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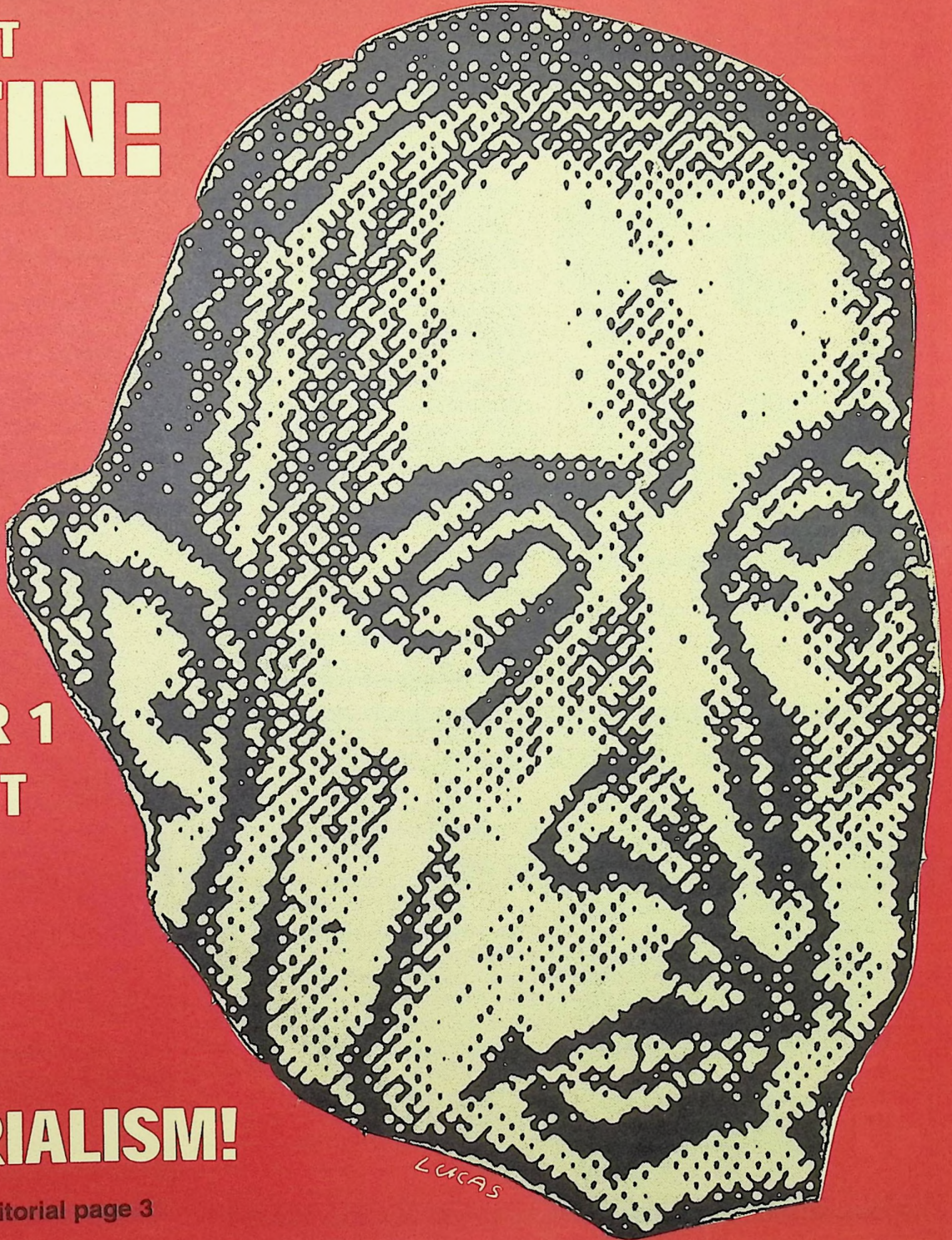
northstar compass

ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH SOVIET PEOPLE - VOL. 10 #11 AUG. 2002

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PRESIDENT PUTIN:

NUMBER 1
SELL OUT
ARTIST
TO
U.S.
IMPERIALISM!



See the NSC Editorial page 3



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E.F. Revolutionary Marxist Organization A/Synchia - Greece

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Executive Committee of the International Council and Editorial Board of Northstar Compass Statement to Putin

Sir:

We are aware that your government has imposed the conditions of non-registration and de-facto illegality through the offices of your Department on the Russian Communist Workers Party-Russian Party of Communists. We are well aware that this repressive action was taken during the time when the arrangement for the President of the United States of America, George W. Bush to meet with President Putin of Russia. In view of the accelerating repression of human, political and civil rights and freedoms taking place under the secret or proclaimed agreements fostered and put in place by the Presidents of both countries, we express deepest alarm at this fascist like curtailment of political freedom in your country. It is impossible not to see the action of President Putin and the actions of President Bush to drastically curtail the civil rights and strengthen the police-state powers of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in the USA, are totally cut from the same cloth. It must be seen as part and parcel of Russian President's abject agreement to disarm both the democratic and military forces of the Russian Republic under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) agreements that were reached at the above mentioned meeting in the capital city of Moscow.

We state to you in the strongest possible terms that these actions, beginning with the de-facto outlawing of the Russian Communist Workers Party, are unwarranted policies, designed to create a world wide condition of military, political and economic hegemony for monopoly capitalism under the false banners of "globalization". Clearly, the United States of America is the

dominant force, with Russia and the former Soviet Republics as well as other countries, reduced to mere satellites. All are now human resource areas with subservient peoples playing the role of abject lackeys of American Imperialism. First, in this depraved monopoly controlled exploitation are the oil resources. The world-wide hoax and assault by Imperial powers of the United States of America, Great Britain, Germany, France, Italy and Canada, as the foremost powers of the NATO war pact, comes at a time when world-wide monopoly capitalism confronts its own deepening General Crisis on every side.

It now seeks absolute guarantee rights to exploitation of natural and human resources. Ironically, and with the deepest sadness we recall to you that was precisely the world-wide war aims of the 1937 Anti-Comintern Pact, led by the Nazi regime that cost more than fifty million human lives. Need we remind you that of all those victims of unbridled aggression by monopoly capitalist aggression of Germany, Italy and Imperial Japan, more than twenty five millions were your fellow Soviet citizens.

Should this have escaped you, President Putin and your government's attention or memory, may we respectfully bring this to your recollection. We are sure, we join with a majority of citizens of the dismantled republics of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

We demand, in solidarity with all humanity, now confronted by growing crisis on every hand, that



the policies of oppression and destruction of political, economic and social rights and freedoms be reversed, and the fundamental democratic rights and freedoms of all citizens of the dismantled USSR be restored!

WHAT IS ECONOMICS?

"A science invented by the upper class in order to acquire the fruits of the labor of the underclass!"

August Strindberg

MATTERS OF SCALE

US military spending on the war in Afghanistan

-at least \$2.5 billion

US government spending on emergency humanitarian aid to Afghanistan

-\$0.320 billion

Wholesale price, per pill, Bayer Corporation charges for the anthrax-fighting antibiotic Cirpo

\$4.67

Approximate price that generic drug makers say that they could profitably charge for making the drug

\$0.40

From World Watch Magazine

FREEDOM...AFTER 25 YEARS AS A POLITICAL PRISONER IN SPAIN

Dear comrades:

I received, very gratefully the last three issues of NSC. Until now they have reached me indirectly, since they were sent to me by comrades in Madrid. As probably you know, I'm entrusted by my party, the PCE (r), to choose and translate into Spanish the articles from NSC that are of greatest interest. The objective of this work is to provide our Spanish comrades, with the widest possible view of the important work that you are pursuing the struggles on the streets, with the widest possible view of the work that you are carrying out in the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People, as well as to deepen our knowledge about the real situation in the world revolutionary and communist movement, a theme to which special attention is paid on the pages of Northstar Compass.

This work I have been carrying out already for a couple of years, and it is very helpful for me that you took the initiative to send me NSC directly, this saves time and the Spanish comrades can be informed faster.

In the April issue I was able to read about the work of the comrade Mate Zalka who attended the World Congress. As you were informed, it is possible that after 25 years of imprisonment, my release to freedom might take place on August 25 of this year. Due to the very broad international campaign around my case, I have a great number of commitments to fulfill in the first months of my freedom. One of these, is to visit you, in part as a "vacation" after my prolonged stay in prison, and in part, to meet personally people such as you Michael Lucas, who are carrying out an enormous work of solidarity with the worlds revolutionary and communist movement, with those, who are fighting in the former USSR for the



rebirth of the Soviet Fatherland and Socialism in those former republics.

Two years ago I began to study English in order to help translate your NSC journal, and somehow in prison, with no teaching facilities, I was able to translate many articles from English into Spanish. I feel that even with my small understanding we shall be able to communicate effectively. Despite the barrier of language, we all speak a common language of socialism, of the love for our class and our peoples, of the struggle for the victory of our communist ideals.

Included in this letter is the Table of Contents and Introduction of a book that I finished recently, titled "Now and Onwards" (Punto y Seguido) (Memories along the road.) It is a political autobiography, in which I have tried to reflect the process which I myself have followed in the development of my communist ideals. Therefore, more than anecdotes about my life, one can find on its pages analysis and evaluation, from a communist and class perspective, of the major events that have taken place in the

last fifty years at the international level and the history of our own party, the PCE(r) and of our movement in the anti-fascist resistance. Many of the pages of the book are dedicated to our activity in prison. I am continuing our struggles for socialism, we continue our contribution to the general struggle of the working class and peoples, subjected to the fascist Spanish state. The tradition of struggles within the prisons of the imperialist bourgeoisie is very rich in our country and in the whole international communist movement. We have always tried to continue this tradition and, on the pages of this book, one can find many examples of this.

In case you comrades are interested in reading this book, it is possible to get the complete text of the book (by e-mail), by getting in touch with the following address: socottorojo@hotmail.com

Both I and my two comrades imprisoned here, send you our warm salute of combat, and our best wishes that may continue advancing on firm bases along the road that you have taken up for so many years already.

A strong embrace

Francisco Brotons Beneyto
Centro Penitenciario de Sevilla II
41007 Seville
Spain

We shall welcome you gladly to Canada comrade and, we certainly urge our international readers to send via e-mail messages of solidarity. We also urge you to take a look at his book which will go down in history as a classic from prison for future generations of fighters for socialism and communism.

INTERNATIONAL CALL TO LAWYERS IN EUROPE AND IN THE WORLD

Esteemed colleagues:

The motive of this appeal is to inform you about the upcoming judgment in Paris, France against

five militants of the PCE (r)- the Spanish Communist Party (reconstituted) amongst them is the General Secretary Manuel Perez Martinez and other two members of the October 1st Anti-fascist Resistance Groups (GRAPO).

They were arrested in Paris, France, on November 9th, 2000, following the orders of Judge Brugiere. We are worried about the possible criminalisation of all political activities and the elimination of the most elementary freedoms in the European Union, the group of 29 Spanish lawyers took upon themselves their defense and help the French lawyers in their defense.

It is unbelievable that these militants of a Spanish political party are able to be arrested in France, where the party has no membership or jurisdiction!

This French judge has an agenda, which he fulfills on behalf of his masters and has held these Spanish citizens in jail for over 16 months and has not even allowed them representation or visits by their family or relatives and is holding them in isolation and even a brother of one of the Spanish prisoners, who went to try and visit him, was himself arrested.

We, as lawyers are worried that the French Jurisdiction, acting very silently is going to commit an attack on the right of association. The French lawyers are barred from presenting their defense. If this is allowed to go on, there will be repressive regimes imposed in Europe, opening this to future political persecutions.

We ask for your international help!
Spanish Defense Lawyers

We ask our readers to get in touch with progressive and human rights lawyers and ask them to come to the defense of these Spanish political prisoners.

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

OPINIONS EXPRESSED BY
CONTRIBUTORS ARE NOT
NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE
EDITORIAL BOARD

GUEST EDITORIAL

STATEMENT BY THE RCWP-RPC

"Fascism begins with anti-communism"- these words were recently heard in the Russian Duma from the Nobel Prize winner Zhores Alferov. He is a member of the Academy of Sciences and a Deputy. Alferov warned the people of the dangerous symptoms of the present brown politics in the actions of the pro-government (*Putin*) faction, who have been inciting an anti-Communist hysteria in the Russian parliament. Today we can perceive these symptoms practiced politically by the Russian State organs.

On May 16th, the Ministry of Justice rejected the registration application from the Russian Communist Workers Party-the Revolutionary Party of Communists.

Ministry officials were frightened by the statement of the RCWP-RPC Charter, according to which the **principal aims of the RCWP-RPC were to form public opinion in the spirit of scientific communism, advocating the necessity of a revolutionary (i.e. fundamental) transformation of the social order with the view to establish the dominance of public property of the means of production and, thereby to provide an all-round, free development and well-being of all the individuals.**

The free development of all members of society left the Justice Department unhappy, and they found that a *"Revolutionary Party' aims at a violent change of the constitutional order, compromises the integrity of the Russian Federation."*

Setting up such parties is unlawful, said the zealous Russian Justice officials, referring to the term where revolutions is defined merely as a violent, forcible overthrow.

The Ministry of Justice officials declined the explanations that the term *revolution* in the broad sense, means a fundamental change, a qualitative leap to a more progressive system. In their desire to serve the propertied strata, they

are fully prepared to declare a scientific and technological revolution as an anti-constitutional process.

This way, we can once again see the confirmation that the bourgeois jurisprudence is by the will of the ruling class made into law. The legal guarantees to the proprietors are above all.

Our party was registered by the Ministry of Justice more than 10 years ago and has been acting in accordance with the Charter and Programme, whose positions and principles are equivalent to those presented to the Ministry now. It took part in the parliamentary elections, where it received support from millions of citizens and came out as the leading political foe within the extra-parliamentary opposition.

The RCWP-RPC and its Central Committee states that the Ministry of Justice is overtly using the procedure as a pretext to **"clean-up"** the left wing and to force the true Communist opposition out of the political life.

This is but a direct manifestation of fascism. Usually what follows is the ban on the Communist ideology itself and then the book-burning. This had already happened in the past, and how the ban imposers and burners were to end up is also widely known.

RCWP CC states that the party will not move away from its path and dedication and will fight for the workers rights against creeping fascism!

We shall not tremble at traversing the road we have chosen!

*Russian Communist Workers Party –
Revolutionary Party of Communists
CC - Co-Chairmen Viktor Tiulkin,
Antolii Ktiuvhkov,
CC Secretaries - Yuri Terentiev,
Boris Yachmenev, B. Glagoleva*

**GET YOUR FRIENDS
TO SUBSCRIBE TO
NORTHSTAR COMPASS!**

NSC EDITORIAL ANALYSES

GEORGE
GRUENTHAL



Dear comrades and friends,

At the time that the Palestinian people are fighting a life and death struggle against Israeli Zionist aggression, all revolutionaries, anti-imperialists and democratic forces must do all they can to support their heroic struggle. It is, therefore, unfortunate that at this time it is necessary to spend the effort to criticize certain wrong positions put forward in the lengthy article "The Zionist Movement" by Dr. Ammar Bagdash, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Syria, that was printed in the April 2002 issue of Northstar Compass. These positions must be criticized, however, both because they are incorrect in themselves and because by their erroneous character they undermine support for the just struggle of the Palestinians, other Arab people and all progressive forces against Zionism.

The author correctly relates Zionism to imperialism, since it is part and parcel of the domination of monopoly capitalism. At the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century, some Jewish members of the bourgeoisie in Europe and the U.S. decided that they wanted to have their own share in the colonial division of the world. After considering various parts of the world for Zionist colonization (including even Argentina and Uganda), they finally settled on Palestine. As they were too weak to carry this out on their own, they did it in conjunction first with Britain and later the U.S., the imperialist masters in that area. Taking advantage of the German Nazi imperialist attempt to exterminate European Jews during World War II, and the stateless position of many European Jews after the war, they pushed forward their scheme to colonize Palestine

and then form a state of Israel. This, of course, could only be done in true colonial style, by massacring the Palestinian people and driving them out of their homeland. These massacres are continuing today with Israel's massive invasion of the West Bank and Gaza.

Dr. Bagdash's main error is that he elevates Zionism to the main role in relation to the leading imperialist powers. He speaks, for example, of "Israel, Headquarters of World Reaction" and of "Gorbachev's Perestroika - Climax of the Zionist Conspiracy." He also states that "Zionism is the biggest enemy of the world revolutionary movement." This is quite a discovery since until now all revolutionaries internationally recognized that the biggest enemy of the world revolutionary movement was imperialism, especially U.S. imperialism.

Let us first look at the relation between U.S. imperialism and Israel in the Middle East. For over 50 years, the U.S. has been supplying Israel with billions of dollars of aid, in particular military aid. Currently this amounts to over **\$3 billion a year**, the most "aid" to any country in the world. All the planes, helicopters and tanks that Israel has used and is using today against the Palestinian people come from the U.S. Israel would not have been able to exist for one year, much less for over five decades, without the support of U.S. imperialism. The U.S. has used Israel as its tool, first against the Palestinian people and then against the peoples of the other Arab countries. U.S. imperialism has always been concerned to keep the Middle East, with its huge oil resources and strategic geographic position, under its control. While it also relies on reactionary Arab regimes such as the monarchies of Saudi Arabia and Jordan, it knows that Israel is a much more stable partner in the region because the majority of Israel's Jewish population supports Zionism, which has provided them with land on another people's territory, and with a standard of living comparable to that of the imperialist powers.

Israel has also been used as a tool of U.S. imperialism in other parts of the world. For example, in the 1980s, the U.S. was openly providing military aid to the counter-revolutionary military forces in Central America, which were carrying out massacres against the popular forces. When this intervention became too embarrassing to be carried out openly, the U.S. instead channeled the funds to these same forces covertly, through Israel.

It should be clear that it is Israel that serves the interests of U.S. imperialism, in the Middle East and worldwide. It is the U.S. dog that wags its Israeli tail, and not the other way around.

To return to Dr. Bagdash's article, the author also makes the error of believing that Jewish capital dominates the monopoly capital of the major imperialist countries. He states that in Britain as well as in the U.S. and France, "the financial monopolies dominated by Jewish capital came to occupy the pre-eminent place in their economic life as reflected by members of the Jewish-dominated Masonic lodges, settling into influential political positions." At least for the country where I live, the United States, this is simply not true. The majority of the monopoly families, such as the Rockefellers (who despite some misconceptions are Episcopalian, not Jewish), Morgans, DuPonts, Coors, etc. are mostly of British stock, as were most of the original settlers. Certainly Jewish monopolists form a share of this class. In certain fields, such as the bourgeois media, they may form a larger share - such as the Sulzbergers of the *New York Times* and Zuckerman of the *Daily News*. However even here it is wrong to speak of the "Jewish media," as the examples of the Hearst Corporation and Ted Turner of CNN show. But most importantly, the Jewish and other capitalists in the U.S. are well-integrated into the Anglo-American ruling class. It is wrong and un-Marxist to speak of "Jewish finance capital" since it puts the ethnic origin of individual capitalists above their class position.

Dr. Bagdash repeats this error in talking of Russia's new class of monopoly capitalists. He states: "In

general, the keys to power in Russia, as Russian (*Soviet*) patriots say, are now centered in the hands of the 'Gang of Six' that rules absolutely the life of the country. This gang is a Zionist billionaire gang composed of Chubais, Baturin, Berezovsky, Livshits, Yasen and Putanin" (p. 31, c. 2). Again, these monopolists are part of, and integrated into, the Russian monopoly capitalist class, and do not pursue "their own" class interests. It is also worth noting that the political representatives of the new monopoly capitalists, beginning with Gorbachev and including Yeltsin, Putin, Yakovlev, etc. came out of the revisionist CPSU. They were not anti-Soviet or anti-socialist "dissidents."

Following from these errors, Dr. Bagdash constantly jumps from attacking Zionism as a political ideology to attacking Jews as an ethnic group. He states that "today the name of Jews is linked to Zionism in spite of the existence of individuals like Meier Vilner, Noam Chomsky and Israel Shahak" (p. 32, c. 3) Also, he states: "As is known, in general the sectarian ties binding a Jew with other members of the Jewish religion are the strongest ties he feels and he subordinates all other relationships to loyalty to his Jewish identity" (p. 26, c. 3). First, it is incorrect to emphasize this ethnic/religious identification as if its nature is different for Jews than for other ethnic groups. Moreover, we thought, along with other Marxists, that human beings of all nationalities and ethnic backgrounds have their strongest ties to their class, and that *in the long run* this class interest will override any national or religious identity. This is not by any means to ignore the strength of bourgeois ideology among members of the working class, and in particular the strong hold that Zionism has among Jews, including Jewish proletarians and progressive and even revolutionary-minded Jews, whether they are in Israel, the U.S. and probably other imperialist countries as well. In the current anti-war movement, it is necessary to struggle against both a social-democratic outlook and Jewish nationalism to get otherwise progressive Jews to give full support to the Palestinian liberation movement and the heroic

intifada. This is largely because Israel carries out its reactionary aggression in the name of "all Jews worldwide," just as Bush carries out his "war on terrorism" in the name of the "American people." But this is no reason to blame Jews as such for the crimes of Israeli Zionism, any more than it is correct to blame the people of the U.S. for the crimes of U.S. imperialism.

Dr. Bagdash includes a supposed quote from Karl Marx stating that "the Jews as a capitalist factor existed before the emergence of capitalism as a system,... and when capitalism gains predominance, the Jew occupies by right the preeminent position in this system" (p. 26, c. 1). It is impossible to verify this quote since the author gives no source, but on its face it appears to be a forgery or at best a quote from an early, immature, pre-Marxian Marx. This is not the only apparently fraudulent quote that Dr. Bagdash uses. Further on in his analysis, he quotes from a speech at an alleged secret meeting by "the well-known Polish Zionist Jakob Berman" in 1950 (p. 28, c. 1). For those who do not know the individuals in the Polish communist movement, Berman was one of the leading members of the Polish Communist Party (later the Polish United Workers Party) during the Stalin period, who continued to defend Marxist-Leninist principles after the revisionist takeover of Poland down to the Solidarity period. One can only conclude that the speech is a forgery and that to speak of Berman as a "well-known Zionist" is a slander.

Finally, Dr. Bagdash states that "It is therefore not strange that Jews came to occupy preeminent positions in the reformist currents within socialist parties that called for harmony with capitalism. The vast majority of Menshevik leaders that fought against the Bolsheviks in the Russian Social Democratic Party and viciously fought the Leninist revolutionary current were Jews. It suffices to mention a few names in this connection. Martov (Tsederbaum), Leon Trotsky (Bronstein), Lieber Dan, etc." (p. 26, c.3 - p. 27, c.1). He similarly mentions the Jewish names and origins of other traitors to the

Bolshevik revolution, such as Zinoviev, Kamenev and Bukharin. Comrades, this is a anti-Marxist method of struggle. In all their polemics with the various opportunist, revisionist and traitorous currents, Lenin and Stalin never discussed the ethnic origin of any of their leaders, as this is immaterial to their political errors and treachery.

If positions such as these were put forward by someone without an understanding of classes, imperialism and the class struggle, someone who had only heard Israeli propoganda that is a "Jewish state," such positions, though still incorrect, might be understandable. But for one who holds a leading post in a Communist Party, this is not excusable. It is a deviation from Marxism-Leninism to petty bourgeois nationalism.

**Down with Imperialism, particularly U.S. Imperialism*

**Down with Zionist Israel, Client of U.S. Imperialism!*

**Long Live the Heroic Intifada!*

**Long Live the Struggle of the Soviet People for the Re-Establishment of the Socialist Soviet Union!*

**Workers and Oppressed Peoples of the World, Unite!*

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF NSC SEPTEMBER 22, 2002

September issue will be a special number devoted to 10 years of publication of NSC devoted to friendship and solidarity with Soviet people and the resurrection of USSR and of Socialism!

The event will be celebrated in Toronto, Canada with a banquet, guests, cultural program.

Messages of greetings and solidarity will be appreciated and published.

Donations to NSC on this occasion will be very warmly welcomed.

NEWS FROM THE SOVIET UNION

MOSCOW ON MAY DAY

It is only natural that on this International Day of Workers Solidarity, that workers march on the streets with their slogans and demands, together under the red banners and flags in one massive unified column. That's how it was this year in the majority of cities and villages of Russia.

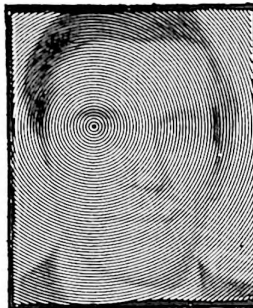
But it was different in Moscow- the leader of the capitalist reforms in Russia and other former Soviet republics. Having liquidated the economic potential, built up a huge assembly of banks, both internal and foreign ownership, many offices, magazines, small bins selling merchandise, this capitalist regime has formed instead of a working class, as it was under socialism, has turned Moscow into a trading city of business speculators. The voices of the workers that are still left have a hard time to be heard among these bourgeoisie.

This is why the workers of Moscow marched in three separate columns on this May Day.

One marching column, coming to the Vasilevsky section, right near the Red Square, was composed of the party that favours the present regime, called "One Russia" with the pro-regime trade union FNPR. In the first ranks of the march, there was Mayor Luzhkov of Moscow, going side by side with the leader of this pro-regime trade union Shmakov.

The meeting of these "whites" (judging by their colours and slogans) was about 140,000 marchers. This was accomplished by the purse strings of the state and, also by the city of Moscow, and each participant got paid for his or her participation. In order to show the state loyalty to these "while" trade unions, etc. the Moscow authorities allowed them to march right on the Red Square. Thanks to these so-called trade union elite bosses, they showed their absolute loyalty to the

V.N.
CHECHENSEV



present regime and are partners in reforming the last remains of socialism into capitalist robbery.

(It seems that these so-called trade union leaders have learned well from the AFL-CIO in the USA- Editor)

The other "rose colour" marching column was organized by the CPRF - Communist Party of the Russian Federation- As is well known now, the policy and actions of the CPRF in the Russian parliament Duma, was of complete cooperation with the Putin regime. The CPRF leadership tried to present itself to the people that nothing out of ordinary did take place on this May Day, that the CPRF and its allies are the only movement that is there to be the loyal opposition to Putin-Graff.

This agitation had its results, and on the October Square here they gathered, about 50,000 people. The weather was fine and the CPRF leaders certainly did not look or behave like they are leading workers. The marchers were greeted by the leader of the CPRF, Gennady Zyuganov.

Of course, the CPRF is not lacking in finances also, some from sources that are still unknown, can get the masses and publicity of the Russian media to bring out maseses of people.

But you cannot make comments on only the number of people that can be turned out, but you can only judge this party by its slogans, its demands from the present regime, but since Zyuganov always states tat "Russia has reached its limit of revolutions" this is just what the regime requires from these leaders who are in actual fact prolonging and extending the life of this present capitalist regime of Russia.

The columns of the CPRF marchers were also filled with the adherents to Victor Anpilovs "Trudovaya Rossia", which somehow does not fit Anpilovs revolutionary rhetoric and program.

There was another marching May Day column (about 1,000 people) that was solidly united under only red banners, Soviet flags and revolutionary slogans. They also met on the October Square. This column was composed of the representatives of the RCWP-RPC, RPV-CPSU, AUCPB, KPS, RCUY (B), RNK, Congress of Soviet Workers, Farmers, intellectuals and service workers, Movement for the Defense of Children and other communist organizations and movements.

The smallness of all of the participating marchers of this "red column" was caused by the complete media blockade of any publicity or announcements especially those issued by the Russian Communist Workers Party-Russian Party of Communists as the leading party in the Russian Union of Communist Parties. Besides this, the Moscow authorities started a campaign that there are gong to be extremists and bombs on May Day in our columns. Then on May Day there was an extraordinary police and security personnel, to add to the trauma, scare tactics and intimidation.

What was very characteristic is that into our Red Column there came and joined workers who are members of the Union of Workers of Moscow. They said that their place is in the column of dedicated workers and defenders of socialism, not in the "parade conscious CPRF" who support the present capitalist reforms.

Let the "Moscow Komsomolets" cry and deride the Red Column marchers as it did on May 4th that the Red Column was composed of old diehards and of speakers boring speeches and longing for the old days, etc. Of course this Moscow correspondent of the "Komsomolets" did not like the speeches or listen to the tremendous Revolutionary Square, the fiery speeches. But to the marchers this was a tremendous uplifting experience as to the power of the working class, feeling the strength and unity of the world

working class fighting together with them for a new world and socialism.

(It is interesting as to why this vicious publication "Komsomolets" which carries the glorious name of the Soviet Young Komsomol League, and this newspaper was its organ...you would think that this being the mouthpiece of the Putin regime, being anti-Communist to its core, but still carries the name of Komsomolets! Of course, this is the policy of lies and the reporter that covered this "Red Column" is nothing more or less than a prostitute —the only difference is that this "Komsomolets" journalist sits while the prostitute takes a different position. — Editor)

This tremendous feeling was evident when Vera V. Osinceva from city of Rovno, Ukraine appeared on the speaker platform. She is the mother of the young Nadezhda Raks, member of the RCWP-RPC. The mother spoke of how she is proud of her young daughter who is a political prisoner and how she remains true to her Communist ideals, socialism while being held in prison. ■

AFTER A VISIT BY BUSH TO PUTIN...

As you can see Bill, each one of us has his Monica!



CLINTON



BUSH

As you ca see Bill, each one of us has his Monica!

FOR A UNION AND FOR THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE UNION

We are informing you comrades that last April 11 in Byelorussia, the authorities approved and a peoples unity organization "For Union and for the Communist Party of the Union", which stands for the following tasks: to realize the Resolution adopted to unite Byelorussia and Russia, to strengthen this Unity and Union, and to accept into this union all other former Soviet republics, to "give rebirth to one Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Members of the U CPU support the proletarian line in the all union communist movements, take part in the work of the Union of Communist Parties-CPSU, headed by O. Shenin, and are against any nationalist-communism, Gorbachevism and social-democratic policies.

The official publication is the newspaper "Vernost" (Loyalty).

Please send us regularly NSC an other materials, so that we can cooperate together.

L. Shkolnikov

Secretary-Coordinator of U CPU ■

US TROOPS SETTLE IN AT THE UZBEK BASE

BY RICK ROZOFF –
Russia Journal

KHANABAD- Uzbekistan. According to the Associated Press the US forces worked to restore the air base and expand its post office services to deliver tons of mail to US soldiers deployed in Afghanistan.

This is one of the most secret US bases in the former Soviet republic of Uzbekistan, being a forward base in the anti-terror campaign, but, the American troops, although the fighting in Afghanistan is practically over, the American troops show no sign of getting ready to leave this Central Asian outpost.

Uzbekistan as the first Soviet republic to offer a military base to the US. There were at first only 1,000 Mountain Division troops there, arriving last October 2001. These US troops are officially only supposed to be engaged in humanitarian and research-and-rescue missions and Uzbek President Islam Karimov said that their numbers have not gone over the agreed upon 1,5 00 troops.

However, during a visit to the base by the US Republican Curt Weldon, the number of US troops at this base is now over 5,000.

Weldon, a senior Republican Party member from Pennsylvania brought good wishes from the American children and cookies that they collected and praised these troops for saving the world from terrorism.

But, despite the decrease in action in Afghanistan, it doesn't look like the troops are preparing to pack up. Digging, leveling and buildings going on in various parts of the base, raising clouds of dust into the air.

Uncle Sam is digging in for a long stay. ■

RUSSIA CAPITULATES TO NATO

While Putin and Bush had a love-in in Moscow lately, with Putin selling out lock-stock-and-barrel to Uncle Sam and NATO, many Russian commentators called it a sell-out!

Viktor Kulikov, former head of the Warsaw Pact, warned that even during World War II, the West turned out to be an "unreliable" ally of the Soviet Union. He was the head of the Warsaw Pact from 1976 to 1989, and he called USA an "adversary".

Most of the Russian people remain wary of NATO and according to the latest poll, majority of Russians view this alliance as a great threat to Russia and all former Soviet republics. ■

CONGRATULATIONS!

Dear Michael and NSC comrades:

Because of your tremendous support of the Soviet people in their fight and struggle with the present regime, you were awarded the Stalin Medal on the 120th Anniversary of the birth of J.V. Stalin and the journal Northstar Compass was awarded the Jubilee Medal of Marshall of the Soviet Union Zhukov. These awards were given by the Permanent Presidium of the Congress of Peoples Deputies of the USSR.

We Soviet Communists greatly appreciate your work and your dedication.

Oleg Shenin
Union of Communist Parties CPSU ■

On the Threat to National Security of Russia

Statement of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation (CPRF).

Russia's position in the world is rapidly deteriorating. The foreign policy of president Putin and the oligarchs who stand behind him threatens the very existence of the country. Reliable allies have been sold out. Russian bases in Vietnam and Cuba, vital for our country's security, have been closed. American soldiers have entered Central Asia and Georgia. Soon, the US aircraft will land at the airfields of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. The CIS and Russia have already been proclaimed the sphere of the US vital interests. The strategic encirclement of Russia is being completed with the full consent of Mr. Putin and his team.

Russia's defense capability is being purposely undermined. The policy of Putin-Kasyanov regime makes it impossible to maintain combat readiness of the armed forces, even at a minimum level. Under the pretext of its reduction, the army is being openly destroyed. The size of our army will soon go down to that of Turkey, which, unlike the Russian army, is equipped with modern weapons.

Our Russian army did not receive modern weapons for 10 years. The Navy is being destroyed. Today military pilots have no fuel for training and the Navy, for sea exercises. For the first time in the history of Russia, the officers' privileges earned for protecting the Motherland with their lives, have been taken away. The pride by our space research – the orbital station MIR – was drowned. In Baikonur, the world's largest space engineering complex is now collapsed.

The special services of USA and their allies are allowed to penetrate all corners of our country. They are



GENNADY ZYUGANOV

trying and are infiltrating their agents of influence into power structures of Russia. Pro-American forces are openly seeking complete control over the Foreign Ministry, the army and the security services.

The present Russian leadership does not need honest security services or a strong national army. They need mercenaries only, who are able to suppress any protest of the dispossessed people. The military "reform" moves in this direction. Here the interests of the ruling groups of Russia and USA completely coincide.

The West has no need to occupy our territory, as the Russian authorities prepare to sell the land to foreigners. The USA has no need to bomb our factories, for our "reformers" have already strangled whole industries and continue to sell the rest of the state property at miserable prices. America has no need to intimidate our people, as the Russian TV and media became a

weapon of moral decomposition of society and of psychological terror.

The elections in our country have turned into a farce and are only needed to consolidate the rule of the anti-Russian forces. The planned sale of all power stations and railroads will result in the loss of Russian sovereignty. Washington had no needs to push the Kremlin to new destructive "reforms". Extremely radical approach has prevailed there anyway.

The class character of Putin-Kasyanov regime that serves this layer of oligarchs, who seized public property is quite obvious. The servile attitude of the present presidents of the Kremlin to Bush confirms their readiness to serve the US masters.

America does not hide its pursuit of world domination, But presently it is blocked by the existence of Russia with powerful missiles and nuclear potential. That is why Bush was so persistently "courting" Putin, who is now visibly turning into a dependent junior partner and is now highly encouraging these USA's global ambitions.

The treaty that was signed on the strategic potential, is a program of unilateral nuclear disarmament of Russia. 1,5 thousands of warheads, which Russia will be allowed to have, is exactly the number of the US anti-ballistic Missile system that will be available in the US to intercept. Destructive privatization of Russian factories plus the scientific base of Russian strategic defense has already been almost completely destroyed.

At the same time the USA power is growing. The American military budget for 2004 will now reach astronomical figure of \$400 billion dollars. The USA will retain almost intact all of their nuclear forces. Simultaneously they have started to develop the Anti-Ballistic Missile System. American weapons will very soon appear in space and then they will be directed at all "unfriendly" countries and peoples. New systems of the precision weapon are being developed.

Russia is one of the main targets of these so-called "pariah" states. The USA has publicly declared that Russia, together with China and a number of other countries are still targeted by the US nuclear forces.

Completely false partnership of the White House and Kremlin in the struggle against the "international terrorism" (as a rule sponsored by secret services) in no way reduces the animosities of the West towards our country. The military superiority of the USA is growing; the security of Russia is rapidly deteriorating. Drastic weakening and eventual destruction of the Russian nuclear forces will open the way to unrestrained US state terrorism directed against the entire world.

Planned admission into NATO of the Baltic and East European countries presents a great danger to Russia. NATO armies will reach the borders of Russia. The tragedy of June 1941 again becomes possible. The Nazi Germany aggression against the USSR was preceded by the enslavement of all of Eastern Europe and the invasion of heroic Yugoslavia. Today this scenario repeats itself almost completely.

The creation of the Russia-NATO Council is a deceit, needed to deprive Russia of the will to challenge the new expansion of the NATO alliance to the East. In this "Council", Russia will have no voice on any serious issue. At the same time, NATO will get the right to interfere into the internal affairs of Russia. This unnatural union of the Kremlin and NATO will worsen our relations with China, India, the Arab countries and Muslim world. This will also alienate countries of Latin America and Africa. (This creates conditions of into NATO.)

Major decisions in the military-strategic areas were made in the Kremlin without any consulting brotherly Byelorussian Republic. This contradicts the spirit and the letter on creating a Union of Byelorussia and Russia.

The total passiveness of president Putin in the face of the approaching catastrophe confirms the loss of the state's will, and his inability to protect Russia's interests. We condemn this treaty on the reduction of strategic potentials and the agreement on partnership with NATO as sharply weakening the security of Russia.

Our security cannot be ensured without removal from power of the present ruling group. We demand a formation of the government of

national interests, capable to unite all the people and to take the country out of this deep crisis. We call on all citizens of Russia to express their will on this issue vital to each person, and to each family.

In the history of Russia more than once there were times, when it was facing mortal danger.

"Time of Troubles" with Polish warlords in the Kremlin... Napoleons' invasion and also Hitler's aggression. Each time Russia came out of the ordeals, revived and much stronger.

In the XXth century the Soviet Union led by the Communist Party became a world power that ensured not only its own security, but also the balance of forces in the world. Our banners are covered with unfading victories. We believe in Russia. We are convinced that it will liberate itself from the yoke of the global capital and its stooges, and will restore its role in the world.

COMMENT:

An excellent Statement by the CC CPRF and long overdue.

If you read this carefully you will find something obvious that is missing in this CPRF appeal to the people...the words "Socialism or the resurrection of the USSR!"

Questions come to mind, such as:

**Why did Gennady Zyuganov, in the presidential election against Yeltsin, knowing full well that he won, was the first to congratulate Yeltsin on his "victory" instead of calling the people into the streets?*

**As the leading opposition in the Russian Duma, why did the CPRF faction not strongly condemn, refuse to concur, boycott the Duma when the sell outs were in progress?*

**Why did many numbers of CPRF members of parliament vote for some of these Yeltsin's and Putin's horrific laws?*

**Why was this statement made by the CC CPRF that, "The CPRF is the loyal opposition"?*

**Why did the CC CPRF take off its masthead the words "Workers of the World Unite"?*

**Why is there not yet, after almost 12 years, a united Communist Party, based on real Marxism-Leninism or a United Front to kick out the present regime, which obviously cannot be achieved by the toy of capitalism – the bourgeoisie Parliamentary Road to socialism?*

SMALL DEMON

From newspaper
VOICE OF A COMMUNIST

As was reported by the newspaper "Nezavisimaya Gazetta", there was shown in Moscow a special film, called "Our Gorbachev Today- 10 Year after." The hero of this film again raised the question of the reburial of V.I. Lenin from the Red Square Mausoleum. Gorbachev said that the earth should claim the body of Lenin, but he asked that no one should "make a sensation out his proposal."

Well, as the saying goes, "only the grave will straighten out the hunchback". It seems that it's not enough of all the political damage that Gorbachev did, at a time when he could have done some good. Since that time he is constantly trying to heap abuse and vile accusations even more to play havoc in the dismembered ex USSR.

Two years ago, this "former" reported in great details about some of his trips into foreign countries, where he bragged that the "death of Communism was my main goal in life."

At that time I wrote an article, directed at Mikhail Gorbachev. He threatened that he was going to bring me to trial in an International Court for defamation of character! What character?

After that, we saw how Gorbachev and his entourage of shady characters, such as Yakovlev, Titova, Popova and others - who today are very slavishly kissing the hands of Putin as they also kissed the hands and other parts of Boris Yeltsin...trying to form some kind of a United Social Democratic Party and, this showed in fact what the social-democrats of such ilk are capable of.

And now - it is V.I. Lenin whom Gorbachev wants to quickly rebury! Gorbachev would not be Gorbachev if he would not try to institute, attack, connive and try weasel his thoughts out and try also to bamboozle people into a corner. On this question, he held a special interview, by the Nezavisimaya Gazetta in Moscow, where he tried to back-track his proposal to rebury Lenin's body and

do away with the Mausoleum on the Red Square: "My remarks were just in answer to a question...you cannot take my answer as a demand and a course of action. I said and I meant that we should follow the Orthodox faith and tradition and give Lenin's body to the Earth where it belongs." Of course this is what Gorbachev demands and proposes.

But he continued further: "I feel (he tries to back track, this Judas) that this should take time. We have to be very careful about this act and the role of history, because Lenin is part of that history." And further on he stated: "We are at this time critical of



Lenin and his policies. Therefore we have to do an analyses, we should not rush into this."

But by who and when will this deed be accomplished?

"I feel that life itself will bring us to this question - that we must rebury Lenin. Maybe this will be done by our next generation - they will decide this question in a more peaceful way. Of course I cannot give you an exact date. But I can say that this decision will be made by the future generation."

But here is the clincher: "It does not matter in what form this volatile question will be raised, it is bound to become a "hot issue, a hot match", thrown into a kerosene lamp." **This is certainly the truth!**

Isn't Gorbachev himself lighting this match? Wasn't this question taken up as the torch by a certain TV personality Parfenov? This intellectual on his own TV program NTV, (April 7, 2002) with all bombastic might his eyes demanded over the airways that "we must take

out the Lenin Mausoleum also On what grounds? Because there is a popular café near GUM store, standing on Red Square and right across from the Mausoleum!"

All this would be laughable if it was not for the ongoing intellectual campaign. No matter how this will be resolved, the fact will always remain, that in the role of a provocateur was and is a Small Demon - whose name is Mikhail Gorbachev!

Alexei Prigarin

TRADE UNIONISTS BEATEN AT RUSSIA- EU SUMMIT

From International Solidarity with
Workers in Russia

Over two dozen people have been arrested during a protest in May at the Russia-UE Summit in Moscow. The rally was declared illegal at the last minute and violently broken up by the Putin's private goons, the OMON riot squad. The arrested include V. Petrov, the co-ordinator of the independent Union Zashchita, I. Budaitskis, leading campaigner against the new anti-union Labor Code and the Chechen war, and S. Sychev, union leader of the large GPZ enterprise in Moscow. Scores of demonstrators have been injured.

Slogans at the rally included anti-capitalist, anti-racist and anti-war slogans as well as specific demands to end foreign debt payments, against the new Labor Code (which effectively imposes a 58 hour working week in Russia), and against enforced rises in rent.

Colleagues of the arrested trade unionists believe that the rally was violently broken up in order to save the Russian government from embarrassment at the time when Russia is negotiating closer co-operation with its number one trading partner, the EU and NATO.

Please send your protests by contacting the Moscow police, demanding that all charges are dropped and that the detained protesters are released.

The address of the police station is:

Russia - Kharmovnik 119048 -
Moscow
Usacheva St.
Telephone and fax numbers are:
(7095)245-0104 and (7095)145-2426

Also, we ask you to send your protests to the Russian Embassy in your country. Your immediate support could be vital in preventing further violation of the rights of those arrested, so PLEASE ACT NOW!

The Editorial Board of NSC and the Executive Committee of the International Council have sent their protests.

I GET ON MY KNEES BEFORE THIS MAN



Ten years ago, when the first number of Northstar Compass saw the light of day, the first copy came out when the world was covered in darkness. Counterrevolutionaries in Russia and other Soviet republics of the USSR, with the help of world reaction and imperialism, in order to hide their real thoughts, they called black white and white, black. The counterrevolution in USSR they called the "democratic revolution", the dedicated Communists in USSR were now called "conservatives" "reactionaries", "rightists", while themselves they called "leftwing", "democrats", "fighters for freedom, human rights for men".

The reason for the demise of the Soviet Union was covered in secrecy without any reasons. Leading people all over the world were in shock, dismayed, they didn't understand as to why this happened: at the head of the counterrevolution there came people, who headed the CPSU! All the world bourgeoisie press started to heap abuse, print lies about Lenin, Stalin, socialism and communism. How much manhood and, how much bravery there was needed in order to

come to the defense of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics...that to be the first in the world - outside the borders of the USSR, to stand up to defend the USSR, to offer a hand of friendship to the Soviet people, disbanded to all separate corners by the grave diggers of the socialism, to tell the TRUTH about what actually transpired in the Soviet Union, to defend the ideals of Marxism-Leninism.

Northstar Compass journal was the first torch in the world press, which opened the light with a modest beginning. "From the spark there starts a fire" this is the motto that NSC took up, and that Lenin started publishing the "Iskra" newspaper. Michael Lucas started this flame for Internationalism, the struggle for solidarity with Soviet people, for the resurrection of the Communist International, for a one unified Communist Party in the ex-USSR to fight the present capitalist regime.

I want to bow to you Michael, to your wife Helen and to all the comrades on the Board of Northstar Compass, who undertook upon themselves this hard and volunteer mission!

Thank you Michael, you are in my eyes and, in the eyes of all the readers of NSC around the world, you are a true Communist-Leninist!

REVOLUTIONARY BRANCHES ARE SPROUTING! ARISE YOU MIGHTY SOVIET LAND!



RUSSIA: RIVAL OR A VICTIM OF USA?

REFORM OR ROBBERY

By Edward S. Herman

The United States establishment's treatment of post-Soviet Russia has been confused, sometimes hostile, and more often than not, apologetic. This is because Russia occupies the odd position of being simultaneously a rival and an obstacle, on the one hand, and a dependent and virtual client state, on the other hand. It is of course a pale shadow of the former USSR in economic / military power, but it still has nuclear weapons and regional interests that conflict with the same interests that the United States has. US is clearly after the Caspian oil and other areas near and important to Russia. The USA has bullied, threatened the weakened Russia, expanding NATO to its borders and Russian leadership was just bullied when USA attacked Yugoslavia and it was unwilling to provide the kind of help that should have been given. Russia just blustered, stood by and obeyed.

On the other hand, Russia is on the payroll of the IMF, World Bank, and it's "reforms" were engineered with US and other Western countries help. These reforms certainly did not benefit the Russian people. The winners in Russia have been the members of a very tiny elite apparatchiks, criminals, and the opportunists, and agents of the West, engaging in what we may call "post-socialist primitive robbery" - surely the greatest short-term plundering operation in human history. The Russian GDP has fallen by over 50 percent and has effectively turned Russia to the Third World status in the course of ten years. There is over \$150 billion capital flight to foreign banks. It is a

fact that 90% of the people are worse off materially than they were under the Soviet rule.

The reforms were meant to quickly and forever exit from socialism, and if possible, even from a form of social-democracy. As this began to crumble, the US administration and president Clinton pushed for more and more reforms. The US thinking was that to go slower might give the people an opportunity to realize what was happening and have second thoughts.

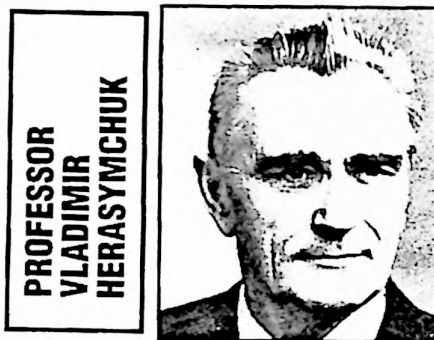
The Western gurus of finance that were employed by the IMF, Sachs and David Lipton stated to the US Administration: "Unless hundreds of big Russian firms and industrial enterprises are quickly brought into privatization, the political battle over privatization will soon lead to a stalemate to the entire process, with the devastating long-term result that little privatization would take place at all." (in Vittorio Corbo et al., *Reforming Central and Eastern European Economies*, World Bank, 1991).

So the Russian (Soviet) people paid an extremely heavy price – a crushed and looted economy-exacted by the Free World for its financial support to the local managers in Russia who were doing the dirty work. The top dealer was Boris Yeltsin, who became a hero in the West, having succeeded by the force of arms and bloodshed to keep the Russian people down. Although the West terms him a flawed leader, he is still a hero, for having done what the West wanted done in former USSR. The West can overlook much about Yeltsin, but he was their man who accomplished what the West wanted and could not do without an inside man.

Much is being written in the West that Yeltsin brought "democracy" to Russia. But it is just a façade for a plutocracy that cannot be dislodged by any electoral process at all. (In this respect, this Western writer, who certainly is not a communist, understands fully, that talking part in the Russian elections, thinking that the communist block will win, is just a fantasy, and not realistic – Editor) The modern Russian businessmen are rapacious and lack any ideological or institutional basis for restraint. This has discredited these top 10% in the eyes of the people,

and if future elections occur, they will be even more fraudulent and meaningless than that of 1996. The centralization of power in the hands of Yeltsin and now of Putin is accepted in the West without question. Therefore, the West handles Putin very gently and as Time magazine reported, Putin is more predictable than Yeltsin was and he's dedicated to complete dismemberment of any and all remembrance of socialism.

It's very interesting and telling, that Zbigniew Brzezinski in the Wall Street Journal, January 4, 2000 wrote and asked whether "Putin will be another Milosevic of Yugoslavia or Pinochet of Chile?...hoping that Putin will turn out to be another Pinochet!"



Make stronger our cooperation

The axiom for today's world points graphically that the fight for peace by people of the world, for democracy and socialism is the common goal of humanity of all the continents. That is why at the World Congress for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People that was held in Toronto, Canada last September, 2001 was for the reuniting all the people of former Soviet Union into the USSR. There is a great need for such Associations that will struggle for social and political rights.

Fulfilling such task here is the "Society "Workers Ukraine-Canada". Overlooking the serious material needs and organizational problems, its members keep regular contacts with Northstar Compass journal, and with other progressive publications, organizations and individuals, struggling for social justice. In part

the Volyn journalists S.S.Lukianchuk, V.A.Nakonechnuj, I.G. Kuzminsky often publicize in the local press information about foreign brother organizations, publications and parties in foreign countries, about our common problems, which sometimes need common solutions. First of all this is done very often by the Volyn newspapers ""Spravedlivist" and also "Radianska Volyn".

A great amount of work for the revolutionary movement in the Donbass region is being done by a very active member of the AUCPB T.V.Yakubovskaya. Fighting against the Mafiosi structures in the Donbass region is I.V.Knyshow. Taking an active part in our Society is Y.D. Oyaperov and these comrades lead the Communist Party (Bolsheviks) of Ukraine. This party initiated the Stalin Medal Order. One of the first receivers of this honour and the Stalin Medal was Michael Lucas, Editor and publisher of Northstar Compass. An important role in the international communist movement and in the resurrection of our Socialist Motherland is being played by the very influential Bolshevik newspaper, published in Ukraine, "Workers-Peasants Pravda" edited by a member of the CC AUCPB A.A. Mayevsky.

We have to admit that even with the successes I mentioned above, the quality of work is still far short of what is needed and what must be done. Of course, there are reasons for this. The work and practice has shown us that the formation of these organizations and associations in parallel with our Comrades abroad is very important and necessary. Such organizations, having contacts and cooperation with their partners in most countries abroad can bring tremendous results in the rebirth of the USSR and of the communist movements all over the world. Amongst concrete tasks that can be accomplished, here are some practical proposals for international cooperation:

*the building of wider contacts between movements, parties and organizations of left orientation, with individual comrades in countries abroad to exchange opinions and advice in our common struggle for peace, democracy and socialism, for

social and political rights of the working class;

*coordinating work individually or



Active member of the "Workers-Ukraine-Canada" A.A. Prachuk gets acquainted with each issue of Northstar Compass.

with parties and movements on certain issues;

*cooperation between publications of left orientation of different countries and regions in propagating the lessons of revolutionary struggles;

*publication of materials of popular events, demonstrations and pickets which expose the wrongs and the departure from the rights of people;

*organizing different conferences, educational seminars, dedicated to class struggles in this contemporary world.

In conclusion, I would like to mention one other active member of our Ukraine-Canada Society. I have in mind Anatoly A. Prachuk, who has helped us morally and materially in our work. During Soviet times, he was one of the organizers of trade network in the Volyn Region of Ukraine. After the counter-revolution and the overthrow of Socialism, he remained to work in this trade network, remaining always as a Communist. A.A. Prachuk, in his capacity and dedication shows our society moral support and also with material help.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

FOR THE VICTORY OF THE REVOLUTION! LONG LIVE THE

MLKP

Marxist-Leninist Communist Party (Turkey)

Workers, toiler young persons, women!

The bourgeoisie applies all the means they have at their disposal in order to continue their bloody and brutal hegemony. The fascist state terrorism, the fascist psychological war, the economic terror, the attacks aiming at social decline, the co-operation with American imperialism and Zionist Israeli State against our peoples and the peoples of the world

are the most obvious examples. Life in Turkey and Northern Kurdistan has turned into hell for the workers, toilers, peasants, the youth and women and for all the oppressed people. They are facing this fact every day, every hour, again and again.

But the capitalist and fascist hell is not fate. You do not have to accept that you live all your life under exploitation, violence and injustice. Do not forget, nobody will be

accused of being born as a slave. But the one, who does not stand up against slavery, who does not take part within the struggle for freedom, this one deserves nothing but scorn, there is nothing honourable in bowing to slavery.

Workers, toiler, young persons, women, intellectuals and artists of Kurdish and Turkish nationality and those of the other nationalities!

The 3rd Congress of MLCP, hold and concluded successfully from 3rd to 18th April, which defeated the fascist attacks and the multiple encirclement, calls upon you to stand up against exploitation, violence and slavery. "Enough is enough! We want to live a free and dignified life." Stand up for this fight!

Our 3rd congress expresses the clarity of ideology and the determination, that is reflected by our martyrs and clearly defined in the (death fast resistance.) Our 3rd congress is a milestone in the struggle for freedom and socialism.

Our 3rd Congress is an important step for our party in order to destroy capitalism and fascism; this congress challenges the American imperialism, that threatens the world proletariat, the oppressed peoples and the small States who resist (to him,) with terror and extermination; this congress is a communist response to the attacks of ideological and political liquidation with which the international bourgeoisie is confronting the revolutionary and communist movement.

The 3rd Congress of MLCP is, in the first place, a blow against the American imperialism, the principal enemy of the peoples of the world, and against the imperialist world, against the capitalist order of exploitation, against fascism and the barbarity of imperialist globalization from the front of freedom and socialism. Because with its congress the MLCP has reached such a level of thought, has collected new forces and reached decisions that will enable the party to become the mouthpiece, the action and the brain of the world proletariat at the front in Turkey and Northern Kurdistan.

The 3rd congress of the MLCP

that consists of communist of the Turkish and Kurdish people and of the national minorities of the Lazh, Arab, Georgian, Cechechenian, Cherkessian, Abhazaian and the Roma, was opened by holding a minute of silence dedicated to the world revolution and especially dedicated to the martyrs of the death fast and by singing the International. Our congress, which has defeated the attacks that were aimed at us and the encirclement through the fascist dictatorship concluded with the repeated Singing of the International. Our congress, which was an example of developed socialist democracy, took place within a lively, productive and exciting atmosphere. The revolutionary spirit, the only one in the revolution will power is the courageous looking at reality, the deep closeness with the working class, with our people and our martyrs have been other important characteristics of our 3rd congress.

The 3rd congress dealt with, assessed and reached various decisions concerning the points following: the theoretic, programmatic, strategic and tactic questions of revolution in Turkey and Northern Kurdistan, the national and international political situation, practice of our party in the past, the facts, questions and solutions with which world proletariat and world revolution are confronted with.

The 3rd congress deeply expresses the strong unity of will, the ideological development of our party and its determination.

At the 3rd congress, our party reached results, stuck to the line of "Unification Revolution" and reinforced this line on the basis of class struggle and the actual national and international needs and this way declared that it goes on with its fight.

The 3rd congress calls upon all workers, toilers, young persons, women, intellectuals and artists to smash the capitalist order of exploitation, to destroy the fascist dictatorship of the National Security Council (MGK), and to get rid of imperialist subjugation in order to build a new life and a new world by establishing freedom and socialism. For that, raise your voice, develop your democratic freedoms, intensify

your solidarity, support the calls of our party and take part in this struggle by organizing yourself in the MLCP.

Our 3rd congress calls upon the Kurdish people not to believe the venomous illusions and empty expectations, both with regard to fascist colonialist cliques and with regard to the imperialists from USA as well as from the EU, but to act in the spirit of national struggle for liberation, the intifada and the Newroz celebration in Mersin and to unite the national and social liberation actions.

Our 3rd congress calls upon all communist, revolutionary, anti-imperialist, anti-fascist and progressive parties, organizations and action groups of the world to establish an anti-imperialist-anti-fascist front; and to smash the imperialist attacks of globalization and barbarity by united struggle.

from exploitation, violence, social, national and sexual oppression and from inequality is establishing socialism. The principal economic law of imperialism and capitalism is "maximum profit", the human being is recognized as a means to get it. But the main economic law of socialism is "the maximum of satisfaction of the material and cultural needs of the toiling masses". In contrast to capitalism, socialism is the only real and human solution. This socialism stopped the exploitation under very hard conditions, under the imperialist encirclement and without experience, this socialism gave the right of employment to everybody, free education and free health service according to the needs of society, solved the housing problem, and the problems concerning social security, solved questions like protection of the environment, impoverishment, and reached the biggest



Our 3rd congress calls upon all communist of the world to establish contact with each other in order to resolve the ideological and organizational crisis the communist forces are in now, and in order to work for the foundation of the international unity of the vanguard of the proletariat, the Communist International.

Our 3rd congress announces to the workers, toilers, the youth, the women, intellectuals and artists that the one and only way of liberation

development concerning the freedom of women. It is this socialism that turned the multinational States, which are prisons for the peoples (in capitalism), into a union of republics, based on an equal, liberal unity of people of free will, without favouring a language or nation. It is this socialism, that became a faithful decisive support for the workers of the world, the oppressed and the peoples fighting for liberation; this socialism, in contrast to the Hitler Fascism, who intended to enslave

the whole world, became an unity of the vanguard of freedom of the worlds' working class.

Our 3rd congress announces our conviction and confidence that the 21 century will be the century of socialism; and that the working class of Turkey and Northern Kurdistan will be an example of vanguard troop of this movement in this forward move and that our party will develop itself in accordance to that at national and international level.

The imperialist bourgeoisie, in the first place the American bourgeoisie and its stooges, are dreaming of exterminating the communists, and to perpetuate their exploitation, robbery and violence by turning the working class and the people into speechless slaves. But they should know that future belongs to those who are fighting for a human and free life. Future belongs to the communists, who are the vanguard troop on the road of history towards a world ruled by social justice and equality, a world without exploitation and without classes, the communists are the vanguard troop and the voice on the road to an humanity full of mental and intellectual richness.

We have been, we are, we will be!
Long live Marxism-Leninism!
Long live our 3rd congress
Down with Imperialism, Capitalism
and fascism!
Down with the attack and the
barbarity of imperialist
globalization!
Long live freedom, long live
Socialism!
Long live proletarian
internationalism
For the victory of revolution, long
live MLCP
With the 3rd congress forward to a
leading party, forward to victory ■

**IMPOVERISHED BULGARIANS
PAY A HIGH PRICE OF REFORM**
By LILIA DIMITROVA

Targovishte, Bulgaria, Feb. 7, 2002

This small and very ageing, semi-deserted factories tell the whole story: the small Bulgarian town of Targovishte is typical of the high price of market reforms required to join the European Union and NATO.

This town, which thrived under

socialism, now holds the dubious honour of being the poorest community in the impoverished Balkan country, struggling to catch up from its position firmly at the back of the queue of EU candidates.

"Our life is very difficult. Young people are fleeing the region because they can't find work," said Peter Ivanov, one of Targovishte's 30,000 residents, more than 50% of them are jobless.

"We want our factories to reopen to provide work so that we can feed our families," said Todot Stefanov, a 35-year old father of two who has been unemployed for three and a half years.

Targovishte has three main employers: an electrical parts factory, a wine plant and the Terem military factory, one of the biggest employers in the region in northeastern Bulgaria.

This plant, which, under socialism employed 4,500 workers, including entire families, for which three new neighborhoods were built in order to provide housing, now only has enough work for 1,100 employees.

The factory depends on government contracts for the Bulgarian armed forces, but these are currently being very radically streamlined as part of the reforms to prepare Bulgaria for the NATO membership. The army is going to be a professional army and not a peoples' army.

"Before, we had lots of orders because we were part of the Warsaw Pact. Now that the army is being cut back as ordered by NATO, while many Bulgarian army units are "disappearing", sad one worker, Emil Konstantinov.

Bulgaria, whose six-month old government had made NATO and

EU entry their key goals, is among nine-ex-socialist countries hoping to be invited to join NATO at a summit in Prague, Czech Republic.

Along with Romania, Bulgaria has been left out of the group of 10 ex-communist countries hoping to join the European Union in 2004.

The old factory still has signs from the socialist days of Bulgaria which said: *"What we do, we do well!"* and *"Fight for savings in materials and energy!"*, very apropos in the empty factory, with only a few workers loitering around the silent machinery.

Out on the streets the poverty is starkly visible everywhere, there is only a single restaurant, but without customers. On the shops the signs say: *"cheapest jeans"* and other signs but no people in them.

In the neighborhood village of Omurtag, which has a large Turkish community, shops sell basic goods on credit, because people lack the cash even for their everyday needs.

Some choose to go to Turkey in the summer to work, returning to Bulgaria in the winter when they live on the season's earnings.

"Unemployment in Targovishte is extremely high because of the closure of state enterprises," said Mrs. Elena Panova of the UN Development Program (UNDP), which this week announced plans to help create 5,000 jobs in Bulgaria.

ABOVE ALL, LIFE IS HARD!

"When someone losses their job you to make sure that at least one member of the family stays in work," says Hassan Mehmedov, a 55-year old who looks after his two grandsons while their parents have gone to Turkey to seek work. ■

NEWS DIGEST COMMENT

HISTORY OF PALESTINE

In 1947-48 the Zionists grabbed most of Palestine from the Arab population by force and terror, and then set up the Jewish State of

Israel. Most of the Palestinian Arabs were kicked out into the refugee camps.

The international community, apart from the Arab and Moslem states, recognized Israel. We were told that it was only the Jewish people that made the desert blossom like a rose. Actually, Palestine was always a

fertile land. Only the ownership of the land changed, The Arab Jaffa oranges became now the Jewish Jaffa oranges.

In 1964, the Palestinian Liberation Organization demanded that all Jews who live illegally settled themselves in Palestine after the Second World War, leave Palestine and let the Palestinian Arabs return to their homeland.

Nobody took any notice. The PLO then watered down its demands, to one for a secular state in the whole of Palestine where Jews and Arabs would live together in peace.

Nobody took any notice. The PLO watered down again its demand, only to establish a mini Palestine State in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, this is just one fifth of historic Palestine.

The Israelis responded by establishing many Jewish fortified settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. In September of 2000, Ariel Sharon and 1000 Israeli troops invaded the Al Aqsa Mosque area of Jerusalem.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has now attacked the whole of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Part of the Arab League has responded by offering to let Israel keep all of its ill-gotten gains and to recognize Israel, in return for a Palestinian mini-state on what is left of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Israel's response has been to

make the West Bank and the Gaza Strip unlivable for the Palestinian Arabs. The Palestinian Arabs are obviously against the wall. They must fight or get out and live in perpetual degradation.

There are 200,000,000 million Arabs living between the Gulf and the Atlantic. This Arab nation was partitioned artificially into many ridiculous countries by the British and French imperialists, *The divide and rule program o imperialism.* The rulers of these present Arab countries are, either traitors, cowards or just windbags. The growing pressure by the people will build up to get rid of them. Israel may eventually be very sorry that it did not settle for the Arab League's generous offer.

The PLO was right in 1964. The Jewish settlers who came to Palestine after World War II had already had their homelands in: Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Germany, Britain and the United States, to name just a few.

All this expansion, killing and horror perpetrated by Israel would not be possible without the connivance and help of US imperialism and the US Zionist Lobby in Washington. As the USA ignores all of the decisions of the United Nations resolutions, so does Israel.

From Finsbury Communist-England

located near the city of Columbus, Ga., in the South-East of the USA. Extensive reporting of these demonstrations is found on the Atlanta website –

www.atlanta.indymedia.org.

These demonstrations are in opposition to the long existing School of the Americas, which the demonstrators want closed.

So just what is the School of the Americas and what are the demonstrators protesting against? This is what the organization "*School of the Americas Watch*" has to say:

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS?

The School of the Americas (SOA) is a USA Army training school that trains soldiers and military personnel from Latin American countries in subjects like counter-insurgency, infantry tactics, military intelligence, counter-narcotics operations, and also commando operations. This training is fully funded by the American taxpayers, and all of the training is conducted in Spanish. Most of the classes there, are taught by Latin American instructors. According to the SOA itself, more than 60,000 members of the Latin American militaries have attended the SOA since its inception in 1946.

Through legislative action in the U.S. House of Representatives, the school has recently (January 17, 2001) been renamed the "*Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Co-operation.*" According to the organization "School of the Americas Watch", the change however has not been accompanied by any real change in its mission or operation.

According to the SOA Watch:

The approach taken by the DOD (Dept. of Defence) is not grounded in any critical assessment of the training procedures, performance, or results (*consequences*) of the training program it copies. Further, it ignores US Congressional concerns and public outcry over the SOA's past and present link to human rights atrocities (see [www.soaw.org / articles/legisative/critique.htm](http://www.soaw.org/articles/legisative/critique.htm)).

UNCLE SAM. CHAMPION OF HUMAN RIGHTS!?

As we all know, traveling can be very expensive these days, especially in view of the many airline bankruptcies in the last few years, which has caused prices to rise considerably. But travel by computer, from your desk at home and via the Internet can get you to many places virtually without cost. And, I can assure you now that, whatever place you may visit and whatever interests you pursue, that trip will be worthwhile. All it needs is a bit of time and effort.

I am a frequent visitor to an independent U.S. media website www.indymedia.org.

Many interesting (*and some not so interesting*) reports of news events can be found there that are not ordinarily seen in the regular (*controlled*) media.

Recently, my keen interest got tweaked by rather frequent reports about the protest demonstrations that take place at Fort Benning, Georgia, USA. Ft. Benning is

So, there we see the main reason for the protests: Human rights atrocities carried out by the school's graduates.

But, what evidence could I find for these charges? Here I had to travel a bit further to find additional reports.

I came across the daily Ft. Benning newspaper, called "*The Bayonet*", no doubt an appropriate name, but not one that made me think that this was a pleasant and peaceful place. I'm glad I only visit there by computer, especially after finding out what kind of people (*now nearly 60,000*) this school turns loose on humanity.

I found reports that list about 18 countries in the Americas, lists which show criminal activities, including murder, rape, torture, drug trafficking, massacres of entire villages and other atrocities, all involving high-ranking military personnel and politicians who graduated from the School of the Americas. No wonder the school has been variously labeled as the "*School of the Assassins*" or "*School for Dictators*"

ACCORDING TO VARIOUS SOA WATCH REPORTS:

SOA graduates include people like former Panamanian dictator Manuel Noriega, El Salvador death squad leader Roberto D'Aubuisson, and former dictators of Argentina, Peru, Ecuador, and also Bolivia. SOA graduates were also responsible for the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero, the El Mozote massacre, the Uraba massacre, and the assassination of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter. Vladimiro Montesinos, another graduate of the SOA and right-hand man of (then) Peruvian president Alberto Fujimori, has been implicated as the leader of the Grupo Colina death squad for numerous massacres in Peru

GUATAMALA - SOA graduate Lima Estrada was currently found guilty of the 1998 murder of Bishop Juan Gerardi. The year 200- saw former Guatamala dictators Efrasin Rios Montt and Fernando Lucas Garcia brought into court on genocide charges. During their regimes,

thousands were killed and hundreds of thousands forced into refuge or exile. Both men, as well as a number of their very high-ranking cabinet officials also name in the suit, were SOA trained.

BOLIVIA- When the Bolivian government sold the public water system of Cochabamba to private corporation, after that water prices skyrocketed and thousands took to the streets in protest. Bolivian president and former military dictator, SOA graduate, Hugo Banzer, declared a stage of siege and ordered the troops into the streets. A 17-year old boy was shot and killed by a Bolivian army officer.

COLOMBIA - with over 100,000 troops trained by the SOA, is the school's largest customer. Not surprisingly, Colombia currently has the worst human rights record in all of Latin America. In February of 2001, SOA graduate Hernan Qrozco was sent to prison by a military tribunal for complicity in the Maspipiran torture and massacre of 30 peasants by a Colombian paramilitary group.

COSTA RICA - Minor Masia, rape and murder, 1992. This leader of Costa Rica's former "Commando Cobra" anti-drug squad is serving a 42-year jail term for rape and murder committed during the 1992 drug raid in South Atlantic Talamanca Mountains. (The Tico Times, 1998)

ECUADOR - General Guillermo Rodriguez, 1961 C&R*Bn Staff, 1966 Irregular Warfare Orientation; 1967 Maintenance Management Dictator 1972-76: Achieved power by overthrowing an elected civilian government.

CHILE - Augusto Pinochet, although not a graduate of the SOA, yet his influence is held in high esteem. In 1991, visitors could view a note from Pinochet, and a ceremonial sword donated by him, on display in the office of the Commandant (Charles Call, MH, 8/9/93)

Graduates of the School of Americas have also comprised 1 out of every 7 members of the command staff of DINA, the notorious Chilean intelligence agency responsible for many of the worst human rights atrocities during the Pinochet years. SOA grads who

were members of the DIINA command staff, include: Luis Alberto Medina Aldea, Jirge Aro Peigneguy, Eugenio Vifdela, Rene Riveros, and Guillermo Salinas, as well as other officials.

ARGENTINA - Col. Mario Davico, 1971, Military Intelligence Officer Course Advisor, Honduran Battalion 3-16, 1980'd: One of several Argentinean military advisors present in Honduras during the early 1980's. The Honduran Armed Forces, particularly Battalion 3-16, were taught the "Argentine Method" of extreme repression practiced successfully during Argentina's "dirty war (1976-1983). Techniques included arbitrary detention, torture, extra-judicial executions, and methods of disposing of bodies of the victims. (American Watch Report: The Facts Speak for Themselves, 1994).

A 1993 report by the UN Truth Commission linked graduates of SOS to numerous unspeakable horrors committed throughout Central and South America. In El Salvador alone, the list includes the murder of Archbishop Romero, plus rape and the El Mozote massacre, in which a village of over 900 people were brutally murdered. Only one woman survived, hidden in the bushes and thus was able to tell the story. (Synapse, Winter 98/99 issue number 46)

The list goes on and on, seemingly endless, with the names of School of Americas graduates who have committed these and other crimes. Protesters at the Ft. Benning site are composed of many different US political and non political groups, including Peace Activists, Church organizations, Human Rights Groups, Legislators, Labour organizations, veterans and many others. Yet, the US government has refused to close this facility, whose history has to be one of the blackest marks on the record of the successive US governments. Perhaps, in some perverse way, they consider this good for the American economy. Create criminals first, then build jails to put them in later. More to the point, Ft. Benning is the center for training the enforcers of the neo-liberal agenda for Latin America.

• The persistent and ongoing demonstrations, campaigns and actions taken by progressive US organizations and people, to shut down this facility, should be fully supported. As long as the USA continues to provide this kind of assistance to Central and South American governments and military (not to mention elsewhere in the world) there is little hope for peaceful solutions to the serious economic and social problems of the majority of the people in Latin America. The USA more often than not tries to present itself as the guardian of human rights in the world. Their consistent refusal to close this facility, clearly shows the hypocrisy of that view. I'm sure you'll join me in wishing the protesters every success. ■

VENEZUELAN COUP PLOTTERS IN MIAMI, USA

By David Adams, Miami

In the aftermath of the Venezuelan failed coup attempt the United States faces further embarrassment after the discovered that several coup leaders have fled to Miami. They include Prez Recao, 32, arms-dealer and heir to Venezuelan oil fortune. With a group of armed bodyguards, Recao played a highly visible role in the April 12-13 coup, according to reports from Caracas. As the coup unraveled, he jumped into his private helicopter and escaped to the Caribbean Island of Aruba.

He and his brother and business partner, were seen later in Miami, where they own many properties. They did not return the telephone calls to their \$400,000 beach front flat in Key Biscayne, a wealthy island suburb of Miami.

The Venezuelan government has asked the USA for clarification of its response to the failed coup, which Washington appeared at first to welcome, but it has yet to make any official comment about the presence of these coup plotters on US soil.

Close advisors to President Chavez have called on the US to take swift action. US officials declined to discuss these coup leaders in Miami, saying that they are still investigating what went on during the coup. ■

"WE DON'T KNOW NOTHIN' ABOUT NOTHIN' "

From OREAD DAILY

Now, how does this line go? "When ~~first~~ we practice to deceive, oh what a tangled web we do weave."

Well, something like that anyway. Let' see the US was not involved in any way in the coup in Venezuela. That is the line of President Bush Administration, if I do remember correctly. Hmmmmm.

It was President Bush who appointed over the opposition of even the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Otto Reich to be the Assistant Secretary at the Department of State for Western Hemisphere. Of course, Reich has a very murky history of covert meddling in Latin America politics and he was once the Ambassador to Venezuela.

In the Pentagon, the man with the responsibility for Latin America is Rogelio Pardo-Maurer, who was the aid to the head of the Contras, when they were waging their US-backed war against the elected Sandanista government in Nicaragua.

The two Venezuelan military officers (Generals) who supported the coup, were trained at the US Army School of Americas in Georgia, USA, where many members of the Latin American military have been trained in how to deal with troublesome lefties.

It is a fact that several coup leaders are now sunning themselves in Miami Beach, Florida.

Roger Rondon, National Assembly deputy from the Movement Towards Socialism party, proved that the US military officers from the US Embassy in Venezuela were actually in the camp where the plotters were plotting the attempted coup. The coup replacement, the businessman Pedro Carmona met with the US Ambassador. It is also proven that two gunmen from the coup plotters, with rifles firing from the roof-tops, which killed 17 people who were protesting the President Chavez ouster attempt. These two assassins are now out of the country also. ■

YOU HAVE AN OPINION ABOUT NSC? WRITE!

US TO USE BULGARIAN, ROMANIAN BASES TO STRIKE AT IRAQ

From KOMINFORM

A military expert and advisor for European security and defense, has disclosed t the Saudi daily al-Watan last month that American military coordination has started with each of Bulgaria and Hungary to use its military bases, fuels and energy supplies points, especially in Romania, in preparations for the military plan to strike Iraq.

These experts stressed that the US seeks in its plans to carry out the wide cordoning operations on Iraq through military bases for aviation in Romania in each of Timiosore and Fatisti, and the naval base in Konstanta, which is prepared secretly to receive huge number of the American troops and their military equipment.

These experts stated that US military are going to use Bulgarian air bases each of Varna, Blvadviv and Brojax, in order to provide the American fighter planes with fuel.

These experts told the newspaper also that the US is now preparing to drop smart bombs. The US is preparing to have 12,000 planes take part for photographing, surveillance and reconnaissance plus bombing. Therefore, efforts are being made to end the mission of these planes in Afghanistan, in order to prepare them for the coming strike against Iraq. ■

IN THE NEAR EAST:

THE REVOLT IN PALESTINE

BY GABRIEL PERI
"L'HUMANITE" - FRANCE
MAY 26, 1936

Gabriel Peri (1902-1941) was from a well-to-do employee's family, a brilliant student. He became involved in politics and joined the Young Socialists of France in 1917, then joined the Communist Party of France.

He as an extremely brilliant journalist and an orator and a member of the CC CPF and in charge of the international section of the Communist Party's newspaper "L'Humanite". He led a strong campaign against the appeasement policies of Great Britain and France in face of the coming aggression by Germany.

In the summer of 1940 he participated as one of the leaders in the clandestine reconstruction of the Communist Party of France. He wrote the pamphlet "No, Nazism is not socialism". Arrested in May 1941, he was executed in December of 1941.

Below is the article he wrote for L'Humanite. Translated by Eric Mueller, Dallas, USA.

For more than a month – to fix the date, since April 15, 1936 – Palestine had been in a state of open revolt. Demonstrations and bloody clashes are multiplying. The last few days have left 36 dead among the Arab population, the Jewish population, and the British occupation troops. New reinforcements of tanks and armored vehicles have been dispatched to Palestine.

These events deserve to hold our attention, and it is indispensable, in our opinion, to correct the erroneous interpretations that can loom up regarding them. Some voluntarily nothing in the final analysis but the result of Hitler's propaganda and Mussolini's intrigues. We cannot subscribe to this judgment. No one can deny that Hitlerite fascism and Italian fascism try hard to use every

incident in international life to exploit them for their suspicious aims. But it would be wrong to content with these facts to get a correct understanding of the Palestinian movement.

The Arabs revolted even in 1929, when Hitler was not yet in power and where there was no rivalry pitting Great Britain against Italy. The Palestinian revolt is linked with a general movement of rebellion that agitates the whole Arab world, in Egypt, in Syria, just as in Palestine.

Is this revolt justified? We believe that it is perfectly justified. We add that, in our opinion, it is a big mistake to classify it as an anti-Semitic movement. Anti-Semitism is to us profoundly odious.

But it is not against the Jews as such that the Arabs are rebelling. It is a form of exploitation thought up and put into practice by British imperialism.

Basically, on the pretext of a Jewish national home, there has been organized in Palestine a veritable plunder of the Arabs. The big Zionist association, Karen Kayeneth, makes this kind of plunder its specialty. Profiting from the lack of property titles among the Fellahs (peasants) and Bedouins, they get an agreement with an Arab feudal – a shaykh – to appropriate their land. Afterwards they tell the fallahs that they must leave the land that their ancestors have worked on hard for centuries. If the fellahs do not obey, the Zionist association asks the British soldiers for help.

There is more. A veritable manhunt for Arab workers has been organized by another organization, the Histadruth. Each year, at harvest

there are organized Zionist storm troopers at building sites and in factories from which the Arabs are mercilessly chased out.

This is how Zionist organized pogroms in reverse.

How, in such previous conditions, can the Arab population not be expected to rise up in active rebellion? The leaders of that revolt had taken care to repeat a hundred times that they did not intend to give in to anti-Semitism. They wanted to fight against British imperialism and its ally, Zionism. They asked that a stop be put to Jewish immigration, which had gone from 80,000 in 1914 to 450,000 in 1935. That is not, whatever some may say, an anti-Jewish watchword. It is by respecting the law of refuge, it is by respecting international solidarity against fascism, and not through complicity of plunder, that we intend to defend the cause of Jews persecuted by Hitlerism.

The Arabs, in addition, demand a ban on all sales of Arab land. They advocate the formation of an Arab national government.

These demands are just. They are inspired by the will of a people to shake up a domination that is suffocating them.

The cause of the Jewish workers, pursued by the fascist dictators, is not that of the expropriators who belong to the big Zionist associations and with the cause of the oppressed of all colours and all races who do not want to allow themselves to be despoiled.

Gabriel Peri

FEATURE ANALYSES

U.S. MILITARY BASES AND EMPIRE

The Editors- Monthly Review, March 2002

The Bases of Empire

Empires throughout human history have relied on foreign military bases to enforce their rule, and in this respect at least, Pax Americana is no different than Pax

Romana or Pax Britannica. "The principal method by which Rome established her political supremacy in her world," wrote historian Arnold Toynbee in his "America and the World Revolution (1962),"...

was by taking her weaker neighbors under her wing and protecting them against her and their stronger neighbors. Rome's relation with these protégées of hers was a treaty relation. Juridically they retained their previous status of sovereign independence. The most that Rome asked of them in terms of territory was the cessation, here and there, of a patch of ground for the plantation of a Roman fortress to provide for the common

security of Rome's allies and Rome herself.

At least this is the way Rome started out. But as time passed, "the vast territories of Rome's one-time allies," originally secured by this system of Roman military bases, "became just as much a part of the Roman Empire as the less extensive territories of Rome's one time enemies which Rome had deliberately and overtly annexed" (pp. 105-106).

Britain, in its heyday as the leading capitalist power in the nineteenth century, ruled over a vast colonial empire secured by a global system of military bases. As Robert Harkavy has explained in his important work, *Great Power Competition for Overseas Bases* (1982), these were deployed in four networks along sea corridors dominated by British naval power: (1) the Mediterranean through Suez to India; (2) South Asia, the Far East, and the Pacific; (3) North America and the Caribbean; and (4) West Africa and the South Atlantic. At the British empire's peak these military bases were located in more than thirty-five separate countries/colonies. Although British hegemony declined rapidly in the early twentieth century, its bases were retained as long as the empire itself continued, and its base system even expanded briefly during the Second World War. In the immediate aftermath of the war, however, the British Empire crumbled, and the great majority of bases had to be relinquished.

The fall of the British empire was accompanied by the rise of another, as the United States took Britain's place as the hegemonic power of the capitalist world economy. The United States emerged from the Second World War with the most extensive system of military bases that the world had ever seen. According to James Blaker, former Senior Advisor to the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, this overseas basing system at the end of the Second World War consisted of over thirty thousand installations located at two thousand base sites residing in around one hundred countries and areas, and stretching from the Arctic Circle to Antarctica. U.S. military bases were

spread over all the continents and the islands in between. "Next to the U.S. nuclear monopoly," Blaker writes, "there was no more universally recognized symbol of the nation's superpower status than its overseas basing system."¹

The official stance of the United States toward these military bases after the war was that they should be retained to whatever extent possible, and further bases should be acquired. At the Potsdam Conference on August 7, 1945, President Harry Truman declared:

Though the United States wants no profit or selfish advantage out of this war, we are going to maintain the military bases necessary for the complete protection of our interests and of world peace. Bases which our military experts deem to be essential for our protection we will acquire. We will acquire them by arrangements consistent with the United Nations Charter.²

Nevertheless, the dominant trend from the end of the Second World War until the Korean War was the reduction of the number of U.S. overseas bases. "Half the wartime basing structure," according to Blaker, "was gone within two years of V-J Day, and half of what had been maintained until 1947 had been dismantled by 1949" (p. 32). This postwar reduction in the number of overseas bases, however, ended with the Korean War when the quantity of such bases increased once more, followed by further increases during the Vietnam War. Only after the Vietnam War did the number of U.S. overseas base sites begin to fall once again. By 1988, these bases numbered slightly less than at the end of the Korean War, but reflected

a very different global pattern than at the beginning of the post-Second World War period, with the sharpest declines in South Asia and Middle East/Africa (see Table 1).

Historically, bases have often been acquired during wars. For example, the U.S. naval base in Guantanamo, Cuba was obtained in the aftermath of the Spanish American War. Although that base is technically "leased," the lease is permanent. According to the treaty, U.S. jurisdiction over the base can be terminated only by the *mutual* consent of both Cuba and the United States as long as nominal annual payments are made — giving the United States "rights" to this part of Cuba in perpetuity, regardless of the views of the Cuban government and people. Since the Cuban Revolution, the checks issued on behalf of the United States to pay for the leasing of the base have been cashed only once (in the case of the first such check made after the revolution). All subsequent checks have simply been held by Cuba, without being cashed, in line with Cuba's demand that the base be removed from its territory.

Many current U.S. bases were acquired in subsequent wars — the Second World War, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, and the war in Afghanistan. U.S. military bases in Okinawa, formally part of Japan, are a legacy of the U.S. occupation of Japan during the Second World War.

Like all empires, the United States has been extremely reluctant to relinquish any base once acquired. Bases obtained in one war are seen as forward deployment positions for some future war, often involving an entirely new enemy. According to a December 21, 1970 report issued by the Subcommittee on Security Agreements and Commitments Abroad, U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, "Once an American overseas base is established it takes on a life of its own. Original missions may become outdated but new missions are developed, not only with the intention of keeping the facility going, but often to actually enlarge it. Within the government departments most directly

HOW MUCH FOR A ONE HOUR SPEECH DO THEY CHARGE?

MIKHAIL	
GORBACHEV	\$125,000
BILL CLINTON	\$100,000

concerned — State and Defense — we found little initiative to reduce or eliminate any of these overseas facilities” (pp. 19–20). In the 1950s and 1960s the United States articulated a specific doctrine of “strategic denial” that argued that no withdrawal should be made from any base that could potentially be acquired thereafter by the Soviet Union. The majority of U.S. bases were justified as “ringing” and “containing” Communism. Yet, upon the collapse of the Soviet Union, the United States sought to retain its entire basing system on the grounds that this was necessary for the global projection of its power and the protection of U.S. interests abroad.

After the Cold War

Glasnost and *perestroika* in the late 1980s, followed by the collapse of the Soviet-dominated regimes in Eastern Europe in 1989 and the demise of the Soviet Union itself in 1991, generated a strong expectation, particularly among those who had swallowed the claim that U.S. bases were simply there to contain the Soviet threat, that there would be a rapid dismantling of the U.S. basing system. Yet, the Department of Defense insisted in its annual *Report of the Secretary of Defense, 1989* that the “power projection” of the United States necessitated such “forward deployments” (p. 41).

On August 2, 1990 President George Bush issued a statement indicating that, while the U.S. overseas basing system should remain intact, by 1995 U.S. global security requirements might be met by an active force 25 percent smaller than in 1990. On that same day Iraq invaded Kuwait. The massive introduction of U.S. troops into the Middle East during the Gulf War led to the proclamation of a New World Order rooted in U.S. hegemony and U.S. military power. “By God we’ve kicked the Vietnam Syndrome once and for all,” Bush declared.³ New military bases in the Middle East were established, most notably in Saudi Arabia, where thousands of U.S. troops have been stationed for more than a decade.

Although the Clinton administration was to insist more

strongly than the Bush administration that preceded it on the need to diminish U.S. foreign military commitments, no attempt was made to decrease the U.S. “forward presence” abroad represented by its far-flung military bases. The main shift rather was to reduce the number of troops permanently stationed overseas by deploying troops more frequently but for shorter stays. As reported in the *Los Angeles Times* (January 6, 2002),

A 1999 Army War College study found, “While permanent overseas presence has decreased dramatically, operational deployments have increased exponentially.” ... In earlier times, members of the armed forces were routinely “stationed” overseas, usually for tours of several years and often accompanied by their families. Now they are “deployed,” with the length of tour more uncertain and dependents almost never allowed. The deployments are both frequent and lengthy, however. On any given day before September 11, according to the Defense Department, more than 60,000 military personnel were conducting temporary operations and exercises in

about 100 countries. While the mammoth European installations have been cut back, Defense Department records show that the new operational mode calls military personnel away from home about 135 days a year for the Army, 170 days for the Navy and 176 days for the Air Force. For the Army, each soldier now averages a deployment abroad once every 14 weeks.

In addition to such frequent, periodic deployments, bases were to be used for pre-positioning equipment for purposes of rapid deployment. For example, the United States has pre-positioned a heavy brigade set of equipment in Kuwait, and has pre-positioned the equipment for a second heavy brigade along with a tank battalion set of equipment in Qatar (*Report of the Secretary of Defense, 1996*, pp.13–4).

The 1990s closed with U.S. military intervention in the Balkans and extensive U.S. support for counterinsurgency operations in South America as part of “Plan Colombia.” Following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the onset of the “War on Terrorism,” a rapid increase in the number and geographical spread of U.S. military bases commenced.

According to the Defense Department’s *Base Structure Report, 2001*, the United States currently has overseas military installations in thirty-eight countries and separate territories. If military bases in U.S. territories/possessions outside the fifty states and the District of Columbia are added, it rises to forty-four. This number is extremely conservative, however, since it does not include important strategic forward bases, even some of those in which the United States maintains substantial numbers of troops, such as Saudi Arabia, Kosovo, and Bosnia. Nor does it include some of the most recently acquired U.S. bases. Through Plan Colombia — aimed principally at guerrilla forces in Colombia but also against the less than servile government of Venezuela and the massive popular

WHO SPENT WHAT ON THEIR MILITARY IN 2001?

In Billions

United States	\$343.2
Russia	56.0
Japan	45.6
China	39.5
United Kingdom	34.9
France	27.0
Germany	23.3
Saudi Arabia	18.7
Italy	16.0
Brazil	16.0
Canada	7.6
Spain	7.0
Netherlands	6.2
Greece	3.3
Poland	3.2
Czech Republic	1.2
Hungary	.8

*Centre for Defense Information

movement opposing neoliberalism in Ecuador — the United States is now in the process of expanding its base presence in the Latin American and Caribbean region. Puerto Rico has replaced Panama as the hub for the region. Meanwhile the United States has been establishing four new military bases in Manta, Ecuador; Aruba; Curaçao; and Comalapa, El Salvador — all characterized as forward operating locations (FOLs). Since September 11, the United States has set up military bases housing sixty thousand troops in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan, along with Kuwait, Qatar, Turkey, and Bulgaria. Also crucial in the

operation is the major U.S. naval base at Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. All told, the United States now has overseas military bases in almost sixty countries and separate territories.

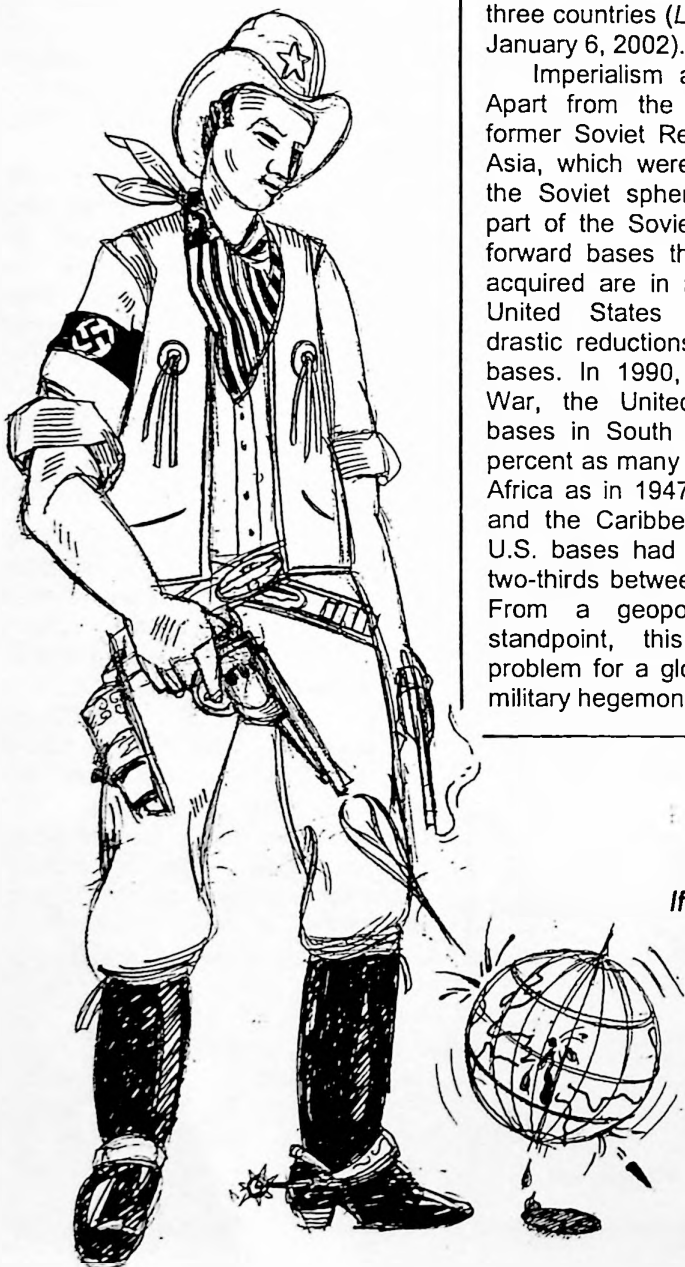
In some ways this number may even be deceptively low. All issues of jurisdiction and authority with respect to bases in host countries are spelled out in what are called status of forces agreements. During the Cold War years these were normally public documents, but are now often classified as secret — for example, those with Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, and in certain respects Saudi Arabia. According to Pentagon records, the United States now has formal agreements of this kind with ninety-three countries (*Los Angeles Times*, January 6, 2002).

Imperialism abhors a vacuum. Apart from the Balkans and the former Soviet Republics of Central Asia, which were previously within the Soviet sphere of influence or part of the Soviet Union itself, the forward bases that are now being acquired are in regions where the United States had experienced drastic reductions in its number of bases. In 1990, prior to the Gulf War, the United States had no bases in South Asia and only 10 percent as many in the Middle East/Africa as in 1947. In Latin America and the Caribbean the number of U.S. bases had declined by about two-thirds between 1947 and 1990. From a geopolitical/ geomilitary standpoint, this was clearly a problem for a global economic and military hegemon such as the United

States, even in the age of long-range cruise missiles. The appearance of new bases in the Middle East, South Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean since 1990 as a result of the Gulf War, the war in Afghanistan, and Plan Colombia therefore can be seen as a reassertion of direct U.S. military and imperial power in areas where this had to some extent eroded.

Military doctrine insists that the strategic significance of a foreign military base goes beyond the war in which it was acquired, and that planning for other potential missions using these new assets must begin almost immediately. For this reason the build-up of bases in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and three of the former Soviet republics of Central Asia is inevitably seen by Russia and China as constituting additional threats to their security. Russia has already indicated its displeasure at the prospect of *permanent* U.S. military bases in Central Asia. As for China, as the *Guardian* (London) noted on January 10, 2002, the base at Manas in Kyrgyzstan, where U.S. planes are landing daily, "is 250 miles from the western Chinese border. With U.S. bases to the east in Japan, to the south in South Korea, and Washington's military support for Taiwan, China may feel encircled."

The projection of U.S. military power into new regions through the establishment of U.S. military bases should not of course be seen simply in terms of direct military ends. They are always used to promote the economic and political objectives of U.S. capitalism. For example, U.S. corporations and the U.S. government have been eager for some time to build a secure corridor for U.S.-controlled oil and natural gas pipelines from the Caspian Sea in Central Asia through Afghanistan and Pakistan to the Arabian Sea. The war in Afghanistan and the creation of U.S. bases in Central Asia are viewed as a key opportunity to make such pipelines a reality. The principal exponent of this policy has been the Unocal corporation, as indicated by its testimony to the House Committee on International Relations in February 1998 (reprinted as *A New*



**God is with us!
God is not neutral!
If you're not with us,
you're against us!
God bless
America!
President Bush**

Silk Road: Proposed Pipeline in Afghanistan in *Monthly Review*, December 2001).⁵ On December 31, 2001 President Bush appointed Afghan-born Zalmay Khalilzad from the National Security Council to be special envoy to Afghanistan. Khalilzad is a former adviser for Unocal in connection with the proposed trans-Afghan pipeline and lobbied the U.S. government for a more sympathetic policy toward the Taliban regime. He changed his position only after the Clinton administration fired cruise missiles at targets in Afghanistan (aimed at Osama bin Laden) in 1998 (*Pravda*, January 9, 2002).

During the present war in Afghanistan, the U.S. media have generally been quiet about U.S. oil ambitions in the region. Nevertheless, an article in the business section of the *New York Times* (December 15, 2001) noted that, "The State Department is exploring the potential for post-Taliban energy projects in the region, which has more than 6 percent of the world's proven oil reserves and almost 40 percent of its gas reserves." In an Op-Ed piece in the *New York Times* (January 18, 2002), Richard Butler, of the Council on Foreign Relations, acknowledged that, "The war in Afghanistan ... has made the construction of a pipeline across Afghanistan and Pakistan politically possible for the first time since Unocal and the Argentinean company Bridas competed for the Afghan rights in the mid-1990s." Needless to say, without a strong U.S. military presence in the region, through the establishment of bases as a result of the war, the construction of such a pipeline would almost certainly have proven impracticable.

Blowback

History teaches that foreign military bases are a double-edged sword. The most obvious indication of the truth of this proposition is the present "War on Terrorism." There can be little doubt that attacks over the last decade or more directed against both U.S. forces abroad and targets in the United States itself have been a response in large part to the growing U.S. role as a foreign

military power in regions such as the Middle East, where the United States has not only engaged in military actions, even full-scale war, but also since 1990 has stationed thousands of troops. The establishment of U.S. bases in Saudi Arabia was regarded by some Saudis as an occupation of the holiest land of Islam, to be repelled at virtually any cost.

The perception of U.S. military bases as intrusions on national sovereignty is widespread in "host" countries for the simple reason that the presence of such bases inevitably translates into interference in domestic politics. As the 1970 report by the Subcommittee on Security Agreements and Commitments Abroad of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee noted: "Overseas bases, the presence of

next to the U.S. base at Subic Bay was devoted entirely to "rest and recreation" for U.S. troops and housed more than fifty thousand prostitutes.

U.S. bases in Okinawa, which became the hub for the U.S. overseas basing system in the Pacific following the loss of the bases in the Philippines, exist at odds with the population. According to Chalmers Johnson, president of the Japan Policy Research Institute, in his book *Blowback* (2000), the island of Okinawa, a prefecture of Japan, "is essentially a military colony of the Pentagon's, a huge safe house where Green Berets and the Defense Intelligence Agency, not to mention the air force and Marine Corps, can do things they would not dare do in the United States. It is used to project American power throughout Asia in

Table 1	U.S. OVERSEAS/FOREIGN BASES BY REGION, 1947-1988						
	1947	1949	1953	1957	1967	1975	1988
Europe, Canada, & North Atlantic	506	258	446	566	673	633	627
Pacific & Southeast Asia	343	235	291	256	271	183	121
Latin America & the Caribbean	113	59	61	46	55	40	39
Middle East & Africa	74	28	17	15	15	9	7
South Asia	103	2	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1,139	582	815	883	1,014	865	794

Source: James R. Blaker, *United States Overseas Basing* (New York: Praeger, 1990), Table 1.2

elements of United States armed forces, joint planning, joint exercises, or excessive military assistance programs ... all but guarantee some involvement by the United States in the internal affairs of the host government" (p. 20). Such countries become more and more enmeshed in the U.S. empire.

U.S. overseas military bases thus frequently give rise to major social protests in the subject countries. Until the withdrawal of U.S. forces in 1992, the U.S. bases in the Philippines were widely regarded in that nation as a legacy of U.S. colonialism. Like nearly all U.S. military bases overseas, they brought with them a host of social problems. The town of Olongapo

the service of a de facto U.S. grand strategy to perpetuate or increase American hegemonic power in this crucial region" (p. 64).

In 1995, anti-base protests broke out in Okinawa in response to the rape of a twelve-year-old girl by three U.S. servicemen, who had rented a car for the purpose, so that they could take her to a remote location and rape her; and in response to the callous view of Admiral Richard C. Macke, commander of all U.S. forces in the Pacific, who told the press: "I think that [the rape] was absolutely stupid. For the price they paid to rent the car, they could have had a girl." The widespread protests, led by an organization called Okinawa

Women Act Against Military Violence, were not, however, just in response to this single rape, brutal though it was. Between 1972 and 1995, U.S. servicemen were implicated in 4,716 crimes, nearly one per day, according to the *Nihon Keizai Shimbun*, a conservative Japanese newspaper. The Japan-U.S. agreement that governs the Okinawa base allows U.S. authorities to refuse Japanese requests for military suspects, and few indeed have suffered any inconvenience for their crimes.

The continuation, despite massive popular protests, of land bombing by the U.S. military in Vieques, in Puerto Rico, where training is given for bombing runs later to be carried out in places like the Persian Gulf, is an indication of Puerto Rico's continuing colonial status. Besides the land bombing range in Vieques, the Pentagon operates what is called an "outer range" of almost 200,000 square miles in waters near Puerto Rico, that encompasses an underwater tracking station for submarines and an electronic warfare range. These are used by the Navy and by various military contractors to test weapons systems.⁶

The current use of the Guantanamo naval base in Cuba to imprison and interrogate prisoners of the U.S. war in Afghanistan, under conditions that have generated global outrage and in the face of Cuban opposition to the war, is still another crude instance of U.S. assertion of imperial power through such bases.

The Globalization of Power

The United States, as we have seen, has built a chain of military bases and staging areas around the globe, as a means of deploying air

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and naval forces to be used on a moment's notice — all in the interest of maintaining its political and economic hegemony. These bases are not, as was the case for Britain in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, simply integral parts of a colonial empire, but rather take on even greater importance, "in the absence of colonialism."⁷ The United States, which has sought to maintain an imperial economic system without formal political controls over the territorial sovereignty of other nations, has employed these bases to exert force against those nations that have sought to break out of the imperial system altogether, or that have attempted to chart an independent course that is perceived as threatening U.S. interests. Without the worldwide dispersion of U.S. military forces in these bases, and without the U.S. predisposition to employ them in its military interventions, it would be impossible to keep many of the more dependent economic territories of the periphery from breaking away.

U.S. global political, economic, and financial power thus require the periodic exercise of military power. The other advanced capitalist countries tied into this system have also become reliant on the United States as the main enforcer of the rules of the game. The positioning of U.S. military bases should

therefore be judged not as a purely military phenomenon, but as a mapping out of the U.S.-dominated imperial sphere and of its spearheads within the periphery. What is clear at present and bears repeating is that such bases are now being acquired in areas where the United States had previously lost much of its "forward presence," such as in South Asia, the Middle East/Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean, or in regions where U.S. bases have not existed previously, such as the Balkans and Central Asia. There can be no doubt, therefore, that the last remaining superpower is presently on a course of imperial expansion, as a means of promoting its political and economic interests, and that the present war on terrorism, which is in many ways an indirect product of the projection of U.S. power, is now being used to justify the further projection of that power.

For those who choose to oppose these developments there should be no illusion. The global expansion of military power on the part of the hegemonic state of world capitalism is an integral part of economic globalization. To say *no* to this form of military expansionism is to say *no* at the same time to capitalist globalization and imperialism and hence to capitalism itself.

OPEN FORUM

Let Us Unite to Stop US Aggression and Terrorism Against the People of the World!

Statement of the International
Coordinating Committee
International League of Peoples'
Struggle
20 April 2002

The International League of Peoples' Struggle extends its warm and militant greetings of solidarity to all the participants in the International Day of Protest Against War and Racism. We are one with all men of goodwill all over the world who are demonstrating today against the aggressive wars being waged by the Bush administration on the people of the world under the cover of the hypocritical and deceitful slogan of "war against terror". We congratulate the organizers led by A.N.S.W.E.R. for taking the initiative in mobilizing the much needed opposition to the US government's warmongering and arrogant use of power.

In the history of mankind, imperialism has committed the

gravest crimes against humanity. In their struggle for the redivision of the world, the contending imperialist powers brought about two world wars that killed tens of millions of people and maimed countless others. The interimperialist wars, the so-called limited wars and the rule of open terror by puppet regimes have inflicted the most terrible damage and suffering on the people.

The US has a long history of carrying out terrorism against the people of the world. It has the infamous record of killing 1.4 million Filipinos from 1899 to 1916 in the conquest and pacification of the Philippines. It also has the unique notoriety of using the atom bomb on the civilian population of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and in killing more than 240,000 Japanese. Four and a half million Koreans were killed in the US war of aggression in Korea. Six to seven million people were killed in the US war of aggression against Vietnam and the rest of Indochina. Instigated by the US, reactionary puppets killed more than one million Indonesians in 1965.

Through puppet dictatorial regimes, the US has sponsored all kinds of acts of terrorism against the people. The US installed and propped up such terrorist regimes as those of Chiang Kaishek in Taiwan, Ngo Dinh Diem in Vietnam, Park Chung Hee in South Korea, Suharto in Indonesia, Marcos in the Philippines, Videla in Argentina, Pinochet in Chile, Fujimori in Peru, Mobutu in the Congo and so on and so forth.

For the past 55 years, the US has operated a terrorist training camp in Fort Benning, Georgia. Once called the "School of the Americas" (SOA), it has now been renamed as the "Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation" (WHISC) because of the notoriety acquired by the SOA. It has trained many of Latin America's most notorious torturers, mass murderers, dictators and state terrorists such as El Salvador's Roberto D'Aubuisson, Argentina's dictators Roberto Viola and Leopoldo Galtieri, Panama's Manuel Noriega and Omar Torrijos, Peru's Juan Velasco Alvarado and Ecuador's Guillermo Rodriguez to name a few.

In the last 12 years, the US has launched three large-scale wars of

aggression against Iraq, Yugoslavia and Afghanistan leaving behind a trail of death and devastation. In the process, it collected the spoils of war in the form of sources of oil and military contracts.

The US is the No. 1 aggressor and terrorist of the world. It is using the September 11 attacks to misrepresent itself as the champion of antiterrorism in order to carry out terrorism against the people of the world. No matter how shocking occasionally is the handiwork of small private terrorist groups, all of them pale in comparison with the super-terrorism of the US.

Under the guise of antiterrorism, the Bush administration has enacted the fascist Patriot Act to repress its own people and is imposing this on other countries as the model for antidemocratic legislation and draconian measures.

Arrogantly setting aside established international laws and legal norms, the US is encouraging and undertaking arbitrary arrests, indefinite detention incommunicado and without charges, military courts against civilians, and the assassination of anti-imperialist leaders or their kidnapping for trial under US-controlled courts. Bush

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has given the go-signal to the CIA to assassinate anti-imperialist leaders abroad.

Bush and his diehard lieutenants have seized the September 11 attacks to actively promote jingoism and racism among the American people in order to divert attention from the economic crisis at home and win support for their military adventures abroad. The American establishment media echo Bush's reactionary line by trumpeting "America's war on terror" and hailing its supposed successes.

The Bush administration supports the ultra-reactionary Sharon government which has ordered thousands of its troops with tanks and air support to carry out the mass murder of Palestinian civilians and the massive destruction of civilian homes and facilities in several West Bank towns and villages. The assurance of unstinting US support has emboldened the fascist Sharon to ignore the UN Security Council Resolution 1402 and world public opinion calling for the withdrawal of Israeli troops and to continue with his campaign of terror against the Palestinian people.

In Colombia, a massive dose of military aid from the Bush administration has encouraged the reactionary Pastrana government to abandon peace talks with the FARC and wage an all-out war against the revolutionary forces and people. Colombian military officers trained in the "School of the Americas" run right-wing paramilitary groups that carry out kidnappings, disappearances, murders and massacres.

In the Philippines, around 1000 US combat troops have been deployed on the pretext of training the Filipino military in its fight against a small bandit group, the Abu Sayyaf which is itself the creation of the CIA and some Filipino military officers in the early 1990s against the Moro National Liberation Front.

The real objective of US military deployment in the Philippines is to eventually participate actively in combat against the New People's Army and the armies of the Bangsamoro and re-establish US military bases in the Philippines.

The International League of Peoples' Struggle expresses its

persecutor was John Bolton, Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security. Bolton earned his right-wing credentials when he served as the UN-basher for the U.S. Heritage Foundation. But his anti-UN convictions have never stopped him talking money from the organization himself. Most recently he served as assistant to James Baker on the failed Western Sahara Mission. For years, Bolton has argued that the U.S. should get out of the United Nations Organization. At the same time, however, Bolton served as a consultant to Taiwan, advising its government how to get into the UN, according to the publication "The Nation". Although, Bolton may have flexible principles, like many of Bush's hard right entourage, he has a rigid line in the grudges and he soon developed a major one against Bustani.

Having Bolton in charge of disarmament is like letting a pyromaniac to have the run of a fireworks factory – as his recent hardnose attitude to nuclear limitation talks with Russia, and a staunch advocate of the "Star Wars" Strategic Defense Initiative suggests. Bustani first started running into problems when he resisted American efforts to dictate the nationality of the OPCW inspectors assigned to investigate American facilities. What's more, he had opposed the U.S. law, allowing the U.S. President to block unannounced inspections in the United States and banning the OPCW inspectors from removing samples of its chemicals.

Diplomats suggest that Bustani's biggest "crime" was trying to persuade Iraq to sign the convention, which could mean that OPCW inspectors would inspect Iraqi facilities. The hawks in the U.S. administration resented these "ill-conceived initiatives". If Iraq would sign the convention and allow UN inspectors, it would then deprive Washington of a quasi-legal justification for military action against Baghdad.

Earlier this year, U.S. asked Brazil to recall him, but the Brazilian government pointed out that Bustani was not a Brazilian appointee, but was elected unanimously by the entire OPCW. Then Bolton, personally, asked Bustani to resign.

After Bustani refused, the U.S. then attempted to have the entire OPCW executive Council sack him. Failing that, Washington called for a special session of member states to fire him, threatening that the U.S. would not pay its dues if Bustani was re-appointed. Faced with losing an effective and popular disarmament agency, a majority of states succumbed to this U.S. blackmail. This acquiescence to Washington, was in stark contrast to the willingness of so many countries to defy the U.S. by ratifying the Rome Treaty establishing the International Criminal Court only two weeks before.

Indeed, it seems that the members of the OPCE, with varying degrees of pragmatism and reluctance, decided that the survival of one of the most successful disarmament organizations was more important than the loss of its director. However, they set an ominous example – and possibly the U.S. hawks in Washington were given a strong scent of blood to follow. Bustani told this kangaroo court, "*By dismissing me, an international precedent will have been established, whereby any duly*



elected head of any international body or organization would at any point during his or her tenure remain vulnerable to the whims of one of the major powers and contributors. They would be in a position to remove any Director General, or Secretary General, from office at any point in time!"

It bodes ill for global affairs the way the U.S. administration has managed to achieve these recent coups with little or no awareness, let alone discussion. In the case of Mary

Robinson, the U.S. did fear that any open campaign to unseat her would upset the Irish American voters. Instead of tapping its public diplomacy, the U.S. administration used stealth tactics against Robinson. All of the Human rights organizations complained, but this administration has successfully sidelined these organizations from foreign policy decision making and now routinely dismisses the concerns of these organizations.

Who is the next target? It may be Hans Blix, who heads the UNMOVIC, which is the UN organization established at the end of the Persian Gulf War to inspect Iraqi arms facilities. It's been reported that Paul Wolfowitz, Under Secretary of Defense, ordered the CIA investigation of Blix. One reason that the U.S. Administration is very concerned, is that under the framework supported by Powell, if Blix's team goes into Iraq and gives the regime a clean bill of health, then the sanctions regime against Iraq will be largely terminated. For Wolfowitz and other U.S. hardliners, this eventually would remove another main cause of war against Baghdad. Deposing the highly respected Blix, who formerly headed the International Atomic Energy Authority, would facilitate the administration's case for launching a war against Iraq.

Another person that the U.S. and Israelis regard as biased is Peter Hansen, the recently re-appointed Commissioner General of UNRWA, the U.S. funded agency that helps Palestinian refugees. Hansen was appointed by the Secretary General Kofi Annan, who angrily sprang to the defense of the three individuals criticized by Israel. But Annan may find it hard to stand behind the monitors criticized by the USA and Israel, especially if the U.S., would threaten to cut off its funding of UNRWA, which would likely result in starvation in all the Palestinian refugee camps.

Kofi Annan, himself may also be targeted soon. Even though he has only started his second term, and even though he is immensely popular, Kofi Annan has recently become stronger in his public exasperation with Israel Sharon's behavior. Given the recent pattern of

solidarity with the Palestinian people and the people of the Philippines, Colombia, Afghanistan, Iraq and the people of the world who bear the brunt of US aggression and terror. We call on the American people to play a uniquely important role in stopping the Bush government's war-making and campaign of terror as they did in opposing their government's war of aggression in Vietnam. We call on the people of the world to unite and stop US aggression and terror!

What the ILPS stands for:

The International League of Peoples' Struggle (ILPS) is an anti-imperialist and democratic formation. It promotes, supports and develops the anti-imperialist and democratic struggles of the people of the world against imperialism and reaction. It

has a broad mass character and not subordinate to any political party, government or church and affords equality to all participating organizations. It strives to realize the unity, cooperation and coordination of anti-imperialist and democratic struggles throughout the world.

The League has at present over 230 participating organizations from 40 countries: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, England, France, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Scotland, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and USA.

BUSH'S HIT LIST AT THE UNITED NATIONS

By IAN WILLIAMS

Quietly, and without the fanfare that accompanies the campaign in the mountains in Afghanistan, the US administration has begun a long march through all the multilateral institutions of the United Nations Organization. At the UN and elsewhere, the US has mounted a campaign to purge international civil servants judged to be out of step with Washington in the war on terrorism and its insistence that the U.S. has the last word in all global governance issues.

The first and most important to be go at USA's insistence was Mary Robinson, the former Irish President whose work as the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights has been acclaimed by human rights groups across the world. Officially she retired last year, after a one-year renewal of her UN contract. In fact, the U.S. ferociously lobbied against her reappointment. UN officials and Western diplomats also said that she was "difficult to work with" – the usual euphemism for not willing to be dictated to. Most the world human rights activists see this

precisely as her strength in an organization where not rocking the boat seems to be genetically engineered into many officials.

The US Administration could not forgive her for her stand on the Middle East issues or for her endorsement last year of the results of the UN's Durban Conference on Racism held in South Africa, which both US and Israel walked out. The rest of the world stayed and adopted a toned-down document, and subsequently Washington began a campaign to force Robinson out.

Another recent victim of the US campaign was Robert Watson, the much-respected chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Last April 19, the US administration succeeded in replacing him with Rajendra Pachauri, an Indian economist. The panel is (or perhaps was the correct tense) an independent scientific body established to assess the degree of climate change in the world and the contribution made by human activities such as burning of fossil fuels. The panel's work had come to

a consensus, not shared by the Bush administration, that the human activity is a factor in climate change.

A leaked memo from ExxonMobil has previously asked the White House "Can Watson be replaced now at the request of the U.S.?" The memo went on to recommend that the administration "restructure the U.S. attendance at then upcoming IPCC meeting, in order to assure none of the Clinton/Gore proponents are involved in any of the decision activities." Apparently, the US administration heeded ExxonMobil recommendation. Pachuri himself attributes his selection to being a developing world candidate, but environmental NGOs ascribe it to U.S. lobbying.

A few days later, on April 22, the U.S. right wing, achieved a new level of success, with the deposition of Jose Mauricio Bustani, the head of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), a mere year after he has been unanimously elected for a second five-year term. The voting was 48-7 with 43 abstentions. The OPCW was created by the Chemical Weapons Convention, which outlaws the production of chemical weapons. It arranges regular inspections of member countries' facilities to ensure that no one is cheating. Bustani, a Brazilian, has headed it from its creation five years ago, and his inspectors have overseen the destruction of 2,000,000 chemical weapons and two-thirds of the world's chemical weapons facilities in the past several years. They have carried out over 1,100 inspections in more than fifty nations

From the very beginning of 2002, however, the U.S. has treated Bustani almost as if he were some sort of a bureaucratic Bin Laden. The U.S. Bush administration officials accused him of "ongoing financial mismanagement, demoralization of the Technical Secretariat staff, and ill-considered initiatives." Only last year, Bustani had been reelected unanimously, with plaudits even from U.S. Colin Powell. Moreover, his staff pointed out that the organization's finances and management were controlled not by Bustani, but by a U.S. government appointee.

So what had changed? Not Bustani, but Washington. His main

American diplomacy, one cannot help but suspect that, for Colin Powell and Shimon Perez — who has strong rapport with the Secretary General Annan, the anti-Iraqi and pro-Sharon hardliners in the Bush administration will soon begin a campaign to invite Annan to retire.

It is likely that they will at first suggest that he retire with honor and that this decision would be for his own good. If that strategy doesn't work, they will likely accuse him of "managerial incompetence" and "inability to work well with member states" and another threat to withhold the U.S. dues.

If the U.S. inspired purges continue and rise to higher levels, other UN member nations may regret their pandering to Washington as they see the entire post-World War II framework of multilateralism start to disintegrate.

COMMENT:

This excellent report should ring the alarm bells as to what US

imperialism is trying to accomplish. Even anti-Soviet, anti-Communist journalists see the writing on the wall. It is therefore surprising that some progressives and communists, both in the ex-USSR and abroad cannot seem to perceive the danger of this US inspired fascist policy of absolute dictatorship!

Surely the present leadership of Russia and China know what is happening! Where were their veto or at least a public outcry against this undemocratic purge of elected officials of the United Nations?

Will the Russian Duma deputies or the deputies of China parliament be informed, that the recent document Arms Agreement that was signed by Russia and USA is a sham? US has declared that they will "not destroy the agreed upon warheads, but just store them away in case of an emergency". These are the words of President Bush!

And, where was the outcry from the CPRF Deputies in the Russian Duma?

hitting squads of the workers' militia — on regular armed corps from the beginning, and, despite of the overwhelming weight of peasant population, it can spread from the towns, from the centers of the proletariat toward the countryside, and the guerrilla war, although it was highly important, played only a role of secondary importance. — As regards Latin America, in these societies the peasantry, as in pre-Revolutionary Russia, also was the overwhelming majority of the population, which lived in the double yoke of the feudal and capitalist relations, but here many essential social and historical factors of the Russian October Revolution were less developed or lacked. It was the consequence of this that the bulk of the revolutionary masses — as in Russia — must to be constituted by the peasantry, but the organization and course of the revolutionary movement necessarily assumes other forms.

The indispensable condition of every genuine revolution is "that the popular forces smash, and then eliminate the army"¹⁶ However, against a regular army only another regular army can win, and originally Latin American revolution has not such an army, it has to organize it from the peasants. The peasants are distrustful, they fear, and their worries are justified: the oppressing power is relentless. Although only the revolution can lead them out from the misery, they will not join it until they are convinced that the armed revolutionaries -able to defeat the mercenaries of the state power, and distribute the land to the poor. Hence the struggle begins as a guerrilla fight: small, resolute groups establish centers — bases — in peasant environment, as far as possible in such areas, which can be approached only with difficulties, they fall on the enemy from there, they attack and then disappear. "The guerrilla movement, which is the defensive movement of the people in a given moment, carries in itself, and is obliged to develop in itself the attacking capacity. This capacity will determine the character of the guerrilla, as the catalyst of popular forces."¹⁷ As Mao — who was the classic of the theory of the struggle with small

**SPECIAL FOR
NORTHSTAR COMPASS**

TWO

CONTINUED FROM
THE LAST ISSUE OF
NSC.

STRATEGIES

By ERVIN ROZSNYAI — Budapest, Hungary

Soon as the people get convinced of this, and recognize that the oppressive power violates its own laws, their resistance will be getting more and more resolute, and make the conditions of the struggle provoked by the conduct of the authorities ripened.¹⁵

The peculiar dialectic of the objective and subjective factors, and the special role of the latter are the productions of the Latin-American conditions, which are in many aspects different from the condition of revolutionary Russia in 1917, and determine the general course of the revolution.

Russia, despite of its backwardness, and dependence from the foreign capital, was an imperialist great power, the fifth

industrial power of the world, with a small, but concentrated and well-organized working class, with strong, revolutionary-minded party organizations in the great plants and in the army, consisting mainly of peasants, it took part in a World War, which made the ruling classes to arm the mass of the peasants, who lived under the feudal and capitalist oppression, and were hungry for land, and which in one hand made easy the revolutionizing of the peasantry, on the other prevented that the imperialists, being engaged with each other, turn against the revolution with all of their forces. (See I/1 chapter.) Because an important part of the army — which was fed up with the war — went over to the side of the revolution, the Russian revolution could rely — beside of the hard-

military forces, against big forces, and a master of its practice — argued already in 1936, the guerrilla, through his attacking capacity, requiring extraordinary mobility, can transform his strategic disadvantage to an operative and tactical superiority, compensating in such way the numerical and technical superiority of the enemy. It must be added too that the numerical proportions do not depend on the number of the fighting parts. "... the guerrilla war ... says Guevara — is the fight of the masses, the fight of the people: the guerrilla, as the armed core is the fighting vanguard of the people, its great force has its roots in the mass of the population. We may not think the guerrilla movement as numerically less than the regular army, against which it fights, even if its fire power is really less."18 The numerical superiority can be compensated with the support of the population, the technical one by the special tactics. " The regular armies, organized and armed for conventional war, which maintain with their force the power of the exploiting classes, are totally helpless, if they must confront with the irregular struggle of the peasants, and on the natural soil of the peasantry, they cost with the loss of ten people for each killed revolutionary fighter, and they are demoralized quickly, when they must confront with an invisible enemy, who does not give them opportunity to use their academic tactics and their blustering militancy, displayed so much in the cities in order to frighten the workers and students."19

The prestige, which the revolutionary movement acquires with its small, local victories, creates the conditions for the joining of the peasants to the movement, and with the course of time for the necessary shift to the conventional war. For the guerrilla warfare " in itself cannot lead to the victory", it must be developed and widened "until the continuously increasing guerilla army does not assume the character of a regular army. At this moment it will be ready to deal decisive blows on the enemy, and gain the victory. The latter is always achieved by a regular army, even if

this have been originally a guerrilla army."20

The armed struggle — writes Guevara — "is a hard choice", the guerrilla war is a slow, protracting process, in which the greatest troubles are not caused so much by the army of the enemy, rather by the climate, by the absence of water, food and medicine, the persuasion of the peasants, the political struggle for the joining of the masses . The difficulties are multiplied by the intervention of the USA (in Venezuela, for the sake of oil, in other countries for other valuable natural resources, and in everywhere for maintaining the anti-popular state power), the terror of the dictatorships, paralyzing the civil population, and the infamous propaganda, which incite the backward masses against their own interests (as it occurred in Bolivia, where the incensed demonstrators strunged upon a lamp-post the head of the anti-USA government, major Villaroel , who pronounced the nationalization of the tin-mines, and promised the fulfillment of popular demands).21 The USA, and the "national" dictatorships learned from the Cuban lesson, hence "however hard was the two years of the Cuban liberating wars with its incessant struggles, dangers, and uncertainties, those battles, which the future holds for the people in the other places of Latin America will be immeasurably harder."22 A cruel repression can be expected after every revolutionary demonstration. "And yet there is no other alternative, than the death or the victory, in such moments, when the death is a most realistic idea, and the victory is only a myth, which lives only in the dreams of the revolutionaries."23

It is hardly necessary to explain,

why stresses Guevara with a special emphasis the moral and ideological firmness. It doesn't make a difference, what will be the result of the struggles of today. With regard to the final result, it doesn't matter, if this or that revolutionary movement suffers a transitional defeat. What is decisive is the determination, ripening every day, the consciousness of the necessity of revolutionary change, the certainty of its possibility" "... to dispense death mercilessly to the oppressor, and to welcome the death with revolutionary honor — this is, what matters" "... this type of struggle give for us a chance to become revolutionaries, what is the highest rank in human species"24 (He, who is worth of this rank, cannot tolerate moral laziness neither after the gaining of the state power. In May 1962 Guevara, in a lecture held to the staff of the Cuban state security organs, condemned indignantly the infringing of revolutionary morality on part of these organs, the applying of methods alien to the population, the abuse of positions of power. " Do not forget that counter-revolutionary is all that infringes the revolutionary morality. He who fights against the revolution is a counter-revolutionary, but that gentleman, who, abusing his influence acquires a house, then acquires two cars ... and finally he has all, what the people lack, is a counter-revolutionary too... He who uses his contacts for his personal advantage or for the advantage of his friends is a counter-revolutionary, — a counter-revolutionary, whom you have to prosecute, to prosecute and eliminate. Opportunism is the enemy of the revolution, and it flourishes everywhere, where there is no popular control ... All of whom, who, speaking about the revolution, infringe the revolutionary morality, are not just potential traitors of the revolution, what is more, they also are the worst slanderers of it, because people see them, and know, what they do. .. If we progress on this way, ... we waste the most sacred value, which is at the revolution's disposal, the faith of the people in the revolution ... And if this faith is betrayed or weakened, it is not an easy thing to regain it."25)

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Because "the main area of armed struggle is the countryside", the Latin-American revolution — although most of its organizers and leaders come from the towns — doesn't spread from the towns towards the peasant districts, as the October Revolution did, but like the Chinese, and Vietnamese revolutions, encircles and liberates the stirring towns from the country.²⁶

This was the way to victory in Cuba too. But the victory "cannot consolidate itself in one, isolated country". It is a historical necessity that "the banner of rebellion, which must be raised in every country, where the oppression increasing to an unbearable level" become to a continental banner. "As the starting of the struggle at some point of a country is destined to develop the struggle in all of its environment, the beginning of the revolutionary war contributes to the unfolding of the new conditions in the neighboring countries."²⁷ Thus all national revolution in Latin America is a part of the continental revolution. But the continental revolution is also only a component of a still more comprehensive strategic plan, which the national strategy of the revolutions in the peripheries, namely the encirclement of the towns from the countryside, generalizes to a global, world-wide strategy, to the encirclement of imperialist countries from the peripheries. "The future holds for us, for peoples of the world, exploited and condemned to backwardness, the task of the elimination of the supplying bases of imperialism: the task of liberation of those countries, from where imperialism is siphoning capital, raw materials, cheap experts and workers, and to where it exports, as means of its domination, capital, arms, and goods of all sorts, plunging us into absolute dependence." "To deprive imperialism from its economic base is to weaken it in its heart, in its innermost essence ... with this we break its force, and help to establish the peace, the universal peace, the peace of the whole Earth."²⁸

Through what sort of tactics might the encirclement be realized?

The revolutionary centers, led by

the necessary political and military competence "make necessary new Yankee reinforcements ... the Yankees, from a given moment, will be forced to send more and more troops, to ensure the relative stability of such a power, whose national puppets-army is dispersing in the struggle with the guerrillas. This is the way of Vietnam, the way, which the peoples have to follow." The task of Latin America will be to create two or three Vietnam, "to create the world's second and third Vietnam".²⁹

Has Guevara's famous — according to many opinion notorious — tactical demand, the slogan of "two or more Vietnam" any reality at all? Is not it an adventurousness, a romantic madness, a mindless risk?

This tactics "tear out the enemy from his environment, in order to force it to fight at such places, where its way of life is the opposite of the dominant social reality". We may not underestimate the enemy: the North American soldier dispose over powerful means, over a horrifying technical capacity. But he lacks the moral motivation that factor, which is present to the highest degree in the Vietnamese soldier. To defeat the North American soldier "we must undermine his morality. And the way of this is to deal defeats on him, and cause sufferings to him over again." This sort of tactics — the one applied by Vietnam against the Yankee invaders, and the Algerian National Liberation Front against French colonialists — "is coupled with the immeasurable sacrifices of the peoples", but these are "perhaps less painful, than those, which we should bear if we permanently eluded of the struggle, striving for such a scenario, in the course of which others pull our chestnut out of the fire." "However paradoxically it may sound, the revolution, the struggle of peoples is one form of the defense of the peace."³⁰ Of course we must avoid all superfluous sacrifices, but we have no right to dream about "the reaching of freedom without struggle". "We are pushed into this struggle, the only course open to us is to prepare this struggle, and determine us for it."³¹ And what are, the consequences? "Whether the

imperialism will lose one of its strongholds after the other, or, as it threatened us recently with that, launches in a brutish way a nuclear attack, which burns the world at a nuclear stake? We cannot answer this question. We state only one thing: we must progress on the path of liberation" even if this requires great sacrifices, because the blood which is shed today "save for us more blood in the future".³² "Martí said: "He who begins a war, where it can be avoided, is a sinner, but he who fails to begin the unavoidable war is a sinner too."³³

The ideas of Che Guevara, and his activity attempting to realize them, was put under a concentrated fire by the whole propaganda-machine of the official "peace camp". This was not without its reason: the great revolutionary debates with all of his lines and deeds the Khrushchevian strategy of "peaceful coexistence" and "peaceful transition", even if he refrains in the most cases from the open debate. We summarize the charges brought against him, and the comparison of the main elements of the two different strategy on the basis of an article of Raul Roa, another eminent Cuban revolutionary.³⁴

The peoples can win their liberty — writes Roa — only if they -exploiting the contradictions among their enemies — establish new centers of struggle, and "while they force imperialism to fragment its forces, they gather into an as unified front, as possible against it." But the necessary unity have been lacking for a good while, "this made possible the Yankee escalation in Vietnam, the continuation of the so called 'limited war' against the South-East Asian people without punishment, and all sorts of provocation in Africa and Latin America." Alleging to the danger of the nuclear war, some people sick the label of "adventurer", and "warmonger" to those, "who proclaim that we most set the revolutionary violence against imperialist violence." We are also aware of the nuclear danger, and we do not underestimate at all the effect of weapons of mass destruction, but we are also fully aware of the fact that the use of these arms depends on the nature

of imperialism, and no on the wishes of the revolutionaries. "It makes no sense to declare that the war is no longer unavoidable, when the Yankee air force poured every day its deadly arsenal to Vietnam and Laos, the marine corps and the green berets take part in the oppression of the Latin American patriots, and the pro-imperialist government of Israel, in the defense of well-known interests, attacks perfidiously the Arab peoples." The disguising of the nature of imperialism "makes easy the way for the aggression, demobilize ideologically the peoples, disarms their revolutionary consciousness". Such a curious situation have arisen, in which the consciousness of the yet struggling peoples, and the consciousness of those peoples, which already liberated from the alien yoke, and who even are constructing socialism, are developing unevenly. For the yet struggling people it is clear, "that against imperialist aggression — until this hateful exploiting system survives — they may not have any other purpose, than the elimination of imperialism". But this obvious objective in the liberated countries is recognized "in many cases only in the text of the official 'declarations'." "What practical sense has it, if they declare that the war is not inevitable that the relations of forces are decisively changed in the favor of peace and socialism that the imperialism cannot prevent the liberation of peoples?" — asks Roa, hinting to the mentioned official "declarations" "Are there statements contributing to the mobilization of peoples, are they warning them to the aggressive nature of imperialism, did they perhaps protect Vietnam, Cuba and Santo Domingo — to mention only a few country — from the british strikes of the Yankees? And what can we say about that "principle", in the name of which they urge the competition with capitalism, namely that we must defeat capitalism with its own weapons, arms, taking over these weapons, and together with them some "values" of these infamous system — as if the high productivity, achieved in the advanced capitalist countries, this result originated from the excessive

exploitation of their own workers, and of workers in other countries, could provide an incentive for the people of socialism, as if we could abstract from the fact that the moral decay is an essential part of this mode of production, and of the "standards of life" which they wish to catch up with, or as if it could be the goal of the development, that the liberated countries live comfortably, in coexistence with the imperialism, while this latter plunders the other peoples!" The revolutionary consciousness is not an original, given power in the peoples, and in their vanguards: this consciousness is formed by the struggle, by the education, by the fight for social transformation, but it can disappear too, "if the essential principles of the struggle are not held lively, if the strategic objective of the world revolution is lost of sight".

An European journalist is indignant at Guevara's "catastrophic vision" — continues Roa — at the slogan of "two or three Vietnams", charges are leveled against Guevara that this strategy is a petty-bourgeois, anarchist, adventurous one. Perhaps the labelers do not notice that Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Algeria, Congo, Cuba, Santo Domingo, Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Yemen, Bissau-Guinea, Angola, Mozambique and other countries are the scenes of imperialist aggression? They say that in a nuclear war there is no winner and loser, so we must avoid a nuclear war. Of course, "it would be absurd to doubt the devastating power of the thermonuclear weapons, but it is still more absurd to draw from this the conclusion that the war is not avoidable longer — for the breaking of a war is never determined by the existence of this or that system of weapons." On the other hand, they say only about the thermonuclear war that it is not avoidable, they do not say it about the other kinds of war. Apparently they do not want to acknowledge that the devastation, which are caused by the "conventional" wars during the years, are no lesser, than those, which would be caused by a thermonuclear blow in a few moments. Or perhaps the practice of "scorched earth", by the

imperialists in Vietnam, is more humane? Is the effect of the napalm, scattered to the civil population, to the croplands, to the forests, to the cities, the accumulating effect of the artillery fire, during five or ten years of "limited" war, less devastating, than a nuclear war. "It seems that the 'advantage' of the conventional war is that there is more time to die." — The final conclusion of Roa is the following: the imperialism can be stopped only by force, and by no means by the politics aiming at its appeasement. "It is impossible to delay the struggle of peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America until the conditions are "ripened", or the "peaceful competition" proves the superiority of the socialist system over the capitalist one", the conditions are ripened for a long time, and the ideological and material disarmament of the masses can lead only to the annihilation of the revolutionary forces.

After the article of Roa, we will now quote Fidel Castro, to illustrate, how was the failure of Guevara's Bolivian undertaking valued by the adherents of the two opposing revolutionary strategies.

"The pseudo-revolutionaries, opportunists, and charlatans of all kind, who call themselves 'Marxists', 'communists', or any like, did not blush to qualify Che as a misguided person, an adventurer, or, more indulgent, as an idealist, whose death is the swan song of the Latin-American armed revolutionary struggle" — says Castro in his introduction to Guevara's Bolivian diary. — "If Che, the experienced guerrilla fighter, the greatest representative of these ideas, had died in the struggle, and his movement had not liberated Bolivia, then this proved that how large was his mistake" — say these people. How many of these rascal people was glad of the death of Che, and they did not even blush from the thought that their standpoint and argumentation is completely the same as the opinion of the most reactionary oligarchs, and imperialism.

This article will continue in the next issue of Northstar Compass. ■

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AN APPEAL TO ALL SIGNATORIES TO THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL!

Dear members:

We are asking each Signatory to the Call for an International Council to elect your delegate to this Council who will be receiving information and documents as a member, responsible to your party, organization, press or movement.

We are in the process of preparing for the Second World Congress in Europe in 2003 and we need your input.

Michael Lucas, Chairman
Executive Committee

LETTERS

FROM
NEW YORK
USA

Dear comrades:

I feel that it is only fair to inform the readers of NSC that the Communist Party of Spain (Reconstituted) (PCE(r)) is not a real Communist Party of Spain. There is a strong left movement in Spain of which the (PCE (r)) is not a part. In fact this PCE(r) is a small ultra-left

group of Maoist ideology that lays strong stress on armed uprising totally without relation to the situation of the real world that we are all in. In fact it is practically unknown in Spain, dismissed by other parties for its ultra-leftism.

The major parties in Spain involved in daily struggles are the Communist Party of Spain (PCE) – note no (r) is connected with this name. The General Secretary is Francisco Frutos. Then there is the Communist Party of Catalonia (PCC) Gen., Secretary Maria Pere. Then there is the United Left (IU) the coordinator is Jordi Miralles of the PCC Izquierda Unida – The United Left is the coalition of the major communist parties and smaller left groups. This is where the real left action is taking place in Spain. In no way is the PCE (r) involved here.

We should not be deceived in believing that this tiny-ultra-left group is of any significance in Spain. Unfortunately the PCE(r) has attached itself to NSC and is using it for its sounding board. I would say that it would not be advisable if this party of ultras were allowed to produce NSC in Spain as was stated and proposed in the article by Mate Zalka in the April issue of NSC. Having lived many years in Spain, I felt compelled to mention the above.

In solidarity
Philip Stein



FROM
NEW YORK
USA

I would like to make a couple of comments on Philip Stein's letter, regarding the PCE (r) of Spain. It is not my intention to comment on the political views of the PCE (r), which I am sure they can defend for themselves, nor to comment on their practical work and influence in Spain, of which I have little knowledge.

What I do want to point out is that the International Council for

Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People is a friendship society, and thus a form of a united front. It is open to any organization or individual that supports the principles of the Council. We are not a Communist International, so it is not the business of the International Council to decide which is the "real" communist party in Spain. In many countries of the world, and in particular in Russia, there are very many parties and organizations that support the work of the International Council, and we publicize the positions of all of them to the extent that is possible.

I would, however, like to comment on the idea that only the "official" communist parties are the "real parties" in their countries. Most of these "official" parties have allowed the bankrupt line of Krushchevite revisionism for decades. In doing so, they have sold out the struggles of the working class in their own countries as well as internationally. Take for example the "real" Communist Party of France, which for the last few years has been part of the government of France. This government has participated in the imperialist attacks against Yugoslavia and Afghanistan, while imposing austerity on the French workers. This has led to the pathetic showing of this "Communist Party" in the very recent French presidential election.

Was the "Communist Party of Spain" the "real" party when it was led by Carrillo, who was one of the leading proponents of the reactionary theory of "Eurocommunism"? I do not know enough about the current views and practices of the various parties and organizations in Spain that comrade Stein mentions, but if they are "real" communist and internationalist parties, I would hope that he would use whatever contacts he has with them, to get them to endorse the principles and work of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People.

Fraternally
George Gruenthal
Secretary of the Executive
Committee of the
International Council

FROM
**UNION OF POLISH
COMMUNISTS
"PROLETARIAT"**

Even though this letter might reach you after May Day, the day of international solidarity of the working class, I am reporting to the readers of NSC that in Poland now, there is now about 5,000,000 unemployed, hardships are growing for the working class. This is the result of the 13 years of counterrevolution.

The situation of Communists in Poland got much worse. After three years battling in the Polish Courts, the high court of Poland on Mach 18, 2002 made a ruling that the Union of Polish Communists "Proletariat", cannot be a political party and all legality is thus lifted from their operation. This means that the Communist Party "Proletariat" is now considered illegal and is thus practically liquidated. This is how the "democracy" looks like in Poland.

This is a very great blow to us Communists in Poland, but it also shows that fascism is taking hold in Poland. This danger also faces other organizations and movements in Poland.

We are asking that you inform all the readers of this situation, through the pages of Northstar Compass about the delegate that attended the World Congress in Toronto, Canada last September 2001 and about the attack on the Polish Communists. We here in Poland will not cease our struggles against capitalism and for socialism. We are putting into effect new forms of work and tactics. We are opening a very broad peoples' front against capitalism and the struggle for socialism. Enclosed please find the #4 of our journal "Brzask" where you will read about the serious situation in Poland and we hope that you will translate and publish some of these articles in NSC.

With Communist fighting greetings!

ZBIGNIEW WIKTOR
Leader of "Proletariat" ■

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**Only justice will fix
Mideast violence**

*Anthony Topolski
Eden, MD, USA*

God didn't lead the Jews back to Palestine in 1948. The Zionists with the help of England and the United States did that dirty deed. There's 10 times more condemnation of Israel in the Old Testament than praise. It's there, read it yourself.

Viciousness is the Zionist trademark. Since Israel was forced upon the Palestinian people in 1948, the Zionists, using the most sophisticated weapons from the U.S. arsenal (against which Palestinian stones are certainly no match) and billions of our tax dollars every year, they have carried out a campaign of terror and religious and ethnic cleansing against Palestinians, to

terrorize and force them to flee to neighboring countries. They're treated like vermin, killed with impunity by the Israeli army and police. Entire villages, only for the crime of being Palestinian, have been butchered, wiped out, massacred.

Israel is Washington's powerful stooge in the oil-rich Arab Middle East and it's carrying out a war of genocide against the poor indigenous Palestinian people, and we Americans have been deceived into supporting it and its Hitler-clone president Ariel Sharon. It's no wonder the world hates us.

Apartheid can't be forced upon Palestinians, anymore than it could be forced upon black South Africans. People who've lived on the land from time immemorial can't be religiously cleansed to make room for Zionists with grandiose visions of power and empire.

Zionist settlers are free to drill wells to fill swimming pools and waste water however they choose, but Israeli law prohibits Palestinians from digging wells to irrigate gardens, olive groves, vineyards and livestock, even for household use. It's part of Israel's policy of driving them from the land. And for even the most minor infraction of Israeli law, the army with bulldozers and tanks moves in to destroy houses, olive groves, gardens and people.

For a knowledgeable understanding of the Middle East, I suggest reading "The Hidden History of Zionism" by the Jewish author Ralph Schoenman. It's a real eye-opener.

To call Israel a victim is ridiculous. Let nobody kid themselves, Israel is a major nuclear power with a vast arsenal of weapons of mass destruction. The Jewish Christian Mordecai Vanunu, a technician at the Dimona nuclear facility, was kidnapped in London and secretly smuggled back to Israel, where he has been held in solitary confinement for more than 20 years, solely for the crime of revealing the existence of Israel's nuclear arsenal — which has certainly grown since then.

The only solution for an end to the violence in Israel is to end all U.S. military and economic aid to the Zionist dictatorship and create a truly democratic non-sectarian state with equal rights and dignity for Palestinian and Jew alike. And those Palestinians who have already fled to neighboring countries, and even farther, must be given the right to return with the choice of restoration of property or total compensation at current market value for all losses incurred. ■

FROM
TORONTO
CANADA

I am a member of the Canada-USSR Association and now the CFSP, from day one – over 25 years. I was the former head of the Marine Committee and former chairman of the Canadian Slav Committee. My roots are Slavic and Christian Orthodox. As a child I had conflicts with my family because I became an Atheist.

The conflict in the Middle East, in my judgment is a conflict as part of the imperialist capitalist economic system all over the earth. Religion, although important, is not the only tool of reactionaries against the working class. We all know that religion oppresses the human mind and the freedom to think.

Regarding the conflict between Jewish Israel and Palestinian Arab Muslims, this will only lead to a tragedy for both sides. It is true that Zionism is a reactionary political movement, based on religion, nationalism and racism. I feel that so is Islamic fundamentalism or Christian fundamentalism. I feel that the Christian fundamentalism has even a worse record. The perfect example is the United States, which is built on the Christian bible and the almighty dollar. In the historic circumstances, the USA became one of the most oppressive imperialist countries in the world. Everyone that surrenders or succumbs to their interests is welcome...this includes the Catholic Church as well as many Islamic countries.

Let us remember that the Pope and former President Reagan, both bible thumpers undermined Poland, a key member of the Warsaw Pact. Many leaders of the Arab countries are tools of US imperialism. It was not surprising that Arafat, after his release from captivity by the Israelis, prayed to Allah. Saddam Husein in Iraq recently built the second largest Mosque in the Islamic world.

If we divide the present composition of the people of the world into Christians, Muslims, we find that Christians are 200 times larger than the Jews, The USA has a population of close to 300 million, but only 6 millions are Jewish. Russia has approximately 150 million people while the Jewish population is

approximately one million. Canada has a population of 30 million while the Jewish population approximately one million.

How can anyone say that they control these countries.

The occupation of Palestine and the tragedy of the Jewish people will come to an end when victory of a socialist revolution comes, based on the teachings of Marx, Engles, Lenin and Stalin.

Milenko (Mike) Popovich

AN OPEN LETTER TO AFL-CIO and NAACP

From Brazilian Institute of Socialist Culture

Having read in NSC the article by Ray O Light, "The Social Props of Bush's Terrorist War", I would like to express my opinion on how harmful, frustrating and deceiving it has been for the working class and progressive forces in the world. Such actions and conduct, as those carried on by the U.S. labour movement leadership, from the AFL-CIO President John Sweeney to the National Union Presidents and, last but not least, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)...all of them bowing their heads and giving full support to Bush and all that it stands for, the USA imperialism and racism.

It's unacceptable, the fact that entities, supposed to defend the rights of the workers and the rights of the American black population – this last, the most oppressed in the so-called free society, that cares for and respects human rights and dignity of its citizens, the most reactionary circles in the United States of America.

Instead of backing the U.S. warmongers, they should look into the past and, also into the present history of their country (USA) in order to know who the number one enemy really is: Imperialism, headed by the U.S. Military Industrial Complex, responsible for many wars aimed at plundering the riches of other countries and, according to the policy of IMF, World Bank, the G-7 Group and other pirates and imperialistic institutions (**God is with us**) guilty for the ruin and bankruptcy not only of

the former Socialist countries, but also of the Capitalist ones, as is the case of Argentina, but not excluding others on the verge of a similar fate.

That's the reality. The rest is just cynicism, lies and pharisaism!

Giovanni G. Viera
Secretary General
Brazilian Institute of Socialist Culture

P.S. Dear Friends:

Northstar Compass as always is doing its best to keep high the prestige and credibility it has achieved among the readers the world over. Congratulations!

FROM
BROOKLYN, NY
USA

Dear comrades:

As a fellow communist and a member of the proletariat, I would like to salute the efforts you are making to bring out the idea of socialism in the working class, I too am very hungry for change and reforms, and if I could change things in the former USSR I would dispatch myself there immediately.

I probably feel like many other comrades, who are waiting for the unity and solidarity to be more evident, before taking action. I so much desire to see the working class win the fight, but what can I do?

When I was in Tbilisi, Georgia, I saw the horrors of modern day ex-USSR. But I could see through these horrors at the glory of the former USSR. I concur that reforms are desperately needed to restore the communist movement over there, but how are we to help them to accomplish this?

America is a hard nut to crack in terms of communism. I would rather see my energy abroad, like in Europe where the revolutionary movements are on the move. The main problem in the world is the division amongst so many communist parties who are supposedly fighting for the same cause. Do we not realize that there is only one party for the working class and we need to solidify ourselves if we plan to achieve any amount of success.

Keith