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to prepare celebrations of this
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will be accepted!
CONGRATULATIONS!

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Who controls the European Union and the United Nations?

**MICHAEL
LUCAS**
Editor



When the European Union was in its formative stage, there was a lot of euphoria that this will be the block of nations that will stand up to the United States both economically, politically and militarily in its conquest for a New World Order!

The euphoria was promoted even by the USA itself, doing everything possible to make this European Union a great success. All stops were pulled out to get the former socialist states of Eastern Europe into this "democratic, vibrant and a very necessary unit for the benefit of Europe's future"! The finances were generously flowing into these EU countries, plus the involvement of all religious institutions with constant pressure for this European Union.

The logic was there, the enthusiasm was there, an idea of a common economic market, a common currency, with no borders was promoted without end for many years over the media in these countries. The governments of these countries were bought lock stock and barrel. Yes, there was some opposition, but unfortunately not enough to change the course that was planned, supported, organized, financed and led by the US government and their multinational corporations. Let us not forget, these plans were hatched during the Cold War era and rapidly pushed into realization, after the USSR was dismembered by these inside traitors who were bought a long time ago by US imperialism!

Unfortunately, there were even some left socialist and communist parties and movements that got caught up in this euphoria, and were immobilized to organize protests against these steps for world domination by US imperialism.

As time went on, movements sprang up against the World Bank, against Globalization, against the International Monetary Fund, against US imperialism and against US invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq. Millions of people took to the streets and it seemed that the movement of anti-Imperialism will keep on rolling and be very effective in at least slowing down the New World Order of US imperialism.

Judging by the news coming from the United Nations and from the European Union, it is self-evident that these two world bodies are not independent at all or self sustaining or even self-governing, in spite of the propaganda that they are and, that they are growing more and more anti-USA and its ambition of world domination.

There are even some suggestions (*hoping that this would never become a reality*) to change the name of the United Nations Organization, to be called in the near future as the **UNITED STATES ORGANIZATIONS!**

Here is just three examples of the present EU decision to back "Pre-Emptive Strikes" by the US imposed decision on the United Nations and the European Union:

"BRUSSELS- The European Union ditched its softly-softly policy towards Iran, ordering the clerical regime to give UN inspectors "urgent and unconditional" access to its nuclear facilities.

The EU foreign ministers lined up behind the United States as they voiced "serious concerns" that Iran's atomic energy program is used to

conceal an attempt to build nuclear weapons of mass destruction.

Now the EU also backed this US sponsored resolution in the UN to start "pre-emptive strikes" against any state developing weapons of mass destruction. This US resolution was backed up now by the UN Security Council. It is a clear warning from the US through the EU "to allow more inspections by the UN weapons inspectors or face the consequences."

The above is a direct quote from The New York Times of June, 2003.

It certainly sounds like the early US propaganda and pressure that was put on Iraq before it was attacked. The same rhetoric about the WMDs and the danger to the USA and now, a supposed danger to the European Union!

Any sober onlooker, looking at all these many facts and plans, can see that US imperialism is using these world organizations that they helped to set up, to finance, to promote, in order to accomplish the agenda of Uncle Sam while they try to hide behind the skirts of these bodies.

WB, WTO, NATO, IMF, SEATO, EU, the Crimes Tribunal in the Hague and even the United Nations Organization, in reality they are the tools through which US imperialism is going to accomplish its New World Order, unless the people unite to throw this US Imperialist Monster into the garbage bin of history.

BRUSSELS:

According to the Associated Press, the US threatened Belgium to withhold all money for its NATO headquarters and to ban Americans from attending any NATO alliance meetings unless Belgium changes a law under which US General Tommy Franks was charged with war crimes.

US government statement by Rumsfeld said "Belgium appears

not to respect the sovereignty of other countries." Americans so far sued are: Franks, commander of Iraq forces; former General Norman Schwarzkopf; Vice President Dick Cheney; Secretary of State Colin Powell and Israeli rime Minster Ariel Sharon.

In line with the horrendous pressure on the United Nations, the Security Council in June approved by a vote of 12-0 an exemption for US forces from any prosecution by the new International Criminal Court.

It is ironic and probably not very well noted or publicized over the media, the fact that Germany and such "condemnation" of the US-UK attack against Iraq, abstained from voting without even voting against this injustice at the UN Security Council? Why? Because they have their own ambitious plans and are now willing to share in the spoils of Iraq or any other "enemy" that Pentagon might decide to invade.

What is interesting is why Syria, probably the future target of US imperialism and which pretends to play a progressive role in the Middle East, also abstained without any comment.

The International Criminal Court (ICC) was ratified by 90 countries but not by the United States. The US does not want its troops to be charged with war crimes.

CUBA:

The European Union under pressure from US imperialism announced that it is supporting sanctions against Cuba. This declaration by the European Union is scandalous, because it constitutes not only interference in the internal affairs of Cuba, but it openly announces that it will support future interference in Cuba.

It is self evident that this "independent" European Union is not independent at all, but is cowardly. But cowardice never pays off. History has proven over and over again that, the ambitions of an aggressive power never gets appeased by bending before its demands, rather it acts to the contrary. The facts prove that the more EU powers submit themselves to the dictates of US imperialism, helped by these European accomplices, the more USA hungers for and is encouraged to attempt world domination and establish fascism over the world.

So the question is very relevant as to:

Who controls the European Union and the United Nations Organization?

GUEST EDITORIAL

WITH FRIENDS LIKE THAT.

VIC
RATSMAN



Virtually everyone realizes today that, to be considered an enemy of the United States of America, puts one in a risky position. This applies not only to whole countries, but also to political, social and religious movements and even to individuals.

The Bush regime has produced an enormous list of enemies (*they call them terrorists and rogue nations*) that ensures that they will continue in the foreseeable future to use their unparalleled military might to widen their rule over the world.

But it is not only risky to be an enemy of the US, it can be equally risky to be considered a friend. Now that the US has freed itself from the Worlds Court, has decided that it has the right to "first strike", use any means in its weapons arsenal and has established that it can and will act alone whenever and where it wants to, you can only be a friend of this administration if you are

prepared to march in step with their jackboots and follow the orders emanating from the White House. Should you at anytime decide to disobey and follow another course, you are subject to the wrath of Washington. That certainly is the implication of Bush. "You are with me or with the terrorists?" So, you may be a friend today, but step out of line and you can expect consequences.

A related part of United States policy appears to be: "The enemy of my enemy is my friend". The fact that this friendship might be short-lived and only lasts as long as it serves the aggressive policies of United States does not seem to matter.

Today it is reported (1) that the US is negotiating with Taliban in Afghanistan to become part of the government of that country. The fact that the US has put forward a set of demands that are clearly not acceptable to the Taliban is a mute point. Perhaps they began to realize that Afghanistan cannot be governed without the participation of the Taliban and, since the USA now wants to move on and use its forces elsewhere it appears willing (*for now*) to compromise with its erstwhile enemy.

According to a recent article in The Evening Standard (*London*) (2) the US is determined and now actively plotting to overthrow the government of Iran and the Islamic fundamentalist clergy. As was the case with Iraq, once again, weapons of mass destruction, in this case nuclear weapons programs said to be pursued by Iran, are the reasons given by Bush for possible intervention. So far, the UN seems to agree that Iran's program must be halted. Of course it would be in everyone's interest if all nuclear weapons were destroyed, not only in Iran but everywhere. But that's not going to happen. The events in Iraq have made it clear that to disarm does not mean your country won't be attacked. On the contrary! After Iraq was effectively disarmed, the US and a few of its supporters unilaterally moved in their military and took over. Talk about David and Goliath story! So why should any other nation that is threatened by US aggression now first disarm and weaken its ability to resist, only to be attacked?

Both Iran and North Korea appear to have understood this lesson.

In an article in the Asian Times (3) B. Raman writes that the Iranian Communist Party Tudeh is the most effective amongst influential opposition to the fundamentalist regime and is especially popular among students. The students, egged on by the CIA are regularly demonstrating against the present regime. Raman further reports that financial assistance from the CIA is flowing to the communists via very many Western based student organizations. This has caused serious debate among Iranian students whether or not to accept such covert US aid. Some feel that accepting such aid would be the "Kiss of Death!"

Now, it can be no secret to anyone that the US is not a friend of communists, wherever they may be. Obviously the USA's only intent is in using the Iranian communists as a means to foment resistance to, and ultimately bring down the current Islamic fundamentalist regime. One can only guess what they plan to do later on with the communists. Friend today, enemy tomorrow, by now a very familiar pattern of US foreign policy. It is self-serving, unprincipled and morally repugnant. But then, what else do we expect from a regime determined to rule the world by force, a government that lies and lies and lies to its own people and to the world, and a media which serves its master with unquestioned loyalty. With friends like that, who needs enemies?

(1) *Asia Times*, June 14, 2003

(2) *Robert Fox in the Evening Standard*, June 17, 2003

(3) *Asia Times*, June 21, 2003

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donations soon.*

It is with deep sorrow that the Editorial Board of NSC has learned of the passing of one of our dedicated readers and translators from Czech into English,

Dr. Eliska Klivar who has passed away in Prague, Czech Republic.

Dr. J. Klivar of the Czech newspaper DIALOG- depended on his wife for translation of NSC articles to be used in the Czech progressive press.

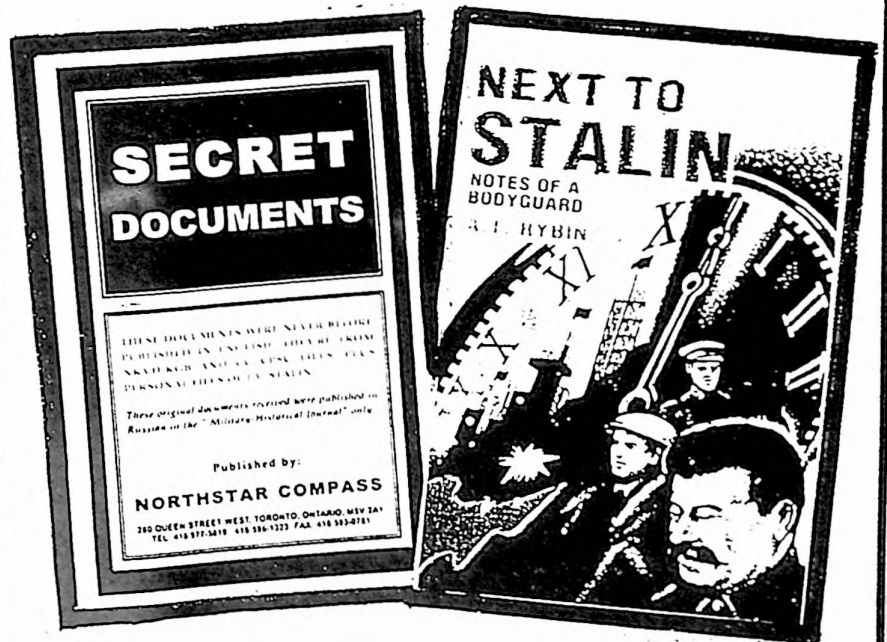
We offer our sincere condolences to Dr. Jaroslav Klivar and his family.

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FEATURE ANALYSES

THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL THAT BETRAYED ITS MISSION

From JORDAN TIMES

Apart from lifting the 12-year old sanctions on Iraq, but for an entirely different reason than helping the Iraqi people, the latest Security Council resolution on Iraq 1483, is a flagrant betrayal of the United Nations Charter, a scandalous result of power politics and opportunistic superpower compromises, and a dangerous submission to the fait accompli of war and aggression, at the expense of principle and international legality.

Earlier, before the invasion started, the Security Council has stood firm in the face of the immense American and British pressure. The international community, world public opinion, in addition to those defiant voices in the Security Council, and voices like France warning that they will use the veto, had successfully blocked the war resolution, rendering the attack on Iraq an illegal, naked aggression.

The Security Council members could have done much more to stop this aggression if the resolve was there by France, Germany, Russia and China.

But it is amazing how, on May 22, 2003, the UN Security Council dramatically abandoned its steadfast position by suddenly legitimizing the Iraqi aggression, endorsing the devastation of an innocent country and its weary people, by licensing their indefinite, unwarranted occupation by US and British imperialism.

The latest UN Resolution which was adopted is an extraordinary catalogue of contradictions and flaws, a striking example of hypocrisy and acquiescence to power politics. Therefore, it will leave a very dark stain on the already inglorious record of the United Nations.

While the UN resolution opens up by "affirming the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq", it recognizes further "the specific

authorities, responsibilities, and obligations under applicable international law of these States (the US and the UK) as occupying powers under the unified command (the Authority)", and the Authority here means Washington. The resolution fails to clarify how the sovereignty and integrity of any country can be preserved under an occupation which has, in the case of Iraq, left the country in total chaos, at the mercy of looters, criminals and thugs, without any services, vital survival basics or governing authority that has the support of the people. Neither does the resolution explain how the partition of the country by the "Authority" into three separate units along sectarian and ethnic lines guarantees any territorial integrity.

Surprisingly, and while the desperate efforts to find Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) which was the cause of the invasion of Iraq, have reached a point where Washington is advertising awards of millions of dollars to anyone that can lead them to any WMD location, and this UN resolution also "reaffirms the importance of the disarmament of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction and of the eventual confirmation of the disarmament of Iraq."

This UN Resolution (I feel that this resolution was written by the Wall Street lawyers, -and dutifully cowed UN members to adopt it- excellently trained to doubletalk and get the US Corporations like Enron out of the clutches of the law - Editor) obviously needed to affirm the existence of WMDs in order to save the occupiers the embarrassment, indeed the legal responsibility, of waging war on false basis, and that UN resolution did the trick.

Aside from other inconsistencies in this Resolution, more alarming is the bizarre UN Council invitation for "other states that are not occupying powers" to join the occupation and to work "now and in the future under the Authority". How blatant and forth rite can Washington be in pushing through this Resolution?

But this UN resolution descends from bizarre to ridiculous when it "determines that the situation in Iraq, although improved, continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security." It is so absurd that no amount of wild imagination can explain how a country which has completely collapsed, whose army disintegrated, whose government disappeared, that the occupation allowed it to be ravaged and pillaged, that descended into total chaos, whose every function has been paralyzed and that is totally under

THE AMERICAN BEAST ON THE RAMPAGE!



Рис. В. Аннекапеса

the control of its occupiers, could be a threat to world peace. And what kind of a world do we live in that can be threatened by such a non-existing danger?

It was the hope of many people in the world, since the eruption of this major international crisis, that those in the UN Security Council who stood firm by the principles of the UN,

insisting that the rule of law, not the blind arrogance of power, should prevail as the guiding force in international relations, as a guarantee for our peaceful future, would stay firm in their position. They sadly, did not, as this current UN resolution proves. The question is this: is this the end of the battle or just a temporary setback in a long,

ongoing fight between the forces of conquest and evil and the rule of law. The answer is hidden somewhere in the UN Security Council chamber.

The writer is former ambassador and permanent representative of Jordan to the United Nations.

NEWS FROM SOVIET UNION

CELEBRATION DROWNED IN BLOOD

Photos and materials from Vanguard Red Youth and AKM. Article by Maxim Malyshev

The celebration of the 300 th Anniversary of St, Petersburg started and ended in bloodshed by the Russian State.

On May 18, 2003 on the Field of Mars, near the Eternal Flame in the center of Leningrad (*St. Petersburg*) there took place a meeting. The participants came to this spot in order to protest the presence of Bush of USA and Blair of UK. After the meeting it was planned to give a public signed petition to Putin's representative Valentina Matvienko which contained some questions to President Putin.

Some of the questions were: Where did the larger sum of money go to, that was assigned to the celebration of this Anniversary of the city? Why, because many of the historical sights were restored to the original beauty while most of them were just left standing in disrepair as they were.

The representatives of the Vanguard of Red Youth gathered on this Field of Mars; National Bolshevik Party; the Russian Party of Communists, and anti-globalists who opened up the meeting. Inside of 15 minutes unknown people came to this meeting in black masks and camouflaged uniforms, without any insignias, they started to attack the crowd. They then beat us with clubs,

hitting all with their guns, kicking with their feet all who were on the Field of Mars. They beat up women, children, elder people – they broke up and they smashed cameras and TV cameras of the journalists that were covering this event. The Deputy of the Leningrad Region parliament was attacked and had his ribs broken, plus havng a smashed head. The bleeding ones they threw into minibuses, one on top of another and

then kept on hitting them with their clubs. As it became known after, these goons were part of a Special Response Force that is used to beat up prisoners in their cells after they organized to get better conditions in Russian jails. The head of these Special goons was Colonel Alexei Chernopiatov.

These bleeding Leningraders were taken to the #79 section of the militia, and then taken through a gauntlet of



Putin's Special Forces goons shedding blood of Leningraders during the 300th Anniversary of St. Petersburg

other Special Forces personnel who smashed everyone with their batons. With 40 people to a small cell, with no ventilation, the people started to faint and throw-up. Everyone had to stand. Because of suffocation, an ambulance was soon on the scene, but not to treat the ones that were injured, instead they took three young people whom they called "provocateurs". They fingerprinted all, took photos. They accused us that we have contacts and dealings with al Queda and with skinheads. They demanded to know the number of members in our youth organizations, names of the leaders, finances, contacts etc.,

From a member of our Vanguard of Red Youth they asked: "Are you trying to blow up the city on this 300th Anniversary?" They very well knew that we were not anarchists or terrorists, but they thought that by physically beating us we would confess to anything.

But they were mistaken. No one was browbeaten to confess, even though all of us were severely beaten and bloodied. They tried to force any confessions, and seeing that this did not produce results, they began to tell us that they will hold us here for 15 days and all kinds of other threats. Nothing worked for them.

But because some of us were so beaten and in convulsions, the militia was forced to take these people to a hospital.

Besides young activists of the left opposition, victim of this brutality were also a high school teacher, Oleg Krylov, some professors and a dean of the St. Petersburg State University and from many from other faculties. Even some young people that were walking in this park were severely beaten up.

Being brought to court, the court threw out the charges and told the police to let out all and for us to return to their homes.

Upon gaining our freedom we demanded an enquiry into these actions and illegal arrests.

But this was premature. The real demonstration took place on May 30th when the leaders of 45 countries came to the 300th Anniversary. The authorities went wild and started arresting hundreds of demonstrators. Again we were arrested plus all the members of the communist and



Masked goons attacking the youth

patriotic movements and anti-globalists. The police broke down doors in homes, arrested all of the occupants, even arrested people sitting in the cafes. The young people again were the targets of vicious beatings. At the Moscow train station, before they had a chance to go into the city proper, 5 members of the Vanguard of Red Youth were arrested there.

The radical nationalistic young people broke up the McDonald's restaurant protesting the war in Iraq. From those that were arrested they singled out myself and the leader of the Vanguard Red Youth organization Sergei Udasltsov. They did threaten him with physical harm. We were let out, only after the militia was ordered to do so by the City Court.

In the course of 12 years of this counter-revolution, we held hundreds of meetings, protests, pickets, but the city council here in St. Petersburg never used the militia but it was the other forces, who ran amok against the demonstrators. This could be explained by the fact that the Leningrad police never were allowed the use force here. But, because this was the 300th Anniversary, the city police were nowhere to be seen, it was the goons of OMON, Special Forces, all under the personal command of President Putin. It was the directive of Putin that caused this unwarranted bloodshed.

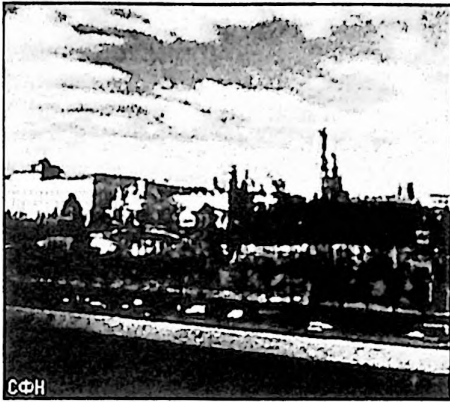


The false promotion and promises before in the mass media was that during the 300th Anniversary celebrations the authorities will be fighting against the mafia structures, the narcotics trade, prostitution and robbery. How this fight against "crime" was being fulfilled I had the opportunity to witness myself on May 30th. The real criminals, robbers, narcotic pushers, prostitutes and their pimps were let go free after a money pay off.

The "Celebration in Blood" again showed again as to who gets the brunt of the state apparatus and against whom the present state is fighting. To defeat and to liquidate the opposition, take away the right of protest and word, this is the true "democracy" in the eyes of the Russian president Put-in. The same sort of "democracy" is now being hoisted on the poor people of Iraq by Bush.

No wonder that the greatest criminals, the greatest murderers were the dear and honoured guests of Putin in St. Petersburg. ■

MOSCOW IS THE SECOND COSTLIEST CITY IN THE WORLD



Moscow, the Russian capital remains one of the most expensive cities in the world to live.

According to the latest cost of living survey done by Mercer Human Resource Consulting, Moscow is the most expensive city in Europe in 2001 and 2002, and the second costliest city in the world next to Tokyo, Japan. Osaka is in third place, followed by Hong Kong and Beijing.

In Europe, Moscow, Geneva and London are the costliest cities. Zurich, St. Petersburg and Oslo are the next most expensive cities in Europe. In global ranking, Geneva moved up from position 6 to 28th place last year. And Zurich has risen to position 9 from 32nd place.

New York is the world's 10th costliest city, with Los Angeles, Chicago and Miami in 22nd, 25th and 27th places respectively. According to analysts, the unexpected rise of Geneva and Zurich is due to the strengthening of the Euro against the Dollar. In addition, the situation was affected by high inflation rates and a global economic downturn.

The survey is based on the comparison of 200 products and services in 144 cities across the globe.

The cheapest areas to live are New Zealand and Australia. Sydney is the only Australian city among the world's 100 most expensive cities, at position 67. The information is used by the governments and major companies in order to protect the purchasing power of their employees when transferred abroad. ■

FROM SOVIET A DISSIDENT TO ZIONISM AND IMPERIALISM

By DAVE SILVER

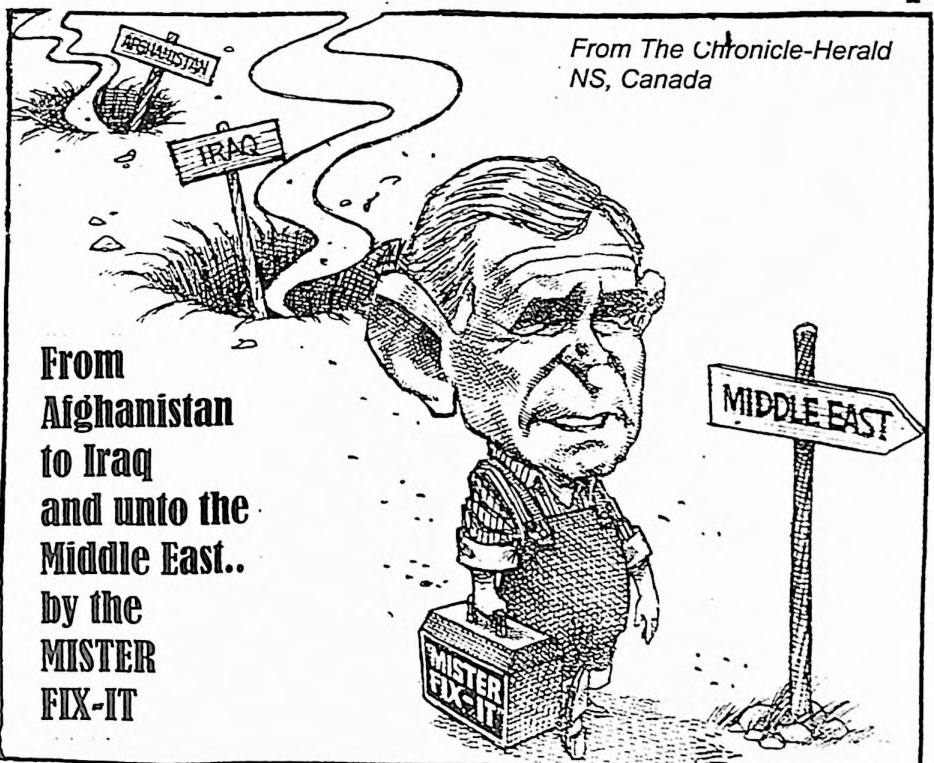
The former leading symbol of the "poor Soviet Jews", Natan Sharansky, now an Israeli Deputy Prime Minister, who bemoans the ineffectiveness of the so-called Mideast Peace Process. He did that in a May 14th article in the organ of the ruling class, "The Wall Street Journal". He invokes the names of his mentors, Andrei Sakharov and Yuri Orlov, who along with several other Soviet dissidents founded the Helsinki Group in 1976, who were concerned with the basic rights that they called on those civil libertarians like, President Ronald Reagan and the Senator Boeing Scoop Jackson to "reform" that Soviet evil empire.

From the stacked decks of the Madrid Agreement to Oslo One, Camp David photo-ops and Oslo Two, Israel and its mentor US Imperialism saw to it that Tel Aviv regime would retain ultimate military victory over the West Bank and Gaza, would allow the clerical fascist

settlers to increase, would not allow the Palestinians in the Diaspora to return to their land, and would have complete control over the water resources and the movement of non-Jews in and out of the Green line, let alone allow a truly sovereign Palestinian State to exist alongside of Israel.

Sharansky and his allies have opted for racist ideology of Zionism and became the precursor for the counter revolutionary "new thinking" which with the enormous aid of Western, primarily US Imperialism since 1917 led to the demise of the Soviet Union and the other People's democracies. It is therefore not surprising that these pimps for the bourgeoisie would be very silent concerning Israel's crime and human rights violations from the Sharon direct murders in Sabra and Shatila to rockets and tanks killing Palestinian youth, to aerial bombardment of civilian targets near Ramallah and other sites, to the Israel CIA the Mossad training of death squads in Latin America and the overthrow of Allende for that war criminal Kissinger, to the serial kicker Baruch Golstein at the Mosque or the military and economic ally of Apartheid South Africa.

The racism and the pro-imperialist stance of the Sharansky clique is fueled by virulent anti-communism. ■



From
Afghanistan
to Iraq
and unto the
Middle East..
by the
MISTER
FIX-IT

EX-DEFENSE MINISTER ACCUSES U.S. OF SEEKING TO DOMINATE RUSSIA

From The Russian Journal – June 19, 2003- Associate Press

A former Russia defense minister accused the United States of trying to dominate Russia and said that former and current Kremlin leaders and military heads had permitted the country to be forced into submission.

"Russia now is an occupied country," retired General Igor Rodionov told an audience of World War II veterans who gathered for a conference on the threat to Russia's security, marking the Anniversary of the Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union on June 22, 1941.

"Our geopolitical enemy has achieved what Hitler wanted to do and could not", Rodionov said in an emotional speech. "Neither our nuclear forces or tank armadas nor the KGB could save us."

Communist lawmaker Viktor Illyukhin issued a similar dark warning of US hostile intentions: "Russia may suffer another tragedy. American pressure is now focused on Russia!" The Russian media have recently spread similar fears of US intrigues against Russia to a

much broader audience.

There are predictions by experts in military matters that the US will invade Russia after its aging Soviet-era nuclear missiles are taken of duty before or after 2010.

Despite the opinion polls that the government is sponsoring, to say that the feelings of Russians are pro-USA, the anti-American feeling is gaining momentum, especially after the US attack on Afghanistan and Iraq.

The main reason for the passivity of the workers in Ukraine...

By VLADIMIR PRONIN-
NSC Correspondent in Ukraine

The Donetsk miner-communist Anatoly Nalivajko, already a member of Supreme Soviet of Ukraine for the second term, is fighting for the interests of the miners and workers in the Donbass region of Ukraine, has appeared in our journal before. With this in mind, our correspondent Vladimir Pronin started this interview.

Q: A couple years ago we met-at that time you were a young man starting up as a member of parliament, and you had high hopes, and some of them were realized, but many of them were just illusionary. Now, one year later after you were elected for the second time, which illusions did you manage to get rid of?

A: First of all the illusion...that you can take over any state by parliamentary means. Yes, in this I was mistaken! I have realized now that even here in parliament, as an elected member, you do not get the right, your right is being taken away from you - as they do always. And I also realized, that the present parliament of Ukraine - is openly a bourgeois parliament. And the situation is getting even worse. If in

the previous parliament you were able to talk, to propose, to debate with other parliamentarians, but now, this question is out of reach to talk about defending the rights of the workers or the working class.

The majority of the deputies and amongst them deputies representing different parties of the regions, hardly defend the interests of their region or of the working class - they just follow what the present government dictates, the kind of laws, the legislature and acts that the President and his clique propose.

Q: The present parliament of Ukraine, after the electoral decimation of the left forces in the last election, it is evident that elected deputies representing the working class are now in a great minority. How do you look at this situation?

A: Yes, if before the election I could count on 17 progressive deputies that would defend the working class, now, there are only three. In the fraction of communists, I am the only one. You know how I look at this situation. I would have wanted that the working class would be represented by many more deputies, and those I might add, that did not forget as to who elected them and for whom they agreed to fight for and

whose interests they should defend.

Q: There is talk that the working class is not fully prepared to fight by parliamentary means, that more lawyers and economists should be elected instead of workers.

A: First of all, it is important as to which class and whose interests the parliamentary deputy is going to defend! As a matter of fact, the present Ukrainian parliament is full of deputies that are lawyers and economists. And which interests are the present laws adopted by the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine defending?

It is a learning process in the present parliament and you have to learn quickly as to what you can accomplish and by what methods that it could be done. I am now finishing lawyer school and now I can be called a jurist. But I do not forget that I was elected to represent the working class and that the workers elected me. I vote for them, I vote against laws that are against the working class and I work against what we now call the "New Ukrainians" - the lawyers and economists who are the ruling class, helped to get into parliament and who now are their slaves and vote as they are told.

I do not want to be labeled that I do not believe in the parliamentary struggle. We must once and for all remember that it's only the unity of parliamentary struggle together with the mass working class unity that

can decide as to who will rule the state.

Q: You are a member of the Executive Committee of the All Ukrainian Union of Workers and are also the chairman of this organization in the Donetsk region. NSC readers would like to know as to how the struggles in the labour movement are going here.

A: In 1999 I was one of two vice chairman and in 2001 I was elected as the chairman. Before, the laws of this union were such that any member of any political party could become a member, who considered themselves as members of the left parties. The results were such that no work was done or anything worthwhile accomplished and there were attacks on communists and its section in the parliament.

Now, that we got rid of these elements, we now can concentrate on our work, to meet the workers one on one and collectively and tell them the truth as to what is really happening in the present Ukrainian parliament.

Q: And after you became a deputy, did you start lowering your head at what was going on?

A: Yes, of course. I could not but be shocked at the decisions that were being made on many important sectors of the energy industry and many other industries, a complete liquidation.

Sometimes before, some of the working class was in euphoria about privatization, capitalism, market economy and such "democracy". But these illusions are disappearing and many want to return to socialism as it was. To tell you the truth, I cannot feel sorry for those that were promised "sweets" and sold their hearts and souls to the present rulers. Some of these workers were responsible for the collapse of the Soviet Union. They have to start demonstrating for their back pay, for their rights as trade union workers, but not only on economic issues and struggles, but against their so-called trade union "leaders" - then the question would be as to how long would the present regime last?

It is sad for their families, their children, who are unable to go to school, get medical help or rest.

Q: Those that remember the previous demands during ex-USSR,

they look at these slogans now with laughter and irony, such slogans as "Kolbassa without Fat!" and "We want to buy automobiles without waiting!" Now, you can buy ten automobiles without waiting, but the buyers are not from the working class or from the miners.

A: Yes, that's the way it is now!

Q: What kind of input and participation does the union you head in Donetsk overall, and in strike situations in particular do?

A: We participate in all actions, demonstrations and protests, not only in Donetsk. We present our much more radical proposals than some of their trade union leaders, how to combine the economic and political demands. We explain to them that only economic demands will not produce the betterment for the working class. This present anti-peoples government will listen and respect and the fear us, when we are organized and have unified mass actions.

Q: Are the present trade unions able to be in opposition to the government or to work together with the working class in its only beginning of mass actions?

A: We had thoughts before that we will be able to remake the present independent trade unions to our socialist side, but now, everything is clear that this is a hard task that must be won.

Sometimes I feel that the present independent unions should all be dissolved and then to start again, with new leadership. The road towards this idea is clear and straightforward. Just stop paying the dues to those trade unions that are "independent", which goes to their union leaders coffers. But as I found out, the main money coming into these private unions is not from membership dues, but the union leadership's businesses. These independent unions have become businesses, their own structures, and they have their own profit agenda. Why would they think or fight for the interests of the workers?

Q: On this question of "independent" trade union leadership and their

businesses, this is supported by president Kuchma himself as a way of keeping the workers anger from boiling over.

A: What can we expect from these trade union leaders, since the leaders of two miners unions, were elected to the Ukrainian parliament with heavy promotion and financial help by the present oligarchs, and they are voting for all the laws that are proposed by the present Kuchma regime. They also supported the closing of 61 mines, but it is no secret, that no one cares or worries about the fate of thousands of miners without work, including the leaders of these "independent" trade unions.

Q: We all remember that during the process of closing all of these mines, the government was promising to build new industries and thus keep the miners in work in these to be established new industries.

A: Yes, there were such promises made, but now these miners are in a terrible situation of unemployment and misery. The miners and their families are left to fend for themselves as well as they can. This is not the Soviet State, it's a state which is not for the benefit of the working class.

The difference is great if you compare our struggles to those in France for instance - if a teachers union calls a strike it is immediately supported by the transportation union or other unions. Here the workers solidarity is still far away unfortunately. Even our own unions in other professions do not support unions that are on strike and, in most cases they follow the lead of the privatized industries and just cave in to their demands.

Q: Which are the most pressing problems that you feel should be immediately resolved if possible?

A: We must overcome first of all the passivity of the working class - since they still feel that somehow, some one or other will solve all of their problems. As an example, the Kuchma administration with big fanfare proclaims that no mine will shut down, at which these miners work and that other work will be given to the workers and they will live well. In the end, these are just words and the passivity has again won the day for the Kuchma regime.

Q: The workers should understand

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

that in the former Ukrainian parliament where the Communists had a much bigger deputy presence, many laws were adopted to better some conditions and other good proposals were also adopted, but as it is known, these promises or proposal were never carried out.

A: Kuchma always used his veto power to dismiss these proposals by the Communists. But to overcome his veto, Kuchma raised the number of votes needed in parliament from 226 to 300 - which is an impossibility to overcome. If before some good proposals were made, due to large number of communist deputies, now, in this present parliament, any such proposals are impossible. Even if the

Constitutional Court would object or override some decisions, these decisions were also never obeyed.

Regarding our people, those living in the Don region - they should very carefully follow the work of their elected deputies to see if they are representing the workers or just having a cushy job and good pay. They should choose their deputies very carefully and follow their work and voting patterns in parliament.

Last year in spring, many of these "independent" unions brought hundreds of miners to Kiev. Instead of demonstrating or picketing the parliament buildings, these miners spread across the city, caps in hand, begging for help!

These are the miners, who not too long ago were the pride and joy of the Soviet working class! But I always remain an optimist, because sooner or later they will realize - and we are trying to help them in this realization - that they should not be begging for that which was stolen from them in the first place, the workers must take this back by force, because all that was built was built by their hands!

For the miners, as for all of the working class - this is the only answer and the only road out of this quagmire - to regain their human life and freedom. Sooner or later, the workers will realize this, that no one else will be able to return back to socialism, but the working class. 7

SOVIET YOUTH ARE DEMONSTRATING AGAINST THE PRESENT REGIME IN RUSSIA AND UKRAINE !

In Moscow and Yaroslavl - Ukraine - slogans such as "Putin, you received a free education, what about us?" "We need stipends!" Youth are seen from the Communist Union of Youth.



STATEMENT FROM THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION

By SEREGEI SKVOTSOV

In the Russian Duma there took place a vote on the question of Censure of the Prime Minister of Russia, Kasionov. In the Duma where the present government has a majority, the representatives of the CPRF and Yabloko parties wanted the vote to be against the regime of Putin as a whole not just of his Prime Minister....since responsibility for the rule of Russia falls on the shoulders of President Putin, not only on his Prime Minister.

The economic growth has fallen off sharply and over 32 million people are in dire straights of eking out a miserable living. Where is this great growth the Putin government says is going on daily?

As was expected, the vote of condemnation of the government did not get the necessary votes. Even though the vote included the left deputies, this vote also included some deputies from the Putin government side also. So, if the vote was much higher against, them, the government would have had to resign. Unfortunately there were even some left deputies who either did not vote or voted for.

It seems that the days of "stabilization" of the Putin regime is coming to an end. Two years ago the censure motion had one quarter less votes then now. The new Duma will not be so calm and browbeaten as it was before. Kremlin is in for a long struggle ahead.

TOP BLOODSUCKERS OF TODAY'S RUSSIA

From newspaper in Moscow-
VOICE OF A COMMUNIST

Russia is in first place of the world in the growth of billionaires. If only last year (2002) Russia had only 7 billionaires, today there are 17 billionaires.

The first amongst them is (and in 26th place in the world of billionaires) is Mikhail Khodokovsky who inside of one year reached \$8. billion dollars.

VLADIMIR LENIN'S RADIOACTIVE REVENGE



Agence France Presse reported, citing local media, that the authorities warned residents in mid-May in the southern Ukrainian town of Zaporozhe to avoid getting too close to the town's statue of Lenin, after the town's statue in the main square, is releasing four times the normal level of radiation. Officials there have so far been unable to determine why Lenin is giving out such levels of radiation.

COMMENT:

Since the statue of Lenin is a powerful magnet for laying of flowers and wreaths, paying homage and love, the Ukrainian nationalist authorities had to come up with something else, since the population would not allow the Lenin statue to be demolished. It's interesting that this statue was erected in the late 1930's and never gave out "radiation" until now. It seems that Lenin senses that today's Ukraine is not what it was before.

Following him is Roman Abramovich, the Governor of Chukotka, whose position did not prevent him from accumulating \$5.7 billion dollars.

There is Mikhail Friedman and Victor Velselberg who reached \$4.3 and \$2.5 billions of dollars.

These are followed by Vladimir Potanin at \$1.8 billions, Mikhail Prohonov at \$1.6 billions, Vladimir

Evtushenkov at \$1.3 billions, Alexei Mordashov at \$1.2 billions, Leonid Nevzlin at \$1.1 billions, Eugene Shwilderer at \$1.1 billions, Vladimir Bogdanov at \$1 billion...altogether 17 billionaires from the robbery of Soviet industry and exploitation of the working class. They are tied in with the imperialist designs of US globalization.

THEY SHALL NOT BE FORGIVEN!

PROFESSOR
VLADIMIR
HERASYMCHUK



DO NOT PUSH ME "INTO EUROPE!"

The rush about and around the fervent Government movement in Ukraine to step into the so-called "Europe" is in full swing, with posters plastered all over Ukraine saying: "If you want to live - live in Europe, support the government!" But if I "Do not want to go into Europe?!" We should get back to the Soviet Union!" But the people who lived under socialism, are saying they do not want to live under this traitorous system of the national bourgeoisie. But let us analyze this question in kind of order.

FIRST: We do not need the Krawchuk-Kuchma course into the capitalist Europe! Our forefathers lived in this, existing Mother Europe. Let's remember - did not the Europeans before the beginning of the so-called "perestroika" euphoria really impressed these "civilized" European countries as to how our country lived? Free education and medical service, guaranteed right to work and leisure, to a good and constantly improving life. All of this did exist! And not in fairy tales, but in fact!

We are not going to go into details as to how the people of "Europe" lived, towards which our nationalist bourgeois government is forcibly pushing us. This is not our function. But the present people of former Soviet Union – know that if this is the beginning of this "Europe", to which we are being forced to integrate, please god save us from such a perspective...

Yes, if we are to believe Mr. Kuchma and co., then it is true that after the counterrevolution we really got "freedom". But this freedom is for robbers, thieves, crooks, serving the dictatorship of the strongest in the world at present, pretending for the role of world dictatorship and these Ukrainian marionnets serve them as dogs serve their master. No, we want to remain in our Soviet, Socialist Europe!.. And yes, I want to say to our former "comrades" that the struggle is not over by any means! It is not yet evening, you present followers of Judas !...

SECOND: About our "successes".

The propaganda about this move "into Europe" is being accompanied by an ongoing ideological storm, accompanied by the myth of the present Ukrainian successes in the growth of the economy. But, please show me any new industry, factory or enterprise that got build by this Kuchma regime! Where is this good life for the people, about which Kuchma seems to talk on forever and ever? Where are these successes? They are not here and not expected anytime soon on the horizon. But we must bring you only some glaring facts, to characterize Krawchuk-Kuchma's Ukraine and that of Soviet Ukraine.

What did Soviet Ukraine represent during Soviet time? In 1989 Ukraine was in first place amongst the industrial developed countries of Europe in producing steel, mineral mining, tractors, cloth production. In the production of electricity Ukraine was on top, next to France and Germany. Production of milk, sugar, potatoes, fruits, and vegetables was one ton per person. Was this not the European norm? Ukraine was in top place in education and technical innovations. Our country was a picture of real democratic development. European

countries were envious of our successes. The first Soviet man in space was an achievement of Socialism, which now is sabotaged by the followers of Judas Iscariot...

Yes, but as our present day "leaders into Europe" lead us, is at the expense of the sovereignty of Ukraine. After Gorbachev and then followed by the present traitors to socialism, the successes of



Socialism were not to the liking of capitalist Europe - and these capitalist-imperialists found their willing stooges in Russia and Ukraine. The former party nomenclatura of Soviet leadership sold out en mass the people and robbed the country and siphoned the money into foreign banks, for a rainy day, when they would have to account for their crimes. This left the Soviet economy in shatters and no amount of boasting as to the growth of well being of the people can hide this catastrophic situation...

As an example, in year 2000, compared to 1990, the production of steel and steel products fell by over 28.4 times, machine manufacturing by 32.6 times, cloth production by 21.7 times, footwear by 13.6 times, television sets by 61.6 times, excavators by 70.2 times. Is this not a very graphic indication of the consequences of this "Push into Europe?" The actual loss of this is more than all the losses incurred during the Great Patriotic War!

Collective and State Farms were forcibly disbanded and privatized. The agriculture sector now is in catastrophic conditions, made this way in order that Ukraine will import its goods from Europe, from the

Multinational Corporations. The production of products needed daily for consumption by the population overall fell by about 48-52 per cent. What will happen when we are forced to join Europe? No, I do not want to go into "Europe"! Let Kuchma and his cohorts go there, But, somehow they are only willing to settle in the Canary Islands...

THIRD: What is the real reason behind his "Road to Europe?"

This terminology is trying to becloud the real reasons for this Imperialist inspired headlong dash into "Europe". The present regime has sold out all interests of Ukraine and this is the last step to colonize Ukraine and its rich resources. How can we talk about integration with Europe if the whole Ukrainian economy is in tatters? As far as NATO is concerned, another step by these present traitors is to once and for all liquidate Ukraine as a country...it is planned to be the resource center for NATO and European imperialism.

The economic and the military integration is a road to self-destruction and liquidation of all the gains Ukraine had under socialism. The process of liquidation has already begun. If at the beginning of 1990s, Ukraine had over 52.2 million people, according to official statistics, as of March 2003 the population fell to 47.9 million people. This is even more drastic than all the losses of many bitter wars.

FOURTH: We are being pushed into the so-called "Europe" in actual fact is a Third World War. In this war, there are now over ten countries. During this time the terrorist attacks are expanding in the West. When US imperialism and its allies attacked Yugoslavia, the Serbians were the only ones to have stood up to fight world imperialism. But Yugoslavia was dismembered and liquidated.

Our political attitudes are not even close to the Iraq's Baath Party. But when Iraq was attacked Saddam Hussein was the only one to have stood up and tried to fight US imperialism. Hussein was a product of US and CIA – now he is of nouse -it is the oil that is the central issue.

Is it possible that this imperialist US dictator is going to rule the world?

FIFTH: What is the way out of this? It is the unfortunate fact that this Pentagon's Globalism is ruling the roost at the moment. Oh, people! Is it not time to forget our so-called different opinions and tactics? To stop this world globalism and world domination by US imperialists can be done only by a United Europe, which will be ruled by the working class.

Imperialism drunk with its present success, is trying to unite the world to serve Imperialism and the multinational corporations. Let us unite into a Brotherly Union all people to struggle and defeat this global capitalist monster, headed by USA. In its attempt to bring fascism to the world, US imperialism is on a verge of crashing into an abyss. But this devil, going into this abyss is trying to pull the whole of humanity after it. All people of good will, regardless of their race, politics or religion, in the face of this dangerous globalization must unite in a United Front and rise against the danger of globalization. All together we can defeat this bloody Vampire.

Long Live the United Workers Europe! Let there be Peace in the World! ■

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO WIN, YOU TRAITORS!

By GALINA SAVCHENKO

Last November 7, 2002 more than 350 cities and towns celebrated the 85th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution with red flags, meetings, concerts and marches. The mass media of Ukraine did not mention this date or events by even one word. They devoted their TV and press time by showing the Jubilee of a Boublik – a thick ring-shaped roll of bread!

On May 9th the Day of Victory and the 58th Anniversary of the defeat of German fascism – which is still on the books as a state holiday – the main square in Kiev was absolutely bare of any decorations or celebrations.

That war for our people was the cruelest, most devastating and a horrendous tragedy in the life of our Motherland. This was a great schooling for the Soviet people. We



won that struggle and not only saved out Motherland, but the whole world from fascism.

Today, President Kuchma and his ants are starting a war against our past history, with Lenin and Stalin, with the aim to completely degenerate the whole glorious history of the Soviet Union. The tragedy is that the policy of Kuchma and his cronies is to make certain that all Slavic people forget their history, customs and language, and

be Westernized.

These political outcasts, with absolutely no shame or culture, are selling off the great Soviet nation of Plekhanov, Lenin and Stalin, Belinsky, Glinka, Chemoshevsky, Pushkin, Gorky, Chekhov, Sechenov and Kutuzov to Imperialist United States of America.

You will not succeed, you traitors! We are going to defend our sacred land from all enemies! ■

US MONEY FUNDS UZBEK TORTURE

By ERIC WALBERG

Abdulkhalil was arrested in the fields of Uzbekistan's Ferghana Valley in August of 2002. The 28 year old farmer was sentenced to 16 years in prison – trying to "overthrow" the constitutional structures.

Last month his father saw him for the first time since that day on a stretcher in a prison hospital. His head was battered and his tongue was so swollen that he could only say that he had been kept in water for a very long time. Abdulkhalil was a victim of Uzbekistan's security service, the SNB. His detention and torture were part of a crack down on Hizb-ut-Tahrir, the Party of Liberation, an Islamist group.

DEATH BY BOILING

Independent human rights groups estimate that there are more than 600 politically motivated arrests per year in Uzbekistan, and over 6,500 political prisoners, some of them are tortured to death. According to the forensic report commissioned by the British Embassy in Uzbekistan, two prisoners last August were even boiled to death.

The US condemned these Uzbek repressions for many years. But since the 9/11, there was a rewrite of America's strategic interests in Central Asia, the government of President Islam Karimov of Uzbekistan has become now

Washington's new best friend in the region.

USA is funding those that it once condemned. Last year (2002) Washington gave Uzbekistan 500 million US dollars in aid. The police and intelligence services, which the US Department of State's Web Site says openly use torture as a routine investigations torture technique has received US \$79 million of this sum. As a fact, President Karimov was a guest of President Bush in March of this year.

They signed a declaration which gave Uzbekistan security guarantees and promised to strengthen the material and technical base of their law enforcement agencies. The cooperation grows. On May 12 of this year, NATO said that Uzbekistan will be used as a base for the alliance's peacekeeping operations in Afghanistan. Since the fall of the Taliban, US support for the Karimov had changed from one, guided by short-term necessity into a long-term commitment based of America's strategic requirements.

Critics argue that USA has overlooked human rights abuses to foster a police state whose borders give the Pentagon a vantage point into Afghanistan and into the other neighboring countries as they are in Islamist movements. The geographic hub of the US-Uzbekistan alliance is 350km south of the capital of Tashkent. Outside the town of Khanabad military base, the platform for America's operations in Afghanistan and in the region. Interestingly, that the town of Khanabad was closed by the Uzbek authorities for many months to the Uzbek people. Journalists are not allowed, and all the streets in this strategic town and base now carry the names of New York City avenues. One Western source says that the Americans are going to stay there for decades.

This is welcomed by the present Uzbek regime, which welcomes America's change of attitude as its own security forces continue to repress the population.

Attendance at mosques in most cases leads to arrests. There are many accounts of police brutality. Persons are beaten and held down on the ground while members of the Uzbek Security Service stuff

incriminating evidence into pockets of those arrested.

The Ferghana Valley has been a base for Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), which the US and Britain of course say that they have links to al-Qaeda.

The fight against the IMU has been used to justify the repression of Islamists or any other movement that is opposed to the present regime. Even the British Ambassador Craig Murray says that this movement fills the void of devastating poverty and regime brutality. The intense repression, combined with inequality of wealth and desperate increasing poverty, lack of reform, is creating Islamic fundamentalism.

US gave \$26 million to human-right groups here as a screen that it is fighting brutality.

Matilda Bogner of the Human Rights Watch's office in Tashkent said: *"I would deny that there had been any real progress"*. Hakimjon Nezemjon, 68, agrees. He became a human-rights activist after a morgue attendant brought him his eldest son, Nozemjon. He had been left for dead by the security service but was still alive, despite having his skull fractured. Nozemjon is now 33, but screams all night since they split his skull open.

He is now in an asylum Noredinov said. *"People's lives are no better with US involvement, because with America's help, Karimov is getting richer, stronger and extremely more repressive."* ■

THE UNCROWNED KING OF EAST EUROPE

By NEIL CLAR

George Soros, the multi-billionaire is angry. In common with 90 per cent of world's population, the Man Who Broke the Bank of England has had enough of George Bush and his foreign policy. In a recent article in *"The Financial Times"*, Soros condemned George W. Bush

administration's policies on Iraq as *"fundamentally wrong"* based as they were on a *"false ideology that USA might give it the right to impose its will on the world."*

WOW! Has one of the world's richest men - the archetypal amoral capitalist who made billions out of the Far Eastern currency crash of 1997 and who last year was fined for insider trading by a court in France - seen the light in his old age (*he is 72*). Should we all pop the champagne corks and toast his conversion?

Not before asking as to what motivates him. Soros likes to portray himself as an absolute outsider, an independent-minded Hungarian émigré and philosopher-pundit who stands detached from the US military-industrial complex. But, take a look at the board members of the NGOs he organizes and finances. At Human Rights Watch, for example there is, Morton Abramowitz, US Assistant Secretary of State for intelligence and research from 1985-89, and now a fellow at the Interventionist Council on Foreign Relations; ex-Ambassador Warren Zimmerman (*who's duty spell in Yugoslavia coincided with the break-up of that country*); and Paul Goble, Director of communications at the CIA-created and funded Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (*which Soros also funds*). Soros's International Crisis Group boasts such US *"independent"* luminaries as the former National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski and Richard Allen, as well as General Wesley Clark, once NATO supreme commander for Europe. This group's vice chairman is the former US congressman Stephen Solarz, once described as the *"Israel's lobby's chief legislative tactician on Washington's Capital Hill"* and a signatory, along with the likes of Richard Perle and Paul Wolfowitz, to a notorious letter to President Clinton in 1998, calling for a *"comprehensive political and military strategy for bringing down Saddam and his regime."*

Let us just take a look at Soros's business partners. At the Carlyle Group, where he has invested many, many millions, this includes the former secretary of state James Baker and the erstwhile defense secretary Frank Carlucci, George

Bush Sr. and, until recently, the estranged relatives of Osama bin Laden, CARLYLE GROUP is one of the world's largest private equity funds, makes most of its money from its work as a US defense contractor.

Soros's companies, NGO's and other worldwide funds are closely wrapped up in the present US-CIA expansionism, and this cannot be doubted.

But why is he so upset with Bush? The answer is very simple. Soros is not angry with Bush's aims – of extending Pax Americana and making the world safe for global capitalists like himself – but with the crass and blundering way Bush is going about it. By making US ambitions around the world too clear, the Bush gang has committed the cardinal sin of giving the game away. For years, Soros and his NGOs have gone about their work extending the boundaries of the "free world" so skillfully that hardly anyone noticed. Now this Texan redneck and his gang of over-zealous neo-cons have blown it.

As a cultivated and educated man (a degree of philosophy from the London School of Economics, honorary degree from the Universities of Oxford, Yale, Bologna and Budapest), Soros knows only too well that empires perish when they overstep their mark and provoke the formation of counter-alliances. He understands that the Clintonian approach of multilateralism-whereby the US cajoles or bribes but never does anything so crude as to threaten – is the only one that will allow the US Empire to endure. Bush's policies have led to a divided Europe, NATO is in disarray, the genesis of the new Franco-German-Russian alliance and the first meaningful steps towards Arab unity, since Nasser.

Soros knows a much better way-armed with a few billion dollars, a handful of Non Governmental Agencies (NGOs) and a nod and a wink from the US State Department, it is perfectly possible to topple foreign governments that are bad for multinational business, seize the country's assets, and even get thanked for your benevolence afterwards. Soros did it many times.

The conventional view, shared by many on the left, that Socialism



collapsed in Eastern Europe and USSR because of its systematic weaknesses and the political elite's failure to build popular support. That maybe only partially true, but Soros's role was very crucial. From 1979, he distributed millions for a whole year to dissidents, including Poland's Solidarity movement, Charter 77 in Czechoslovakia and to Andrei Sakharov and other dissidents in the Soviet Union. In 1984, he funded his first Open Society Institute in Hungary and pumped millions of dollars into all opposition movements and independent media. Ostensibly these were aimed at building a "civil society". These initiatives were designed to weaken the existing political structures and pave the way for Eastern Europe's eventual colonization by global capital. Soros now claims, with characteristic immodesty, that he was responsible for the "Americanization" of Eastern Europe.

Yugoslavia remained stubbornly resistant and repeatedly returned Slobodan Milosevic's unreformed Socialist Party to government. But Soros was equal to this challenge. From 1991, his Open Society

Institute channeled more millions to the coffers of the anti-Milosevic opposition, funding different political parties, publishing houses and of course the so-called "independent" media such as Radio B92, the student radio station of Western mythology which in reality was fabulously bankrolled by one of the world's richest men on behalf of the world's most powerful nations, the USA.

With Milosevic finally toppled in 2000 in a coup d'etat that was financed, planned and executed in Washington, all that was left was to kidnap and cart the ex-Yugoslav leader to the Hague Tribunal, co-financed by Soros and all those other custodians of human rights, like Time Warner Corporation and Disney. He is charged with all sorts of crimes, on the basis of the so-called "evidence" supplied by the Human Rights Watch – which is the favorite baby of Soros!

This is just one example of the way Soros makes billions at the expense of the state's natural resources when they are privatized. In Kosovo, Yugoslavia, Soros bought the Trepcja mine complex, where are found vast reserves of gold, nickel tin, lead and other minerals. The estimates are that this mine is worth many billions of dollars. This pattern was used all over Eastern Europe and Russia by his promoting and the traitors accepting his "shock therapy" and "economic reform". Soros and his associates then swoop down and buy these state assets at knock down prices.

The Soros strategy differs from the Bush model, particularly in its subtlety. But it is just as ambitious and just as deadly. Left-liberals, admiring his support for some of their favorite issues such as gay rights and the legislation of soft drugs, let him off very lightly.

Asked about the financial havoc his currency speculation caused to the Far Eastern economies in the crash of 1997, Soros replied: "As a market participant, I don't need to be concerned with the consequences of my actions." Strange words from a man who likes to be regarded as the savior of every civil society from communism and who rails in print against "market fundamentalism". ■

UKRAINE AND ITS LEFT MOVEMENTS

Dear readers:

We had many requests to report on some of the many communist and socialist movements that do exist in Ukraine now. We shall also try to report on each former Soviet Republic and its left parties and movements, in order to give a clear picture of the struggles that are being waged on all fronts.

The unfortunate weak point is that so far there are no real unified actions that will eventually lead to a

unified Communist Party in each of the ex republics, as a forerunner to the one Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Below is not a complete list of left-wing parties in Ukraine:

Communist Party of Ukraine, All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks, The Socialist Party of Ukraine, Union of Communists-Bolsheviks, Union of Communist Parties-CPSU and the Progressive Socialist Party of Ukraine.

The Progressive Socialist Party of Ukraine is headed by Natalia Vitrenko who was a member of the Ukrainian Parliament and her party is active in all regions of Ukraine.

This party was very involved in demonstrations against US and the war against Iraq by US imperialism. There was a delegation to Iraq, headed by Natalia Vitrenko before the invasion. This party is active in organizing women, youth and other peoples organizations. The PSPU is involved in fighting against the present Kuchma regime.

Dear readers:

In future issues of NSC we will publish condensed version of other Parties with photographs that we have not been able to do so before.

There are now unity conferences to unite these parties into a single and mighty one Communist Party.



Natalia Vitrenko, head of the Progressive Socialist Party. Right-Vitrenko in Baghdad. Bottom -Large Demonstrations by the PSPU



American military bans BBC crew from Guantanamo Bay for talking with prisoners

By MICHAEL OPPERSKALSKI

The US military clashed with British journalists at Camp Delta, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba after the inmates shouted to a BBC Panorama team who had been invited to tour the maximum security camp for Afghanistan prisoners.

As the journalists walked through the camp, the detainees shouted that they wanted to tell their story and the US soldiers immediately surrounded the BBC crew and ordered everyone to halt the tour and leave,

About 680 prisoners, including nine Britons are being held in Guantanamo Bay naval base in US-occupied Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, as part of the US administration's war against terror.

The audio tape made by the BBC Panorama TV crew was immediately seized by US forces and the BBC reporter Vivienne White was banished from this Camp Delta.

The BBC crew saw the inmates wearing white clothes and forced to eat on an outside table as temperatures reached over 38C (100F). The detainees shouted that they were waiting to see the BBC crew.

US officials confined the BBC crew to a bus and then they were taken away from Camp Delta.

The US military maintains that the detainees cannot speak to the press because of the Geneva Convention. This claim is false and is disputed by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

From The Guardian ■

POLES VOTE YES TO JOINING EUROPEAN UNION

NY Times International

On June 8th, according to the NYT, Polish voters approved entry into the European Union. Poland's approximately 39 million people in

the preliminary results voted 78.02% and backed the accession to the European Union, while 21.98% voted against. The turn out of voters was only 59.6 per cent.

Political analysts credited Pope John Paul II with pushing the turnout. A special Pastoral Letter from the Pope, who was born in Poland, was read in every church in Poland. The Pope called for a yes vote, which will be "an act of historic justice."

Poland has now over 18% unemployment and its 2 million individual farmers will be gobbled up by the transnational corporations and the elderly fear that their very small pensions they receive now will be even smaller.

Among the more curious sights in the referendum was the appearance of Poland's last communist leader, General Wojciech Jaruzhelski, 79 years old, who told journalists after casting his vote, that if someone predicted this would happen 20 years ago: "I would have said that it is science-fiction, the theatre of the absurd. But that's it. This is the beauty of life. Reality changes, domestically, internationally and historically. It's a new reality and you have to take it into account. I took it into account and voted yes for Poland to enter the European Union."

COMMENT:

With leaders like this former "communist" in Poland, there is not much difference between him and Pope John Paul II, who, on behalf of US imperialism did the groundwork in Poland and in other countries. The tragedy is that some progressive leaders still think that inviting the Pope to visit their countries they are promoting peace, understanding and social progress! They should re-read again and again Karl Marx about religion.

Oh yes, Soros, the architect of "Solidarnoczn Union" and his many millions poured into Poland through his NGO's, made certain that the Poles were supplied with close to 10 million cell phones and...every cell phone user got phoned before the referendum as to how to vote by the

private telecommunication company that is funded and owned by the International Crisis Group, owned by Soros and his holding company the Carlyle Group. ■

G8 SUMMIT GIVES GO AHEAD FOR US OFFENSIVE AGAINST IRAN AND NORTH KOREA

By CHRIS MARSDEN – KOMINFORM

The G8 Summit of the world's leading industrial powers plus Russia in Evian, France, held in June, took the abject capitulation of the European powers before Washington to new depths.

The occasion will be remembered for the readiness of the governments of France, Germany and Russia to go beyond simply burying their past criticisms of the USA and Bush's administration's war against Iraq, this was already manifest by the United Nations Security Council vote endorsing America's post-war rule of Iraq on May 22, 2003. For, despite protestations to the contrary, a joint statement issued on Tuesday, June 3 opens the door to military action by the US against Iran and North Korea.

President Bush could not have hoped for a more successful outcome of his visit to France and from a meeting hosted by President Jacques Chirac, once the US Republican administration bete noire for his opposition to America's unilateral declaration of war against Iraq.

Bush treated the Summit with no small degree of contempt, spending less than a day at the Alpine resort before flying off for a round of talks with Arab leaders, Israel and the Palestinian Authority on his proposed "road map" for peace in the Middle East. But before he left he was schmoozed and flattered by his formerly troublesome counterparts and given everything he wanted.

The first day of the Summit occurred against the background of mass protests and arrests of

demonstrators of the anti-capitalist and anti-globalization groups which were viciously attacked by the Swiss police.

(An interesting fact is that Germany shipped its own riot police squads to help the Swiss police attack the demonstrators! No further questions need be asked, is there? Editor)

All over the world, news coverage was dominated by reports that the US administration and Britain's Labor government had falsified and exaggerated intelligence dossiers in order to assert that Iraq possessed weapons on mass destruction and so justify their plans for war. Coming after the failure of US inspectors to discover any evidence of WMD programs and of the many embarrassing statements made by Rumsfeld and Paul Wolfowitz and Bush himself about WMD's in Iraq – but in the rarified atmosphere at Evian, however, no one brought this up and no one dared to do so. Why? This is the question that people ask. The man chiefly responsible for launching an illegal war of aggression could now relax amongst friends or sycophants, to be more precise.

At this luxury hotel overlooking Lake Geneva, the day was spent mostly in photo opportunities where everyone shook Bush's hand (*the master*) and mutual backslapping could occur and be photographed for home consumption.

Chirac and German Chancellor Gerhard Schroder clearly said that the *"past is behind us."*

(So much for criticizing US military action by both France and Germany. As the saying goes – Birds of a feather flock together!)-Editor)

As for President Putin of Russia, he is given carte blanche for his war in Chechnya, made this statement, as a loyal Bush underdog: *"After this summit I have the firm conviction the situation is better in the world and that is the main result."*

Before leaving this Summit, Bush pushed through and secured the drafting of a statement on the need to fight terrorism anywhere in the world – which gives US the pretext for continued military interventions all over the world!

Moreover still, Bush got an agreement of all parties to explicitly

threaten North Korea and Iran. The statement urged North Korea to *"visibly, verifiably and irreversibly dismantle any nuclear program it had."* It also warned Iran that: *"it would be targeted should its advanced nuclear program not maintain full compliance with its obligations"*.

Washington immediately claimed this as a green light for military action should it be deemed necessary.

In short, all that the participants of this Summit want for supporting the US take over of Iraq is a piece of the spoils. And all it will require in return for backing action against Iran and North Korea, will be some other quid pro quo arrangement!

COMMENT:

We are wondering why doesn't CPRF (Communist Party of the Russian Federation) which has large number of its members in the Russian Duma, not bring in a motion to IMPEACH President Putin for his role against the wishes of the Russian people. If in the seat of Imperialist USA Presidents can be impeached, why not in this "democratic" Russia?

COLOMBIA MOST DANGEROUS PLACE ON EARTH FOR TRADE UNIOINISTS

By Alfredo Castro, ANNCOL

A new survey of trade union rights says that Colombia is by far the most dangerous place in the world to be a member of a trade union.

According to the report on human rights violations released by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) a least 184 trade unionists were killed last year in Colombia - accounting for some 86% of the global total of killings of trade union members. The report also mentions that some 189 Colombian trade unionists received death threats, 27 were victims of assassination attempts, nine just *"disappeared"* and there were a total of 166 abductions and arbitrary arrests of union members.

Colombian security force personnel physically attacked many trade unionists during the year and the report mentions 80 union

activists forced into exile in fear of their lives.

Additionally the ICFTU criticized what it called Colombia's *"appalling toll of murders, beatings, disappearances and intimidation carried out virtually with total impunity"* and pointed out that *"none of the investigations opened following attempts on trade unionists' lives...have resulted in any effective sentencing of those responsible."*

In accordance with all other studies and reports on the situation faced by trade unionists in Colombia, the ICFTU report blamed nearly all of the killings on the Colombian sponsored right wing military squads that work hand in glove with the Colombian military.

COMMENT:

Why doesn't the US AFL-CIO trade union movement ask as a start for a "regime change" in Colombia or, if not, for a regime change in Washington, which supports these death squads of Colombia?

HANS BLIX SAYS THAT US ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS ARE BASTARDS

The Hindustan Times and Agence-France-Presse said that Hans Blix the Chief UN weapons inspector has described certain members of the US administration as *"bastards"* who set out to undermine him during his three years at the helm.

In an uncharacteristic outburst to a British newspaper, published last month, Blix said: *"I have my detractors in Washington. There are bastards there who spread things all around, of course they planted lies and nasty things in the media. Not that I cared much."*

He also said that the US Government leaned heavily on all of his inspectors to produce more damning language in their reports.

Blix, who's retired now told *"The Guardian"* that he is convinced that there are people in the Bush's administration *"who say they don't care if the UN sinks under the East River, and other crude things"*.

FRIENDSHIP NEWS

NEWS FROM DOWN UNDER

Greetings comrades:

We are letting you know that we're sending NSC \$250 donation that was raised by the members of the Australian Friends of Soviet People.

We would also like you to increase our copies to 45 or more since we're expanding our sales. We would like to inform you that NSC has readers now in Phon Penh, Cambodia, so you could add this country to the list of countries where NSC is read.

Peter Prior

(Below we publish contents of the Newsletter, called: "The Southern Cross" - organ of the Australian Friends of Soviet People)

Good news from the former Soviet Union-

To all readers of NSC, we have good news; The Russian Society for Friendship with Foreign Countries has been set up in the former Soviet Union. It is our opinion that this development will greatly advance the work of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People.

The sales of NSC have increased and have reached now into NSW. Our spread into other states of Australia has been hampered by the fact that the Communist Party of Australia has refused to print a paid advertisement for NSC in their newspaper "The Guardian". The advertisement was to promote our organization and the journal Northstar Compass. When asked by a comrade, who is a member of both the party and our organization for a comment on this refusal to print the advertisement, the General Secretary of the CPA M. - Peter Simon replied, "**not interested**". When asked if he can be quoted, he replied "**Yes**". As we do not wish to involve ourselves in the CPA's internal affairs, no further comment will be made.

In view of these developments, it is fortuitous that we have our own postal address. We would like to thank the comrades of the CPA in

Victoria for their assistance in setting up our organization and for the use of their address in our formative years.

You will receive the information for our next meeting of the Australian Friends of Soviet People soon.

On behalf of the Executive
Pablo Gonzales, Editor

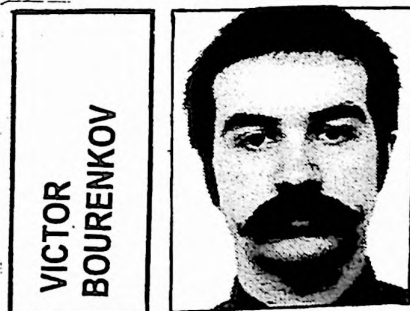
INVITATION TO AN INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR IN ECUADOR

Dear comrades:

Greetings in the name of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Ecuador and the Democratic Popular Movement! As parties of the revolutionary left, we have the honour of sending you our very warm greetings, and we wish you success in your activities in pursuit of the elevated objectives of liberation that we both have as a goal.

The Seminar will take place June 30, July 1-2-3 of this year at the Auditorium of the Department of Philosophy at the University of Ecuador. On July 4-th the National Convention of the Democratic Popular Movement will be held, to which we also invite you.

Oswaldo Palacios
MLCPE



REPORT ON THE RUSSIAN SOCIETY FOR FRIENDSHIP WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES

On June 11, 2003, the Central Coordination Council of the

Russian Society for Friendship with Foreign Countries had met for the second time. At this meeting Georgi Tikhonov was elected as Chairman of the Society (*with one vote against and one abstention.*) Vladimir Chechentsev and Viktor Bourenkov were elected as Deputy Chairmen unanimously.

Aleksei Prigarin had been co-opted into the Central Coordination Council to represent the Russian Communist Party-CPSU, as this party has nominated him to the Council.

This meeting has unanimously adopted the Charter in its proposed form with minor corrections.

On July 3 the representatives of the RCWP-RPC will hold a reception for the delegation from the Workers' Party of Belgium on their visit to Moscow.

The next event the Society will do is to organize a joint rally around the 26th of July movement with other supporters of Cuban socialism to mark the 50th Anniversary of this event that sparked the Cuban revolution. This will include an event coordinated with the Cuban Embassy in Moscow - the support of Cuban political prisoners in Miami and an action of protest in front of the US Embassy.

Viktor Bourenkov reported on the latest developments of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People. This meeting took as decision to act accordingly in the light of the coming Second World Congress in 2004 being organized by the Organizing Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People in September of 2004 in Europe.

Furthermore, the Society aims at increasing many contacts and cooperation with other pro-Soviet and internationalist groups.

Congratulations dear friends! There is much to be done in building friendship and solidarity!

ISRAEL ZIONISM SHOULD REALLY PONDER THIS!

In the complex situation in which Palestinians and Israelis currently find themselves, two things seem equally evident: First – a sovereign, a viable and truly sovereign Palestinian state alongside Israel is an absolute prerequisite for a just and lasting peace; and Second, Israel needs a Palestinian State.

Without a Palestinian State Israel faces what it considers as two unacceptable options.

If it annexes all of the Occupied Territories and grants citizenship to the three million Palestinian inhabitants, it creates de facto a bi-national state of 5 million Jews and 4 million Palestinians (*not counting close to one million refugee*), an option that certainly would end the Zionist enterprise.

Israel, with US backing both militarily and financially wants no Palestinian State to exist as its policy to have Israel act as the bully in the Middle East and for the oil to flow into the NAO- US plans for a new world order!

BHUTANESE MAOISTS

NEPL SAMACHARPATRA

The Bhutanese government has been alerted to a radical communist outfit, similar to the Maoists rebels in Nepal, that recently announced an armed struggle in the Druk kingdom. After its formation in the Bhutanese refugee camp in Eastern Nepal, the Bhutanese Communist Party (BPC) announced it already strengthened its bases in Bhutan.

BPC insiders don't believe that the Nepal-Bhutan talks will lead to a solution. "We have already declared our armed struggle and this is what we will bring the refugee issue to a decisive end," a party spokesman said. The people that the Bhutanese government resettled on their lands are already fleeing in fear.

With headquarters at Siliguri in India, the Communist Party members are able to move easily across three international borders.

ENGLISH POET PINTER BLASTS "NAZI-AMERICA AND" DELUDED IDIOT" BLAIR

From THE GUARDIAN

The playwright Harold Pinter likened last month George W, Bush's administration to that of Adolf Hitler's Nazi Germany, charging that the US was charging towards world domination while the American public and Britain's "mass-murder" prime minister sat back and watched.

Pinter, 72, was at the National Theatre in London to read from "War", a new collection of his anti-war poetry that had been published in the press in response to events in Iraq. He told the audience that the US government was the most dangerous power that has ever existed.

The American detention center in Guantanamo Bay in Cuba, where supposed al-Quida and Taliban suspects were being held, is a concentration camp.

The US population has to accept responsibility for allowing this unelected president to take power and the British were exhausted from protesting and being ignored by Tony Blair, a "deluded idiot" Pinter hoped would resign.

The playwright said that: "The US is really beyond reason now. It is beyond our imagining to know, what they are going to do next, and what they are prepared to do. There is only one comparison: Nazi Germany. Nazi Germany wanted total domination of Europe and they nearly did it. The US wants total domination of the world and it is about to consolidate that."

"In the policy document, the US has used the term "full spectrum domination", that means control of the land, sea, air and space, and that is exactly what's intended and what the US wants to fulfill. They are quiet blatant about it."

Pinter blamed "millions of totally

deluded American people" for not staging a mass revolt. He also pointed out that because of the control of the media in the USA, millions of Americans believe that every word that Bush said was "accurate and moral. The US population should not be let off scot-free for putting the country under the control of an illegally elected president – in other words, a fake."

Pinter also said: "What objections have there been in the US to Guantanamo Bay? At this very moment there are 700 people who are chained, padlocked, handcuffed, hooded and treated like animals. It is actually a concentration camp!"

"I haven't heard anything about the US population saying: - We can't do this, we are Americans! - Nobody gives a damn. Nor does Tony Blair. Blair sees himself as a representative of moral rectitude. He is actually a mass murderer. But we forget that – we are as much victims of delusion as Americans are."

In a British society where people are increasingly encouraged not to use their brains, the only way to protest was by thought intelligence and solidarity. ■

AND YOU THOUGHT THE WAR WAS OVER

By HEATHER MALLICK-
Globe and Mail newspaper-Canada

I have found them. Yes, yours truly has tripped over the Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), that Junior Bush and Tony Blair used to justify their conquest of Iraq. Those missing weapons were variously explained as - (a) destroyed before the war (b) not "literally" there – and why aren't reporters more conceptual in their thinking? (c) never there at all (d) exported to Syria (e) in beakers in those two Winnebagos, a panicky Mr. Blair keeps mentioning.

What's more, these WMD are not just M for mass, they're F for forever.

The embarrassing part is that they were not found in Iraq but in Vietnam. We forget wars fast. Who will remember Iraq next year? Who thinks of Afghanistan now? And who knew that the Vietnam War was still fought with WMDs? What I am about

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to write upsets me a great deal and I have delayed writing it. Some of these details might be distressing.

Despite US Colin Powell saying that Saddam Hussein was the biggest user of chemical weapons since the First World War, the greater culprit was the United States of America. From 1962 to 1974, the USA admits that it dropped 72 million liters of chemicals on Vietnam, most of it Agent Orange with a super-toxic strain of dioxin called TCCD. US soldiers dumped an additional 260,000 gallons of herbicide just to empty their tanks. "The Guardian" newspaper reports that one soldier regularly dumped his poison into a central drinking water reservoir. He doesn't want his name used, at which one can only smile hollowly.

A Canadian environmental science company, the Hatfield Consultants, has discovered that the dioxin used in Vietnam has not dispersed. It has rooted itself in the soil at levels 100 times higher than we would tolerate here in Canada on the Canadian farmlands, spreading through water into the food chain and from there into human food, breast milk and fetuses.

This poison in Vietnam has blossomed already through three generations of Vietnamese so far. It appears that it will continue to do so onwards. Its toxicity is difficult to describe. When General Powell held up his tiny vial of what he said were scary anthrax spores at the UN, it hardly compared to a small 80-gram tin of TCCD. That tin would destroy New York City. The United States dropped **170 kilograms** of it on Vietnam!

This WMD kills and maims unstoppably! The grandchildren of those who first saw the sweet smelling yellow powder fall from the sky are damaged beyond belief. Agent Orange causes innumerable diseases plus almost every cancer known to humankind.

I have obtained this information from web sites created by the Vietnamese hospitals and US veterans who were abandoned by the US government, as well as e-mails with Vietnamese doctors attempting to care for some of the Vietnamese 650,000 damaged children (*500,000 have already died*). Most of all, I have relied on a recent

Guardian newspaper's expose by Cathy Scott-Clark and Adrian Levy. I cannot read it and look at the photographs without falling into sadness for days.

Some dioxin babies were born with two heads. Thankfully they are dead and float in formaldehyde. Another baby photographed in a crib has a massive pointed head and eyeballs that bulge far outside his face. His sister's fingers and toes drop off and she loses more skin each day as her mother tearfully watches. Polio, Down syndrome and profound retardation are everywhere. Another victim is 19 - in her photo she looks about 6. She walks like a spider and her skin is septic wet red bubble. Some children look scarcely human. Some women, the Guardian reports, give birth to genderless squabs that sounds like the pigeons in Margaret Atwood's *Onyx and Crake* book. Just lumps, containing organs.

We're used to bad things dissipating as time passes. The fields of France are green now and their people healthy. Agent Orange is different. The World Health Organization says that there are two ways to clean it up: Bake all of the

soil in Vietnam to 1,000 degrees Celsius, or pave the country over with concrete and chemically treat what lies beneath. There are some 80 million Vietnamese living on that soil. That fact is, almost nothing can be done.

The Vietnamese people are resilient and they manage and they have a miraculous ability to do just that. The world must help Vietnam!

Agent Orange was the second time that the United States used a Weapon of Mass Destruction...the first being in Hiroshima. It fits Bush-Rumsfeld-Powell definition of poison, which is still flowing now.

US politicians rarely think long-term. Whether we support or oppose their efforts in Afghanistan and Iraq, those were mere social calls by comparison.

In Vietnam, the war is still being fought by proxy, via an American liquid that came in orange cans - **AGENT ORANGE!**

HISTORIC BATTLES

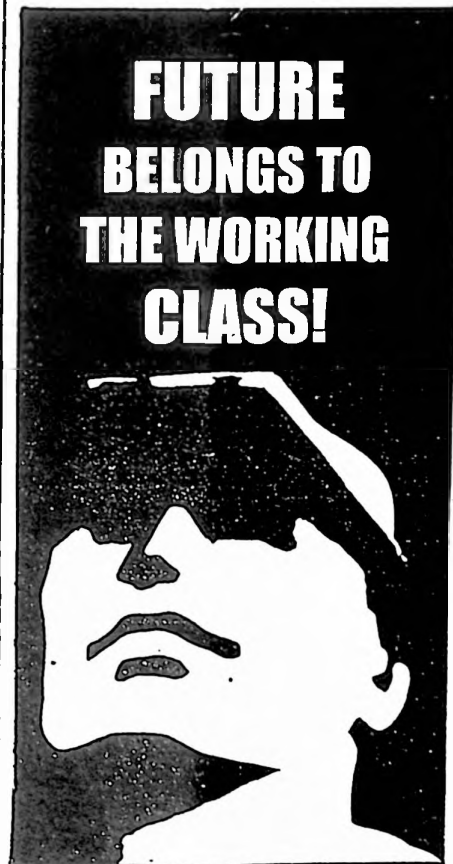
By VIC RATSMA

The struggle for socialism has been fought for many years and in many places. In its traditional Marxist context, this struggle is carried out primarily by the urban proletariat, the industrial factory workers who under the leadership of the communist party take control of the production machinery of the state as well as the functions of governing the nation.

History has recorded numerous socialist inspired uprisings, particularly in Europe, but few have been based entirely on an agricultural community without an industrial base. However, exactly such a struggle took place in the 1920s in a small agricultural region in northern part of The Netherlands and still leaves its traces behind to this day.

The parties to this class struggle were on the one side, the wealthy elite farmers, whose stature in the community equaled that of doctors, lawyers the mayor etc., and on the other hand the farm labourers, the lowest class in the society, many of whom eked out a very marginal living, often relying on seasonal work

**FUTURE
BELONGS TO
THE WORKING
CLASS!**



during busy season on the farms. Wages were very low and extreme poverty existed. Nevertheless, when the market prices of farm produce went down, the farmers lowered their wages even further. The events of the Russian revolution of 1917 and the revolutionary situation in the neighbouring Germany had a great impact on the thinking of these farm labourers, resulting in them organizing into unions and attempting to collectively put pressure on the wealthy farmers. Simultaneously, several political parties emerged, among whom were anarchists, revolutionary socialists and communists, with revolutionary platforms such as the complete nationalization of the land.

Several strikes occurred in the ensuing years, but in 1929, a major strike was called by this farm labourers union which forever altered the situation. Imports of cheap grain from Russia and North America had drastically reduced the market price of locally produced grain. The rich farmers were unwilling to absorb their reduced profit margins and wanted to reduce the already low labourers wages by another 20%. Thousands of workers subsequently withdrew their services and went on strike. With harvest time in sight, the farmers hired scab labourers at wages several times higher than those paid to the regular workers. Not surprisingly, this drew the ire of the strikers and violence and sabotage were the order of the day. Frequently the scabs were beaten up and windows smashed as the strikers marched through the community carrying red flags and singing the Internationale. To bring the situation under control, the government dispatched a contingent of military police to the region and a curfew was enacted to prevent further violence.

Sadly however, but perhaps unavoidable, the lack of a reliable workforce forced the farmers to consider mechanization of their operations and they began to experiment with harvesters and other machinery in order to reduce the need for manual labour. The strikers tried to sabotage the machinery by putting iron rods in the fields, which broke the harvesting equipment, but in the end they fought a losing

battle. The speeded up mechanization was to change the face of agriculture forever. The Union leadership and the Social Democrats pleaded with the farm workers for a settlement, but the membership did not want to hear of it and voted 83% in favor of continuing the strike and, with the support of the communists, they fought on. In spite of that, the union leadership, not wanting to pay the strikers any longer in what they saw as a losing battle – called off the strike.

The strikers were furious and ferocious arguments between the union leadership and the members resulted, but in the end they did not desert their union. Working class solidarity and class-consciousness held them together. In the following year they negotiated a 10% wage increase and a relative peace returned. The wealthy farmers meanwhile had lost a considerable amount of money and as a result of the depression years of the 1930s, a good many went bankrupt due to the accumulated debts.

Interestingly enough, to some extent this class-consciousness has survived in the region to this day, and communists continue to be elected to the local council, perhaps the only region in The Netherlands. ■

NEWS DIGEST COMMENT

NEPAL TODAY

Chairman Narayan Man Bijukchhen of the Nepal Workers and Peasants Party replies to questions posed by the newspaper "Shramik" The Workers.

Q: Would you throw some light on the agenda duly forwarded in the second round of a dialogue recently held on March 28, 2003 in comparison to the declaration brought to light by the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) in October of 2003 during the first dialogue between the CPN (Maoist) and the then government before it failed?

A: The main agenda of the first dialogue between the CPN(M) and the then government centered on the "Republic, Constituent Assembly and Referendum" and this dialogue was struck off after the government team was bluntly told that there could have been no dialogue on the agenda presented. Of late, the Maoists have demanded that there should be the formation of all parties' interim government under the leadership of the struggling Maoists and the constituent assembly unconditionally.

Q: What is your viewpoint on the "People's Republic of Nepal" and the formation of "A South Asian Soviet Federation" mentioned in the declaration forwarded by the CPN (Maoists)?

A: India is desperately trying to establish a regional hegemony in South Asia. Rising high above the European Union (EU), India wants to constitute a South Asian Soviet Federation under her security umbrella. That hegemonistic viewpoint of Indian monopoly capitalism had been protested from all sides. If the countries constituting the EU are of equal status in view of the land, population and strength, all the countries together in South Asia cannot be compared to India in view of the land, population and strength. For this reason, the sensitive Nepalese have been quite aware of "A South Asian Soviet Federation" and "Republic of Nepal" as declared by the CPN(M) and that declaration has been criticized even by the left parties.

Q: Can we know your viewpoint of the Four Tier Governing system from village, town, district, regional and central level of state system mentioned in the above declaration of the CPN(M)?

A: If there are regional governments in the present context, one way or the other, the internal or external elements will have an opportunity to play the divide and rule game in our country.

Q: Could you express your viewpoint on "A Separate Autonomous Region" in the Terai, having the various indigenous nationalities speaking Maithi, Bhojpuri, Awadhi etc.?

A: After the "Independence of India" from British Imperialism, the Indian monopoly capital wanted to weaken Nepal. The culture of British

Imperialism is still present in the Indian administration and in its bureaucracy. The age-old thinking of Indian monopoly capital is still green to dominate the different indigenous identity of Nepal through division. Autonomy should be provided to the local units with a view to represent the spirit of the people living far from the center, having different dialect, caste, race and culture, and ultimately to develop the country and decentralization must be fully implemented all over Nepal without delay.

Q: Would you state the news that the USA has included the CPN(M) on its terrorist list?

A: Formerly the US Ambassador had supported the CPN(M) position. The United Kingdom too has supported that position. Of late, Western countries have come to the decision that the US and UK support the King while the CPN(M) is supported by India. But we should not forget the expression given by the US Ambassador in an interview that the "terrorist tag" on the CPN(M) can be withdrawn.

Q: What steps should be taken to make the present dialogue between the Maoists and the government successful?

A: Both sides should continue the dialogue, keeping in view the welfare of the Nepalese and Nepal, not in the interests of foreign powers. We should not create a situation even by mistake, that foreign powers can use Nepal as a strategic point in South Asia in order to surround China or to make Nepal a place of selling arms and ammunition. But the joint military exercise is being done by the US and Nepal on the Nepalese soil and it shows that India has plans to erect a Military Check Points in Nepal.

Q: What was the achievement of the joint meeting of eleven parties, including the CPN(M) that is going on at the present moment?

A: Five parliamentary parties movement against the Regression should have a meeting with all other left parties and the CPN(M) with the objective of convincing them to participate in this movement in order to make this dialogue a success. The issue is imperatively acute.

Q: Would you like to comment on the agenda recently forwarded to the government by the Maoists, that

they, as the struggling party should lead the all party government?

A: It is difficult for all the parties to accept this. It is not true that everyone succumbs to the powerful. The US military has won a military victory in Iraq, but the Iraqi people are not prepared to accept the US puppet government. The people of Nepal are not prepared to follow the lead because the objectives of the Maoists is not clear and there is a need for round table discussions and to agree as a first step to an interim government, general election, referendum, constitutional change or a constituent assembly, all these are necessary to implement.

Q: It is mentioned in the Maoist's agenda that it is the acceptance of the constituent Assembly, could you please comment on their agenda?

A: The agenda of the Maoist's constituent assembly unconditionally is not mentioned to the King or the welfare of the widespread masses is not clear at all. Whether the constitution is made under the constituent assembly or through the amendment to the present constitution, these are the conditions that must include the guarantee of employment and food, work according to the ability and wage according to the work, right to protest exploitation, nationalization of the means of production, forbidding Nepalese in owning property in foreign countries plus other needs must be ratified by two thirds of both houses of parliament and these should be written into law. But for all of these conditions, even the new constitution is liable to serve the interests of the feudal and the bourgeoisie on the one side and foreign monopoly capital on the other - which does not work for the well being of the people. ■

QUESTIONS ABOUT NEPAL TODAY

By REDMOND GUERRERO

In this issue of NSC, the majority of the editorial board decided to publish the interview "Nepal Today. Chairman Narayan Man Bijukchhen of the Nepal Workers and Peasants Party (NWPP) replies to questions posed by the newspaper 'Shramik'

The Workers." As can be inferred, I disagree with this decision.

Everyone who reads this journal is aware of the advancing people's war in Nepal led by the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) and its importance for the international proletariat. From that perspective alone, news from Nepal is welcome to help the non-Nepalese detachment of our class follow the situation and to clarify the situation for ourselves. Unfortunately, the above article makes certain statements that frankly I find so bizarre that I wonder if translation problems have crept in. In that light I think that it would have been better for the editorial board at least to hold off on publication to request for clarification from the NWPP which has been so kind as to republish in their newspaper various articles from NSC.

Anyway, the deed is done so the questions of clarification will have to be raised here.

Consider the following statement by the NWPP chair "on the 'People's Republic of Nepal' and the formation of 'A South Asian Soviet Federation' mentioned in the declaration forwarded by the CPN(Maoists)":

India is desperately trying to establish a regional hegemony in South Asia. Rising high above the European Union (EU), India wants to constitute a South Asian Soviet Federation under her security umbrella. That hegemonistic viewpoint of Indian monopoly capitalism had been protested from all sides. If the countries constituting the EU are of equal status in view of the land, population and strength, all the countries together in South Asia cannot be compared to India in view of the land, population and strength. For this reason, the sensitive Nepalese have been quite aware of 'A South Asian Soviet Federation' and 'Republic of Nepal' as declared by the CPN(M) and that declaration has been criticized even by the left parties.

This passage is filled with so much confusion that it raises at the very least the question that a translation error has occurred. At least I hope

that is the reason. First, it strains all credulity that India, ruled as it is by a bourgeoisie and landlord classes, will call for a federation of soviet republics. Second, assuming that the proletariat and peasantry of India do succeed in overthrowing the bourgeois-landlord state and establishing a soviet republic, would a federation of soviet republics be bad? In that situation, could there be Indian hegemony? Assuming a socialist society as this does, with the equality of all nations not only between the participating republics in this federation but within these republics also, including within India, the obvious answer is that how could hegemony be possible? The question is not really about size of geography or population or even of strength which partially rests on such factors but of social system. Surely the NWPP understands the difference between socialism and capitalism? As it stands, the passage above confuses the situation.

It basically alleges that the bourgeois India has somehow its hand in raising the red banner of socialism, of revolution and armed struggle against the bourgeois state, of equality between nations, awakened the proletariat to its historical mission, to gain hegemony under its security agenda? Or is the NWPP chair arguing that the peoples of the smaller countries in South Asia should not engage in revolutionary armed struggle because bourgeois India might intervene. But, is not Nepal already under Indian hegemony? Finally, does it matter that other parties are critical of the call for a future federation of soviet republics given the sordid parliamentary cretinism of most of the other parties and of their subservience to the absolute monarchy? All that criticism might suggest is that many of the various parties have unified with their bourgeoisie against the CPN(M) and the people's war. How does the NWPP propose to break absolutism both in its current open form and that with its veneer of electoralism as before, that is to say, of the monopoly of arms by the monarchy? Return to the old constitution albeit with paper constitutional guarantees even while the monopoly of arms rests with the monarchy?

Consider next the alleged comments by the NWPP on the CPN(M)'s proposal for a "Four Tier Governing system from village, town, district, regional and central level." They reject "regional governments in the present context" as it would provide for greater external influence in the internal affairs of Nepal. Well, maybe. Of course, the present context is that of absolutism. Assuming the current Indian hegemony over Nepal, and its support for the current King, it seems that a regional level against the centre would be a good thing. The point, however, is that the four tier governing system could not really exist in the present context of absolutism but only under a real democratic society that the people of Nepal are now creating through the people's war. That is the context of the proposal by the CPN(M). Furthermore, there is the question of the national minorities now under conditions of oppression in Nepal. A future socialist society would have to provide for a system of government that would give the national minorities equality with the dominant Nepali nationality. What the NWPP chair seems to propose against the Four Tier Government system is autonomy only at the local level. Of course, usually that would mean that national minorities would never gain equality as they exist beyond the local level and can only assert themselves with sort of regional autonomy beyond the local level. Local autonomy without regional autonomy while with central control under a dominant nationality would only further control by the dominant nationality of the national minorities.

As it stands, the way the NWPP chair puts it, India is a monopoly capitalist country, i.e., imperialist. It supports the CPN(M), as the NWPP chair repeatedly alleges, against US and UK imperialism which supports the King. Of course, the Indian bourgeoisie dreams of great power and India is a regional power. But to suggest that India can and currently does challenge US or UK imperialism in the region, that it is really that independent from them, strains credulity especially given the fact that the Indian government has come out supporting the King with the US and the UK against the people's war

and the obsequiousness of the Indian government to the US. The insinuation behind: "But we should not forget the expression given by the US ambassador in an interview that the 'terrorist tag' on the CPN(M) can be withdrawn"; should be repudiated for its infantilism. Is the NWPP chair not aware of the carrot and stick approach of the imperialists against revolutionary movements? That is, of their use of their "terrorist list"? Of applying the stick of 'terrorist tags' to try to draw them into a road of betrayal? Of counter-revolutionary dual tactics? Should not the revolutionary movement respond with its own revolutionary dual tactics? Of making use of the peace talks to gain maximum advantage for the people's war? Given that the people's war has reached a new unprecedented level of success, some even claiming strategic equilibrium, what should be the attitude towards peace talks? Or is the NWPP against precisely this that the CPN(M) use the peace talks to consolidate the revolutionary gains?

Fourth, what can we make of the complaints against the CPN(M) for proposing to lead an all party government? To be frank, I find these petty. Who initiated and leads the people's war? Who has aroused, mobilized and organized the Nepalese peoples in their millions and are now building a new society? Would it not be a betrayal of their duty to the Nepalese proletariat and peoples for the CPN(M) to propose otherwise especially given that many of the other parties are against the people's war? I think that it is clear whom the Nepalese people are supporting!

I hope that my concerns are misplaced. I hope that the bizarre statements in the above article are due to problems of translation. However, given the information that has come out of Nepal, it is hard to see that anything other than a people's war is going on there. In that light it is our bounded duty to extend all possible support to the proletariat and people of Nepal, to the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoism), to the people's war. We have faltered by publishing the interview of NWPP chair Narayan Man Bijukchhen as it stands without at least requesting clarification.

**RAPHAEL
MARTINEZ**



Joint Statement of the Communist Parties of Africa

The Communist Party of Benin, the Revolutionary Communist Party of the Ivory Coast and the Revolutionary Communist Party of Volta have met to examine the international political situation, concretely the situation in Iraq and in the Ivory Coast and the repercussion in the region.

The statement declared that the Ivory Coast has been plunged into a reactionary civil war since September 19, 2002. This is the most serious crisis that the working class and the peoples of the Ivory Coast as well as the countries of the sub-region, have faced since the formal independence in 1960.

The Ivory Coast is a French neo-colony that formally achieved independence in 1960. Like many countries colonized by France, colonization was replaced by neo-colonization, a new form of imperialist domination.

Faced with this reactionary civil war in the Ivory Coast, the communist parties who have signed the present statement:

*Denounce the reactionary civil war and demand an immediate and unconditional ceasefire.

*Denounce international imperialism, particularly French imperialism, and demand the withdrawal of their military bases and other foreign troops.

*Denounce the interference of Blaise Compaore and Charles Taylor and their mercenaries and an end of their support to the armed rebel factions.

The Communist Parties of Africa call upon the proletariat and peoples of all countries in region of West Africa to:

*Fight for popular sovereignty,

freedom and genuine independence.

*Solidarity and harmony among the peoples.

*Link their struggle against the civil war to the revolutionary struggle and the struggle for socialism. We call upon the international proletariat and peoples of the world to support struggles that the people of the region are carrying out against this reactionary civil war. ■

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U.S. - EYE ON AN EMPIRE

GHANA NEWS

The United States plans to use Ghana as one of its bases to boost its military presence in Africa to respond to "new threats" It will station 1,000 US troops in Ghana.

The Pentagon is moving at breakneck speed to re-deploy USA forces and equipment around the world in ways that will permit Washington to play a "GloboCop", according to a number of statements

by top US officials and defense planners.

While preparing some reductions of its forces in Germany, Turkey and Saudi Arabia, the US military planners want to establish semi-permanent and permanent bases along as giant swathe of global territory - increasingly referred to as the "arc of instability" - from the Caribbean Basin through Africa to South and Central Asia and across to North Korea.

The latest details were disclosed by the Wall Street Journal last month, with plans to increase US troops in Djibouti on the Horn of Africa, across the Red Sea to Yemen, set up a base in Algeria, Morocco and possibly Tunisia, plus establishing smaller military bases in Senegal, Ghana and Mali that could be used to intervene in oil-rich West African countries, particularly in Nigeria.

"We are in the process of taking a fundamental look at our military posture world wide," said Deputy Secretary Paul Wolfowitz on a recent visit to Singapore, where he met with military chiefs and defense ministers throughout East Asia about the US plans there.

Those plans present a major triumph for Wolfowitz, who already 12 years ago argued in a controversial plan called "Defense Planning Guidance" for realigning US forces globally so as to "retain the US pre-eminent responsibility addressing selectively those wrongs which threaten not only our own interests, but those of our allies and friends, or which could seriously unsettle international relations."

That same draft which was refuted by the first Bush administration, after it was leaked to the New York Times, also argued for a unilateral US defense guarantee to Eastern Europe, which will join NATO shortly. He also argued that US intervention should become a "constant fixture" of the new world order. With the proposed forward US bases located all along the "arc of instability", Washington can re-position its equipment and soldiers that would permit US to intervene with overwhelming force within hours of the outbreak of any crisis.

This is the same scenario that was in effect for the Caribbean Basin in

the early 20th century, when US intervention, stretching from Puerto Rico to Panama became a "constant feature" of the region until president Franklin Roosevelt initiated his Good Neighbour Policy 30 years later.

Retired US Admiral Arthur Cebrowski, Chief of the Pentagon's Office of Force Transformation, and Thomas Barnett of the Naval War College, argue that the dangers against which the US forces must be arrayed derive precisely from the countries and regions that are "disconnected" from the prevailing trend of US economic globalization.

"Disconnectedness is one of the great danger signs around the world and US needs these bases in the Caribbean Basin, virtually all of Africa, the Balkans, the Caucasus, Central Asia, the Middle East and Southwest Asia, and much of South East Asia. We have to get these "terrorists" where they live, in the "arc of instability" and prevent them from spreading their influence into the "Seam States" located between the Gap and the Core. Such "Seam States" include Mexico, Brazil, South Africa, Morocco, Algeria, Greece, Turkey, Pakistan, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia. These nations should play

critical roles, providing forward bases, for interventions into the Gap!"

The policy of these US Pentagon planners means that if *"these countries loosen their ties to the global economy, bloodshed will follow and American troops will come."*

It is very clear, if you look at the world map, that this "arc of instability" corresponds well to regions of great oil, mineral and gas wealth, a reminder again of Wolfowitz's 1992 draft study. The strategy of US imperialism is very simple – to prevent any hostile or competitive power from dominating a region whose resources would, under consolidated control, be sufficient to generate global power for the United States of America.

COMMENT:

Is there anything left to say? It's there in black and white and a reality! Fascism is fascism, no matter what label it tries to hide the truth under. It's the domination for the world's resources for US Imperialism and its plan of New World Order!

Maybe it is about time that all of the progressive press calls this US Evil Empire by its right name! ■

in Europe and North Africa that greatly impressed Washington and the top senior CIA personnel.

Critchfield was transferred to the Gehlen compound in Pullach, US German Zone of occupation. After a month or so of deliberation, he concluded that Washington would gain a substantial advantage over Moscow by annexing the "Gehlen Org" into the CIA. He recommended that the government do so right away and this was done.

For the next four years, Critchfield remained Gehlen's CIA handler in Germany. Then in 1952, the West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer chose Gehlen as the initial chief of the BND, West Germany's post war intelligence agency. Critchfield said that Gehlen – on his death bed 27 years later – thanked Critchfield for his vital assistance in the post-war period.

WAR CRIMINALS

Secret documents that were declassified by the then President Clinton of USA shows that the collaboration with ex-Nazis was not simply a marriage of convenience. It was more like a deal with a devil.

The documents showed that on the instructions of the CIA and Washington, Gehlen had hired and protected hundreds of wartime war criminals. There were many war time criminals that the Nuremburg trial named as war criminals and that were to be put on trial. These war criminals were not able to be touched by the Nuremburg trials since the US and its CIA was protecting them.

During the Cold War, these ex-Nazis CIA buddies fed the CIA and the US government a steady diet of misinformation that fanned the flames of East-West hostility, and thus Gehlen Org was assured of US patronage.

CRITCHFIELD OF ARABIA

Critchfield's CIA second fateful decision was in the Middle East, another flashpoint of Cold War tensions.

In 1959, a young Saddam Hussein, in cahoots with the CIA, botched an assassination attempt on Iraq's leader, General Abdel Karim Qassim. Hussein fled Iraq and hid out under the CIA's protection and

HOW THE CIA OPENED THE DOOR

TO EX-NAZIS: A CIA'S OFFICER'S CALAMITOUS CHOICES

By JERRY MELDON

Obituaries can barely scrape the surface of anyone's 86-year life. That's especially true for a very covert United States intelligence officer whose responsibilities for top-secret USA's decisions - and their unpredictable consequences - is very rarely acknowledged.

But long before he succumbed to cancer on April 22 of this year, at the age of 86, retired CIA official James Critchfield had owned up to two of his decisions that were so momentous that they still influence the course of international events. One opened the CIA's door to Nazis. The other cleared the way for Saddam Hussein's rise to power in Iraq.

Critchfield made the first of his fateful decisions soon after he joined

the fledging CIA in 1948. Three years earlier Hitler's master spy for the Eastern (Soviet) Front. General Reinhard Gehlen had surrendered to US forces. He then proposed a deal which was to the liking and benefit of US government. This clandestine agreement was not told to the World War II ally, the Soviet Union. In return for his freedom, he would turn over all of his voluminous files on the Soviet Union along with all of his former agents that were still scattered all across Eastern Europe.

Both the US Army, the CIA and Washington considered Gehlen a very hot potato. They assigned someone from the CIA to make an evaluation. That someone was James Critchfield, a highly decorated army Colonel who led wartime units

sponsorship.

By early 1963, Qassim's policies were raising new alarms in Washington. He had withdrawn Iraq from the pro-Western Baghdad Pact. He made friendly overtures to the Soviet Union, and revoked export oil exploration rights granted by his predecessor to a consortium of companies that were headed by the big US oil interests.

It fell to Critchfield, who was then in an extended tenure in charge of the CIA's Near East and South Asia division, to remove Qassim. Critchfield supported a coup d'etat in February of 1963 that was spearheaded by Iraq's Baathist party. The troublesome Qassim was killed, as were scores of communists who had been identified by the CIA.

Critchfield hailed the coup that

brought the Baathists to power as "a great victory". Yet the reality is that the coup d'etat further destabilized an Iraq that had survived on the edge of crisis since its creation as a British mandate, with arbitrarily selected borders, in the wake of World War I and the collapse of the Ottoman Empire.

The 1963 coup also paved the way for another momentous political development. Five years later, Saddam Hussein emerged as a leader in another Baathist coup. Over the next decade, he bullied his way in Iraq to power, eventually consolidating a ruthless dictatorship that would lead to three wars in less than a quarter century. All this was the work of the CIA and the policy of Washington.

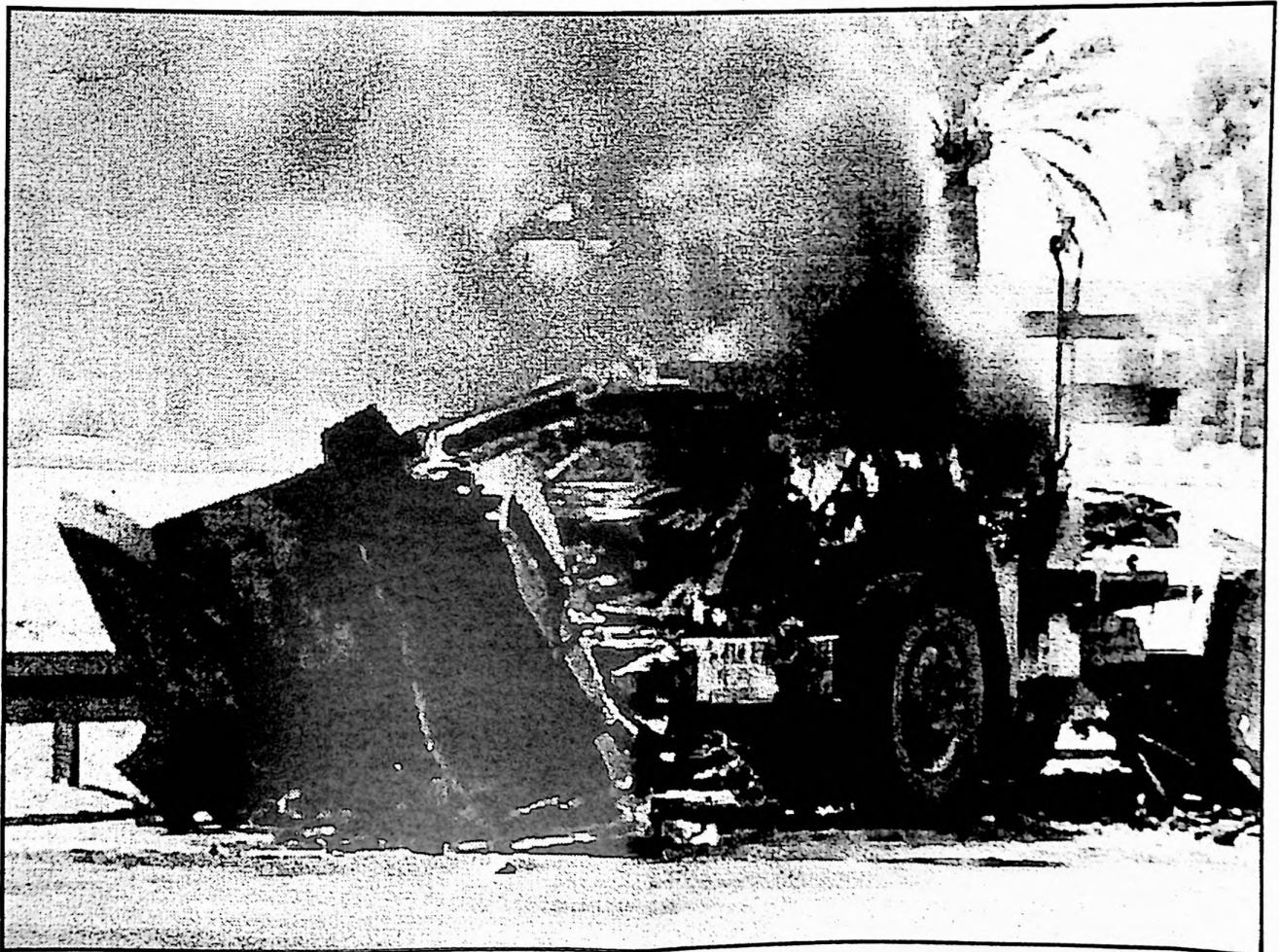
After invading and occupying Iraq

and ousting Hussein from power in April of 2003, US occupiers outlawed the Baath Party that James Critchfield and the unaccountable CIA cohorts supported, financed and built. As was true in many other "intelligence" US-CIA decisions, actions perceived to be short-term political gains turned out to be long-term calamities, leading to corruption, disorder and human suffering.

Today with the Washington information flow again tightly controlled and very short of factual support, Critchfield's choices are a reminder that un-elected officials, operating in secret as does the CIA, still make policy decisions- and that their actions can affect the lives of millions in the USA and around the world.

IT'S ONLY AN ENGINE PROBLEM?

A U.S. military truck burnt in Baghdad, Iraq, last June 19, 2003. No official cause for the incident had been provided by the US command. "It might have been an engine problem", said one US military spokesman. Of course it's engine problem, but caused by the Iraqis fighting back the US occupiers. But it sounds better if you say "engine trouble"!



JEW'S CAN GO AHEAD WITH SETTLEMENTS, SHARON SAYS.

By MICHAEL OPPERKALSKI
From ARAB NEWS

In a clear violation of the international peace plan known as the Road Map, Israel Premier Ariel Sharon said that he will allow construction of Jewish settlements to continue, the Israeli Ahronot daily newspaper reported last month.

The Jewish settlers can build in the settlements but they should not talk about it and go out after the granted permits. "Let them build without talking" he told his Cabinet last month.

Israel announced that it will not necessarily abide by a cease fire as is proposed by the US Road Map to Peace.

A senior European Union official called upon Israel to end its policy of "ongoing targeted assassination of Palestinians". The European Union Commissioner told the BBC radio that "Israel has been taking these measures of assassination for already a couple of years, but they haven't stopped the violence."

The Arab governments oppose the occupation of Iraq by US-led forces, and said that they will not cooperate with any government in Iraq unless it is chosen by the Iraqi people themselves.

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US AND BASES IN THE BALKANS

By GEORGE JAHN
The Associated Press

CONSTANTA-Romania.

US troops will soon use Balkan bases for training sites and staging points for interventions in the Middle East as the Pentagon wants to withdraw its 15,000 troops from Germany. NATO's decision to expand into Eastern Europe began many months ago and on the stop over a month ago in Bulgaria, US General Charles Wald, Deputy US Army Commander in Europe said that: "as NATO moves East our presence and our participation will have to be where NATO is!"

Balkan bases will have full time US presence even before the official NATO expansion. The Pentagon, according to Western diplomats wants to use the Romanian and Bulgarian training grounds in year-round programs that will have 3,000 US battle-ready troops there at any time.

US Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and other Pentagon officials have said that: "they want to shift US troops around the world to respond to any new threats."

Romanian and Bulgarian officials said that: "our countries are good jumping-off points for fighting any threats or terrorism. This is done in order to have a more agile force."

The move has the obvious overtones, after Germany and France refused to go along with the attack on Iraq....while the countries of former Warsaw Pact countries supported Washington....providing moral and some military support.

US consolidates siege networks against DPRK

Korean Central News Agency

The joint declaration issued last month by the USA, South Korea and Japan, means the consolidation of the siege network against the Democratic People's Republic of

Korea (DPRK). Judging from the background and the result of the trilateral meeting, it is the product of the US anti-DPRK policy, which has a purpose of internationalizing the nuclear issue. The meeting was said to consolidate the international siege network against the DPRK through aggressive acts - the Agency said.

The commentary by DPRK also refuted the "non-existent" drug-smuggling and money-counterfeiting cases of the DPRK, claimed by the joint declaration.

DPRK will use physical deterrent force to safeguard the country's sovereignty and safety.

"Rodong Sihmun", the organ of the Workers' Party of Korea, carried a signed article on the same day, denouncing the Bush administration of its attempt to bring out a new war on the Korean Peninsula.

USA, South Korea and Japan, after a meeting in Hawaii issued a statement, pledging to work together to settle the DPRK nuclear issue and US said that the participation of Japan and South Korea was "indispensable" in talks to break the impasse over the nuclear issue of the DPRK.

THE SECOND RAPE OF EUROPA

By ANA LUCIA GELABERT

About 17 centuries ago it was common belief in the then "civilized world" that a certain bearded god named gee-Zeus, or Jupiter, disguised as a bull, had abducted a nymph named Europa, out of love. Nowadays with the US "Christian Wrong" misruling, we suffer other myths: like calling our cutthroat police state a "democracy" and "secure" in which presidential votes no longer count; a tyranny which keeps in jail 2.2 million of its people and terrorizes the whole world, preemptively invading, on absurd pretexts, whoever it pleases in the permanent "War for Empire"; a society in which a very few who work the least, live luxuriously off the hides of the majority of the human race. Compared to these, whatever mythical white lies Virgil or Ovid told about the Olympians, now do appear

harmless.

Against that background, the Apocalyptic Beast's unquenchable thirst for **all the world's oil** scored a new mark by starting construction of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) pipeline: cost US \$ 3 billion, a 36-inch tube that is extending 1,750 kilometers, to carry one billion barrels (135, 000 MT) daily, at least 12 billion barrels (1,600 million MT) of crude over the 40-year estimated life. This project is managed by the British Petroleum, which owns 30 per cent, alongside other oil giants, mostly American. Awhile back, when the Baku-Ceyhan tube was proposed, it was said to "provide a safety margin for NATO's oil needs", against evil Russia and leaving her in the cold. But today "the heart of Europe" (France and Germany) seem to repudiate the USA Beast's advances, especially wherever petroleum is at stake: so, "safeguarding NATO's oil needs" might be less of a concern. Hence the new rapture, with British help?

The stench cannot be blown away, of clear bribery (though a paltry \$65 million per year, one per cent of the cost of the transported oil) is the right-of-way royalties to Georgia and its "flamboyant" president, the ex-"communist" Eduard Shevernadze; who quickly approved the deal, despite strong opposition by the Georgian Environmental Minister Nino Chkhovadze, who decried that the "PTC pipeline application had not met even the basics about the environment!"

An important point, since Georgia, right in the bulk of the Caucasus and its geological fault, which is most active seismically; a pipe rupture would threaten one of Europe's most pristine water sources. It would be much safer and cheaper to build the pipeline to the south of Georgia, through Armenia and the Kurdish areas of southern Turkey. The environment be damned: more vital to imperialism is to by-pass "trouble spots" like Armenia and Kurdistan, besides of course Russia and Iran. Never mind that the US Fuhrer's ostensible admiration for the "brave Kurdish freedom fighters" in Iraq: in the long run the Turkish police state is a far more reliable ally.

Few miles south of Tbilisi, in the war-ravaged Iraq, no surprises as

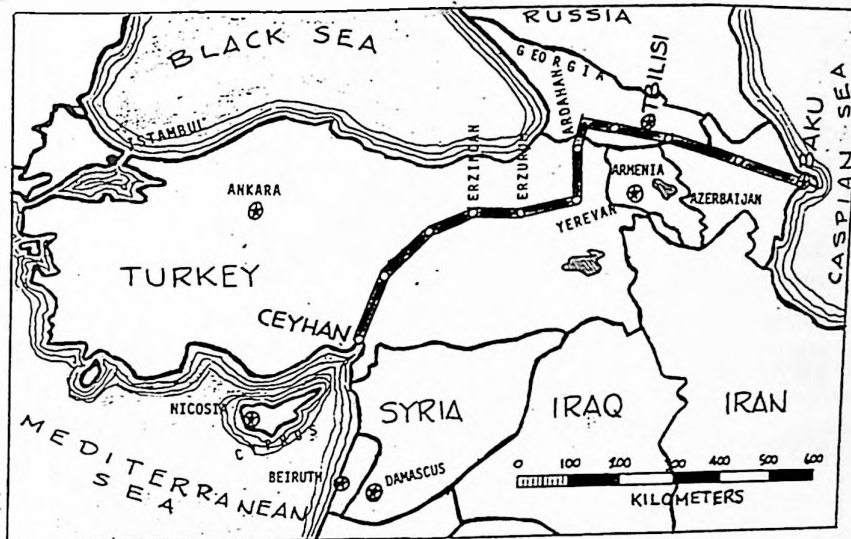
"US giants" Bechtel, Haliburton, Fluor, Schlumberger scoop up billions, and with the absence of any formalities like tender or bids, to rebuild what the U.S. Wehrmacht wantonly destroyed. Ostensibly to capture the Weapons of Mass Destruction which now, alas, nobody can find. Perhaps US Bechtel's juicy \$700 million "starter contract" – an obscene "cost plus" basis that the US officials themselves admit will wind up costing many times that sum – it probably includes a clause that

they should find the WMD'S?

WMD's anyone, anywhere? After other US contractors decried the priority choice of Bechtel et al., and without public notice or bids, Bechtel was quick to point out that it would subcontract 90 per cent of the work of reconstruction: saying: "There will be room at the trough for everyone!"

Well, there you have it, from the giant pig's own mouth.

Based on articles in the Forbes magazine, June 23, 2003.



THE BAKU-TBILISI-CEYHAN PIPELINE
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THE PRICE OF GLOBALIZATION THE MINIMUM WAGE

From OREAD DAILY

In Bulgaria, nearly 1000 workers at the idled Turgovishte-based defense plant TEREM continued their protest last month and signed a petition to the Bulgarian government, its President Povanov and Prime Minister Simeon Saxe-Coburg, demanding that their outstanding wages be paid. "We shall not resume working until our demands are met" the petition reads. Earlier the executive of TEREM ordered that all the protesting workers be fired. He said that the workers haven't been paid wages because the plant was implicated in illegal arms exports last November.

Nonpayment of wages is not an uncommon problem in Bulgaria – or in many other countries around the world. Tens of millions of workers

around the globe are being deprived of the fruits of their labor for months, even years, on end. Today, in capitalist Russia, the wage debt in the public sector is put at \$1.17 billion dollars. In Ukraine, the total arrears in 2001 alone were 30 per cent more than the country's monthly wage mass. Five million workers in Ukraine are now no longer paid regularly. In Moldova, payments to workers are delayed as much as two years.

In Bulgaria the wage debt increased sevenfold between 1991-1996, then doubled between 1997 and 1998. In Belarus, unpaid wages in 2001 accounted for 7.5 per cent of the wage mass. Africa has also been hit hard by this phenomenon, to the point where some have described wage debt as Africa's other epidemic. (SISA is the French term for AIDS. French speaking Africans bitterly joke that the same initials stand for *Salaire Impaye Depuis des Annees – Wages Unpaid For Years*).

In Latin America, wage debt is also on the rise. According to the Brazilian government, wage arrears consistently account for the largest number of labor law violations. More than 50 per cent of all cases brought! Finally, unpaid wages in China (supposedly the model of a booming economy -Editor) run into billions and billions of dollars.

Meanwhile, workers at the troubled Bulgarian textile factory were left stunned when their bosses offered to pay them in jumpers instead of cash. Bosses of the Montana Textile Factory put forward this proposal after 100 workers in this foreign-owned factory staged a strike, demanding payment of back wages. The workers unanimously rejected this offer.

Sources: *Novonite (Bulgaria)*, *Bulgarian News Network*, *Jut-Style/AROQ-ILO*. ■

FORD GENK 100 YEARS

The following comments were published on June 18, 2003 by "DeWaarheid.nu" in regards to the 100th Anniversary of the Ford Motor Company and pertaining to the Ford factory in the Belgian city of Genk. Translation from Dutch by Vic Ratsma.

The Ford workers can be proud of what they have achieved over many years in the factory in Genk, because they alone have made this enterprise what it is today. And if the Ford Motor Company can celebrate its 100th Anniversary, then that is only because of the hundreds of thousands of workers who have laboured day in and night out for 100 years. All the riches of the Ford family and of their shareholders who claim for themselves today, is the result of the labour of workers, and of no one else.

And what is their reward for this milestone event? They have to pay money in order to attend a barbecue in Genk to which they have been invited. The only gift that they get is a book about the history of Ford. It is full of praises about Henry Ford as though he is a "great benefactor of humanity". But he was no more than a hard-fisted and hard as nails businessman, with only one goal: to make maximum profit from the labour of "his" workers. He didn't

hesitate to conduct business with Hitler in Nazi-Germany, who personally came to the Berlin Auto Show in 1936 to admire the latest Ford models. And in 1938 Henry Ford was even honoured with a high decoration, bestowed on him by the German consul in Detroit. Ford admired Hitler because he had succeeded in eliminating the trade unions. And Hitler admired Ford because he assisted in supplying the German Army. Ford did not only deliver trucks, tanks and airplanes, but also supplied Hitler with large quantities of strategic products like rubber, oil and other petroleum products. It didn't matter to Henry Ford that Hitler was a fascist. Business is business. Unfortunately these historical facts are not to be found in this book that the present Ford directors offer to their workers.

Source: *(The myth of the good war. America and the 2nd World War, pages 26-27 and 116-117.)* ■

TAMIL PLANTATION WORKERS FIGHT FOR RIGHTS IN SRI LANKA

By CHRIS LEE

Father Guy de Fontgalland, a Sri Lanka Roman Catholic priest and author of *Social Development of Poverty in the Plantations of Sri Lanka*, recently visited Melbourne, Australia. He spoke to *Green Left Weekly* about the situation faced by the Tamil plantation workers.

The plantation workers account for over 8% of Sri Lanka's population. Their ancestors were brought from India by Britain in the 19th century to work in the tea, coffee and rubber estates. Today these people live in semi-slavery, being unable to get jobs outside the plantations due to lack of education. They are the lowest paid of the work force, receiving a basic wage of only \$2 per day (121 rupees).

There are 68 unions on the plantations, but most of them are "yellow unions" bribed by the owners. A new "red union" - The Workers Development Society has over 3,000

members and it has already called a number of strikes and held pickets.

Around 52% of plantation workers are women. As a policy by this "red union", 50% of the executives of this union must be women, unlike other "yellow unions" which are male dominated.

Of Sri Lanka's 1.5 million Tamil population workers, 300,000 have been denied citizenship, even though they were born in the country. When Sri Lanka became independent in 1948, the parliament, which was dominated by the racist politicians of the dominant Sinhalese nationality, deprived the Tamil population voting rights.

In the 1948 elections, the plantation workers voted for the left wing parties which promised to defend their rights. By 1972, the two main left parties betrayed the Tamil workers, by forming an alliance with one of the racist Sinhalese parties and joining the government.

De Fontgalland spoke about the peace process which last year resulted in a cease fire between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam and the newly elected United National Party government. For 20 years the LTTE had been fighting for self-determination for the Tamil population in the north and east of Sri Lanka. Tamil communities in these areas, unlike the plantation workers who were brought over from India, have lived in Sri Lanka for thousands of years.

The struggle continues and the division in the society, the Catholic Church, Buddhists and the People's Liberation Front are divided as to the peace process and the continuation of the civil war.

Imperialism knows how to divide and rule!

COLOMBIAN ARMY TROOPS GANG RAPE 4 ADOLESCENT GIRLS

From ANNCOL

Soldiers from the Colombian Army have attacked the indigenous Guahibo reservation in oil-rich Arauca department. The witnesses reported that the soldiers raped a pregnant teen age girl, then cut up the teen's belly, cut up her unborn

baby and threw the mutilated corpses into the river. Three other members of the Guahibo community were also butchered.

On May 5 the National Colombian Army troops raped four adolescent girls and massacred four other people. The Colombian troops called these inhabitants terrorists and also accused them of belonging to and helping the left guerilla groups that are waging war against the present US supported Colombian regime.

The commander of the troops responsible for these many atrocities is the US-trained General Carlos Omairo Lemus Pedraza, who graduated from the US Army School of the Americas (SOA) in 1978.

COMMENT:

We suggest that Bush start the campaign in Colombia to have an immediate regime change! Sorry! We are absolutely wrong! To change the Colombian regime, you have to change the regime in Washington at the same time! But, would God approve of this change?

SPAIN EXTENDS ITS MILITARY PRESENCE IN IRAQ

By Keith Lee - Kominform

In breach of its often-repeated assurances that it would not do so, the Spanish Government recently announced that it shall contribute 1,100 soldiers to an already 8,000 strong military force to be deployed in central Iraq by September of this year. This brings to 2,000 the total number of Spanish troops in Iraq.

This force will be under the command of a Polish General Andrzej Tyszkiewicz. Poland will be contributing 2,300 soldiers and Ukraine will send 1,100. Alongside these troops will be units from Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary and Lithuania. The Spanish newspaper El Mundo reported that three Latin American countries, El Salvador, Honduras and the Dominican Republic will provide a further 1,100 troops.

The 8,000 troops will serve in the Polish-controlled zone of Iraq,

between the British and US sections. The zone will include cities such as Karbala and Nasiryan. Spanish Defense Minister Federico Trillo said that the overall command of the unit would be rotated "in some months time."

This multinational force, under the command of a Polish general, fulfills an important political role for the Bush administration. Poland is subordinate to the United States politically and depended on it for financing the operation, but this command is meant to create an illusion that Iraq is not an American protectorate. The US Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld welcomed Spain's decision to participate, stating: "We are pleased that Spain has decided to send a significant number of troops", while NATO's Secretary General Lord Robertson called it a "bold decision".

The escalation of Spain's military role contains political risks for the Spanish Government. At home it has already faced opposition to the war in Iraq, with millions taking part in the anti-war demonstrations. Now the Spanish troops face the possibility of becoming embroiled, in partnership with the USA, in what is turning out to be a classical colonial-style war of repression. US forces have launched counterinsurgency operations to quell the Iraqi armed resistance and growing hostility from the Iraqi people.

Until now, Spain's military role has taken place under the pretence of "humanitarianism", but this no longer can continue. Its troops in Iraq will now be used to protect the very lucrative spoils of war and the Spanish government expects some sort of payback.

US President Bush recently announced that he would like Spain's large Izar shipyard to build eight submarines promised by US to Taiwan. Originally this order was to have gone to a German shipyard, but this has been put on hold. A former US military officer said: "Bush is going to do whatever he can for Aznar (Spain's Prime Minister) to thank him for his support for the war in Iraq...this (contract) could be seriously considered because of the relations between Spain and the US, this is obvious".

Spain's second largest oil group,

Cepsa, has announced it will buy one million barrels of oil from Iraq which will take place under the terms of a contract signed by the Iraqi state marketing company, SOMO, and a consortium of European, Turkish and US firms.

The first Iraqi oil export contracts had been awarded last month and will be allocated on the basis of recommendations by SOMO. The contracts will be for one million barrel-lots. These will largely come from Iraq's oilfields, but light oil will come from Iraq's southern oilfields. The US controls as to which of its friends get the contracts, not Iraq or anyone else.

The policy of the forthcoming new Iraq administration can be summed up by this statement made by the Iraqi Ministry of Industry and Minerals: "Privatization is the right decision for the 21st Century!"

There's no need to further comment. It was OIL in the first place!

A LETTER TO THE SOVIETS FROM MIAMI-USA

FROM
MIAMI, FLORIDA
USA

Dear friends:

When are you going to realize, our dear Soviet brothers and sisters that the only way you can save and protect your Motherland and the people, is with unity and solidarity? Are you going to wait until NATO headquarters will be established in Moscow? Don't you really prize the independence and security that you had?

It seems to me that all of those that oppose this unity with different excuses are either fools or traitors.

Tomorrow might be too late dear comrades. Now is the time for Soviet patriotism and selflessness.

Oh those blind people that don't want to see how close The Teutonic hordes are!

Cordially
Joaquin C. Pedrosa

We couldn't have said it better ourselves! The Editor

JERRY MORSE



AS I SEE IT!

FROM AUSTRIA

Working class participates less and less in the spending of tax money. Benefits from natural resources such as oil, gas, wood, metals, agricultural products decline in the whole of Europe. Related educational rights, industrial, telecommunications are eroded. Job security is set aside in order to protect investors in their application of the US global corporate agenda. Emissaries such as General Powell are sent to Europe, his briefcase filled with all kinds of deals (*such as was done in Poland where US imperialism is in effect controlling the whole country and making Poland buy US useless military hardware, plus getting Polish soldiers to do their dirty work in places outside of Poland.*)

US expansionists want to destroy the European Union economic growth. Ten countries are going to be joining NATO in 2004. The idea is to force the European countries to downsize, close more and more factories and enterprises, so that USA's monopolies can supply them products, while they own the natural resources. They want to control transportation and energy by having them all privatized.

US Ambassadors are spreading the message in these countries that *"We have gone as far as we can!"* This is unprincipled, dishonest, as was shown in Iraq and, with billions spent on war preparations saddled upon the working class in search of future US enemies.

Opposition to US expansionism is very strong in Europe, but it needs international working class solidarity to stop US imperialism. There are general strikes in France, Italy and in

other countries, demanding tax reform and jobs.

The international working class is awakening and should say that: *"The working people too have gone just as far as we can!"*

World politics are cursed with USA's Phony Pony Wild West Gangs. Charging down the gullies of illegalities, shooting off their mouths, they puritanize nations who did not agree with the conquest of Iraq.

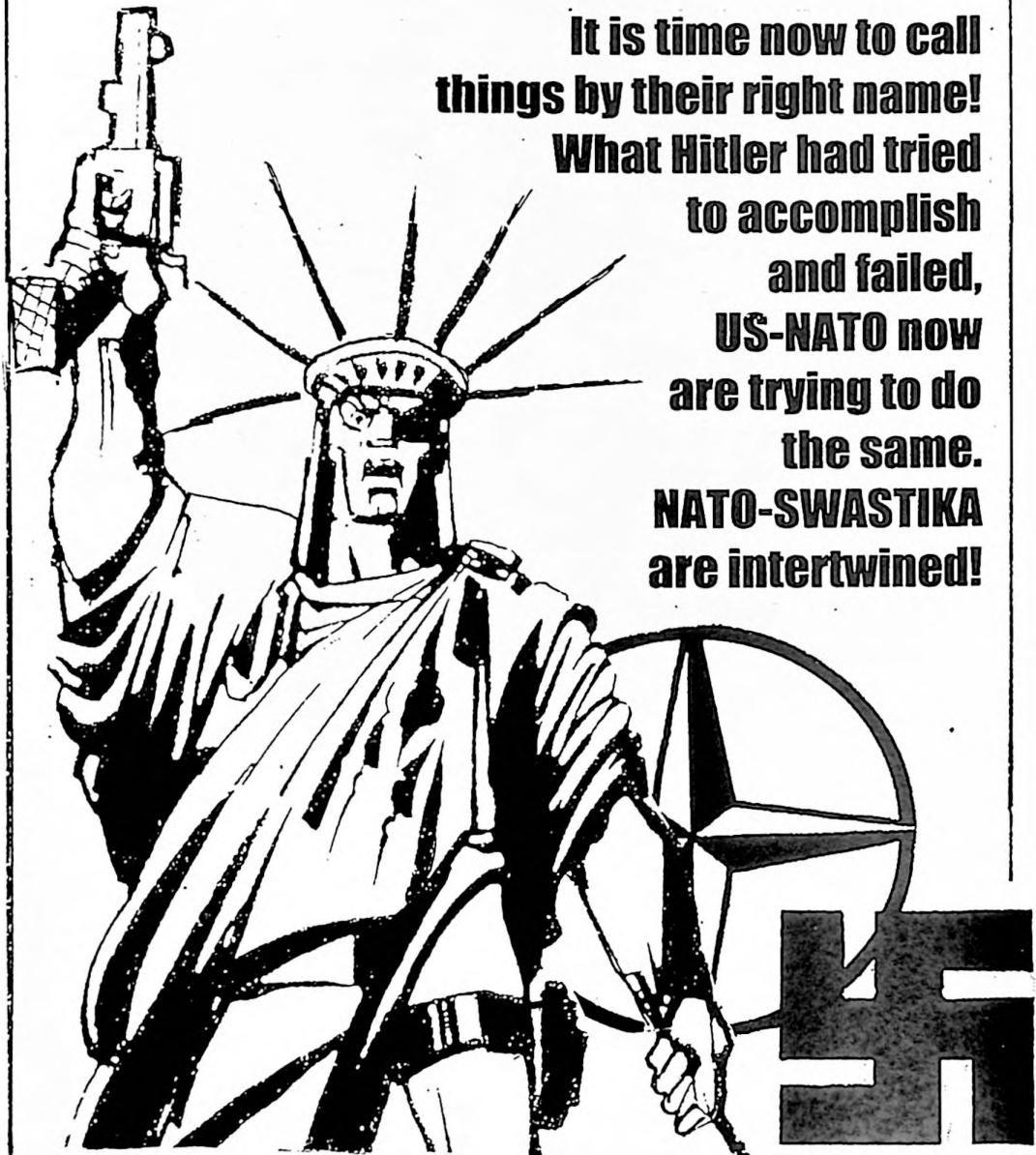
Cowhands Bush, Rice and their forty outriders, scooped from Washington's think-tank manure piles, cannot understand as to why Europeans don't allow these Phony Pony Gangs to ride rough-shod over their dignity, nobleness, common sense and economic rights.

Plots on Boot Hill Cemetery have already been allocated for these European countries. Dividing Iraq's

and other Middle East countries resources, threatening governments and making sweetheart deals as war criminals with other war criminals, is the style of these wild west gang of robbers and murderers. These gangs believe that they have the US Constitutional right to kill anyone that gets in their way.

But, the days of reckoning are coming closer and closer. The international working class is organizing and will arise to get rid of these gangsters and, the people now see that there were no Weapons of Mass Destruction in Iraq. People are beginning to see through this mirage of Americanism.

In Europe the roads toward unity and socialism are being slowly built. The curse on world politics encompasses no testaments. ■



**It is time now to call things by their right name!
What Hitler had tried to accomplish and failed, US-NATO now are trying to do the same. NATO-SWASTIKA are intertwined!**

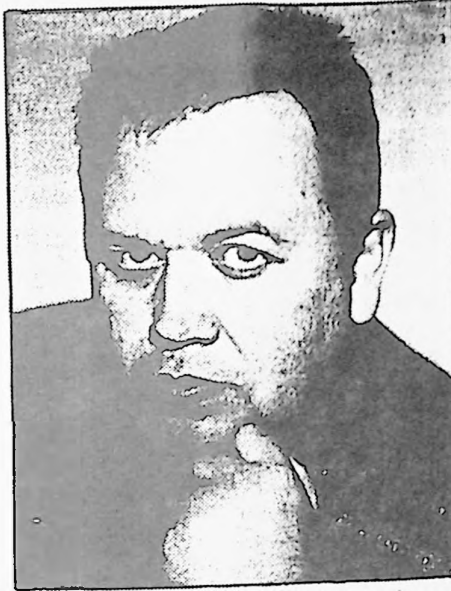
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM
VLADIVOSTOK
Isolation Block #25
RUSSIA

Dear comrade Lucas:

I am sending you my sincere thanks for your and your comrades dedicated work on behalf of the Russian political prisoners, for brotherly caring about our revolutionary struggles. You are one of a few living across the ocean who correctly write, analyze and project the truth of the struggles of the communists across the world about our national liberation struggle, for the reunification of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

I live and breathe with your energy and your strong as steel dedication against all odds, in order to publish your monthly journal, Northstar Compass. For me it is like a breath of fresh air in my solitary cell, in this fascist jail of Yeltsin and Putin.



I promise you and your comrades, that we the Soviet revolutionaries and Communists will overthrow this occupying regime. Jails just make us that much stronger and more dedicated before the final conflict.

Igor Gubkin

FROM
ANCASTER
CANADA

Dear comrades:

I would like to thank you for Northstar Compass journal which I am updating, and for the supplement by Mario Sousa "Lies Concerning the History of the Soviet Union". It is very timely and comes to me just when I was looking for such an article for my research into theoretical work concerning Stalinism. Keep up the good work and best wishes and health and happiness for all at Northstar Compass staff and its contributors.

In solidarity,
David Rennie

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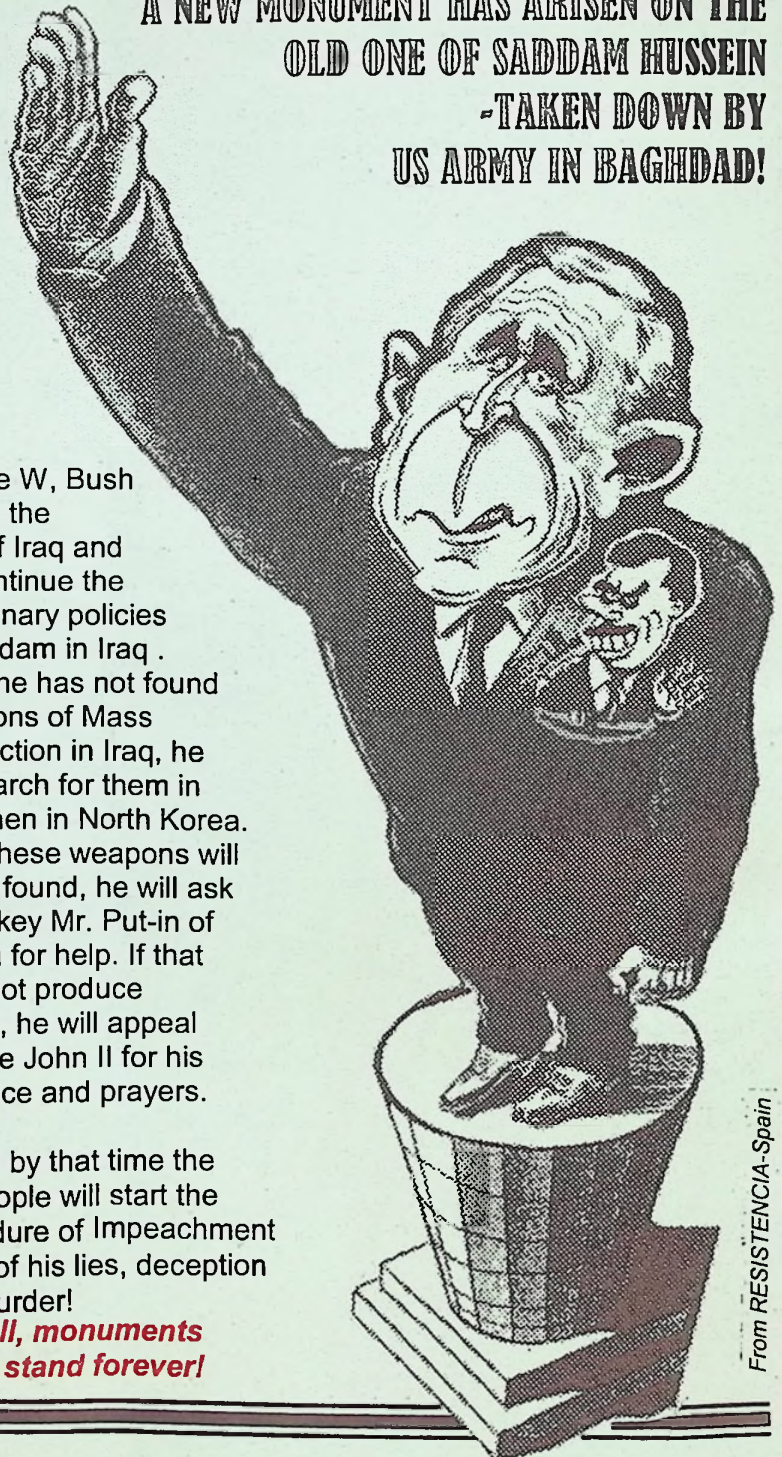
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**A NEW MONUMENT HAS ARISEN ON THE
OLD ONE OF SADDAM HUSSEIN
-TAKEN DOWN BY
US ARMY IN BAGHDAD!**



George W, Bush now is the King of Iraq and will continue the reactionary policies of Saddam in Iraq . Since he has not found Weapons of Mass Destruction in Iraq, he will search for them in Iran, then in North Korea. If still these weapons will not be found, he will ask his lackey Mr. Put-in of Russia for help. If that does not produce results, he will appeal to Pope John II for his guidance and prayers.

Maybe by that time the US people will start the Procedure of Impeachment for all of his lies, deception and murder!

**After all, monuments
do not stand forever!**

From RESISTENCIA -Spain