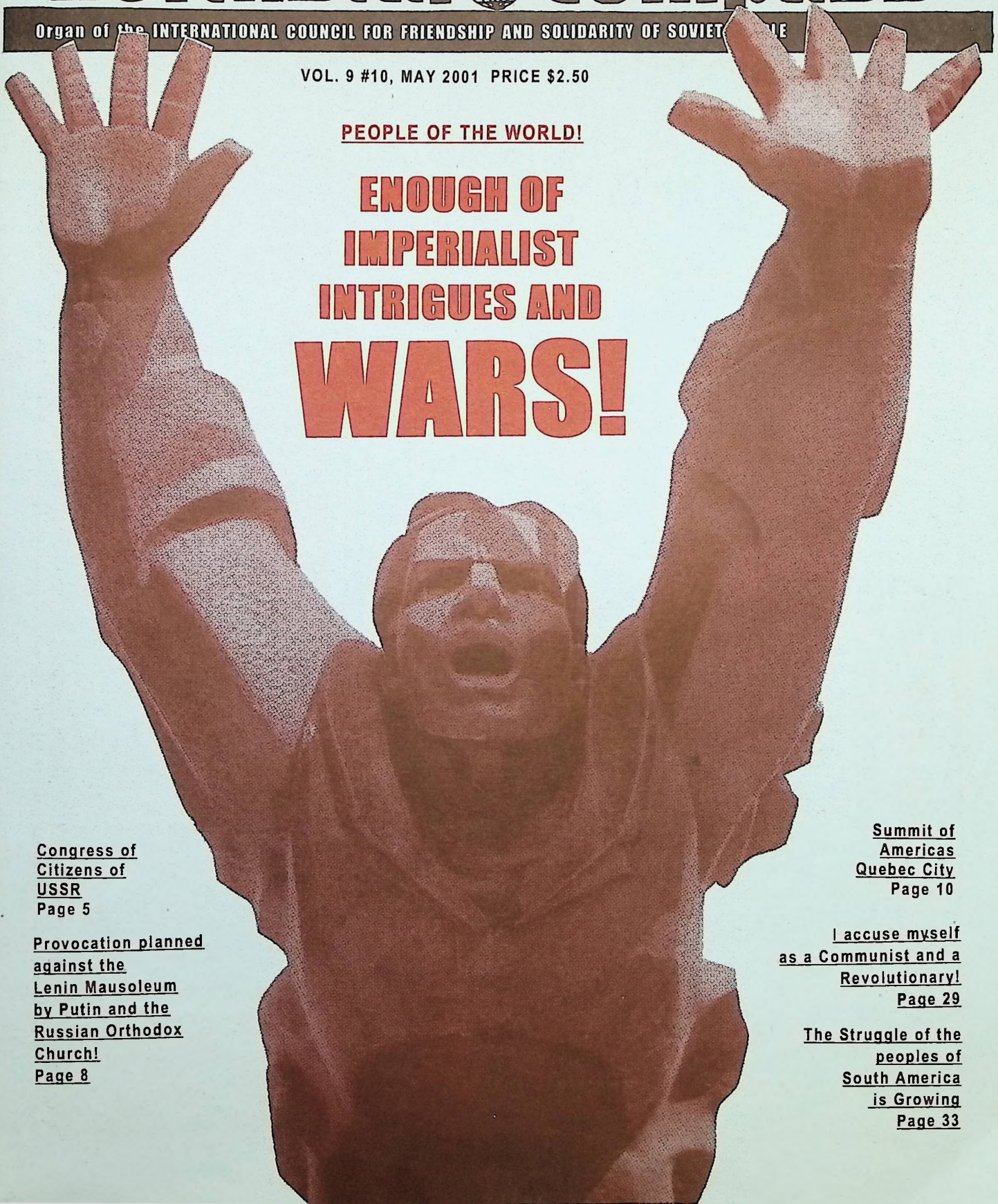
Congress of
Citizens of
USSR
Page 5

Provocation planned
against the
Lenin Mausoleum
by Putin and the
Russian Orthodox
Church!
Page 8

Summit of
Americas
Quebec City
Page 10

I accuse myself
as a Communist and a
Revolutionary!
Page 29

The Struggle of the
peoples of
South America
is Growing
Page 33



EDITORIAL BOARD

MICHAEL LUCAS
Editor, Design, Computer setting
HELEN LUCAS
Financial Secretary
RAY STEVENSON
Associate Editor
GEORGE HESS
Chairman Canadian Slav Committee
RAY O LIGHT
Columnist

ADVISORY BOARD

STEVE SAJBAN
Canadian Friends of Soviet People
LLYOD REDSTONE
Canadian Friends of Soviet People
JERRY MORSE
Canadian Friends of Soviet People
IVAN PETRIK
Canadian Friends of Soviet People
FRANK TRAMPUS
Canadian Friends of Soviet People
REDMOND GUERRERO
Migrante - Toronto
JESSE PAPAVALOULOU
Canadian Friends of Soviet People
DR. WM. BUNGE
Geographer - Quebec
WILL LAMBERT
Trade Union activist
PAUL GREENE
Canadian Friends of Soviet People
USA
DR. ANGELO D ANGELO
United Federation of Teachers
LOIS SINGER
US Friends of Soviet People
ED WLODY
County American Veterans Association
GEORGE GRUENTHAL
New York City journalist
STEPHEN PAULMIER
Editor of "The Hammer" magazine
SAMUEL WEINTRAUB
US Friends of Soviet People
ENGLAND
HARPAL BRAR
Author, Publisher, Editor of "Lalkar"
BRAZIL
GUARACY GOUVEA
Union Cultural Brasil-URSS Sao Paulo
INDIA
VIJAY SINGH
Editor of "Revolutionary Democracy"
MEXICO
FRANK RAY DAVIS
Writer, Satirist
CZECH REPUBLIC
PROF. DR. MIRKO SVOBODA
Czech Slav Committee
FORMER SOVIET UNION
PROF. V. HERASYMCHUK
Lutsk University, Ukraine
V. N. CHECHENTSEV
Writer, Political activist
FELIX GORELIK
Teacher, writer, political activist
EUGENE GONCHAROV
Stalin's Block for USSR
A. MAEVSKY
Editor "Workers-Farmers Pravda"
SYRIA
MICHEL MOUNAYER
Writer, Political activist

SWEDEN

TEDDY-JOHN FRANK
International Secretary KPML(r)

PHILIPPINES

FELIPE TAGABALITA
Writer, Political activist

GERMANY

RAPHAEL MELLADO
Political activist

CUBA

PROFESSOR VILMA PAEZ
Holguin University

SPAIN

FRANCISCO B. BENEYTO
Founding member of CPS (r)

GEORGIA

HELEN BLAU
Union of People's Patriotic Forces

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

CANADA

MICHAEL LUCAS -Chairman
RAY STEVENSON
HELEN LUCAS-Financial Coordinator
GEORGE HESS

DR. ADELARD PAQUIN

PROFESSOR MICHAEL UKAS

USA

DR. ANGELO D'ANGELO

LOIS SINGER

GEORGE GRUENTHAL

RAY O LIGHT

ENGLAND

HARPAL BRAR

FLO GIBLETT

BRAZIL

PEDRO CASTILHO

GERMANY

RAPHAEL MELLADO

CUBA

PROFESSOR VILMA PAEZ

SWEDEN

TEDDY-JOHN FRANK

GEORGIA

HELEN BLAU

SPAIN

MATE ZALKA



CONTENTS

Discussion World Congress	3-7
Police-Style actions protest FTAA cEnclave	8-12
Provocation against Lenin Mausoleum	13-14
Stalingrad Memorial in peril	15
As I see it!	17
Religion is the opiate of people	18-19
Out with Kuchma-Yushenko regime!	19
Turkey protests	20
An appeal to our descendants-We are leaving	21-22
Second demolishing blow to Communists	22-24
Stalin-enemy of cult of personality	25
Protest value in life	26-27
What about Putin?	28-29
Human rights in Czech republic	30
I accuse myself!	31-33
Struggles in South America	33-36
Latvia on road to fascism	36-37
Letters	38-39

NORTHSTAR COMPASS

280 QUEEN ST. W.
TORONTO, ONT. CANADA M5V 2A1
TEL. (416) 977-5819
FAX: (416) 593-0781

EDITORIAL

DISCUSSION WORLD CONGRESS



FROM
PARTY OF LABOUR
BELGIUM

We are informing you comrades that the Parti De Travail De Belgique is sending two delegates to the World Congress - Ludo Martens, Chairman of the Central Committee of Belgian Workers Party and Jef Bossuyt responsible for the Soviet Union in the International Section.

Enclosed also are the three Resolutions that we propose to the Congress. These resolutions were elaborated on and discussed and signed at the Brussels seminars by Russian Communist Workers' Party, All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks, Trudovaya Rossia and Union of Communists of Ukraine.

We truly hope that this Congress will be fruitful and stimulate the rebuilding of the Soviet Union, main support of the international workers' movement.

On behalf of the International Section of WPB
Jef Bossuyt

FROM
RUSTAVI
GEORGIA

Just a few words about the suggestions for the Resolutions at the Congress. I agree with all the items except Item Number 2 - (*Struggle against internal reviv-*

ism in the Communist movements, both inside the former Soviet Union and in the international movement.) I don't really think that there will be time to go into that matter at the Congress. Our Congress is not going to be a Congress of the Communist Parties.

The venue of the incoming International Council should be in Europe but the official organ of the Council should be Northstar Compass. There are also opinions expressed that the next World Congress should be held in Moscow. My point of view is that it should be held any place in the Soviet Union which shall prove to be most convenient for such a great event.

Future political situation itself will prompt the decision as to where the venue should be.

Helen Blau

FROM
MULTAN
PAKISTAN

Dear friends:

Following your Northstar Compass Website on the Internet, I pay great attention to its contents. As a young youth I joined the progressive movement while in Grade 9. I did this because in our country our people have terrible problems since they have no

rights as human beings. The poverty for the people is unbelievable and they have to live under \$1 per day, while there are 9-14 children in an average family.

There was always hope for us in the USSR as a country that looked after and raised the level of life for its multinational society. Here in Pakistan we were busy and struggled as they did in Soviet Union in order to better the life of the working class.

Now the situation has changed and there is no longer the USSR. Capitalism came and is growing stronger and stronger each day. When our people, who looked up to the Soviet Union saw this, their hopes are dashed and spirits broken by this tragedy.

We in Pakistan looked up to the USSR as our KABA. In Muslim belief KABA is like a prophet that everyone looks up to. The Soviet Union was our prophet and our guiding light to the future! Some opportunists in former USSR have demolished our KABA, destroying that light which shone on the path forward.

Now there is just a small light that is flickering in our hearts and in the hearts of my friends... and therefore we appreciate that you our dear friends are lighting the way for us through the journal Northstar Compass!

We grasp your hands and your feet in appreciation.

We shall try to participate in the World Congress this year with two people.

Yours truly
Mohammed Asif Rasheed
AWAMI COMMITTEE
Pakistan

The World Congress would certainly welcome AWAMI representatives from Pakistan ■

FROM
BANGLADESH

We express our solidarity with the World Congress for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People. We are eager to attend this World Congress. Please send us details.

N.S. Beena Sikdar
General Secretary
Progressive Women's Movement
of Bangladesh ■

FROM
AMIENS
FRANCE

Dear comrades:

The "Tchadienne Action for Unity and Socialism" (ACTUS) asks you comrades to register us as one of the signatories to the Appeal for a World Congress for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People.

We hope to send a two member delegation of our committee. Enclosed are some documents which shows French imperialism as it rages in our country of Chad in Africa.

Ley-Ngardical Djimadoum
General Secretary
Chadian Action for Unity and Socialism ■

ERRATUM

We apologize for an error committed by us in March issue of NSC when we named Dave Silver of USA as the author of the article "China-Point of Return"

FROM
PARIS
FRANCE

Dear comrades:

We have been receiving NSC regularly and we feel that exchanges between our publications will be beneficial for both sides. We are going to send you our "Initiative Communiste" regularly in exchange for Northstar Compass.

We are interested in the forthcoming World Congress.

Rene Lefort
Secretary for International Affairs
"Coordination Des Militants Communistes" ■

FROM
RADIO HAVANA
CUBA

We read NSC and the Call for the World Congress of Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet and we're glad that Cuba confirmed that they shall participate. We welcome you to our Radio Havana broadcasts and we send you our cordial greetings.

Sincerely yours

Lourdes Lopez
Head of International Department ■

**PROFESSOR
VILMA PAEZ-CUBA**



OUR WORLD CONGRESS 2001!

As a member of the Organizing Committee I have read all of the documents sent to me and I think that the World Congress will be a great success. All you comrades have put such great efforts into this important project and have taken care of every detail. The fact that many parties, institutions and organizations of the world have signed the Call means that the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People has not been a wild idea, but an idea whose time has come.

As for the situation in former Soviet Union, I do agree with Nina Andreeva of the AUCPB when she says that... "alone your enemies cannot be defeated." We must also remember that not every unity or fusion of parties together always gives the desired results that is much expected or needed. If every communist party, especially the ones that declare themselves as Communist could join together, then they will become strong and would have the possibility of working seriously for

the restoration of the Soviet Union. Opportunism and revisionism were some of the main causes of the temporary collapse of the Soviet Union and that is why I do agree with the participants of the Mini-Conference that was held last year (October 28-29th) when the conference stated that "unity cannot be confused with the question of criticism and self-criticism", but we have to emphasize on the question of **UNITY!** Without unity we cannot proceed. Without unity, all the so-called Communist parties in the USSR will not build a united and strong country!

Our Cuban Communist Party emphasizes unity. We do believe in democratic centralism. We are not perfect though. In our meetings criticism and self-criticism prevails. We are free to express our opinions, but at the end we have to accept what the majority decides, and most of the times, this collective brain is correct, or very close to the right decision. We always follow our slogan: "Our

party is the Party of Democracy and the Unity which we defend!"

We must support all those parties in former Soviet Union as long as they DO represent the interests of the vast majority of the population, but it is very disappointing with some who speak nice, who pretend to tell the truth, who claim themselves to be a true leader of a just cause, who repeat that the only possible way of attaining victory is to work together for a new and stronger Soviet Union. But as Nina Andreeva said: there are many leaders who are opportunistic that we must struggle against. It's sad to see that some leaders look for only self-recognition and propaganda. If Nina Andreeva is correct as was reported in NSC, then many leaders are not truthful when they state that they are for a united front and united actions.

The United Front as promoted through NSC and documents by the Organizing Committee for an International Council of Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People, must give way to ample discussions, must respect personal and group opinions, but it must also promote unity of action and a single and unique idea: TOGETHER WE SHALL WIN!

When Karl Marx and Frederick Engels were given the task of writing a concrete and detailed theoretical and practical program in (1847) for the Communist League, the Communist Manifesto emerged as the only program that could join together all Communists all over the world.

The world has changed, but the fight of all workers, the struggles of the people for their rights are still the same, so the motto of "Workers of All Countries Unite!" still calls for unity all over the world. We must ask all those parties and comrades in the Soviet Union: "Communists of All Parties of the Soviet Union Unite!"

I agree with everything that Michael Lucas, the Chairman and Editor has been sending to all of the members of the Organizing Committee for an International Council. I wish that I could be of

more help. Maybe I could offer to do translations into Spanish of the Main Congress Documents. I am not in a position financially to attend this World Congress, but I wish all the success to the Organizing Committee.

Hearty greetings comrades!

Professor Vilma Paez
Holguin University
Cuba

FROM
"WORD OF A COMMUNIST"
ODESSA, UKRAINE

Dear comrades:

I am forthright in letting you know that in my estimation it is a mistake to have changed the venue of the World Congress from Minsk, Byelorussia to Toronto, Canada. The effectiveness and the results in Minsk would have been more productive, since there would have been the opportunity for many more communists to reach Minsk. Communists in our country are the poorest part of society.

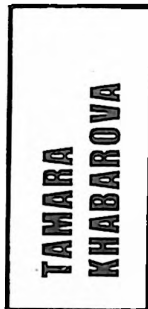
But those "communists" that are going to come to the Congress are the rich communists, they will not represent the rank and file. What are you going to talk about with Zyuganov and his command?

I fear that the discussions at this important congress will be just discussions and nothing more. If it was in Minsk, the results would be better. Can't you change the venue? Is it too late? With this in mind, of course our communist newspaper cannot be represented for lack of funds.

Guram Tsushbaya
Editor

It was not possible to hold it in Minsk due to the uncertain situation there. Besides this, the cost factor from our part since we had to pay hotels, meals etc, in US dollars. Regarding Zyuganov, he will not come and he is not welcomed. The representatives that will come are not what you say "wealthy communists", they have to scrounge for their airfare.

TO THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FROM -



CONGRESS OF CITIZENS OF USSR

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -
MOSCOW

Dear colleagues:

Having received the minutes of the meeting of members of the Organizing Committee for an International Council that was held on October 28-29, 2000, we had a discussion on them with our Executive on December 18, 2000.

Here are some of our analysis and comments:

1. We are not in agreement and absolutely cannot understand that you will exclude all representatives and not allow any ideological debates during the work of the Congress or in the commit-

tees that shall be elected.

We tried many times to explain to you that in the present psychological war on this planet your method is to give up the battle field to the class enemy. It is sad that you let this go by your ears. You did not publish none of our letters regarding our position in NSC and we did not receive any answers to our proposals.

2. We also are not in agreement with your proposal as to how the future International Council should be elected or function.

How can we understand your

proposal that delegates from different parties and groups coming from USSR should elect amongst themselves their main speaker who shall be given 15 minutes to present their views. But you are well aware that on the territory of USSR there is going on a harsh theoretical struggle on ideological grounds and some of these parties-movements are filled with many agents of influence. To us it seems that at the Congress there shall be no opportunity given to real fighters for the rights and interests of Soviet people, which at the moment are not the majority. But speaking and agitating from the Congress tribunal will be people speaking about the Soviet people who for many years do not agree that Soviet people are existing and will do all in their power to disrupt the work of the Congress.

We do not agree with your proposal that each country should elect its representative to the forthcoming International Council. The left forces in the USSR at the moment cannot speak as a united front. This is not an objective analysis. This will mean that representing the Soviet people on the International Council will be those who should not be elected to the International Council.

Let us give you an example.

Your organization is not a party and do not have dealings with the CPC. Let us suppose that we're organizing in Moscow an event where we invite you and the CPC together and ask you to elect amongst yourself a speaker. Of course this will not be to your liking or the CPC's liking. You would demand equal voice but we keep mum.

Of course you shall not be happy with our silence or answer. 3. And the more we read about the composition of the Organizing Committee the more we are disturbed. What kind of Organizational Committee is this which has no representatives of the Soviet Union on it? That is from citizens of the Soviet Union!!

Before we had nominated a few members to be part of this Organ-

izing Committee, representing different parts of the USSR. They were willing to promote the aims of the World Congress, but they were not welcomed somehow by your committee.

You stated in NSC Vol. 6, #10, May 1998 that all proposed candidates shall be included in the Organizing Committee. Why did you ignore our proposals? We know the situation in USSR better than you comrades in Canada, USA, Spain or Latin America! You look at our situation through a venue which is not realistic or correct. Why did you not discuss our proposals at your last Mini Conference?

We demand that you publish all the names of members of the Organizing Committee in NSC. If our names are not on that list that we do not see how we can cooperate further. We should not be discriminated against.

In summary, to come to Toronto in September we cannot come, since obviously we have no financial means. But we shall send an English translation of our 15 minute report on behalf of the Congress of Citizens of USSR and The Bolshevik Platform of the USSR and ask that it be read at the World Congress... without any OMISSIONS! We shall not "arrange" nothing with any Soviet representative if we come to the Congress or if we do not come. Without any arrangements with other Soviet delegates, we shall propose our own delegate to the International Council.

We suggest that you invite to the Congress not just anyone, but organizations and parties who have already done work and have a program for the Soviet people in their struggles. But not those who will just start to think and give reports that are just thought out in order to present to the delegates. This can be seen very clearly as to with whom you correspond, of course if you really want to see things. All the organizations that will follow what we have stated should be given the opportunity to speak for 15 minutes at the Congress, to speak

about the CONCRETE WORK, and each organization must have the right to delegate its own representative to the International Council. Then this International Council shall in fact be a representative Council and not Trotskyite debate, which there is enough of them in this world of ours, but they do not bring any results for the resurrection of the USSR.

We are hoping that soon we shall receive an argumentative answer to our letter.

Sincerely yours

Members of the Executive Committee of Congress of Citizens of USSR

T.Khabarova - V.Korotaev -
V.Lebedev - G.Petrov

P.S. We received the information in the NSC issue of December 2000 which lists the members of the Organizing Committee. We did not find our proposed candidates to this committee listed. It looks that you have deceived us when you told us that we as others will be accepted into the Organizing Committee. You have put us into an untenable position, since we have thought that we are members of the Organizing Committee. But your unprincipled attitude the Committee is self appointed.

We do not see names of representatives from "Trudovaya Rossia" also. This must be a joke - a Committee to help the Soviet people --- but not one representative is not on it from the Soviet Union!

Your Credo is that of the aims of the "Hands Off Russia Committee" but you have now turned to be a leader of the anti-imperialist forces of the world, standing above the "ideological" struggles. Your understanding of the struggles lacks clarity. This is not clear thinking or you're trying to influence through informational-psychological war.

If you continue on this course then we must understand that our organization in fact was not invited to the World Congress!

To: Executive Committee
Congress of Citizens of USSR

Dear friends:

We re-publish your recent letter (*slightly abridged*) above, together with our rejoinder to your critical comments and implied threat to withdraw from the World Congress for "*Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People*" in September of this year.

We respect your views although we find them somewhat troubling and difficult. If in the past issues of NSC we have not published your materials in full, we inform you that materials of equal relevance are excluded from every issue for reasons of space and cost. We apologize for that but must inform you that since 1992 and our first edition, all our activity has all been done by volunteer labor, without pay including publication costs. To finance that effort (*which includes monthly free mailings to the Soviets of many dozens of copies*) has been our most difficult undertaking. Had we received massive financial help, more important materials would have been found in our pages. Costs per edition exceed two thousand dollars per month and we rely totally upon subscriber and membership donations. We take pride that we have thus far succeeded.

There are other aspects of your letter we find more disturbing and that we feel we must comment upon to clarify understanding as to what are the goals and purposes (*as well as limitations*) before the World Congress. What disposal the World Congress might place upon them is not at this time predictable since final determination of program will rest in the hands of the delegates and leadership they will elect.

The Congress Organizing Committee, the Canadian Friends of Soviet People throughout the events and decisions leading to the organization of the World Congress, have stated clearly. it is NOT the place to try and settle all basic ideological and political differences. Secondly, we have repeatedly projected a policy that

the restoration of Socialism and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics CAN BE NOW BROUGHT ABOUT ONLY BY THE UNITED WILL AND ACTIVITY OF THE SOVIET PEOPLE.

You may rest assured we have tried to adhere to that principled position and will continue to do so.

We believe that the Congress must state that international activity of Friendship, Peace and Solidarity will assist our Soviet friends in the long struggles to choose and bring to life their own socialist destiny. It is abundantly clear that this can best be achieved under the banners of leadership of Marxist-Leninist Socialism with a clear perspective of eliminating capitalist exploitation, competition and domination of peoples everywhere. Socialism in the Soviet Union can lead toward Communism and the end of the class dominated society. Those have been and remain our profound beliefs. Why is that so?

Throughout the world and in what were the Soviet Republics, people struggle for freedom from abhorrent ills placed upon them by world monopoly capitalism...what Vladimir Lenin correctly defined as "Imperialism". But it was the people of All the Soviet Republics, as long as they were united and with the united working class and peasantry they forged the marvels of Socialist fundamental change.

We believe that the World Congress should express, with great gratitude the fact of Soviet triumphs in war and peace that brought all lands and people to new paths of democratic and human development.

The deliberate elimination of the Soviet Union and the resulting RESURGENCE OF MONOPOLY CAPITALISM HAS REVERSED OR SERIOUSLY IMPEDED FREEDOM AND ALSO THE CONSTRUCTIVE DEVELOPMENT EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD.

Such conditions universally are being thrust upon all peoples. That is a common fate and increasingly places the demand for

the solidarity of the Congress.

Our aim and purpose therefor is to create in advance of the World Congress, guidelines and rules that will preclude as far as possible elements designed to confuse, divide and possibly destroy friendship, solidarity and peace between all people. The powers of Transnational Corporate Capital must be curbed, reversed and ultimately replaced. Nobody can be surprised that we confront widespread hostility and opposition to our aims.

Should your decision be to withdraw or even oppose our activity for the upcoming World Congress, naturally we have no power or magic wand to compel, or to influence your decision. Knowing, at even this distance that your peoples have suffered assaults and painful deprivations since 1990, it is our earnest and profound hope that your Congress of Citizens of USSR will find it both useful and expedient to more than forward your fifteen minute report, as you indicate. The welcome mat is before you here and we entreat your presence. At the Congress there will be many parties, organizations, movements and publications, with differing or even conflicting views.

As you correctly point out, throughout our existence we have repeatedly said in all sincerity that we are not a political party, and we have neither the intent or agenda to organize political movements, or events. Should uninformed or even hostile elements seek to drape that mantra or purpose upon us, we reject it out-of-hand as malicious at worst and unacceptable at best. We make careful note of the fact that forces from the camp of the TNC-Imperialists, wherever located, will bend every effort to divert and if possible to create confusion to defeat our aims.

The courageous cooperation we have enjoyed during particularly the past ten years from our Soviet friends has convinced us, that solidarity and peace will emerge as a vital new force for all humanity. ■

NSC EDITORIAL STATEMENT

POLICE-STATE ACTIONS PRO

The totally hyped and phony conclave of 34 American States in Quebec City, Canada, April 20th to 22nd saw up to a hundred thousand demonstrators on the streets opposed to the lying projection of "Free Trade Agreement of the Americas". What was evident and understood with total clarity throughout the city and across Canada on television was unmistakable as a haze of tear gas that engulfed the people. It was the main weapon of state uniformed police force numbering more than 6,000, armed to the teeth. How many more disguised in "plain clothes" were among their ranks remains "secret information"...but they were there. How many provocateurs, spies and disguised informers whether of Canadian or "foreign" service

were there will never be known. What everybody, anywhere could easily comprehend was that the democratic right to march in the streets to oppose official controls was confronted by the unmitigated violence from the Canadian "police-state" forces...a fact laid bare before a world audience by the ever-present electronic media.

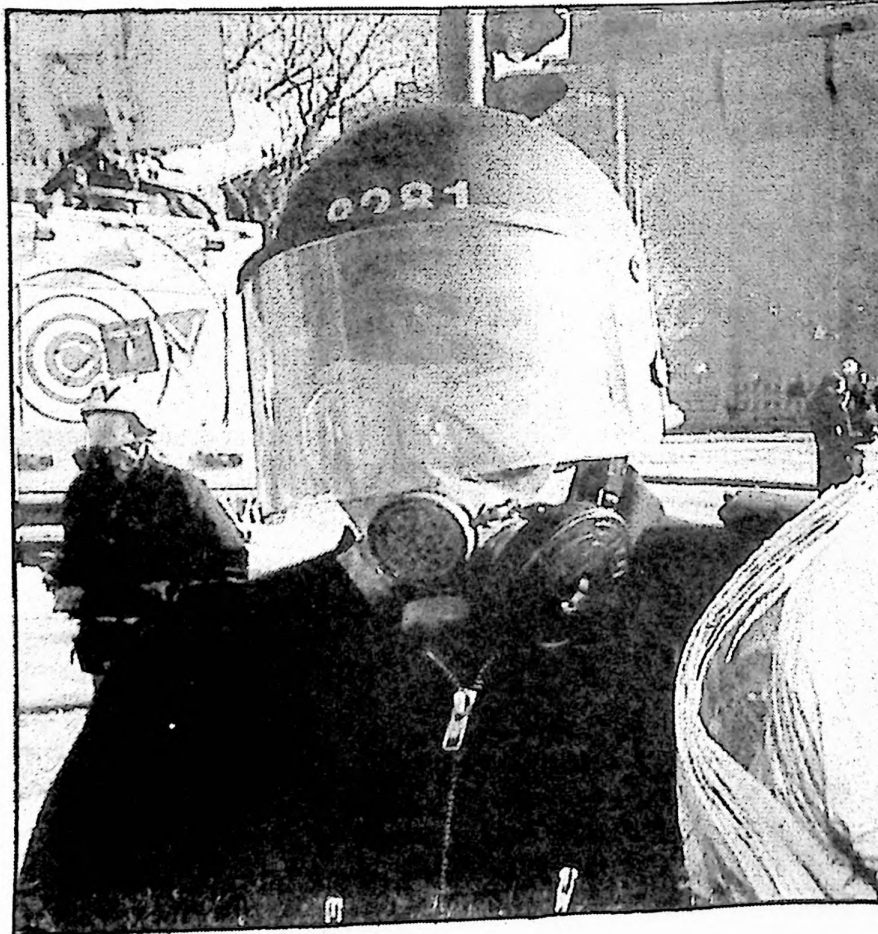
It is conceivable that tens of thousands of rounds of tear gas canisters were fired at the demonstrators. Rubber and plastic bullets were fired at them in random patterns. It was reported that lethally armed "snipers" were placed on the roof-tops. Water cannon drove the demonstrators off the 4-meter high fence-wall that was the denial of citizens their democratic rights and a

provocation. It has been revealed that the secret, pre-summit orders were issued giving uniformed police the option of using "lethal force". The discretionary "shoot-to-kill" empowerment was vested in EACH AND EVERY INDIVIDUAL COP, according to the news accounts. This "empowerment" is almost unheard of for most armed forces on Canadian territory.

It was a day of shame for Canadians that such total perversion of hard fought for civil and political rights were subverted by their

A bloodied protestor, hit by batons and rubber bullets is arrested after thousands of demonstrators were pepper sprayed by riot police who acted as Nazi Storm Troopers

A young unarmed demonstrator is dragged away after being overcome by tear gas.



ECT FTAA CONCLAVE...

By RAY STEVENSON





It was the youth demonstrators that showed courage. Young people stormed the Summit wire fence



government. Demands for a full public investigation and inquiry to fix responsibility must now be undertaken in a flood tide of protest.

What is FTAA all about? Behind the acceptable smokescreen of "free trade" (with which nobody would disagree in the unlikely event it enhances the lives of impoverished peoples) lies the macabre design to complete U.S. corporate control over energy, human and all resources "from the northern-most tip of Canada to the southern most tip of Chile". To do that, democratic development even partly under control by the peoples of the various "sovereign" countries must be brought completely under rigid and inflexible control of the U.S. military, economic, political and social forces. Already the World Trade Organization, International

Monetary Fund and U.S. monopoly financial institutions have decimated whole countries and peoples in the Americas.

The 35th nation's voice of Cuba was deliberately excluded from the conclave to cater to U.S. aims and demands. The voice of Fidel Castro would have exposed the machinations and plots of Bush-TNC oil clan, as well as the abject kow-towing to them by Prime Minister Chretien of Canada and all of his sycophant supporters. Ergo...exclusion of Cuba and marginalization. Of all the 34 "leaders" invited, only Venezuela's President Chavez stood his ground to reject the 2005 date set for finalization of the U.S. sponsored agreement of FTAA. Additionally, he rejected out of hand the trumped up "democracy clause" rushed into print at the last moment to smoke-screen the

TNC intent. Many of the rest were there by virtues of CIA-USA installation.

Full tribute must be given to the tear-gassed, shot-at, truncheoned and jailed and also reviled demonstrators who defiantly stood their ground. In thousands of cases they literally placed their bodies in the path of the armed police, withstanding gas attacks, water cannon assaults and all that came with it. Among the marchers and demonstrators were massive, official, trade union organized workers, clerics, women's movement supporters, students, professionals, political figures of many stripes, including a former Tory Cabinet Minister who labeled the Government attempt to muzzle and smash the demonstrators as fully worthy of "dictatorship" and a "ploce state".

Particularly noteworthy were

In the face of police onslaught the young protestors sit down and face a wall of riot police.





The Riot Police march with batons and full gear towards the protesters.

This photo speaks volumes. A young student holds his hand in a peace sign against the riot police and rubber bullets.

youthful demonstrations of sheer courage and in their fun-loving dances, games and "street theater" they poured visual contempt and fortitude on the masked, helmeted and tight ranks of their class enemies...albeit all of these youthful demonstrators probably did not think of the "cops" in those terms. Their performances and courage were superb in what was in fact for many of them, a first such experience.

SUMMIT IN
QUEBEC, CANADA
**CANADIAN
DEMOCRACY
AT WORK!**



Central issue in all the "talks" is the U.S. President's newly discovered, alleged "long term energy shortage". Already enormously and many times over the main "energy" consumer and "polluter" of our atmosphere and the ecology of planet earth, the aim of U.S. energy and financial monopoly is to control every last vestige of resources, regardless of country or area. The "energy" cabal of Exxon, Standard Oil etc. etc. (already happening in Canada under NAFTA) seek the extra-territorial "legal" rights for corporations to sue the government of any country if perceived to be exercising traditional "sovereign" or "national rights" whereby the corporate "interest" is impeded. The historic and unmatched reserves of the Canadian Alberta "tar sands" are now the TNC's primary target. It is clear that Chretien of Canada and his sycophantic supporters intend to oblige in such a "sell-out". Sadly they are not the only culprits. The U.S. forces at work here are the same forces that high-jacked the oil and energy resources of the USSR with the treacherous aid of Gorbachev, Schevernadze, Yeltsin, Putin and company. Chretien's performance is apparently also "well-oiled"...as was his Soviet sell-out predecessors.

Canadians, barring the defeat of all these diabolical designs are ending up as citizens of "corporate United States monopolies" rather than free citizens of the sovereign state of Canada. What we witness is best described a form of "high treason" if the Quebec "summit of infamy" remains hidden behind police state wire fences and walls...and for the most part a subservient media. The menacing, hideous face of forms of neo-fascist corporate control are clearly visible in the Quebec City deception and "Big Lies".

It is time for true international "solidarity" between all peoples to re-emerge from the long slumber that made possible our current dangerous economic-socio and political future.

PROVOCATION ?

**Putin and the Russian Orthodox Church
are planning to remove the
body of V.I.Lenin
from the Mausoleum!**



According to the newspaper "Voice of a Communist" in Moscow, the news agency "Interfax" reported that in the Kremlin the question was raised, discussed and to be acted upon soon to the removal for burial of the body of V.I.Lenin.

President Putin of Russia accepted the decision to take the body of V.I.Lenin from the Mausoleum and bury him in St. Petersburg (the present name for Leningrad.) This is planned to be carried out in year 2002, "after the situation improves".

The initiators of this act is the hierarchy of the Russian Orthodox Church.

The newspaper "Voice of a Communist" commented:

"This announcement of Agency Interfax and APN - is another step that was started by the right-wing forces headed by B.Nemtsov over three months ago.

To our way of thinking, Putin himself should know that this barbarous act will not go without getting a reaction from the people that no one knows where it will lead to!

Not only that, this planned provocation will not go without an answer from all of the Soviet people. This well planned provocation, is meant now not only to stimulate a vicious anti-Communist hysteria by the present bourgeoisie, but first of all it is meant to test the readiness of those Russians that will surely defend the Lenin Mausoleum!

Our newspaper is receiving hundreds of letters and even statements of organizing a people's armed militia to defend the body of V.I.Lenin, the founder of the USSR."

OUR COMMENT:

Much has been written by Northstar Compass over the years regarding unity. Therefore, if our Soviet comrades, first of all, plus other Communist parties of the world do not take steps towards UNITY in defense of Lenin, then the present Mafiosi that is running the Kremlin shall have their way, while the progressive movements might still be arguing the ideological niceties.

Northstar Compass and the Organizing Committee for an International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People has sent protests against this planned provocation!

Send your protests against this move to:

Russia 103132
Moscow
Staraya Ploshad 4
President of Russian Federation
Putin

TO ALL NSC READERS!

Below we publish the Appeal issued by the newspaper "Proletarskaya Gazeta" in Lenin-grad about a plan that is being promoted and instigated by the Russian Orthodox Church on the sacred soil of Mamayev Hill in Stalingrad!

The Church hierarchy of the Russian Orthodox Church - together with the top government Fascist circles of the bourgeois Russia are proposing to fulfill an act of outrage against the memory of all Soviet Red Army soldiers, who gave their lives to fight the enemy of USSR and save people of Europe and many other countries of the world from the scourge

of fascism during the Second World War!

The church hierarchy leadership, together with the fascist bourgeoisie of Russia are attempting to defile the graves of the defenders of Stalingrad on the sacred Mamayev Hill!

The government and the Russian Orthodox Church are attempting to build on the Mamayev Hill where there is a museum and the

world renowned monument of Mother Stalingrad to build instead the Church " Church of all Saints" right over thousands of graves of the Red Army soldiers who died defending this hill against the marauding German Fascists. They are buried in the walls of this Mamayev Hill complex.

There are no priests buried in these graves on the Mamayev Mound, but our fathers. Our fa-



thers and mothers were not defending the Orthodox Church here from the fascist occupiers, but our Socialist Motherland. Most of the defenders of this important Mamayev Mound in Stalingrad were non religious, they were practically all atheists. Amongst the Red Army men who were religious there were many nationalities and believers of different religions. But they were all loyal and devoted to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and all were defending Stalingrad!

With the proposals and demands of all the Soviet people and their donations, there was built a Memorial Complex which showed the whole world the tremendous devotion and courage for the liberation of Stalingrad. Protests by people and experts are flooding the present Russian regime with letters and protests, showing that any construction on the Mamayev Hill is not only sacrilegious but could in effect topple the monument and the museum. These demands and protests are known to the Russian Orthodox Church in Stalingrad very well, plus the administration of the Volgograd region. But this question is already in process of realization.

We consider this as a purposeful attempt to desecrate the graves on the Red Army Soviet soldiers in order to erase for the future generations the fact that it was the Communists in the first place who stormed the fascist bastion on the Mamayev Hill. It is an attempt to erase all that was done by the great heroes who perished in Stalingrad. Not only that, the Russian Orthodox Church want to diminish and to despoil those who are of different religious beliefs but who died defending this hill. This is nothing but a fascist-chauvinist attempt to erase history, in the name of God!

We are appealing to the working class of Russia, to the people of the world in order to help us to defend the sacred memory of the heroes, who died so that we may live in the struggle against the fascist beasts during the Great Patriotic War!

We must cherish and save for future generations and the world the heroic deeds of the Soviet people in their life and death struggles against the fascist bands!

Vladimir Nikiforov
Chief Editor of "Proletarskaya Gazeta"

Anatoly Pyzhov, Secretary of the International Department of the Interregional unity of workers trade unions of Russia "Defense of Work".

COMMENT

NSC and the Organizing Committee for an International Council has sent protests on this attempt by the reactionary forces of the Orthodox Church and the Russian government. We urge all of our readers to do likewise.

FASCISM SHALL NOT PASS !

To send protests:

103132 RUSSIA
Moscow
Staraya Ploshad, H. 4
President of Russian Federation
Putin

103074 Russia
Moscow Kitajgorodsky prospect, 7
Minister of Culture of Russia

400066 Russia
Volgorad
ulica Volgogradskoho , D.5
Administration of the
Volgograd Region

Greetings sent to the Communist Party of Australia

Dear friends and comrades:

We thank you for your letter-fax of March 26 and the information about your 9th Congress of your party in Sydney, April 13-16th of this year. We have found this information concerning this to be of great interest and relevance and express our solidarity and friendship in your endeavor.

As you may be aware, our organization the "Canadian Friends

of Soviet People" has a very long history, dating back to the original formation in Canada of the "Hands Off Russia" Committee formed during the years of intervention against the Soviet Socialist Revolution and the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Today, as in that period, our activity is based on the essential work of "international friendship, solidarity and peace" between all nations and peoples.

Since 1992, following the dismantling of the USSR by the counter-revolutionary forces in their government, with the overt complicity of Western Transnational Corporate powers and nations, and led by the United States of America, we have called for and support the restoration of socialism. We see this as the foremost task of the peoples of the former Soviet Republics, but are strongly convinced that an international movement of friendship, solidarity and peace will be of significance to them.

To that end since 1992 we have published our journal "Northstar Compass" that today is read in more than seventy different countries and has wide international support. In itself it has been an onerous and difficult task, and is based on the proposals and program of the widest and most effective unity of "United Front" forces. The editorial and ideological policy of the magazine is based on precepts of Marxism-Leninism, as the main requirement to achieve the curbing of all powers now exercised by the TNC forces and in that way render assistance to the struggles of the people of the Soviets.

In order to further such ends, we are hosting here in Toronto, Canada a WORLD CONGRESS, SEPTEMBER 21-22-23, 2001 FOR FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH SOVIET PEOPLE". We believe that this is of great significance and invite your support and assistance, as possible.

Will Lambert, President
Ray Stevenson
Associate Editor

OBITUARY

JIM LEECH

By RAY STEVENSON
Associate Editor

A LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO SOCIALISM AND THE WORKING CLASS, ENDS...

The passing of Comrade Jim Leech, April 8 in London England brings to a close a lifetime of devoted service and active struggle to the international cause of socialism and the working class. A quiet and thoughtful man, his activities on behalf of the Canadian working people brought him into early membership in the Canadian Communist Party during and prior to the emergence of the Cold War hysteria and the vicious assaults of McCarthyism and anti-Communism. For a number of years he was a member of the highest bodies of that party.

His analytical talents and devotion to the causes of the working people and a future socialism brought him into the ranks of leading working class journalism at both national and international levels. It was these finely tuned skills that saw him for many years working as editor of "Northern Neighbors" with Dyson Carter. Their work was devoted to the publication and popularization of the massive positive developments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in virtually all areas of scientific, social, political and economic life. The magazine reached unprecedented heights of acclaim internationally with readers from countries around the globe. It was a unique and very insightful publication on which Comrade Jim Leech left his mark.

During some of the more difficult years, following his Northern Neighbors activity, he became the Editor in Chief of the Canadian Tribune, based in Toronto, and the unofficial organ of the Cana-

dian Communist Party. Whether it was advancing and strengthening labor's role of independence, illuminating the work of peace forces in Canada or abroad, seeking to open up new vistas and organizational strength and clarity against sexism, racism, poverty and the mordant ills thrust on society, Jim Leech's insights and journalistic skill were never found wanting. In every respect he was a "tribute to the people" and his memory is honored for that.

He was a conscientious and loyal participant in the activities of the Canada-USSR Friendship Society for many long years, and we are pleased to note, a continuing subscriber and supporter of Northstar Compass, and we add with modesty and gratitude, as a "critical reader".

Personally he encountered severe tragedies when a succession of marriages ended in premature passing of his partners. On a personal note I add that he honoured me by asking me to speak at the last rites for Jean Vautour, his wife and comrade from 1976 until her untimely death in 1990 as a result of the dreaded Alzheimer's Disease. In part I said:

"...it would be remiss not to refer here to the fact that the burden of care for Jean during her six years of incapacity fell almost exclusively, twenty four hours a day on her husband, Comrade and partner, an extraordinary caring and courageous human being, Jim Leech. For those who witnessed this, we never ceased to wonder and admire the love, tenderness and unremitting care this husband gave to his ailing and mostly incapacitated wife and Comrade...In our insensate, depersonalized world and alienated society he has given us an invaluable gift of humanity exceeding any attempt to place value upon it..."

This knowledge of the bottomless wellsprings of his true nature, for those of us who knew him, his love and concern for others as a Communist...gave rise to our joy and delight in the marriage of Claire and Jim that fol-

lowed, and their lives together in London. To her, currently suffering her own disabilities we extend deepest condolences for what we know to be an irreplaceable loss. May we suggest that loss is universal and rests with all of us.

Finally, for Jim, his indomitable courage, his unswerving loyalty to his class and people shall remain timeless memorial to his life and work, and to the future of a socialist world when today's agonies will be forever removed from existence...if not from memory...the future to which he dedicated his life. □

THE LIE OF THE

"LENIN
TESTAMENT"



ONLY \$10.80

The only book that is written in a down-to-earth language that explains the biggest hoax perpetrated against the progressive movement by Imperialism, the behind the scenes supporter, promoter of Trotskyism amongst the Communist and progressive movements all over the world!

**IT'S A MUST READ! ESPECIALLY NOW, AFTER
THE TEMPORARY DEMISE OF THE
SOVIET UNION**

SOVIET TREASURES

Audio cassette of Soviet revolutionary songs that are now practically banned from being played.

ONLY \$10.00

BOSNIA, CROATIA WELCOMES MILOSEVIC ARREST

Foreign Minister Zlatko Lagumdžija of Bosnia, Croatian Minister Ivica Račan and president Mesic are overjoyed at the arrest of Milosevic. Their outward show of nationalistic fervor is meant to ingratiate themselves to the West and NATO. Their support will be very profitable for them and their lavish services.

BULGARIA WORRIES ABOUT MACEDONIAN ACTIONS

Bulgaria sees the handwriting on the wall as Macedonia is being used as a pawn to destabilize even more this Balkan region. Is this not tied in to the formation of *UNITY* - between the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Bulgarian Socialist Party?

WHAT'S EU UP TO?

Belgium is in the chair of the European Union. EU with 350 million people under its wings, plus another 12 candidates to join EU, which will make it 500 million people! The question (*besides others*) is the environment. USA under Bush is refusing to play a role in diminishing the pollution, even though it is the biggest polluter in the whole world. They want other countries to do the clean-up, but the USA...of course not!

STALIN'S GRANDSON ACCUSES

G.Dyugashvili accused the Communist Party of Georgia and others of betraying Communism.

PUTIN BACKS LITHUANIA'S BID FOR EUROPEAN UNION

Bush let it be known that US will cooperate only on oil, lumber, gas in the former republics of the Baltic. US pushes Lithuania and forced Russia to secede their rights to Kaliningrad territory and thus they insisted on charges for visas for about 1 million Russian citizens in Kaliningrad enclave in order to reach Russia proper.

WHAT NEXT?

The Russian Ministry of Interior is going to publish its own newspaper, but it might be printed in Germany. How nice?

GUSINSKY WANTS GERMAN HELP

Vladimir Gusinsky NTV boss and multi-millionaire under investigation in many countries for fraud, asked German Chancellor to help him out to get back to power.

BUSH PUTS NUCLEAR AID TO RUSSIA UNDER REVIEW

If, as Americans claim that Russia has 1,000 tons of highly enriched uranium and 150 thousand tons of weapons-grade plutonium (and the USA is buying most of this) they charge that Russia can build 60,000 weapons. Since USA is far ahead in these destructive weapons to be damn sure, then this means that Bush and his military-industrial complex have enough materials to build way over 200,000 nuclear weapons. What we should probably do in this US-inspired wacky world, is use all of these materials to send the whole population of this world into orbit before US imperialism destroys us all, either by war or by pollution!

BUSH HAS A NEW PLAN FOR RUSSIA AND PUTIN

Bush wants to renegotiate the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty. Here is the planned scenario: US will control all of the nuclear weapons in all of the former republics and then will make Putin President #2 while Bush takes #1 spot, Zyuganov will be given the post as Governor of Costa Rica, Bermuda etc. Now, that is real Texas thinking - you all!

JUST AT RANDOM

*President Bush to visit Poland in June. Maybe he shall try to get Walesa into the presidents chair?

*War Hawk Powell of USA to visit Balkans. We wonder why?"

*US builds a new war base in Bosnian Serb area. Of course its only for peace and also to open up McDonalds restaurants!

*Uzbek president visits Germany to make deals about goats and sheep?

*Russian CPRF have lost their majority in the Duma. What else can one expect when you are a social-democrat and try to cover yourself as red...at the least bit of problem, red changes to pink and then to blue...who pays, he also calls the tune...or is it colour?

YURI GAGARIN'S SPACE SUIT SOLD TO USA'S BUSINESSMAN

Yes, it is true. Yeltsin-Putin and others will sell their Mothers if the price is right. Who is it that gave the order to liquidate the Soviet Space Station Mir? According to Soviet scientists the space station could have lasted with minor improvements for another 10 years or so.

Now the USA has no competitor on earth or in the skies, they hired most of the Soviet trained scientists, and even some Soviet Cosmonauts. As the old saying goes...there's no one more righteous than a prostitute after confession. Uncle Sam was the confessional priest. ■

Global economy isn't global at all. USA, IMF, WB, is constructing a world in which most people are becoming redundant, especially in the Third World countries. Western countries produce and export over 86% of the entire global output. The others are of no "use" as consumers.

The protesters in Quebec recognize this and that is why they protested against this inequality. The governments pretend that its all one globe, one economy and that their trade agreements are knitting us all closer together!

But, we are being slowly unraveled!

Richard Gwyn, Columnist ■

RELIGION IS THE OPIATE OF THE PEOPLE

- KARL MARX

Religion throughout history has played a very backward and reactionary role (*barring some exceptions*) in the life of humanity. It is no exception now as the events in the world show. These religions, the churches, monasteries, evangelical crusades always seem to be in the black financially. The biggest owners of real estate, land and banks, industries and they seem to get help from the governments.

Take a look at this Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alexy II in Moscow during the Easter services. He looks very well fed, he doesn't have to stand on corners in Moscow and beg. Maybe all the gold crosses on his chest could be used to feed the hungry and sick in present day Russia...or the billions that it cost to refurbish this cathedral could have been used to pay back wages of workers whose earnings in taxes help to pay the good life-style of Patriarch Alexy II.

Well, at least Alexy was true to his religious beliefs, not as Gorbachev, Yeltsin and Putin who



attended this church service and dutifully crossed themselves as former "communist leaders"!

We do wonder whether in all of their breast-pockets they still are keeping their CPSU party cards, just in case, yes, just in case the wind blows to the left?

Regarding John Paul II as he sprinkles holy water at St. Peter's Square, he is one of the architects of the temporary destruction of Socialism in his native Poland and in all other former socialist countries.

LIVING CONTACT OF GENERATIONS

Not too long ago in our Izmail regional party organization in Ukraine, we had an important event happening. We accepted into our ranks 8 young boys and girls. Looking at their youthful faces and knowing their situation nowadays, we know that it is not easy to frighten these young party members.

To help these young people find their path into the ranks of the Communist Party of Ukraine is the results of the party schools

that are established. We make certain that experienced party workers, professors, veterans who impart their knowledge and experience and this is followed by discussions, sometimes very heated ones between these young communists and party workers.

From Odessa region to Moldavia is just a stone throw, as the saying goes. The victory of the Moldavian communists in the last election has started an intensive interest amongst our youth. We get together with our Moldavian comrades to discuss the present situation and make plans for cooperation in the future struggles.

Together with elder comrades, veterans of the communist move-



ment we are leading the work for this our future generations of fighters for socialism.

Above is a photo of young communists who have just lately joined the Communist Party of Ukraine

“OUT WITH KUCHMA-YUSHENKO REGIME!”

Under such slogans there took place a demonstration in Lutsk on March 17 of this year against the anti-peoples policies of the present bourgeois regime, initiated by the city's Communist Party of Ukraine. There were over 500 demonstrators. The composition of the demonstrators represented a varied section of the population. From the tribune red flags were flying.

The meeting was opened up by the first secretary of the CPU, member of parliament Peter Brel who said that such protests are being held all over devastated Ukraine. In his emotional speech the first secretary of the Volyn

CPU, deputy P.Phidenko outlined the policies of the present Kuchma-Yushenko regime and how the CPU is organizing the working class into action. He called upon the Ukrainian people to wake up to reality, not to be afraid of political struggles, because only a unified Ukrainian working class can defeat the present hated regime. He also appealed to other parties to join ranks together in order to defeat the bourgeois - Mafiosi regime of Kuchma!

Many other speakers spoke on the same political and economic theme, from the "Ukrainian Union of Workers," society called "Truthfulness", "Veterans of the

Great Patriotic War", "Union of Women" and "In Defense of our Children", urging unity and more struggles. A letter addressed to president Kuchma was read and adopted by the mass meeting, demanding he (*Kuchma*) voluntarily resign his post as president. Another resolution was adopted with both political and economic demands.

As we go to press, Yushenko was ousted...but Kuchma stays. This is a victory? It's Kuchma who must go and his IMF retenue! The struggle is still ahead!



SPECIAL FOR NORTHSTAR COMPASS

Hundreds of thousands of workers, public employees and small tradesmen have been staging protests against the ever deteriorating workers living conditions caused by the recent economic crisis. The latest protests took place on April 14th, 2001 with the attendance of over 500 thousand people across Turkey. On April 11th, 100 thousand people demonstrated in the capital city of Ankara, against the government and IMF which brought the country into this terrible situation. Police attacked the demonstrators when they wanted to march to the Parliament, arresting and injuring many people. Protesters called upon the government to resign and chanted the slogan "IMF get out, this country is ours!"

The crisis is rooted in the economic reform programme that was crafted by the IMF and designed to privatize all public enterprises and implement even tighter austerity measures. When the Turkish government was stuck with the repayment of the domestic and foreign debts, it abandoned a controlled exchange-rate policy on February 22, and allowed the Lira to float, leading to its devaluation by over 44% against the dollar. Waged people's real income dropped by almost 50 per cent. Fuel prices were increased 5 times since the crisis began. The price of imported medicines has skyrocketed, and some suppliers are refusing to ship drugs to Turkey because of the uncertain exchange rates, leading to very severe shortages. Hundreds of thousands of workers have been made unemployed, bringing the unemployment rate far beyond the 20 per cent.

The three-party coalition government has appointed a "super minister" Kemal Dervis from the World Bank to tackle the crisis. He is trying to get the urgently needed \$12 billion credit from IMF to give a breathing space to

PROTESTS INCREASE AMID ECONOMIC CRISIS IN TURKEY

International Relations Bureau - Party of Labour (EMEP)

the economy. Hence this new programme therefore, involves a faster process of privatization and even greater burden on the working people.

In the face of these developments, the Labour Platform, which was set up by many trade unions, democratic mass organizations, profession organizations and political parties on the side of the labour movement, has set up its own Labour Programme which is designed to shift the burden of the crisis from the working people onto the big capital, and which promotes an independent Turkey whose economic development is based on its own dynamics rather than foreign capital and IMF imposed policies. Alongside the participants of the Labour Plat-

form, many patriotic and pro-labour academicians contributed to this Programme which came out of an economic symposium 9n late March of this year.

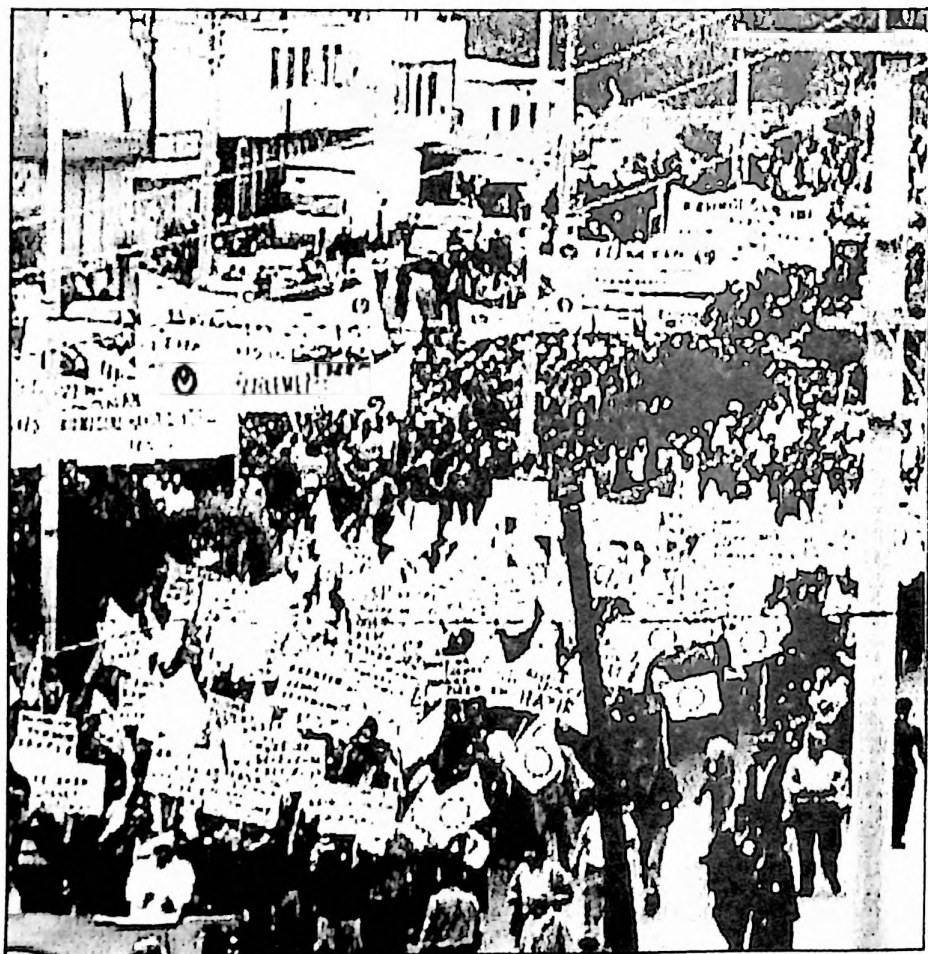
Today, most labour organizations agree that the only way to stop the government is a general strike. This was by far the most frequently chanted slogan in the demonstrations...

**"IMF GO HOME! GOVERNMENT
RESIGN!"**

DEAR READERS!

We had so many articles sent in that we could not print all of them due to space limitations, and the World Congress materials.

They shall be in the next issue of NSC.



The true voice of Soviet Communists!

AN APPEAL TO OUR DESCENDANTS- WE ARE LEAVING...

A message from Veterans of the Great Patriotic War

English translation from Russian newspaper "Pravda" by G. Shenkar

Behind us lies the unprecedented Twentieth Century, leaving half of our earthly sphere covered with blood. In this Twentieth Century there occurred great tragedies of nations, unheard of sufferings, and thunderous victories, cutting across the entire world. Churning with violent force, the Twentieth Century is leaving, and we are leaving together with it.

They called us the generation of victors. But we were ordinary people. Our mothers did not raise us for bloody battles, nor for universal glory, but for a plain and worthy life. History preordained our fate. We did not choose our time, it chose us.

Our lot was an unforgettable youth - with songs of the Civil War, with the film "Chapayev", rifle and parachute groups, the celebrated non-stop flights of Chkalov, the expeditions to the North Pole, the epics of Chelyuskis, the heroic battles at Lake Khasan, the Khetegur movement, the construction of Komsomolsk-on-Amur. Every day new faces looked at us from the pages of newspapers. How many heroes, how many talented people our Motherland uncovered in mud huts and barracks! She opened the road to the summit for everyone, she gave full scope to all creative geniuses. We all grew, breathing this fresh air into our lungs.

To our fate there befell the most horrible war, a war which the earth had not known till that time. The front-line soldier would dream of this war for the rest of his life. He would again be burning in a tank, drowning under

bombardment in the Volga, Dnieper, Oder and Visla Rivers. He buried his comrades, he went through burning Russian forests liberating his Fatherland...We crushed fascism which had enslaved many nations and countries. And rising from its knees, Europe cried out to us in various tongues "Brothers", and it sang, and seated us at the tables, and washed our smoke-covered tanks with tears and tart Balkan wines. Those who were with us in those days know the meaning of happiness.

No one promised us a rest after the war. We just exchanged our automatic rifles for pickaxes and crow-bars, and our tanks for tractors. How much heavy labor we performed with bloody calluses: how little we ate, how little we slept, until the wounds of our

Вставай,
страна огромная,
Вставай
на смертный бой..



native land were healed, until the tears of widows and orphans were dried. Having recovered, our Motherland started on an unprecedented growth of strength and position in the world. For us this was also another war, and although a peaceful one, a real war nevertheless, resulting in disorders and countless calamities. And just like the Great Patriotic War, it demanded back-breaking exertions and, almost always, sacrifices akin to front-line heroism. But we won this war also.

In our declining years we were able to fulfill one more great debt; to preserve the memory of those who perished in the Great Patriotic War. Here before you are the fruits of our many years of research: three Memory Books of thousands of our departed, long-gone names saved from oblivion. In Moscow, on Salutation Hill, at the memorial to the fallen, we have placed these books, written in all the regions of our country. The burden of grief is enormous.

We will not be alive to see

what happens to our Motherland. But we have faith, that the seeds planted in us in younger souls will flower! In the most difficult of our present misfortune, in the sharpest of conflicts, we saw young people joining together with us. We know, very well, the relentless memory of youth. After all, it was our authorities that forced them to shed their blood in Chechnya and many other "hot-spots", and at the walls of the "White House". For what reason? We know that the young people are storing up their own heavy questions. There will come a time when they will demand an accounting.

Perhaps we will not be around

to see that day and to see your bright faces, children. But in that perilous time we will be with you. Lean upon our lives; in them is the experience of surmounting hardships. Receive from us the will to victory, our righteous anger and the belief in the justice of our struggle. Your battles for the Motherland are before you. No one but you will carry out the difficult work for the rebirth of Russia. And may God give you the understanding of your measure of responsibility.

With love and sadness we bless you for our unreturnable distance.

We are leaving.

Remember us.

We thank George Shenkar for this excellent translation from Russian and as George Shenkar stated in a note when this article arrived: "As a World War II veteran, as a fighter for socialism, I found this article in the words of Soviet veterans very moving".

Over 25,000,000 Soviet people perished during the Great Patriotic War and the world lost over 50,000,000 people during that tragedy. Let all the young people remember these facts.

May we suggest that Gorbachev, Yeltsin, Yakovlev, Shevardnadze, Putin and other present rulers read this moving farewell by Soviet war veterans!

SECOND DEMOLISHING BLOW AFTER 1991 WAS PERPETRATED ON COMMUNISTS

STATEMENT BY THE UNION OF COMMUNIST PARTIES - CPSU

Not only in Russia, but also in all of the international communist movements it is very well known into what kind of opportunistic quagmire the present pro-bourgeois Zyuganov leadership led the Communist Party of Russian Federation. Amongst the foreign Marxist-Leninists the top echelon of the CPRF headed by G.Zyuganov has become synonymous with contemporary opportunism, typical selling out of the revolutionary tasks of the working class and all peoples.

It is a fact, that even in 1993 Zyuganov was in personal contact with Boris Yeltsin, selling out the revolutionary upsurge of Soviet people and this allowed Yeltsin to deal in a bloody way with the people demonstrating against the policies of the bourgeoisie. Since that time the leadership of the CPRF with Zyuganov heading this sell-out, through the Russian Duma and other channels is doing all they can to stifle the demands



OLEG SHENIN
Head of the Union of Communist
Parties-CPSU

of the population, helping the regime to fool the people that the regime will somewhat cooperate with the CPRF for the benefit of the people.

With this in mind Zyuganov states always that "Russia had reached its limit of revolution", that there is no longer a need for class struggles. He also abandoned the slogan of "Workers of the world unite!"

Even the closest partner and friend of Zyuganov, E. Ligachev, having helped him for over 8 years in the Duma lately wrote: "The CPRF has left many unsolved problems and many mistakes. In particular, to this day there is no concrete program of struggle or the attempts to unite the struggles of the CPRF with the demands of the masses!"

With what are the Zyuganovites in the Russian Duma busy with? They are there to serve the criminal bourgeoisie. On their initia-

tive, even when they had a majority of deputies in the Duma, there was not one proposal on their part that was adopted by the Duma for the benefit of the people, they did not block any laws meant to destroy the gains of the workers that were yet not destroyed by the present regime. There was much demagogy, but there were no results achieved.

Being different from the UCP-CPSU, which demands the resurrection of the Soviet State and Socialism, the CPRF has not a program that in fact opposes the capitalist regime. In order to fool the people (*Zyuganov calls them the -electorate*) the top clique of the CPRF has come up with a new formula that they are the only "constructive and loyal opposition". This formula was adopted by the last CPRF congress.

Over 150 top party officials of the CPRF, that left their party jobs in all the regions joined Zyuganov in the Russian Duma and together with the present criminal bourgeoisie are fattening themselves in their cushy jobs at the expense of the people.

Nicely assimilating themselves in the soft and cushy seats in the Duma, with good pay and expense accounts, the top CPRF clique, slowly but dedicatedly are serving the anti-peoples regime. In order to cover-up these dirty deeds they came up with the formula in order to fool the people, that the CPRF fraction in parliament, unheard of in Communist ideology a form of *"free swimming"* which allows each *"communist"* member of parliament to vote as he sees fit, not following any semblance of order or dedication to communist ideals. In fact this means that every CPRF member of the Duma is able to sell his or her vote to the highest bidder. But to cover this treachery they still call themselves *"Communists"* as does the CPRF use the word *"communist"*

in its name. It's interesting that Zyuganov and his top clique are special welcomed guests at the US Embassy in Moscow!

Zyuganov, Kuptsov, Ligachev and a small number of the clique have upon their shoulders the blame of always supporting capitalism and the robbery of the people, the weakening and disorientation of the party members and of the working class which wants to resurrect the USSR and socialism.

Zyuganov praises himself with the fact that people still vote for him. But the people are not voting for him but for the nostalgia of real and dedicated communists, that there will be in the near future a return to socialism. The present regime supports and is happy to have during any election the facade that there is a communist *"opposition"*. The built-up protests and anger of the masses of the people thus have an outlet to let off the steam through this venue. But the people are realizing and comparing the words of Zyuganov with his deeds. That is why with every election less and less of the people are voting for Zyuganov and the CPRF.

Even the right-wing newspaper *"New Newspaper"* published in Moscow noted that *"such a left opposition is not needed in the Kremlin. People do not look at the CPRF as its defender but are looking for other parties which will represent the demands of the masses of working people."* The newspaper stated this fact without realizing its full meaning and truth.

In the past and lately the CPRF echelon headed by Gennady Zyuganov tried and are trying to derail all attempts by the Union of Communist Parties-CPSU headed by Oleg Shenin to unite all communist parties and movements in Russia and all other former republics into a mighty force to

struggle for the interests of the people.

We cannot forget the fact that under the demands of the criminal bourgeoisie Zyuganov opened up the campaign to liquidate all the dedicated Marxist-Leninist parties and movements. These CPRF leaders seem to have an abundant finances for this campaign. Even the present regime is admitting these facts now openly.

Zyuganov has his helpers in some of the other former Soviet republics. There is P.Georgadze in Georgia, P.Simonenko in Ukraine, A.Masaliev in Kirghizia and some others. These leaders of their own *"parties"* are studying and learning from Zyuganov, the *"older brother"*. With their help Zyuganov lately has tried and underhandedly has succeeded in bringing under his wing the dismembered UCP-CPSU and to dismiss Oleg Shenin from his position as Chairman.

As is now a fact, on January 20 of this year, Zyuganov and his helpers Ligachev, Kopyshev and helped by Georgadze of Georgia held a meeting which they called the *"Plenum"* of the UCP-CPSU. They called this plenum but only 37 out of 101 members of the Council of the UCP-CPSU came to this illegal plenum. The statutes say that there must be over 50 members present to make any decision. They started an underhanded agitation campaign to get this *"quorum"* and installed their business partners who own industries and are also members of the CPRF besides even registering some dead members who were members of the Council...thus they managed to have the 50 votes.

Then they proclaimed the *"legality of the 50 members"* of the Council of the UCP-CPSU!

Through such falsification Zyuganov and his helpers accomplished this traitorous deed.

The Russian criminal bourgeoisie was delighted and sent congratulations. This is the second demolishing blow in the last 10 years after Yeltsin outlawed the CPSU across the USSR.

Oleg Shenin, Chairman of the UCP-CPSU gave an interview about this farce to the newspaper "Glasnost".

"Members of our Union of Communist Parties - the present Communist parties of Abkhazia, Kazakhstan, Prednieter Moldavian Republic, Tadzhikistan, Estonia, South Ossetia, Russian Communist Workers Party, Union of Communists of Latvia - in their letters to us stated their outrage at what transpired inside the UCP-CPSU. We received 8 documents from eight different communist parties where they demand to hold an Extraordinary Congress in June-July of this year and empowering Shenin to prepare the documentation and to be the main speaker at this congress.

I think that no matter how hard it is for us at this moment due to the very treacherous action of Zyuganov and his clique, we are going ahead with the plans for this Extraordinary Congress. We shall accept many parties and organizations that have for a long time asked to be admitted into the UCP-CPSU. But we made a mistake in that in order to present a myth of unity we came closer to the position of the opportunists and revisionists when they came up with un-Marxist theory that "one Republic- one Party"- thus many dedicated Marxist-Leninist parties were left out of the ranks of the UCP-CPSU. But life at the moment has shown us the mistake of such a policy - that instead of uniting we are dispersing our strength. We will accept those parties that are based on unity and for the resurrection of the Soviet Union and Socialism in all of the former republics of the USSR. When we have achieved

this unity and the resurrection of the USSR - then there shall be established one mighty Communist Party.

Irrespective of all intrigues and mechanization that are being led by these elements or the decisions that these usurpers made on January 20th of this year, we are proceeding with the unification of communists in order to form a strong and one united Communist Party. We are going to structure it, minus the past mistakes into a mighty force. It shall be based only on the Marxist-Leninist principals, with no varia-

tions or departures from the aims. Life again has confirmed the bitter truth, if the opportunists and revisionists infiltrate any of the communist parties or movements, this is always dangerous, its always a hidden enemy, who at any given moment can do great harm and they will not stop. We are not going to stop under any circumstances or problems, we are going to march ahead in unifying all of our forces.

We shall not take a step backward, we shall not deviate from our path, we shall not stop and we shall go forward until victory!"

MATROSHKA DOLL COVER-UP!

Putin covers the traitorous deeds of *Yeltsin*, while *Yeltsin* covers the deeds of *CIA*, *NATO*, *IMF*, *WB* and *Imperialism*! But, Matroshka dolls do come apart and reveal the truth inside!



STALIN - ENEMY OF CULT OF PERSONALITY

So much has been written about the "Cult of Stalin" by enemies of socialism and communism that unfortunately many people, even some who profess and call themselves "communist" believe this lie, which works on the principal that Goebbels of Nazi Germany used so effectively: "Repeat a lie often enough and people will believe that it's the truth".

We reprint just a few quotes of J.V. Stalin that he made when he fought against the cult of any personality...all started by the enemies called "social revolutionaries" (Trotskyites) of the type that was Trotsky and Krushchev. Of course it was supported by imperialism and the propaganda machine of the social-democrats.

"Lenin taught us, that real Bolsheviks can only be those that not only know how to explain and teach the workers and the peasants, but also know how to learn from them."

In 1938 there was a book published for children-"Childhood of Stalin" by the CC of the Soviet Komsomol. Stalin wrote them a letter on February 16, 1938 which said in part:

"I am absolutely opposed for this book to be published. This book contains unfathomable lies and sayings which are not substantiated, over emphasis, glorification and other innuendoes. The authors went way overboard and swallowed so much that they are choking on these falsehoods and over glorification. This is a tragedy for the authors. But this is not the main criticism of this book. This book has a tendency to imprint on the minds of the children and adults a cult of a personality, cult of heroes, real or believed. This is very dangerous. This theory of "heroes" and "masses" is not a Bolshevik theory, but the theory of social revolutionaries. People give birth



to heroes... that's how Bolsheviks should reply to these social revolutionaries. This book is water for the mill of social revolutionaries. Any book of such caliber will be to the advantage of these enemies of the people. And this brings harm to our Bolshevik work."

Regarding the phraseology that was started to be used by the intelligencia about Stalin, he admonished them in these words:

"You speak to me about your "dedication" to me. Maybe this remark is just off-the-cuff so to speak. Maybe it is... but if this is not just-off-the-cuff remark, I would suggest to you to eliminate this "dedication to you" from your vocabulary. This is not being a Bolshevik!"

In many receptions that Stalin had, he always criticized the cult of personality tendencies. Stalin said many times that it is those people who came late into the revolutionary movement from the other side, and now are trying to ingrate themselves to take advantage as the wind blows. In one instance he was very upset that

those people that boot-lick and also perpetuate the cult are just "Bootlicking fools!"

In 1946 Stalin wrote a letter to a Colonel of the Red Army, Dr. Professor Razin, who wrote in many articles, all praising Stalin as a genius during the Great Patriotic War: "... my ears are hurting from all those hymns dedicated to Stalin. It's even shameful to read and hear them".

When he was speaking to a group of scientists and academics who wrote a biography of him, Stalin said very forcefully: "This work is full of praise of Stalin. his personality...bordering on religious cult! What must a reader of these volumes do after he reads it? Go in his knees and pray to me? We do not need anymore icons! No where in these 6 volumes is there one very important notation, that I am just a student of Lenin..."

(Pravda" No.28-29, 1999

Nikita Krushchev, a hidden Trotskyite was the most slavish in praising Stalin before he died. The rest is history that should open up the minds of those who as yet swallow the Big Lie of the Cult of Stalin, while pretending that they are for Socialism and Communism!

"Bolshevik" newspaper - Odessa

FROM
WORKERS-PEASANTS PRAVDA
UKRAINE

INSULT AND FABRICATION

It's already 3 years that I am being under constant scrutiny by the Kuchma police... under the Docket # 9004 because I wrote an article and the article was published first of all in the newspaper "Bolshevik" organ of the AUCPB in Odessa. My article was headed "Blaming President Kuchma's Ukrainian Fascism". This letter of mine to the editor and republished in many other progressive

newspapers had caused a stir and thus a constant harassment of myself and my family. The case is on-going in the city of Krasnyj Luch and one of the prosecutors in charge is E.N.Chekhov.

Instead of following the court procedures and even the present laws, the courts are making my life unobtainable with constant harassment and thus I cannot find employment any place in Ukraine.

The attacks against me is the

I.V.Knyshov and his mother demonstrating for the rights of the working class in front of the Lenin monument in city of Krasny Luch.



only fact that I organized and am constantly helping the coal miners in their struggles for better working conditions, back pay and no to unemployment. The police harassment is constant, even over the telephone. I received threats and on the advise of my comrades I recorded these threats and now the police and judges and prosecutors want me to give them the tape, which I refuse to do.

One prosecutor himself after he heard the tape, wrote me a note (NSC has a copy of that hand written note) which states that Knyshov has the right to sue for defamation of character and also for threats on his life. He assured me that my case No. 9004 shall be lifted. Whether this will come to pass I do not know.

I feel that these class enemies, these Kuchma security services know very well that behind me, an ordinary worker there stands the party - All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks, whom the present regime is afraid of. If these enemies could only get me, they would tear me limb to limb.

What kind of "democracy" can we talk about in the present nationalist bourgeois Ukraine?

I.V.Knyshov in Krasnyj Luch Ukraine

you shall receive a wage as befits people entrusted to bring up our future generations.

**to you my fellow countrymen who are forced to immigrate and work in other countries or in the bazaars, selling everything you have just to exist.*

** to you our dear grandparents, may the state fulfill their promises and look after your needs after a lifelong life of work to build up this Motherland of ours. *to you my dear parents, which I love very much, I know that this will cause you great grief. But you are so strong in character, you'll try to exist, to make life easier under these trying conditions.*

Do not cry for me, I will always be with you!"

The bourgeois press, in the words of a psychologist tried to present this tragedy as an accident.

"Alenna was overcome by depression. That is, the girl had lost touch with her surroundings and reality? It just seems that Alenna formed her own character much too early, adopted elder traditions and manners and idealistic attitude and expectations of life, while present reality was not so. From this point there came complications and terror. She was afraid of the future, not because, she did not have real cause for this, but because she belittled herself. Alenna did not want to compromise with all of her own thoughts, and therefore did not see any future perspective for her life. To find a solution to her life, she ended her own life."

In the above words of the bourgeois psychologist that was hired by the present Ukrainian regime, the blame for Alenna's death is put on her own shoulders: she did not want to evaluate or re-think her attitude and analyses of the present life, she could not find her place in the present society in today's "independent" capitalist Ukraine, which has become a jungle, where man to man is a wolf! Here is the real reason for her death!

PROTEST VALUE IN LIFE



A Kiev newspaper "Facts" published a heart rendering death letter of an Ukrainian girl student Alenna Slipchuk. It would seem that, Alenna was coming into the best years of her youthful life, on

the doorsteps of graduating high school and had her young life ahead of her. But the girl undertook a terrible death. Let us read just a part of her letter before she undertook this terrible death when she jumped off the roof of a high-rise building.

*"...I just wish that you my classmates will be able to continue your schooling in colleges or universities and that the state will be helping you in your endeavors. *to you my teachers I wish that*

The letter of Alenna is full of hidden sarcasm against the present deplorable situation. In her letter she wrote " I am unhappy about my classmates, teachers, people, thrown out into unemployment, no opportunity to work, men, who drown themselves in alcohol, unfortunate pensioners. In her death letter Alenna does not express her political thoughts, or give a sociological explanation, she looks at the world as through pictures. Her letter is filled with longing for socialism and protests against people who brought on capitalism to the people!

Let us be reasonable, would this young and healthy, smart, happy girl take her own life if Ukraine would still be the Soviet Ukraine in the USSR? She was a top student in her school, and the doors to any college and university would have been open to her and any job she desired would be hers if it was a Soviet Ukraine. The teachers under socialism would be looked up to and not degraded. Workers would be working and together with their families take one month holidays together. The pensioners would be living out their lives in peace with medical care and receiving their well deserved pensions.

It is in terrible sarcasm that Alenna in her letter speaks about the present bourgeois leaders of Ukraine...saying that they are of course well fed as befits the present capitalist system.

Why did not Alenna find her rightful place in this contemporary Ukraine? Because, she was brought up in an atmosphere of peaceful understanding, in the normalization that was present under socialism. Her parents, who are teachers, not as the present wild nationalism that is permeating the classrooms... these Soviet teachers were able to instill in her the heart thoughts of collectivism and love towards people. These values were what socialism left in many hearts and souls of Soviet people...all these thoughts stopped Alenna to think about and compare it to her present situation that she saw around her.

What was her future after she finished high school? She wanted to go to the Taras Shevchenko University. But as she wrote in her letter - the doors to the university were closed: without a large sum of money, there was no possibility to go there. To pay for her schooling by her parents was impossible. Where to get such money? Father was without work, the pay for her mother was so little that this was out of the question. This was the future of Alenna and her classmates. No job, no opportunity. To go to the private market where there are more sellers than buyers? Should she have become a prostitute and sell her body as thousands of girls are forced to do now, not only here in Ukraine but all over the world?

The circle closed in on her future. There was no place for her unless she would sell herself to



private businesses. There was only one road left open...join the ranks of the growing numbers of young people that are taking up the political struggle against the present regime. But Alenna did not find this road as yet.

The tragedy of Alenna Slipchuk is not the only one. Every year in Ukraine there 15,000 people who commit suicide, amongst them 5,000 who are under 30 years of age. Of course there are reasons for this tragedy. The liquidation of the USSR and socialist society has brought Ukraine to the chasm of a catastrophe. Even Kuchma himself had to admit that GNP caused by the capitalist "reforms" has brought production down by 60%. The government in February

of this year had adopted the "minimum needed to sustain life" which is 321 Hriven. But the pension is 4.3 times lower...the minimum pay is 3 times smaller than the minimum needed for maintaining life. The help to students is 11 times lower than the 331 Hriven per month! The average pay in the medical sector is only 137 Hriven per month.

Families are finding themselves in very dire straits. Alenna's family was also in the same situation, even though both of her parents have higher education. Even the important Western ideologue of market reforms and a consultant to the government of Russia, Jeffrey Sacks admitted: "That there is a catastrophic economic situation in Russia and in Ukraine unequalled in their history".

The demoralization amongst the people is great. Ukraine is one of the top countries that is full of corruption, and second place after Russia in the spread of syphilis. Tuberculosis has become an epidemic. Ukraine has declared that Ukraine has an epidemic in the spread of Aids in all of Europe. More than 70% of the people, according to sociologists find themselves at present in a nervous condition, and very apprehensive about their future.

Alenna Slipchuk, as the shrinking population of Ukraine by 2 million people, should really be on the consciousness of all these "reformers" and nationalists.

Remembering the youthful Alenna, this beautiful young girl called for responsibility of the state. Let the loud demonstrations by the so-called "opposition" against Kuchma not fool the people: by demanding the replacement of Kuchma, it will only bring just another vicious "reformer" Yushenko to the presidency. The example of Alenna shows us: that amongst the youth, there are dedicated, humanist and socialist orientated people who will rise up in the struggle against the present corrupt, nationalist and unwanted regime of mafiosi robbers and exploiters.

BY A NSC CONTRIBUTOR

What about PUTIN?



belonging to the Soviet troops stationed in GDR. It is a fact that Putin was recalled back home, and he did not receive a rise in military status, as is customary acknowledgment of a task well done. Putin was soon dismissed (2) from the state services. He became assistant to the Vice Chancellor of Leningrad State University, in charge of foreign relations.

It was in this capacity that Putin personally negotiated the establishment of St. Petersburg's (*Leningrad*) foreign exchange, signed very substantial agreements on foreign investments and, in particular, assisted with the establishment in the city of substantial German companies and banks. In particular, Putin was personally involved with the opening of a branch of the Dresdner Bank, one of the most powerful foreign banks in Russia.

In 1991 a group of Russian deputies from Leningrad Soviet conducted a special investigation into Putin's activities connected with the issuing of export licenses for rare minerals, sold abroad for dumping prices. The Commission's report was also said to have mentioned that one of these licenses was issued on the understanding that the monies earned would be used for the purchase of foodstuffs for the city. However, these never materialized.

The group of deputies advised Sobchak, mayor of Leningrad to immediately remove Putin from his position. However, the mayor chose to appoint him as his administrative assistant during his

Little was known about Putin when he became the Prime Minister of Russia, and not much more has emerged since he became president of Russia. However, during the months of his candidacy in March of 2000, the Russian press reported details about Putin's past which throw some light on the question which has long bothered observers - why did Boris Yeltsin choose him as his successor, in preference to, say, Evgeni Primakov, Chernomyrdin or Stepanshin?

Vladimir Putin's personal data reflects an unremarkable educational background and a professional career with the First Directorate (*counter-espionage*) of the KGB. Trained at the KGB Institute, where Putin specialized in German language countries, he was sent to the German Demo-

cratic Republic (GDR) in 1985. The West German newspaper "*Frankfurter Rundschau*" claimed that it was Putin's task to control the activities of Hans Modrow (a dedicated *pro-Soviet Marxist-Leninist - Editor*) who became the Secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of the GDR before unification.

According to Russian Academician Professor Vitali Kanashkin,(1) who wrote in "*Sovietskaya Rossiya*" newspaper on February 8, 2000, the year 1990 saw Putin's career veer off the straight-and-narrow professional path of his Soviet training. At that time suspicions were raised about some very doubtful contacts Putin was said to have with Western secret services. In addition, there were indications that he had participated in the sell-out of military equipment

frequent trips abroad. In March of 1994, Putin became the first deputy chairman of the city administration, and in May of 1995, on Sobchak's recommendation, he became head of the St. Petersburg chapter of the socio-political movement "Our house is Russia", Chernomydrin's political party. During the autumn election campaign to the Second Duma in 1995, Putin managed to attract over 1,100,000 billion rubles into the election kitty of this party, donated predominantly by St. Petersburg banks. In December of 1995 Putin became head of the local chapter of Yeltsin's pre-election campaign. However, the most significant year in Putin's career was to be 1996, when he organized the campaign for Sobchak's re-election and developed very close relations with Pavel Borodin, who was in charge of Yeltsin's affairs.

The author refers to Alexander Minkin, Sobchak's biographer, for information that Putin's activities can be followed-up from the records of St. Petersburg's attorney-general's office, customs, and the City Town Hall. Some of these records are said to deal with a number of raw materials shady "deals", shameless "collection" of funds for Sobchak's re-election campaign, or negotiations concerning casino betting facilities. There is also mention of foreign currency transfers to many Swiss banks, the legitimization of all the purchases abroad, including the acquisition (in a fictitious name) of a large villa in the Spanish town of Benidorm. When Putin was accused by a former member of Lensoviet, A Belyayev, that he acquired real estate on the French Atlantic coast, Putin took him to court, claiming 200 million rubles in compensation. (Many of those that accused Putin somehow have disappeared from this earth - Editor).

Sobchak's loss of the election turned out to Putin's advantage - he was offered the position of Pavel Borodin's deputy in the Kremlin, charged with the man-

agement of Yeltsin's many properties abroad. On March 26, 1997 Yeltsin appointed Putin, by a special order, to the position of deputy chairman of the presidential administration, and head of the main control directorate of the president. On July 21, 1998 Putin was appointed as the director of the Federal Security Service (FSB), and on March 29, 1999 he was elevated to the secretaryship of the important Russian Federation's Security Council while at the same time retaining his directorate of the FSB. On August 9, 1999 then Prime Minister Sergei Stepanshin was dismissed (after only a few months' service) and Putin was put in his place. In a course of a TV interview Putin acknowledged with thanks his new position and stated that he would be a candidate at the forthcoming presidential elections in 2000.

Author Kanashkin refers to Putin's manifest partiality to Brezezovski, Chubais, Nemtsov. In his view this is not just a matter of interdependence, but showed Putin's predilection for "everything Western". He does not think its coincidental that Putin - all smiles - stated from the window of the helicopter carrying him to the Russian troops in Chechniya - "We lately do cooperate closely with the CIA and Israel Mossad in matters relating to Chechniya!"

It is now 2001 and the war still continues.

Below is also a clear indication as to who is Putin !

During the weeks preceding the March 23, 2000 Russian presidential election, the newspaper "Sovietskaya Rossiya" on February 8th published just a few samples of questions that its readers sent to the paper, addressed directly to Putin.

1. Will you revoke the robbery perpetrated by the privatization under Chumbais-Koch, which has destroyed the nation's industry, agriculture, and the social se-

curity system of the people?

2. Will you lower the tariffs on energy carriers and transportation to revitalize the nation's industries?

3. Will you forbid the destruction, by the oligarchs of natural monopolies - the energy systems, transportation, and all mineral resources?

4. Will you support the demands by the people of Russia, not to allow trade and selling of land, facilities and resources?

5. Will you permit the attorney general and the courts to punish the powerful oligarchs - these thieves of the nation's wealth - according to the law, and will you achieve the return from abroad of their capital which was illegally taken out of Russia?

6. Will you investigate the explosions in the apartment blocks, and will you punish the killers of thousands of innocent people, according to the law?

7. Will you continue to insist upon the Russia's ratification of the pro-American START-II agreement, which inflicts an incorrigible decline of the security and defenses capability of Russia?

8. Will you acknowledge the justification for the accusations that were supported by 284 Duma deputies, who demanded Yeltsin's impeachment?

9. Will you revoke your illegal directive proclaiming Yeltsin and his fantastic privileges to be above the law?

10. Do you agree with the immediate initiation of a legal process necessary for a full constitutional review, for the purpose of curtailing presidential autocracy and the introduction of the necessary guarantee for democratic governance of the country, in the interests of the Russian people?

Needless to say, there were no answers or response to these questions!

1. Professor Dr. Kanashkin is a member of the Russian Academy of Humanistic Sciences.

2. Note that the author of this article speaks of "dismisses" (uvolneniye) ■

HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The Police Riot in Prague, September 2000

"Has anyone ever seen the police in Cuba beating up workers and students in a demonstration, firing rubber bullets at them, setting dogs or horses on them or using tear gas?"

This question was asked by Felipe Perez Roque, Cuba's foreign minister, at the 53-nation UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva on March 27th, after the Czech Republic's Social Democratic government tabled its resolution condemning Cuban "human rights violations". If the recent Amnesty International report on Czech police conduct 2000 during the anti-IMF-World Bank protests in September is to be believed, he could well have added torture to his catalogue of standard police practices in the capitalist "democracies".

The A1 report, released on March 12, 2001, said that "the pain and injuries which had been suffered by the victims" (often passers-by rather than demonstrators) suggested that "the ill-treatment inflicted by police officers may amount to torture." A1 accused the Czech police of arbitrary detentions, excessive use of force and abuse of power (by denying medical attention and excess to embassies), degrading punishment (including refusal to allow detainees to use the toilet or wash) and failure to pass on complaints for investigation by independent bodies.

Faced with clear evidence of human rights abuses (bruises, black eyes and missing teeth tell no lies), Cuban-human rights champion president Vaclav Havel has done nothing to prevent a repetition of last September's police riot when the NATO summit held in Prague in the autumn of next year.

Social Democrat interior minis-

ter Stanislav Gross is on record as favoring the future use of rubber bullets against demonstrators (and presumably all passers-by-which is only a marginal moral advance on the statement last year by Miroslav Macek, vice-chair of the Social Democrats at their congress in April of this year. He recently denounced several; anti-fascist, patriotic and Pan-Slav organizations and others as "extremist" on the basis of reports supplied by the BIS, the Hovel's regime's secret police.

Over 900 people, mostly foreigners, were arrested during the week of the IMF/World Bank meetings. 389 complaints about their treatment while in police custody were filed by individuals, independent observers and human rights organizations. The Czech Republic's interior ministry is still going through the motions of investigating these. But it has been unable to identify the culprits in the three cases of brutality (out of 72 complaints!) it has so far conceded. Hardly surprising! There is no independent body to investigate complaints against the police - the interior ministry is the body responsible for policing - and the national police chief had the foresight to ban all independent observers from Prague police stations for the whole week of the IMF/World Bank protests. So members of president Vaclav Havel's post-1989 "democratized" police force were free to remove their identification numbers before getting down to work on the detainees with their fists, feet and batons and hurling racist and sexist abuse at them.

The report followed three earlier calls by A1 dating back to 1996 for investigation of complaints of police misconduct during the brutal dispersal of the

Ken Biggs

POSTMARK PRAHA



anti-fascist and anti-globalization street protests held in Prague. The Czech interior ministry duly "investigated", but no policemen were ever charged or disciplined - for the simple reason that policemen investigate policemen, as I know very well from my own experience.

Last year I made a formal complaint to the Prague supposedly "independent" inspection section of the interior ministry, after I was denied my constitutional right as a foreigner to answer police questions in my native language. My complaint was immediately referred to the Directorate of Police and the letter rejecting my complaint arrived on a police letterhead!

As the Czech Communist weekly "Nase Pravda" pointed out recently, last year 603 police officers were convicted of criminal acts, an increase of 165 on 1999, 415 of these criminals held officers rank, including 26 who headed police units! Their crimes included abuse of police powers (237 cases), fraud (99 cases), criminal traffic violations (41 cases) and threatening behavior (3 cases).

I am not surprised that two Spanish youth failed to attend court in Prague last month to answer charges of throwing cobblestones through the window of a bank in Prague last September. In their absence the judge said they were undoubtedly guilty because three policemen had given evidence that they were! They were barred from entering the Czech Republic for two years.

It's rough justice indeed in the Czech Republic, unlike in socialist Cuba.

SPECIAL FOR
NORTHSTAR COMPASS

accuse myself!



MANUEL PEREZ MARTINEZ
Secretary General of PCE ©
Fresnes prison, France

I am not going to take along time over the "legal" aspects (which I do not share nor are they my responsibility) in this letter, but the process, which has begun here with the arrest of the activists and members of the PCE(r), in France, against my Party, as a "prolongation" of the one that has been taking place in Spain for more than 25 years. I underline the word "Party" because that is precisely the question: to criminalize a revolutionary proletarian political organization. This is something that has been shown by the police summary proceedings.

For that reason, I would like to state from the beginning that, as I

have declared before the French police and also confirmed before the judge Bruguere. I feel myself "guilty" of the "crime" of being a Communist since I was fourteen years of age and having fought from that moment, together with my comrades, the unjust "order" of the bourgeoisie. I would also like to state that I have not the least of intention of renouncing my feelings as a Communist militant. And even less, as it will be understood, of "repenting" of the fact that I have consequently fought and attacked for forty years a regime, so tyrannical as the one that is dominating Spain. So, while I have the strength and as far as the circumstances will permit me, I am going to continue to struggle against the cruelest enemies of my class and of the whole mankind.

There can be no doubt, no ambiguity about that "guilt" that I have acquired and which I am very proud of.

In think that it is necessary to mention some political aspects of this process that is being carried out against my Party - Communist Party of Spain (r). These political aspects either are not taken into account or they go unnoticed to the majority of the people and, however, they are, or, at least I consider them very important. First, I would like to emphasize that it is a political process and that it was gestated and started by a political decision, in which the Spanish state took the initiative from the beginning. This is a fact that must be taken into account.

It is necessary to denounce the political and economic pressures the Spanish state is exercising over the French authorities. Whit this, they are trying to implicate them in the so-called "anti-

terrorist struggle" or the dirty war that the Spanish state is developing to overwhelm and impede any kind of protest and the democratic, social and political claims of the workers of Spain, by means of the systematic use of violence and state terrorism.

Notice the well-known fact that the Spanish state sent its murder squads to France on many occasions, so that they commit every kind of misdeeds and criminal actions (murders, kidnappings, extortion) against all the Basque refugees and a lot of French citizens were also affected by them. In the same way in 1979 two militants of my Party (Francisco Javier Martin Eizaguirre and Aurelio Fernandez Cario) were murdered in Paris by the hired assassins sent by the Spanish police.

It is clear that all those criminal, terrorist actions were committed by the order of a state of the "international community". Their main purpose was forcing French collaboration in the repression of the Basque national movement as well as the working class and people's movement in Spain.

The creation, financing and direction of the GAL by the Spanish state started at the beginning of the 1980's (during the "socialist" government of Felipe Gonzalez) and they pursued the same objective of directly involving the French state in this dirty war. This fact was even recognized by the Spanish judges, who are not at all suspicious of getting on well with the people's movement. At the same time, that organization, the GAL, which formed part of the Spanish state terrorist connection, was formally "dissolved" at the moment it became unnecessary, when the French collaboration in the "struggle against terrorism" was settled. It is clear that, from that moment on, the French state would give them a much more effective (and "legal" of course) collaboration than the one that the mercenaries and criminals, previously hired to the same end, had given to them.

This is reality which cannot be hidden, however much they try. The Spanish state is a fascist state at present and it still uses the same methods to repress the working class and the people's movement as before all that, in spite of the "political reform" or the cosmetic methods employed. This reality is becoming apparent in Spain every day. It would be enough with the facts that I have just mentioned to throw out all the police lies and false charges that they are using against my Party, as well as to reveal the mainly political nature of such a "judicial" plot.

If, by chance, there were some doubts about it, I would like to remind the "absent-minded" that Spain (its people and working class) was the only country in Europe that resisted the inner fascism in a cruel Civil War that lasted nearly three years. I would also like to remind people, that after the war was finished, with the triumph of Franco's mercenary armies, the victorious fascists shot, after torturing them, more than 200,000 Spanish republicans. Most of these people were workers and peasants. Those are the official figures, in which missing people and other numerous victims of the fascist terror who died in prisons, in labor camps and in exile, abandoned by all the so-called "democrats", are not included!

On the other hand, I do not think it will be necessary to demonstrate that the Spanish fascist state was the only one in the world that remained "untouched" in its open terrorist form for more than forty years. However, the present owners of power as well as of the biggest of the country's riches (piled up with the people's blood) did not have the least shame to "condemn" it, even if it was just a "formal" question in the name of that "democracy" and that "new law state" they say that they are defending. It is natural that they believe in that way because, as Franco's "legitimate" heirs, they are afraid, and they have all the more reasons for it,

since it could give way to a process by the crimes committed against humanity in Spain. And, therefore, they would undoubtedly be accused in that process as well.

All this reality and a lot of things, such as lack of rights that the workers are still suffering from, the nationalities oppression, the systematic use of torture and the existence of political prisons are conditioning the social and political life in our country. All those questions aggravate the class struggle and they give rise to an Anti-fascist Resistance Movement, which is extensive and getting better organized every day.

Certainly, the collaboration that the French bourgeoisie is giving to the Spanish oligarchy and fascism is not "free". On the contrary, there are a lot of economic and geostrategic interests concerned, which are concealed under the "European Union" stamp. However, we know very well that the Spanish oligarchy, apart from the advantages of profits that they are getting from the intensification of their relationship with Europe, they are not really interested in the "European Project". The Spanish oligarchy main interest is to try and "reconquer" or to recolonize South America, where they have invested the biggest part of their "surplus" capital. Of course, to get that "little place under the sun" of the new imperialism, the Spanish oligarchy must have their protector's permission: that of the Yankee gendarme, that rules the area in an almost complete way. This is the reason why Aznar's Spanish Government is submitting to the USA's political and military orders. And this is also the reason why the Spanish government is acting, together with England's government, as Yankee's "Trojan Horse" at the "European Union". It is also for that reason that they do not waste any opportunity to sabotage the German and French partners initiatives in order to create a new European imperialist power, capable of competing with

the USA, to fight for world domination.

It is really evident that the French monopolist bourgeoisie did not act cautiously in relation to the Spanish oligarchy and fascism. Of course, they are absolutely wrong if they think that, on collaborating with them in the "anti-terrorist struggle", they are going to attract them to their own field of alliance. That is a policy that is condemned to failure beforehand.

But what crimes are we accused of?

They threw against us, the militants of the PCE(r) imprisoned in France, the accusation being members of a "malefactor association", involved in "terrorism" acts. The only reason for this is the fact that we support, from a political and moral point of view, the anti-fascist resistance armed struggle that is developing in Spain since the 1940s. They have nearly accused us of inventing class struggle in all of its forms.

However, as I have pointed out at the beginning of this letter, as much as the police examinations as the judicial ones I was subjected to, only our revolutionary political ideas and the struggle history of our Party were brought up. In the same way, they were brought up when they imposed long sentences on us, as the one I myself served in Spain for committing the same "crimes", as well as the tortures, all kind of vexations, the continuous police persecution and the numerous murders of militants we suffered for the same cause for more than 25 years.

Where is the evidence for all the charges? Of the "terrorism crimes" that they attribute to us? Our moral and political support to the heroic anti-Fascist armed resistance in Spain is not a crime but a duty to every democrat and revolutionary person. It is about a just and legitimate struggle, a right that is consecrated by all the democratic constitutions: the right of the people on earth to have the right to raise arms against tyranny. We, the Com-

munists of Spain will never give up that right!

Moreover, it is oddly enough that even the Spanish judges do not dare to cast that accusation against the PCE(r) at the present, because it was shown groundless some hundreds of times. Another good reason is undoubtedly, the growing influence of our Party among the working class and other working sectors. They know well the activities carried out by our Party in order to defend their interests in its more than 25 years of existence.

A "malefactor association" that is regularly publishing a newspaper (*Resistencia*) as well as a magazine (*Antorcha*) and numerous books and leaflets. A "malefactor association" for which

a lot of martyrs of the working class and people's cause gave their lives. This organization has in prison tens of its militants submitted to the constant torture of long periods of isolation, that surpass 20 years in some cases. Their "crime" is that of being loyal to their class and their communist ideals, not accepting the mean "offerings" of "rehabilitation" that the state tries to impose to them. A "malefactor association" that is shoddy recognized for its revolutionary political integrity and its proletarian internationalism by the revolutionary proletariat in different countries.

Such are some facts of reality and the charges they impute to us for which we are going to be "judged" and condemned. ■

The Struggle of the peoples in South America is Growing

From En MARCHA, organ of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Ecuador - Translated by Rafael Martinez

Last December, under the auspices of the Revolutionary Communist Party of Argentina (PCR), a new meeting of revolutionary organizations of South America was held, in which there were debates in a fraternal manner about the advances of the struggle against capitalism and for national and social liberation. The results of this debate are in the final statement, which because of its importance we reproduce below.

"The peoples and nations of South America are now facing a growing counterrevolutionary offensive of US imperialism. The counterrevolutionary offensive of imperialism is taking place under the cover of "globalization" and the application of the politics of "neo-liberalism". The dependence of our countries and the plunder

of our peoples have been aggravated to the maximum, for the benefit of imperialism and the local ruling classes subordinated to it. The exploitation of the working masses of the city and countryside has been carried out to the extreme, as well as the looting of our wealth and the subjugation, in all respects, of our countries.

Tens of millions of workers and peasants have been driven to hunger and unemployment, forced to emigrate to the large cities or abroad by the lack of jobs or land, forced to work for wages of only \$1.00 or \$2.00 a day, without health coverage, or education for their children, or the possibility of retiring in old age.

The majority of our countries are plundered by illegitimate and usurious huge external debts and scandalous privatization. The

countries of the sub-continent are bound to agreements with the IMF, World Bank and other imperialist institutions that control our economies for the benefit of the monopolies and the interests of the great powers. Also, in many cases, they are bound by the military and diplomatic pacts that degrade our national sovereignty, converting all of our countries into pawns controlled by the imperialists.

The raising of interest rates by Yankee imperialism since the beginning of 1995, going quickly from 3% to 6% annually, led to the so-called "crisis of Tequila" in 1995, with much disastrous consequences for all of Latin America. This crisis was not yet over when, in the middle of 1997, the crisis in Southeast Asia and South Korea broke out, spreading to the rest of the world as part of one of the deepest crisis in the process of capitalist accumulation on a world scale. The collapse of Eastern Europe and Russian markets, in the middle of 1998, with its repercussions in the other imperialist power centers, showed once again that the crisis is world wide and that no country or continent can avoid it, hitting first the weakest links in the capitalist imperialist system. In January of 1999, the Brazilian real fell, striking Mercosur (*the countries in the southern part of South America - Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay*) and forcing all of South America into the prolonged depression that we are now experiencing.

The present economic crisis is a crisis of the world capitalist imperialist system, a crisis of relative over-production and also a relative surplus of capital, which exasperated all of the contradictions. The constant contradiction between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat is sharpening, as is the contradiction between a handful of imperialist nations and

the oppressed nations and peoples and the contradiction among all of the various monopolies and also among the various imperialist powers. Japan continues to be "trapped" by imperialist capitalist "indigestion" since its financial bubble burst at the beginning of 1990s. Russia has not been able to recover from its slump, nor has the European Union gotten itself together and the crisis is beginning to knock at the doors of the United States, which is also at this time undergoing the confusion over the last results of the US presidential election, which has laid bare the falsity of the much celebrated Yankee democracy.

The world economic crisis is striking the dependent countries such as ours with particular force, and it will strike us even more, making worse the already precarious conditions of life and work that hundreds of millions of people are suffering from. But at the same time the crisis is creating the objective conditions which allow the political parties of the proletariat and the revolutionaries to promote gigantic mass movements of a liberating nature. Its victory will depend on whether the proletariat vanguards can forge, consolidate and also develop themselves in the heat of the mass combat, into vanguard parties capable of leading all of these struggles to victory. This is the only way of preventing these movements from becoming frustrated or ending up being taken advantage of by all of the various bourgeois sectors.

The rapacious and repressive nature of imperialism drives it to place on our countries the burden of the crisis that is eating away at their insides. In this context Yankee imperialism has launched an offensive with the aim of reinforcing its hegemony, displacing from the region all the rival imperialist powers and trying to crush the

growing rebellion of our peoples and countries.

With the launching of "Plan Colombia", the United States is intensifying its direct interference in that country and its military presence in the region. It is a Plan whose application will be "controlled" directly by the Southern Command of the US Armed Forces. With it, the US aims to make up for the loss of its base in the Panama Canal, to put an end to the Colombian guerrilla insurgency, to prevent new popular uprisings in Ecuador, to contain and threaten the process of resistance to Yankee imperialism begun in Venezuela (which has stimulated the revitalization of OPEC.) In this manner, the United States is trying to assure its control of the Amazon region, and thus is very bloodthirsty to control one of the world's greatest fresh water reserves - and of the three very large basins of South America (those of the Amazon, Ironic and Paranoia rivers). Besides, under the pretext of eliminating the cultivation of coca, they seek to control the drug trafficking (of which they are the main world consumers), to control the laundering of money (they launder more than \$500 billion per year), and to dominate the oil of the northern region of South America. Basing themselves on that strategic aim, they would like to impose the Free Trade Agreement (FTAA) and dollarization on the region. Thus, they managed to impose the dollar on Ecuador, they advanced in Peru basing themselves on the popular hatred of Fujimori and, taking advantage of the virtual cessation of payments from Argentina, they forced it to accept a financial package (a guarantee for the creditors) that will reinforce its dependence.

The Yankee offensive has intensified the present inter-imperialist struggle in the region, at the same time as, in response

to that, the popular struggles and struggles for independence and national sovereignty grew. Thus, in reality with the FTAA, agreements have been worked out between the governments of the countries inside Mercosur and of Europe. The revelation of the interference of Japan and Russia in the political crisis in Peru, the instability of Bolivia, Paraguay and Argentina, where inter-imperialist contradictions among Yankees, Russians and Europeans have intensified, show the complexity of the situation of the region.

As a response to this situation, in a large part of South America there is a growing wave of popular struggles, of the workers, peasant, indigenous and popular masses. The guerrilla insurgency is growing. In this region of the world all of the contradictions are sharpening and the elements of a revolutionary situation are maturing. The Andean area and particularly the northwest area of South America is, undoubtedly, one of the weakest links in the chain of imperialist domination. Since the capitalist restoration in the formerly socialist countries and the unification of the world imperialist market, there has been one of the most difficult periods, if not the most difficult one, in history. However, the predictions by the theoreticians of imperialism and reaction of the end of the history of class struggle and the final defeat of the revolutionary and anti-imperialist banners have been clearly contradicted by the facts. The renewed upsurge of the constant struggles of the worker, peasant, indigenous and popular masses and the advance of the revolutionary and anti-imperialist forces of our countries show this.

In Colombia, the guerrilla struggle against Colombian reaction and US imperialism is increasing, as in the struggle of the

workers, peasantry and the people. In Ecuador the growth of the class struggle had its highest statement in the actions of the workers, peasants and all other popular sectors, which overthrew two bourgeois governments, those of Bucaram, and Mahuad, which were in the service of American imperialism and carried out large robberies of the people. These facts have opened new liberating perspectives and have developed greatly the revolutionary and anti-imperialist consciousness of the peoples of Ecuador.

The PCMLE (*Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Ecuador*) and other revolutionary forces have played a prominent role in these struggles. In Paraguay the great march of 40,000 peasants on Asuncion that were demanding Agrarian Reform, reactivating of the productive forces and national sovereignty, shook the country and had international repercussions. This led to rural actions that took over 17,000 hectares of land with struggle and blood from the hands of the large landlords. The struggle of the education workers overturned the plans of the government, maintained their rights of retirement and holidays and expanded the gains of the teaching profession. And an important National Emergency Program was approved in which over 5,000 delegates that were representing workers, peasants, professionals and parties of the left participated.

In Peru the long and sacrificing democratic and anti-dictatorial struggle of the Peruvian people made possible the defeat of the sell-out, repressive and corrupt dictatorship of Alberto Fujimori. This situation has made possible new conditions for the advance of the revolutionary process. In Brazil the rural struggles are advancing with constant land seizures, popular revolts are taking

place in large urban centers and worker and popular mobilizations are increasing. In Uruguay there have been recently two general strikes and the large university strike with the occupation of the Faculties of the University of the Republic. In Bolivia large rural struggles have developed with the blocking of highways and a gigantic combative movement in Cochabamba against the privatization the water that shook the city and the entire country. There has been also an increase in the struggles of the workers and people of Chile against super-exploitation and capitalist and reactionary oppression to which the social-democratic, pro-Yankee imperialist of Ricardo Lagos has



Courtesy of "Antorcha"

subjected them. This government using unbridled demagoguery applies with mastery the institutional and economic continuity (*of the Fascist constitution of 1980 and the neo-liberal economic plan*). In Argentina there have been innumerable highway blockades by thousands of the unemployed and peasants, factory occupations which restarted production, as in the La Esperanza, Mocovi, Gip Metal plants, among others, pub-

lic occupations of buildings and the large-scale uprisings and the recent 36-hour active general strike. The highway blockades marked a new moment in the popular upsurge of struggle that Argentina is undergoing. These struggles showed the growth of the revolutionary, class and fighting forces. This situation demands the unity, solidarity and statement of the struggles against the common enemies.

Social-democratic and revisionist forces - which in many cases are linked to the imperialist rivals of the Yankees, or which have a policy of supporting them as "lesser evil" - try to divert the struggles of the masses toward the so-called peaceful road of the "conquest of spaces of power" and to struggle from "within the system". These forces deny the upsurge of struggles of the masses, considering them impotent until there is a "real base" of support. They theorize about a long period of ebb in the popular battles; a period in which, according to them, there is no possibility other than using them as pawns in the inter-imperialist dispute.

The oppression of imperialism and of the old and new oligarchies subjected to it, the brutal sufferings of the worker and peasant masses due to the economic crisis, the disastrous consequences on the neo-liberal plans of governments and the growing important role of the anti-imperialist and revolutionary forces which have unmasked reformism opportunism, are stimulating the development and deepening of the upsurge of the masses that South America is experiencing.

The anti-imperialist and revolutionary forces in our countries have grown in the heat of the popular battles and fighting to lead them. In some cases, Marxist-Leninist forces of the proletarian vanguard have earned rec-

ognition. Their strengthening - which now requires a permanent struggle against revisionism and its new variants such as the third way and their integration with the particularities of the revolutionary process of our countries - learning the lessons of these large battles and incorporating them into their ranks the best fighters of the people, is a task that is on the order of the day... Their role is decisive in order for the upsurge of struggles under way to lead to revolutionary alternatives, to the triumph of the revolution and liberation, to the triumph of socialism.'

Signed by:

- *Popular Alternative for Change (Bolivia)
- *Mario Alves Institute (Brazil)
- *Chilean Communist Party (Proletarian Action)
- *Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Ecuador (PCMLE)
- *Revolutionary Popular Movement of Paraguay Pushura (MPR-PP)
- *Marxist-Leninist Party of Peru (CNR)
- *Revolutionary Communist Party of Uruguay
- *Revolutionary Communist Party of Argentina

LATVIA: FROM ETHNO-CHAUVINISM TO FASCISM?

By DR. VERA BUTLER

Australian International Studies Association



Recent sentences meted out by Latvian courts to all Soviet war veterans raise concerns that the fascist tradition of the 1930s is reasserting itself.

In numerous countries under Nazi occupation during World War II, notably France, Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Norway and the Soviet Union, collaborators were brought to account at war's end. The trials of Barbie, Dr. Mengele, and Papon in France are more recent examples. Yet post-Soviet Latvia appears intent on turning the tables.

In 1941 Vasili Kononov had joined the partisans, who inflicted considerable losses on Nazi armies and also on their collaborators throughout German-occupied territories, including the Baltic states. This 86-year old Soviet veteran has now been sentenced by a Latvian court to a harsh six-year prison term for alleged "war

crimes". Another Soviet war veteran, the much decorated 84-year old Mikhail Farbtuch, a former Soviet prosecutor, was carried out on a stretcher from his apartment to prison, where the incapacitated man was to commence a five-year prison term. In both cases the accusations pivoted around a new legal concept: - "Genocide of the Latvian people".

Russian Foreign Ministry sources noted that Farbtuch had acted in accordance with the laws of the Soviet Union, and that he - an individual - was now being made a victim of "historical re-vanchism", directed against Soviet rule in the Baltic, from 1940 to 1991. However, the Farbtuch case is not an isolated one, more prosecutions are listed in Latvian courts. The sentences are indicative of a sharp turn to the right by the government of Latvian prime minister Andris Berzins. Yet as

anti-fascists are sent to prison, the so-called "Association of Latvian Warriors" - veterans of the Waffen-SS who fought against the Soviet Red Army - is organizing commemorative marches through the capital of Riga. These former members of the Latvian SS Division "Daugavas Vanagi" (*Falcons of the Dniva River*) are receiving German war pensions, which allow for a comfortable life in poverty-stricken post-Soviet Latvia.

In the eyes of Allied war veterans who have survived the campaigns against Hitler's hordes in North Africa, Italy, and on the beaches of Normandy, this is a very disturbing turn of events. The reaction of Red Army veterans is no different.

The ethno-chauvinism which proliferated during the inter-war years of Latvian independence, 1918-1940, is now back with full vengeance.

In late August of 2000 the Latvian cabinet ratified rules applying to the law to the "national language". Command of Latvian is a pre-condition for granting citizenship to some 40% of the population, who are all Russian speaking. An examination system has been put in place for resident Russians, Ukrainians, Byelorussians, Germans, and others who are now required to apply for Latvian citizenship, regardless whether they are native-born or otherwise, including people who have lived and worked in Latvia for over half a century. Moreover, from now on Latvian will be the only means of communications in all government departments and offices. Considering that Latvian, an ancient Indo-European language, is complex and difficult to learn, ethnicity now becomes, *de facto*, a bureaucratic device for implementing a dangerous exclusionist policy against minorities.

OUT-OF STEP WITH EU

Already back in 1995 the Euro-

pean Union requested changes of the first set of Latvian language requirements for citizenship. This resulted in some cosmetic adjustments which did not change the fundamental language concept. In March of 1998 Latvian truncheon-wielding police dispersed a mass demonstration of non-Latvian residents, in front of the Latvian parliament, protesting against the punitive nature of the envisaged language laws. As matters stand, Latvia is hardly fit to become a full member of the European Union, because it has not grasped Europe's historical transition from fratricidal warfare to the present cooperative and supra-national culture. Hence Kalejs' pending extradition may well prove a test case for post-Soviet Latvia's democratic credentials. (*Konrads Kalejs is a Latvian war criminal who was expelled from Canada and the United States and now resides in Australia, but now is considered a national hero by the present Latvian government, rather than a*

former member of the notorious Arajs Commando, a gang with a murderous record of killing Russians, Gypsies and Jews.)

THE FASCIST TRADITION

The legacy of fascist hatreds and ethno-chauvinism has its roots in Latvia's inter-war history. Current claims of a democratic past hardly stand up to scrutiny.

In the 1920s and early 1930s - the years of independence - Latvia's political spectrum veered between the liberal-leaning urban and multicultural city population on the one hand, and the ultra-conservative and rural-nationalist interests, on the other. Between 1919 and 1934 the Latvian parliament saw fifteen governments, with an average duration of twelve months or less. Emerging quasi-fascist groupings, notably the National Revolutionary Workers, called for immediate struggles against communists, socialists and Jews. In 1933 - the year of Hitler's ascent to power in Germany - the so-called Thunder-

cross (*Perkonkrusts*) Association was formed, imitating the right-arm Nazi salute. Its platform was virulently anti-Jewish, and the chauvinistic slogan "*Latvia for Latvians*" was calculated to intimidate other ethnic groups, primarily Russians, Germans and Byelorussians, who have a long history of settlement in the Latvian provinces.

In the night from 15-16 of May in 1934, the then president Karlis Ulmanis declared a state of emergency, suspended parliament and grabbed power. Ulmanis proscribed all political parties except his own Peasant' Union. Politicians of the left went underground, to avoid arrests. Ulmanis then proclaimed himself "*Vadonis*" - Latvian for "*Fuehrer*" - formed a bodyguard (*the Aizsargi*) on the pattern of Hitler's SS, and ruled as a dictator until the Soviets liberated Latvia in mid-1940.

Under the German occupation of 1941-1944 Latvian allegiances divided among those who supported the Soviet and Allied war effort, and those who joined the Nazi juggernaut and turned executioners of "*undesirable*" Latvian citizens, primarily Jews, Gypsies and Communists. Between 1942 and 1944 Konrads Kalejs was commander of the guard at the notorious Salaspils concentration camp, where Jews and Soviet war prisoners of war were tortured, executed, or died of malnutrition. Today they cannot testify in their own cause. However, Kalejs has been on the run since. Deported from United States and Canada for having gained entry under false pretense, the naturalized Australian citizen Kalejs continues to protest that he is innocent. More lies?

One wonders why Konrads Kalejs does not want to return to present day Latvia voluntarily.

What does he have to fear? ■

Shown are some of the Soviet war veterans that are being jailed now. Vaili Kononov on the right, Mikhail Farbtuch in the center of the photo.



LETTERS

FROM

PRAGUE

CZECH REPUBLIC

Dear friends: I will have to report to you now some unpleasant news. On Saturday of April in his 77th year the President of the International Slav Committee and honorary chairman of the Czech Slav Committee, Ing. Bretislav Chvala, Professor and Scientist died. Professor Chvala not only deserves recognition as the head of the World Slav Committee and the Congress that took place in 1998 in Prague, but he was an advocate and propagandist of Slavic unity and solidarity. He was very active and dedicated fighter against all injustices of capitalism, against the aggressive policies of NATO and the USA, he was a dear friend of Russia and of Soviet people and truthfully understood and fought against the movement that saw the dismantling of the USSR. He supported the USSR as it was led by Joseph Stalin and the great victory in the Great Patriotic War. At the World Slavic Congress which took place on April 2-3, 2001 in Moscow - he was again elected unanimously as Chairman of the International Slavic Committee. but he died immediately after that congress.

The Czech Slav Committee is working today under very hard circumstances. It is discriminated against, it is blocked from full activity and is blamed in the media as an extremist organization. This is because it is constantly struggling against the policies of NATO, against imperialism of USA, against all of the negative policies of international institutes, which are doing great harm to the whole world. The present Czech authorities are slavishly following the USA's dictate, and because of our favorable outlook towards

Socialist Cuba, this is a "thorn in their eyes".

Dear comrades-friends, you asked us as to why the Canadian Slav Committee was not asked to participate at the World Slav Congress in Moscow. The meeting took place in Moscow - there were delegates from Russia, and delegates from the Slavic countries of Europe such as Byeloreussia, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Macedonia, Poland Republic, Slovakia, Slovenija, Federated Yugoslavia, and Ukraine. There were delegates from Luzhk Serbs and also Rusiny (*Carpatho-Russians*). After the meeting that was to take place in Minsk, Byelorussia it had to be canceled and the venue was Moscow, due to the political election situation in Byelorussia it was the Russian Slav Committee which sent out the invitations, not the Czech Slav Committee. I was to talk later with Professor Chvala about this unfortunate oversight, but he passed away before I had the opportunity to do so!

About the Canadian Slav Committee I had the opportunity just lately to write about your committee in our Slav newspaper. I told them that this Canadian Slav Committee is involved also in the preparations for the upcoming World Congress for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People in Toronto, Canada. I am now very upset about this misunderstanding by our Russian friends. Unfortunately at the moment I cannot do anymore on this question.

Dear comrades, I thank you and the Org-Comm. for invitation to

We would like to thank those readers and friends who are sending in their donations towards the \$100,000 World Congress Campaign. Please help us to hold this extremely important event.

WE NEED YOUR HELP NOW!

Toronto in September. I will write more about this later on. In the meanwhile I shall write you the details about the Congress that was held in Moscow. I am again confirming that I and the Czech Slav Committee support fully the calling of your World Congress and I am certain that you will have good representation from former Soviet Union and their orientation will be correct.

Comrade Michael, I had also my problems with health, but now everything seems to get back to normal. I greet you comrades, wishing you all good health.

Professor Mirko Svoboda

P.S. I did not attend the Moscow Congress myself.

FROM

MOSCOW

RUSSIA

Dear Editor:

With very great interest we found about NSC and having seen a copy we state that it is an excellent Communist publication and that is the way it should be done.

We want to exchange our publications with you comrades and we're interested in your forthcoming World Congress.

Irma N. Kovaleva

Editor of

Lenin and Fatherland

FROM

EDMONTON, AB

CANADA

Did the Soviet Union ever have a chance to prevail, or were they doomed from day one? Let us put into perspective; immediately after the 1917 revolution the capitalist world got paranoid with the potential spread of Communism, they then orchestrated to create someone like Hitler to destroy the roots of socialism. In June of 1937 Thomas Watson, founder of IBM accepted a medal created by Adolph Hitler who made himself

deserving of German Reich, many other multinational corporations contributed to Hitler's rise. Soviet Union was then devastated during World War II and lost over 25 million people, but Hitler failed to destroy the USSR.

After the war ended in 1945, USA initiated and created the Cold War, they suckered the Soviet Union into an expensive arms race, and Canada, being part of NATO participated in it also, thus creating a \$600 billion debt. In 1991 one influential U.S. congressman tooted his own horn by stating that it took 50 years and \$5 trillion dollars to bring the Soviet Union to its demise. U.S. could have financed the arms race indefinitely by printing and selling treasury bills to the worlds wealthy. When the Persian Gulf War was on, the two royal families of Kuwait had \$100 billion in U.S. treasury bills. The Soviet Union on the other hand had to finance the arms race at the expense off their G.D.P., and in reality the imperialist world bankrupted them.

Was it a grave mistake for them to get involved in the arms race and also space exploration, while there was a shortage of consumer goods? The USA which was never devastated by war is a dangerous and a powerful country, their top 400 wealthy families have accumulated a networth equivalent to China's G.D.P. They will do everything in their power to prevent the resurrection of the Soviet Union. Another important factor is the world's organized religion, who in essence is the vanguard for the transnational corporations, and the largest contributors to undermine the world's poor.

Many former Soviets I feel have abandoned Marxism, or maybe they never were Marxists in the first place? They became opportunists, selling off state property and the natural resources, became themselves owners of state

enterprises, opened the doors to foreign investors to exploit their natural resources, while billions of rubles just vanished from all Soviet banks. Consequently it is going to be very difficult to resurrect the Soviet Union without an all out revolution. I myself think that the will of the people is not there yet, and may not be for many years.

Nick Feschuk

We feel that this letter to NSC is just a bit pessimistic, but there are these thoughts unfortunately in a large section of progressive people. We would ask our Soviet comrades to reply to this well written and sincere letter. ■

FROM

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

USA

When the Nazis invaded Yugoslavia in 1941, the country was occupied in only 11 days. Occupation was easy, but control was not. By 1944 Yugoslavia had liberated itself by fierce struggles against its occupiers. The imperialist powers of today learned from Germany's mistakes and tried new tactics to dismantle Yugoslavia.

Rather than invade Yugoslavia directly in 1990, the imperialist powers, the USA, Britain, France and Germany, under the auspices of NATO and the United Nations, encouraged rebellion, sometimes hiring mercenary troops such as the KLA, and when the central Yugoslav government tried to restore order, hindered it from doing so with "no fly zones", selective supplying of weapons to rebels, selective sanctions against the central government, and murderous aerial bombardment. Patriotic Yugoslavs of all ethnic groups held out for nearly ten years, under the leadership of Slobodan Milosevic and others.

Milosevic has been arrested,

and the NATO puppet government in Belgrade prepares to send him to the kangaroo court in The Hague to be judged as a war criminal against humanity by the real criminals against humanity who are ultimately responsible for this ghastly civil war, NATO and the imperialist powers. Courageous to the end, Milosevic was not captured without a fight.

The people of Yugoslavia lost a great leader, but they can turn their grief into strength and show the imperialist enemy that they will no more be controlled by them than they were by the Nazis. Let us show them that we the American people are their allies, not their enemies, fighting against the same criminal government.

Kevin Walsh ■

FROM

STOKE ON TRENT

ENGLAND

Enclosed is a cheque for the excellent videos from NSC that I have shown at the 83rd Anniversary of Great October Revolution to the Morning Star readers who were very impressed. Am ordering now the Funeral of Stalin video.

J.V.Stalin was one of the greatest revolutionary readers of all time and must be upheld by all the working class as a great hero against whom slanders of the bourgeoisie and also the revisionists never stop!

I hope that you start in NSC to cover the events in North Korea. Also, I hope that the struggles in former German Democratic Republic shall be covered.

Yours fraternally
Shaun Pickford

In future issues we shall follow your suggestions and we like to let you know that there will be a delegation from North Korea at the World Congress. ■

WORLD CONGRESS FINANCIAL CAMPAIGN FOR \$100,000

**The Organizing
Committee is
asking for
your help!**

Dear friends.

The world Congress will take place on September 21-22-23, 2001 in Toronto, Canada with close to 100 delegates coming from all over the world. The countries that are sending delegates were listed on the back page of the April issue of NSC.

If all of us do help by donating towards this Campaign, the success of this important World Congress shall be assured!

Soviet delegates that are coming are optimistic that the decisions made at this gathering will go towards unity and the steps for the unification of the anti-bourgeois and anti-imperialist forces and for the resurrection of the Soviet Union!

The world needs a mighty socialist USSR! We all need a force that will stand up to and defend the working class of the world from the onslaught of the TNC, WB, WTO, NATO - promoted by Imperialism and headed by the USA!

We need finances to cover the costs of motel rooms, meals, transport and congress materials in order to guarantee success that is needed for this World Congress of friendship and solidarity with Soviet People!

TOGETHER WE SHALL WIN!

