

ARISE YOU MIGHTY LAND!

OVER THE RED SQUARE?

RED FLAG FLY AGAIN

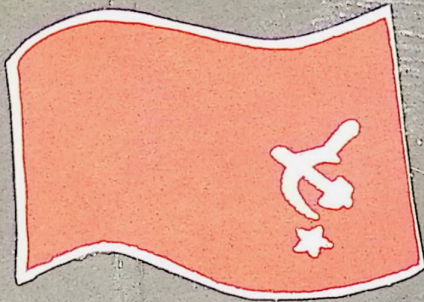
WHEN WILL THE

OUT OF THE KREMLIN?

PRESENT BOURGEOIS REGIME

ARRIVE TO SWEEP THE

WHEN WILL ANOTHER LENIN



12

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH SOVIET PEOPLE - VOL. 6 #12, JULY, 2000

NOVOSTAR COMPASS



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CLINTON URGES LINKS WITH RUSSIA!

All news dispatches and media reported on this Moscow meeting with glee and showed the amicable discussions between the two presidents - Putin and Clinton.

We know what the public relations promote to the general public during these meetings, but we also know about the behind-the-scenes discussions and manipulations that also go on. President Clinton was not in Moscow to see the Kremlin or the sights...he was there in earnest to make certain that the government of Putin follows the USA's written scenario for the complete domination of Russia and its rich natural resources.

Yes, President Clinton mentioned "our differences" and "we must be partners" and of course he touched on "freedom for Chechniya" and

"USA and Russia have interests that coincide".

What really to us is unbelievable is that Clinton, while speaking to the Duma members for 45 minutes, received from Duma members a thunderous applause...even from all the communist members of the CPRF! Only member stood up to shout and chastise the Duma members for the applause was Vladimir Zhirinovskiy...of course as an opportunist hound for publicity, nevertheless he told Clinton to "lift the blockade of Iraq and withdraw troops from Yugoslavia and do not interfere in Russian affairs!"

Meanwhile, Gennady Zyuganov, leader of CPRF and a member of the Duma had only this to say: "Clinton could have been more honest" about the situation in Russia! What a missed opportunity to let Clinton know the opposi-

tion of Soviet people to the policy of USA and its criminal actions all over the world!

After visiting Moscow, Clinton went to Kiev, Ukraine in order to hobnob with the Ukrainian nationalist president Kuchma and he promised \$100 million in order for Ukraine to shut down reactors in Chernobyl and for USA to invest in other nuclear power stations. Why only now, after years of inactivity? And, who was REALLY responsible for that Chernobyl disaster? In whose interest did this accident really happen?

To add fuel to the fire and to complete the sell-out of Russia, Putin shall also visit Italy and meet Pope John Paul to beg him to use his influence in order to: "help Russia gain political and also military inbtegration with Europe".

With all of this intrigue going on in Russia and in other former republics, why on earth is it so difficult for the left forces to unite against this danger? *How many Trojan Horses are there in the communist movement in Russia and other republics?*

CLINTON:

Putin...you make an excellent Puppet!

PUTIN:

Yes, Incle Sam! How high do you want me to jump?



COMMUNISTS, FORWARD!

On May 21 of this year in Moscow there took place an *Initiative Conference* of communists and non-party people who are dedicated to the resurrection of the Soviet Union. This important conference looked at and also discussed the question of the contemporary situation in Russia plus the situation inside the communist movements, and the question of the need to unite all of these forces into a single Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

This conference was attended by representatives from the following -

- * CPSU of Lenin-Stalin
- * Communist Party of Russia Federation
- * Marxist Platform

- *Russian Communist Workers Party
- *All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks
- *Russian Communist Party-CPSU
- *Workers-Peasants Party
- *Union of Communists
- *Trudovaya Rossia
- *Cossack Brotherhood of Russia
- *Union of Workers of Moscow
- plus other left and workers societies and movements.

Observers were also present from these former Soviet republics--- Ukraine, Latvia, Georgia, Azerbaijan as also from the regions of Tatarstan, North Ossetia, Kursk, Saratov, Samara, Vladimir

and others.

The conference adopted by a majority of votes a Declaration and an Appeal to all people of Russia. There was elected a Coordinating Committee of 24 people who were then instructed to take steps to organize and promote the absolute necessity of forming a one united **Communist Party of the Soviet Union** and to call another conference to finalize the details and adopt the CPSU statutes. The next party conference shall take place in September of this year.

COMMENT

We wish this Initiative Committee

(one of many attempts at unity) success in their efforts at unity. Now that Putin is in power and putting into effect the bourgeois plans to divide Russia into 7-9 separate regions (which in itself is anti-constitutional) and the last meeting with Clinton finally concluded the complete domination by USA and NATO over the future of Russia and thus over the former Soviet Union! This attempt at UNITY could be the last real chance to mobilize the Soviet people before it is too late!

FROM NEWSPAPER
MOLNIYA RUSSIA

From a daily bourgeois newspaper "The Globe and Mail", Canada, Friday, May 26, 2000



CHINA GAINS ENTRY INTO WTO

(WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION)



With the majority of mankind demonstrating and fighting against this US manipulated and engineered imperialist domination of the world through WTO, how can the leadership of "Socialist" China even consider joining this tool of US imperialism and world dictatorship?

One of the problems that was encountered in former Soviet Union and some socialist countries was a lack of criticism and self-criticism in a Marxist way of the leadership. Leadership is not infallible! Control must come from the bottom up!

**DISCUSSION ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL
CONGRESS
FOR FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH
SOVIET PEOPLE**



FROM
MOSCOW

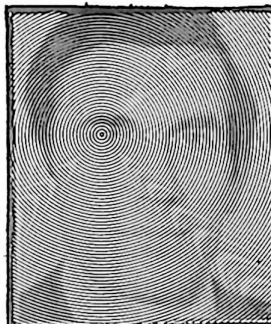
I read the proposed Statutes for the forthcoming Congress in 2001 for an International Council and I feel that it can be accepted for discussion and future adoption. My thoughts for the Congress are as follows:

1. For the work of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People that shall be elected at the Congress, I suggest that they establish an "Internet International Council Web Site in English and in Russian." In the Russian Federation and in the former republics of the Soviet Union, the ongoing process of computerization is going very fast. Looking at this fact alone and, looking at the fact that until not too long ago the Russian language was being taught in many countries of the world, I feel that it would be very beneficial to have this Web site on Internet in both languages. In order to handle this question professionally we should find a few dedicated specialists to handle this extremely important media tool.

2. The idea of opening up a competition for a graphic design of the symbol for the International Council is very good. But, we should not promote the winner of this logo competition in our future publications after the Congress initial ceremony is held.

3. The agreed-upon published organ of the International Council can be utilized in publishing all materials submitted by people as long as they deal with the pro-

V.N.
CHECHENSEV



gram, the policy and aims of the adopted Aims and Purposes of the forthcoming to be elected International Council.

In future issues I shall be try to send other suggestions.

Comradely yours
VLADIMIR CHECHENTSEV
Member of NSC Editorial Committee in Moscow

FROM
TEXAS
USA

TIME IS NOW!

Dear comrades:

As a long-time reader of NSC and a great supporter for the resurrection of the Soviet Union and Socialism, I agree with the calling in 2001 of a World Congress as very timely and long overdue,

I feel that it should be held in Canada, since you comrades are the initiators and the backbone of this important event. Besides, you can have the resources at your finger-tips without having to worry about help from comrades in a different country.

It is very astounding to me when I read the names of the sig-

natories, how varied and how they cover the whole world. This in itself proves that the majority of world progressive organizations and publications deem it **absolutely necessary** to hold such an international forum.

I cannot help but be perturbed by the fact that in the USA and Canada the leading workers and communist parties do not seem to see the need for such an International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People!

Why is this so? If they have an answer as to how to achieve or help to resurrect the Soviet Union and Socialism there, to stand as the world guardian (*as USSR was before against world imperialism*) then they should proclaim it to the progressive movement in the USA and also in Canada!

Have they got a bone to pick with the policy of NSC? Are they opposed as to what the Organizing Committee for an International Council is trying to do since the USSR collapsed? You would think that they themselves would start organizing some other action to help the Soviet people who helped all of the world progressive movements in the world!

For 10 long years, since the destruction by "perestroika" there were numerous meetings, conferences, debates, congresses and numerous world publications, all of them trying to come up with an answer...but 10 years have gone and no **UNITY** was achieved not only organizationally but not even ideologically! This is true within former Soviet Union and in the world in general.

Meanwhile, Imperialism is doing its job of divide and rule and to a certain extent Imperialism and US multinational corporations are successful because the communist movement outside of the USSR and inside the Soviet Union have not found that **UNITY! WHY?**

Everyone seems to say that "we

have the answer" to these problems, meanwhile US Imperialism is getting more and more of a death grip over the former Soviet Union.

What will our children and grandchildren say to us? Will they then tell us that "You people (*like Nero*) played while Rome burned!"

It is therefore imperative that in year 2001 there should be established an International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People! Let us not muddy the murky waters even more! We must help the Soviet people in their struggle against world imperialism, headed by US. We owe this to them and also to our children and grandchildren!

ROT FRONT!

June L.F., Berlin, Germany

REGARDS FROM AZERBAIJAN

Dear comrades:

Herewith we're letting you know that we support the establishment of an International Council and would like to propose some suggestions for your consideration.

As you know, today on any map of the world there is nowhere to be seen the "Soviet Union" and also the utilization of the terminology "Soviet People". This is the unfortunate reality of today.

We would suggest the following name for the International Council as follows:

1. *International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Fighters for the resurrection of the USSR or...*
2. *International Front of Labor for the Resurrection of the USSR*

We are preparing our thoughts on this very necessary International Council and shall present it at the World Congress in 2001.

Dear comrades of NSC!

Our party and our readers like your magazine very much because on its pages we find important materials opening up con-

tacts during these contemporary times, plus the news about international processes that are taking place and actual problems that are now in the international communist movements.

Taking this into account, we ask your permission to translate every issue of NSC into the Azerbaijani language in order that we can distribute it in the Caucasus.

Please send us your e-mail since that will alleviate the very high cost of mailing materials by post from our country.

Sincerely yours
Sayad Sayadov
Secretary General of the
Communist United Party of
Azerbaijan

NEW CURRENCY-



DOUBLE-HEADED COIN



**SERVING
IMPERIALISM!**

GUEST EDITORIAL

WHY THE TEARS OVER THE ARREST IN RUSSIA OF VLADIMIR GUSINSKY?

All of a sudden the bourgeois press in Russia and in the West is crying great crocodile tears about the arrest of the multi-billionaire (*not a millionaire dear readers*) in Moscow, calling this the infringement of "free speech and criticism" of Putin etc. etc.

We agree that there is absolutely great reasons for criticizing Putin (*who is now benefiting from the millions of Gusinsky*) and his policies. But is this the real reason Gusinsky was arrested?

As we all know, millionaires and billionaires do not make all of their money overnight or even in scores of years. But, Mr. Gusinsky was able to accumulate all these billions inside of only 9 years, since "Perestroika" came on the USSR scene via Gorbachev? **Whom are we kidding?**

Why aren't these Western sponsored and financed public relation promoted crocodile tears, the news stories plus the political demands for his freedom not tell the following facts...which were released over the Russian Interfax Agency:

*Gusinsky holds Russian and Israeli citizenship!

*Gusinsky (according to the BBC news agency in Britain) is registered as a resident of the British colony of Gibraltar!

*What about the Bank of Russia charge of state property embezzlement and large deposits in Swiss Banks?

**As we go to press, Putin released Gusinsky, saying that it was "all a big mistake". How can Putin bite the hand of Gusinsky that feeds him?

Vladimir Ivanovich Bugalov
Tula, Russia

NEWS DIGEST COMMENT

Resolution in Support of Mumia Abu-Jamal

Whereas, Mumia Abu-Jamal is a political prisoner in the United States and is currently facing execution at the hands of U.S. imperialism, and

Whereas, Mumia is a renowned Afro-American journalist, freedom fighter against the police brutality and has become known as the "Voice of the voiceless", and

Whereas, Mumia Abu-Jamal was railroaded to prison and death row in 1981 by the U.S. repressive state apparatus for the alleged murder of a policeman, and

Whereas, the trial of Mumia violated all semblance of justice and fair play- witnesses disappeared or were coerced, witness testimony was fabricated, Mumia was denied the right to defend himself and the court appointed and incompetent "defense" attorney, money was not provided for ballistic tests and for other aspects of his defense and the presiding judge was a member of the Fraternal Order of Police and infamous for sentencing more prisoners to death than any other judge in the USA, and

Whereas, Mumia continued to be an international freedom fighter even from the death row and solitary confinement exemplified by his courageous and principal stand against the U.S. imperialist led NATO bombing of Yugoslavia, and

Whereas, the Afro-American national liberation struggle is a vital component of the world-wide liberation struggles of all the oppressed peoples against imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism, and

Whereas the struggle to free Mumia Abu-Jamal is an important part of the struggle against police

brutality in the USA and for Afro-American liberation and world socialism, therefore

Be It Resolved that the ICS gathering here in Brussels over May Day 2000 demand justice for Mumia Abu-Jamal and specifically demand that the U.S. imperialist repressive state apparatus immediately halt the pending execution of freedom-fighter Mumia Abu-Jamal and,

Be It Further Resolved that the many parties and organizations gathered here at the ICS work in our respective countries to free Mumia Abu-Jamal as part of our proletarian Internationalist responsibilities in order to advance the cause of national liberation and socialism.

RAY O LIGHT

The Resolution was adopted by 43 delegations present at the ICS in Belgium...including Ray O Light

KLA-LINKED GANGS COMMIT 2000 ROBBERIES IN SPAIN

By Luis Gomez in Madrid

"The group's organization, like its tactical operations, is military, and they are financing the Kosovo Liberation Army."

Two thousand holdups are a lot of attacks; too many crimes to be just a coincidence, according to the accounting of the Spanish Security Forces who seem to be helplessly observing the seemingly unstoppable activity of these KLA gangs who spearhead the robberies of Spanish companies.

According to Spanish security forces it seems that none of the members of these gangs spent anymore than a couple of days in jail. These gangs are now centrally commanded and are not

**JERRY MORSE
IN BERN
SWITZERLAND**

Voting in a referendum on May 2, 2000, Switzerland refused to join the European Union (EU) and wants to remain neutral and concentrate on its own economy and not be told by EU to donate billions to the over-bureaucratic top-heavy EU apparatus. International commerce is going on as before.

Sanctions by EU will not be placed on Switzerland as they are on Austria or some other countries...its the vehicle to toe the political EU line. Russia and other former republics should take this into account.

**WE NEED ONLY \$5,000
TO FULFILL
OUR SUSTAINING FUND**

**WE NEED YOUR
HELP!**

your typical criminal organization, according to the police and the Civil Guard. The nucleus of all of these gangs are made up of Kosovo Albanians coming from the former province of Kosovo. The group's organization as well as its tactical operations is very military and they finance the Kosovo Liberation Army.

"They act with effectiveness of trained commandos", acknowledges the spokesman for the Civil Guard and the private security company. They strike at night, they take all the money from the safes and they never ever use the same tools again, leaving them at the place of robbery so that no detection is possible. While there

were only 10 hold ups in Spain in 1995 and 25 in 1996, there were 160 in 1997, 626 in 1998 and no less than 918 in 1999. So far this year they have surpassed over 2000 robberies.

All robberies share the same characteristics as when it started in Valencia, then spread to Alicante and Madrid plus other localities across all of Spain... Tarragona, Validolid, Galicia and Levante. They live in luxury besides financing the KLA. Photos of some 300 members of this KLA is in the police files. There were some arrests but this did not stop the epidemic of robberies. They use sophisticated military phone-links, never using the same cell phones twice and seem to have great contacts in Germany where a large number of Albanians live.

It seems that there is a Central Command in all of these operations and so far these KLA gangs have robbed and amassed over 4,000 million pesetas. Most of it is sent then to bank accounts in Germany and Switzerland from where it is then funneled to Kosovo Liberation Army (*even though it's not called that now - Editor*) They have many money transfer accounts. They now are heavily investing their loot in order to gain more finances in prostitution brothels in order to give them cover for their activities.

Lately they have contacted Spanish right-wing groups in order to help them in these robberies. ■

FACTS ARE NOT FICTION!

From
GRANMA INTERNATIONAL
CUBA

*Some 35 million Americans, half of them children, have no health insurance.

*Twenty U.S. states send children to adult prisons and punished as adults.

*About 50% of the adolescents under 18 regularly take illegal drugs.

*Massacres in U.S. schools are becoming an epidemic and it has been calculated that there is more than 200,000,000 pistols, rifles and other types of firearms owned by U.S. citizens.

*The prison population in the USA has risen to 70,000,000, of whom 50% are Black since they are the target of police brutality.

*12% of US population is Black, the unemployment rate among them is over 43%.

*Blacks make up 48% of the homeless that are forced to live on the streets.

*One of the fastest growing industries in American is the privatization of prisons. Last year alone 76,000 prisoners were held by private companies who take advantage of cheap labor to maximize profits.

**ISN'T U.S. DEMOCRACY GRAND?
WHY DOESN'T THE REST OF
THE WORLD FOLLOW THIS
EXAMPLE?** ■

"Communists are to blame!"

What is happening today is a massive effort to put the blame for the collapse on the communists, rather than on the real culprits. This propaganda flourishes amongst some of the Soviet people as also amongst émigré Russians and also some sections of the progressive people.

As per the article from newspaper "Red Youth" in the April issue of NSC...amongst the most often asked questions...

"...ever since the late 1970's (and this started with Krushchev after 1953-Editor) under General Secretary Andropov, there began a massive purge of dedicated communists from all politically influential administrative posts, right throughout the whole country. Gorbachev then continued this "job". Thus by the time he was destroying the Soviet economy,

between the 27th and 28th CPSU Congresses and after, neither the CC of CPSU or the Politburo, the regional, local, or territorial party organizations were under Communist control, but in the hands of "perestroyechniki" or Gorbachev's opportunists."

Dr. Vera Butler
Australian International Studies
Association
"Counter-revolution
The Politics of "Perestroika" ■

HOW TRUE IT IS!

By Bill Grigg - USA

Mankind is aware of its moral and intellectual fallibilities, but too compulsively egocentric to accept them. Instead men shy away from morally accountable responsibility and invoke all the sanctions of imagined God to answer for their ignorance and their indiscretions. Certainly if all this gore and agony and sorrow is anyone's fault, the fault sets squarely on God. Did he not create the foundations of this damnable mess in the first place? The God is imaginary, but the mess is not. Therein lies a crucial distinction.

Yes...this certainly confirms all of the teachings of Marx and Engels about the need to change society and also that religion is the opium for the people. Editor. ■

A CAPITALIST DIPLOMAT
A well-dressed gentleman in a high top silk hat who speaks what he doesn't mean and means what he doesn't speak!

**AUGUST ISSUE IS THE
9TH ANNIVERSARY OF
NORTHSTAR COMPASS!**

We hope to
hear from you!

NEWS FROM THE SOVIET UNION

FROM NEWSPAPER
"VOICE OF A COMMUNIST"
 MOSCOW, RUSSIA

This newspaper is the official organ of the CC Russian Communist Party-CPSU. In an article about the past March 26th presidential election, here's what the Editorial said:



WHAT'S AHEAD?

Yes, the election choir has ended its concert. What is waiting for Russia? What does the State want from the people and what do the people want from the State?

It's obvious that the State (Putin) wants perseverance and obedience. The State shall receive this but only for a short period of time. The people shall receive from the State 100 days of hopefulness and 100 days of disappointments. This is the guaranteed position of Putin--- the person who wants to immediately sit on all the chairs.

"We must fight not with the Communists, but for a better life for the people"- said Putin. We also state that "We must fight not against Putin but for a better life for all the people, which means struggles against the present regime and against those who are defending it!"

Putin immediately stated that he must make the State stronger and continue much faster the market reforms. But at this juncture this is impossible in Russia. The manipulation of counted votes is obvious to all even by this one fact alone...On March 27 the



Putin pictured here as a two-headed eagle will try to rule by pleasing the two sides and thus it will be easy for him to divide and rule.

counted ballots overnight gave Putin votes quite different from those that were officially tabulated on March 26th...they rose from 45% the night before to 52% the morning after!

(Other articles in NSC dealt more in detail with this manipulation and falsification of votes. Editor)

Even in spite of this manipulation Putin and his administration did not get a majority of 70% of votes as they predicted.

The political situation is understood, since Putin has not yet formed his own party to support his every effort. His main support is from the "New Russians" and their capital and also from the national-patriots and from the flow of former left-wing voters who voted for Putin. Thus Putin's tactics will be to try and please the right and the left...very tactfully exploiting each side against the other and thus "governing".

What about the "official" opposition. We would like to be wrong here, but the CPRF (Zyuganov) shall do everything necessary to go on a compromising road with Putin. Now, the tactic of the CPRF leadership faction in the Russian Duma is not to vote as a "block" but to have each CPRF Deputy vote as he likes...and thus guarantee acceptance of any plans as

put forward by Putin.

It is predictable that Putin shall get full agreement from the CPRF on privatization of the land and the new Labor Code which the Russian working class is fighting against. All this will bring into play the complete disorientation and fragmentation inside the CPRF ranks in the Duma and also amongst its membership.

Therefore, the role of all the left Communist parties now is to unite its ranks, come up with a fighting program and tactics to meet the present situation."

For those that saw the Inauguration of Putin on TV should have no doubt that he has pretensions to be the Czar of Greater Russia. Even the honor guards during the lavish and costly ceremony were dressed in the uniforms of the Czar Guards of old. The participation and the role of the Russian Orthodox Church leaders is deplorable and to be condemned! ■

**TO OUR SOVIET
 FRIENDS
 ARISE YOU
 MIGHTLY LAND!**

HELEN BLAU



Actions Speak Louder Than Words

If I am not enthusiastic,
If you are not enthusiastic,
If we are not enthusiastic,
Who'll dissipate the darkness
here then?

(Nazim Hikmet Ran*)

The subject of patriotism is as old as the human race, for historically elements of patriotism as a kind of attachment to national land, language, traditions were formed already in ancient times. But at the same time as society evolutionally developed, social and economic structures changed, new elements entered into the concept of patriotism. The subject of patriotism is urgent up to now when peace is unstable and the people are under the pressure of hunger, cold, illness and other misfortunes caused by the dismemberment of the Soviet Union and the elimination of socialism.

Political life now in Georgia as well as in other former republics of the USSR is characterized through its diversity. More than 125 political parties are engaged in it. The palette of political views is multi-colored. Probably each member of each political party considers himself to be a real patriot and is sure that his energies are bent only to the successful development of Georgia. At least no one loses the chance to convince the citizens of the country of that. Under the circumstances a rhetorical question is quite natural to arise: "Which political forces then are carriers of genuine patriotism in Georgia?" At first sign the question may seem difficult to answer. But, on the second thought, the answer can be found as easy as ABC, considering that in a class society the

content of patriotism also becomes a class one, for each class expresses its attitude towards the Motherland through specific interests characteristic of it. As bourgeoisie becomes a ruling class its patriotism stops to reflect national features and limits itself to exploiter interests, for according to V.I.Lenin (*the complete works; Edition 5, B.36, pages 322-339*) "...capital puts the protection of its union of capitalists of all the countries against the working people above the interests of the Motherland, people and whatever else..."

Adhering to the lately preferred of differentiating political parties as the Right and the Left, it is appropriate to mention here that Leftism is pursued in Georgia only by the Union of People's Patriotic Forces (*a social and political movement*) which comprises the United Communist Party of Georgia and several other organizations. All other political parties are in fact bourgeois.

It is only the Rights among which the Parliamentary seats were distributed after the October 1999 election. Working out the policies of the country, both the party in power, which has a majority of seats, and the opposition minority are sure that they are going the right way. But members of the Union of People's Patriotic Forces have an opposite view, which were openly expressed by the speakers at the 3rd Congress of the UPFG held on February 10 of this year in Tbilisi (*First stage*) and February 25th in Kutaisi** (*Second stage*). The participants unanimously denounced the present ruling regime as undemocratic and antipopular. The Statement adopted by the Congress says: (*printed in the Georgian newspaper Kommunist, No.3 page 1, 2000*) "...Mr.Shevernadze and his regime have brought the country to the edge of catastrophe; the

only way for Georgia and the Georgian nation to survive is to change the present regime..."

The word "*patriot*" is defined as a person who loves and is ready to defend his country. As far as I understand it, love of a person for his Motherland is expressed to his attitude toward the people living in it, especially if a person is one of those in power, one of those, who are trying to prove the necessity of carrying out the reforms in all spheres of life, which in fact have ruined all the remnants of socialism in Georgia...repeatedly claim that the world is changing. Of course, it is. And it would be a political blunder to deny that, But, their statements inevitably entails two rhetorical questions: "*Is the world changing for the better or for the worst? Is it changing for the advantage of all the working people or only for the advantage of a comparatively small group of world bosses?*"

Asserting that Georgia is on the way to progress and social stability, the representatives of the ruling regime, using all of the propaganda means within their grasp, enumerate first of all the latest achievements of the country on the international level...such as joining the United Nations Organization, the European Union and the World Trade Organization, as well as laying of the oil pipeline Baku-Supsa and putting it into operation. (*The value of this oil pipeline is \$6009 million American and its length through the territory of Georgia is 370 kilometers.*)

But when the Left opposition produced well-grounded claims that these achievements haven't settled urgent internal problems of the country, which are not confined only to ones present day problems to the large section of the population, the people in power responded right away, "*None so blind as those who will*

not see." My reply to that would be, "The rich and the poor see differently."

Though under pressure of all the dismal facts of the daily life, the leaders of the country had to admit openly that little attention has been attached both by the former membership of the Georgian Parliament and the present government to the mounting urgent social problems. It should be noted however that in the pre-election appeals October 1999 the party in power asserted that the next 4-5 years would be the beginning of the golden years for all citizens. My reply to that would be, "Of course, while there is life there is hope, but yet a bird in hand is worth two in the bush!"

Dear readers:

I cannot tell you how many compatriots would share my reply, but according to the reports of the progressive Georgian press, 80% of the population of the country are starving and are deprived of common living conditions. Some newspapers sight data of 90% or even 95%. Whichever figure is true, no doubt, it is regrettably striking and proved... that...the Georgian model of market economy and the construction of a democratic state have totally collapsed, and as more time passes the more the country sinks into an economic crisis. The leaders of Georgia failed to pay off the pensions, salaries and wages for the previous few years." (*Newspaper Zarya Vostoka, No.18, page 2, 2000*).

Mass poverty of the majority of the Georgian people is an indisputable present-day reality. I would like to draw the NSC readers attention to another grim fact. Old age pensions were not paid up for 6-7 months on end at the best makes up 12 lari (1=\$ 6Am) or 14 lari (= \$7 Am). The cheapest loaf of bread costs 35 tetri (1 lari=100 tetri). Average monthly salary of an employee is 40-50 lari. According to the data of Statistical Department of Georgia (*printed in the newspaper Zarya Vostoka, No. 22. 2000*) "living

wage of a Georgian family consisting of 4 persons accounted for 184.5 - 196.6 lari per month. Do many people have a living wage if 3-4 persons in a family are unemployed? The data of the late 1999 are even less consolatory - the living wage accounted for about 200 lari per person per month. But the present regime keeps mum on these figures and supplies their own inflation figures, although its Statistical Board give the lie to their figures. All pensions and salaries are now firmly frozen. Doesn't it look like an undercurrent policy of genocide?

"Ten years have passed since the coup d'etat in Georgia. The Soviet power was thrown down with the "national liberators" i.e. violent nationalists rose in ap-

plause, - says the article in the newspaper *Zarya Vostoka, #8, 2000* - "The new powers rejected all the socialist values and quickly turned to the path of market economy - meaning capitalism. Under the slogans of sovereignty and independence, the newly baked "patriots-fathers of the nation", disregarding everything solemnly stopped Georgia's membership in the Soviet Union."

Well, as you make your bed, so you must lie on it. The truth of the proverb can be easily revealed by referring to some statistical data produced by the article under the headline "Ten years that shook Georgia" (*printed in Zarya Vostoka, #8, 2000, page 1*) which in my opinion deserves some specific attention.

GEORGIA IN 1989 (SOVIET GEORGIA)		GEORGIA IN 1999 (CAPITALIST GEORGIA)	
Population	5,400 million people	Population	3 million people
Length of life	72.2 years	Length of life	64.2 years
men	68 years	men	60 years
women	75 years	women	67.8 years
Birth rate per		Birth rate per thousand	5
1 thousand people	16.7	Death rate	16.2
Death rate	8.6	Decrease in population	11.2
Increase in population	8.1		
NO UNEMPLOYMENT		MASS UNEMPLOYMENT	

Truly there is no difference if you are killed by the government or by an individual - you are just as dead either way. To make the picture even more vivid, several compatible data of the output of

some kinds of products of the staple goods and food processing industries should be illustrated here, which will unfold before the readers the unbelievable production decrease in Georgia.

NAME OF THE BASIC DATA	SOVIET GEORGIA 1989	CAPITALIST GEORGIA 1989	DECREASE NUMBER TIMES
1. COAL per 1000 ton	1,152	8.1	252 times
2. STEEL per 1000 ton	1,429	NO	NO
3. IRON ROLLING per 1000 ton	1,129	No	NO
4. STEEL PIPES per 1000 ton	504	0.9	560 times
5. CARCASS WEIGHT 1000 ton	171.2	6 Tons	28.5 thousand
6. MILK per 1,000 ton	719.2	5.5	132 times
7. CANNED FOOD million cans	701.0	2.5	280 times
8. KNIT GOODS million units	56.0	17,000 pairs	3,294 times
9. LEATHER SHOES million pair	16.1	62.7 pairs	235 times
<i>Zarya Vostoka, No. 8, 2000</i>			

I think that there is no need for enumerating the rest of the 25 basic data printed in the Table of Data as the same gloomy picture will unfold. Even a comparatively small number of the above illustrated figures tend to the conclusion that the consequences of the dismemberment of the Soviet Union are horrible.

It is not only the politicians who are worried about the economic crisis in the country. Some Georgian scientists state that the economic reforms have proved to be very destructive. They make their views known via newspaper articles producing well-researched and convincing arguments. From their viewpoint it is impossible to recover the economy and settle social matters under the present power system, which logically leads to the conclusion that it has to be changed. But the representatives of the present regime have staked too much on the present process to allow it to be shattered as easily as ripe summer watermelon.

President Shevernadze in his pre-election promises was full of resolute aim to establish paradise in the next 4-5 years in Georgia! Well, as the proverb says: "The proof of the pudding is in the eating". I personally dare to express very much doubt as to whether paradise can be established by leaps and bounds. It is a long-term task. I think, moreover, under the present regime and system of power it looks like building a sand castle!

Here a question arises as to how to go on and what to do about the people's suffering and bring it to an end. The people are already fed up with broken promises and do not believe the leaders any longer. It is their democratic right. All lies come unmasked sooner or later. The people are sick and tired of the ruling regime with its waste and destruction of moral values, when everything that is opposed to socialism is hailed as positive. The people condemn the hypocrisy of the bourgeois morality. Though they protest against it and the rotten

order of things passionately, their indignation turns into a blind alley, for many of them are still blind supporters of the alleged "independence" of the country. Yet, more and more people express their disagreement with the policy of the party in power and are ready to uphold the ideas, which can lead the country out of this crisis. More and more people begin to understand that the United Communist Party of Georgia is the only political party advocating the interests of the working class, and more and more people center their hopes on the Union of People's Patriotic Forces of Georgia. More and more people are joining its ranks.

I tend to think that comprising the non-parliamentary parties together and acting strictly under the present law, the tactics and strategy of the UPPFG should be looked at again and some other essential matters should be fully considered. And more and more the following should be borne in mind - **actions speak louder than words!**

**NAZIM HIKMET RAN (1902-1963) Turkish writer, publicist, public figure, hereditary revolutionary Communist, founder of the Turkish revolutionary poetry, member of the Buro (1951) and the Presidium (1959) of the World Peace Council. International Lenin Peace Prize Laureate. Poems by Naxim Hikmet call for the struggle for a better future, for friendship of all peoples with the Soviet Union and for peace.*

**The quatrain has been translated into English by Helen Blau. Children's Encyclopedis, Moscow Edition, page 172 Vol. 10.*

***KUTAISI - the second largest city in Georgia*

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FROM NEWSPAPER
VOICE OF A COMMUNIST
RUSSIA

ONE STEP BACK, TWO STEPS FORWARD

A Conference took place on April 22, 2000 of the **Russian Communist Parties Union**, in which there took part the Russian Communist Workers Party, All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks, Russian Party of Communists and the Russian Communist Party-CPSU. At the start of the Conference, all the participants of this gathering laid wreaths and flowers at the Lenin Mausoleum.

Each party leader or delegate spoke on the conference theme at hand - namely the unity of the parties against the present bourgeois regime of Putin.

The AUCPB let it be known that it has decided to rejoin the Russian Communist Parties Union.

All parties agreed that without a second socialist revolution there is no way that socialism or the Soviet Union shall be resurrected. A decision was made then to call an extraordinary Congress of all Communist and all left-wing parties-movements in the fall of this year and to approach those organizations that have not as yet joined the **ROSSKOMSOYUZ**.

The participants of this Conference unanimously agreed that the biggest revisionist danger in the Communist movement are the policies of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation (CPRF) and they all agreed that this party (CPRF) cannot be considered a communist party at all, since it carries on the work of Gorbachev and it supports the present bourgeois regime.

FELIX
GORELIK



On May 7th of this year in Moscow, Russia there was held an "Inauguration of the President". Putin, who was elected by 30% of the population if you take into account the millions that didn't even bother to vote, took his oath of office. This arranged spectacle reminded one of "Wedding in Heaven". Part of the ritual were enacting scenes from film maker Mikhalko called "Civil Barber", based as an analogue of Alexander III going to heaven, all of this plus the blessing and Church mass by the Patriarch. In place of the crown and scepter - Yeltsin gave Putin the highest Medal of Russia "For Service to the Fatherland"...which Yeltsin wore, we do not know for what he received such a "deserved" Medal! Blessing his personally hand-picked candidate, Yeltsin stated: "Take care of Russia!" In his acceptance speech Putin pledged that he will honor and defend the constitution and independence of Russia and serve the people.

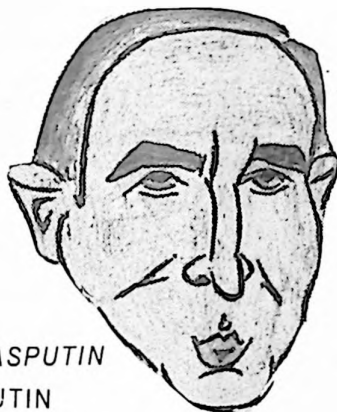
This grandiose ceremony, watched by millions of people was two-faced and hypocritical. There was not one word of truth spoken there! Hypocrisy was concluded by stating one thing in words, while doing something else in deeds.

Yeltsin appealed to "Defend Russia"? Was he not the one who dismembered the USSR and Russia in the first place, and then signed the final act in the Belovezh Agreement? Because of this over 25,000,000 Russians found themselves behind the borders of Russia as second-class citizens and forced to have no rights at all. Russia practicality has no ocean touching its borders in the West as was accomplished by Peter the Great. Putin is trying

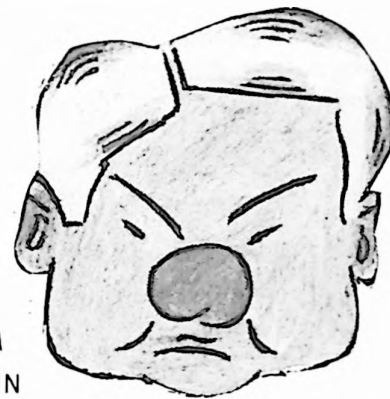
HYPOCRISY

to douse the flames with the fires started by Gorbachev and Yeltsin in the Caucasus. Is this not so? Bombed into oblivion, the city of Grozny and tens of other cities and towns. He is bragging about his "victories", throwing in tanks, airplanes, artillery against the Chechen "terrorists". Utilizing all of the mass media, Putin not once has told the truth to the people: the tragedy of Chechniya, where the Russian population is dying, where in the last two wars over 100,000 people perished since the liquidation of the USSR and of the CPSU that held and solidified the friendship of all the people, throwing over 100 nationalities into the dustbin of anarchy. If

in private hands, plus the land. His main task now is to defend the gains of the capitalist class. Practically a day before his inauguration, the head of the State, Kasianov, proclaimed that the oil industry giant is up for sale to private foreign conglomerate, but of course it shall be "controlled". People of Russia already know as how this "control" works. Taking over the Soviet industrial complexes, these private, internal and foreign owners managed to "skim off the top" billions of dollars and put them into off-shore banks for a rainy day. That is why Putin is calling for more "foreign investors" who now are stock holders and buying up properties



RASPUTIN
PUTIN



VODKA
YELTSIN

there was in Russia no Gorbachev's "perestroika" and Yeltsin's counterrevolution, Dudaev and Maskhadov, these two would have been officers in the Soviet Army, and thousands of soldiers, fighters would still be involved in peaceful and productive work for the benefit of their people.

In his speech Putin called upon all the Russian people to unite. Again a two-faced and demagogic appeal. Unity between who? Odigarkhov, Berezovski, Chernomydrin, Chubais, Potanina and others, who have robbed and raped the Soviet people and dismembered the great country...will the working class unite with them?

Putin from the start pledged that he shall not eliminate the grabbed industries which are now

in the West and West Indies.

The double standards and hypocrisy was also shown in the celebration of the 55th Anniversary of the Second World War. In Moscow there took place a parade of those Second World War veterans that are still living, who received cheap gifts and flowers. Even here you saw hypocrisy on this very sacred holiday. Lies! Gorbachev, Yeltsin and all their clique have decimated all the gains of the Great Patriotic War! They fulfilled the unfulfilled plans of Hitler: dismembered the USSR, dispersed and also liquidated the Communist Party, gave rebirth to capitalism, they turned the Soviet Republics into neo-colonies of the United States of America!

They made this "Victory Pa-

rade" as a smoke screen to fool the people in order that the people would not ask: Who is it that stole all the fruits of socialism and our Victory? Why is it that the victorious people who were the victors have become the victims?

Yes, 55 years ago the Soviet people really saved all of humanity from the Hitlerite storm. And this became possible only because the Soviet people were united around the Communist party, which was headed by Stalin, because Stalin was defending the Constitution of the USSR, the friendship of all the people, and let us remember that during the 5-year Plans there was built a mighty industrial country which was hardened as steel towards victory. This was the victory of the people over imperialism. But about this the present "democrats" keep silent over their television, radio and the press.

In spite of all this, amongst the parade you saw victory flags flying proudly with the hammer and sickle shining brightly on the red. But Yeltsin and Putin made certain that the traitorous flags of Vlasov were to be flown in their majority. The Russian Orthodox Church Patriarch is forever on the TV screens (each day) and blessing the praying public, from the president to the generals and soldiers, proclaiming that the Day of Victory would never have been achieved without crosses and the icons!? Religion today is much needed to be the "opium for the people".

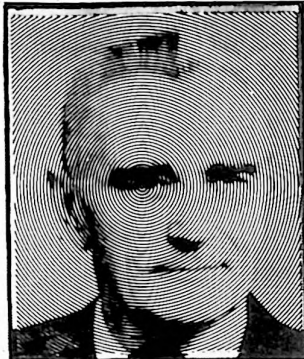
This "democracy" which today the bourgeois counterpoises to "totalitarianism" reminds one of the circus clowns and the illusionists. In front of them are the zombified audience while they perform their illusionary trickery. Yesterday, he was not known to anyone in Russia, now Putin, the "servant of two masters" - Sobchak, the gravedigger of Lenin-grad which he renamed and Yeltsin - the gravedigger of the USSR - became the president of Russia. No amount of illusions or clever illusionists shall never ever de-

feat reality. Two faced schemes and hypocrisy are now losing ground amongst the people after the bitter Truth appears on the stage. Putin undertook upon him-

self the work of former grave diggers-Gorbachev and Yeltsin- to become the...

GRAVE DIGGER NUMBER THREE!

**PROFESSOR
VLADIMIR
HERASYMCHUK**



In a detailed article about the Ukrainian "referendum" Herasymchuk explains the cheating and skullduggery of this referendum. We had published in previous issues of NSC this extensively. We felt that by presenting the photographs of protests and cartoons that appeared in the left press would show our readers that there was absolutely no way, as president Kuchma trumpeted to the press that: "81.31% people came to vote and that 82-90% of those that voted approved the results of the referendum"!

Instead of this article, we shall give you the opinions of some of the European Parliament observers that were in Ukraine during this "successful referendum".

***DENMARK-**

Official observer and spokesman Severinsen stated that if the European Parliament observers were to concur with these results, it would mean that the EP condones the counterrevolution which this referendum will accomplish.

***SWITZERLAND-**

Deputy Gross said that proposal of president Kuchma is a wrong utilization of the instrument of a referendum for own aims.

***ESTONIA**

Representing the liberal democrats in Estonia, Mr. Oyanand criticized very sharply the holding of such a referendum.

***HUNGARY-**

The European Parliament must

What was the meaning of this "Referendum" of Kuchma?

send a strong signal to Kuchma that this referendum is anti-democratic and is also anti-constitutional.

***GREAT BRITAIN-**

Deputy Jones stated that his delegation knows what president Kuchma of Ukraine is trying to achieve - which is an outright dictatorship and the British delegation does not believe president Kuchma.

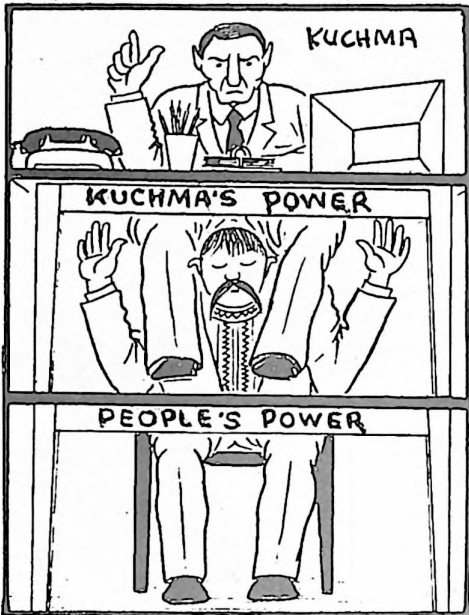
* Many Deputies from the Federal Republic of Germany (Berendt), Moldova (Solomari) and others criticized the holding of such a referendum.

*Only an insignificant minority group of staunch Conservative

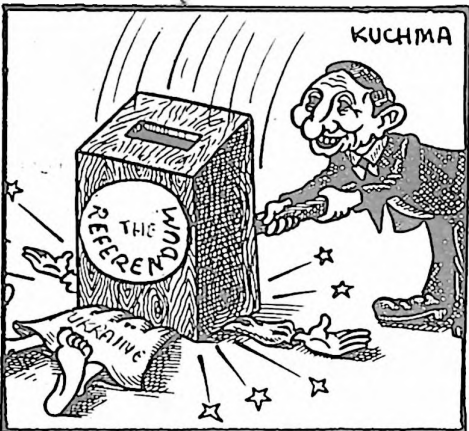


members of the European Parliament did concur with Kuchma to hold such a referendum..

DID KUCHMA LISTEN TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT? OF COURSE NOT!



Above: Referendum means now - Kuchma on top controls below



Kuchma flattens Ukraine with the referendum!
Thousands protested the Referendum!

These photographs and the cartoons are from newspapers, Kommunist, Tovarish and Grani.

With sincere thanks to Herasymchuk.

These photos tell a different story!

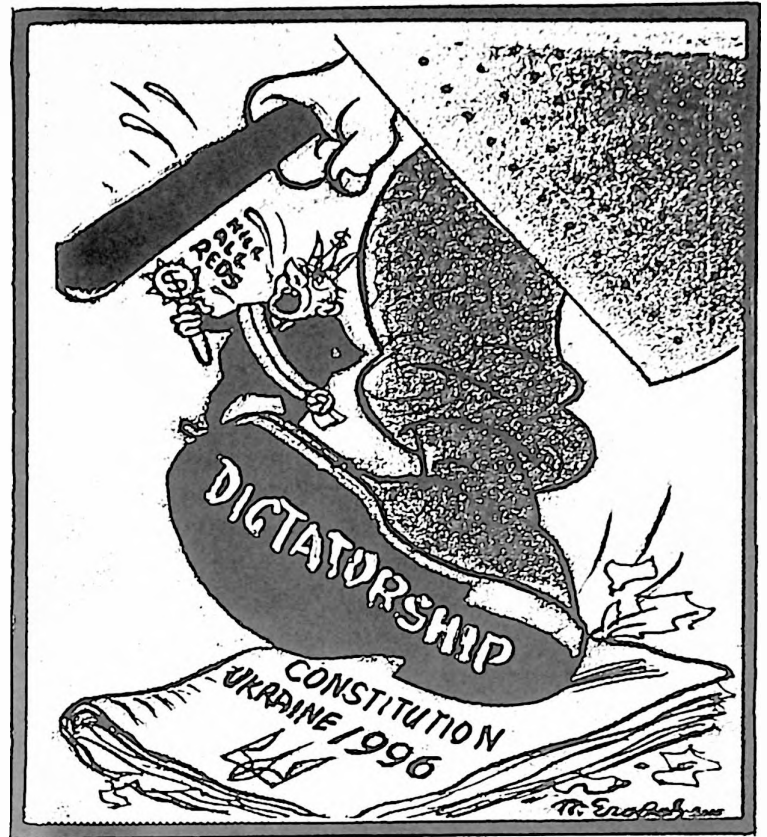


Фото Николая ЛИЗОГУБЕНКО

"UKRAINE DIDN'T DIE YET?"

Please look carefully, my dear readers at the photographs herein, from the newspaper "Kommunist". These people whom you can see, for many years worked diligently on a collective farm Vatutin in the village of Karatul, Khmelnsky region of Ukraine near Kiev. They were building a new life under socialism. They were happy even though the times were hard before and during the war. With every year their lives were getting better and they had enough for all their needs. When the appearance of Gorbachev's, Yeltsin's, Krawchuk's and also Kuchma's "perestroika" came along, things changed very drastically.

Vasil Mishenko worked as a mechanic for 38 years, while his wife Olga was a milk maid. This Collective Farm had over 3,000 head of cattle and their pay was in the amount that they had everything. But now... how can you live on 37 hriven per month, which is only \$7.00 old age pension?

Now, without any input or agreement by the collective farmers, the state has privatized all the farm lands, telling people that "Now you own your own land!" He protested as did many collective farmers but they were told: "Take your personal belongings and get out to whatever corner of the earth you want!" Where can anyone go when all the machinery is on the collective farm and expropriated by the private owners?

Because of Kuchma's reforms, the village of "Mala Karatul" as do other villages and towns are dying out. His own village of 70 houses is completely boarded up and no one is living there.

"Ukraine is not dead yet" - are the words of the present Hymn of Ukraine. Yes, of course Ukraine is not dead yet...it is still breathing. Step by step the villages are dying. Ukraine is sinking away fast from its glorious past as a Soviet Republic .



They fought and worked for Socialism and the USSR! Now Vasil and Olga Mishenko are on the verge of despair!

Results of Kuchama's "Reformation" in the village of Sasiv

As was reported by the newspaper "Village News" (21-04,2000 by Igor Tabilsky) the collective farm "Bug" in the village of Sasiv, Lvov region, not too long ago was one of the modern, mechanized agricultural enterprises. They had 2,500 pigs, 2,200 cattle, amongst whom were 600 milking cows. The harvest of fruit, vegetables and other plants were such that all the collective farmers were very happy at their wages and amenities. The collective farmers who

were retired received pensions from the collective farm as well as from the state.

After Kuchma's "reformism" (read as total robbery) the village went into dust. This can be seen by the photographs herein, as it looks today after being one of the collective farms that every other collective farm emulated to be like it.

After the collective farm was liquidated, all the farmers were forced to work in private farming



collective as if they were "share holders". This showed itself to be very false. All of the machinery, implements of the collective farm were robbed and dispersed who knows where and left in ruins. The former collective farmers now became "hungry kings". As an example, Andrei Pucila received from the former rich Collective Farm "Bug" two cattle barns in absolutely ruined condition as the photo shows. The ten cows that he got, were in such a starved condition that he was forced to ask for feed from the next village.

In order to plant and sow for this year, he has no machinery at all or even gas or oil.

Dear foreign friends and comrades! This is not just one example of the catastrophe that is plaguing Ukraine! This is not a bad dream, not a fable of bad omen or ghosts! This is today's reality. We are left only to marvel, that the citizens of Ukraine under the yoke of the present bourgeoisie robbers and Ukrain-



This Ukrainian citizen is probably thinking to himself: "From Soviet tractors, combines, trashers and seedling machinery, now I have to do it by horses and rickety wagon? Is this progress?"

ian nationalists, without a whimper march onward under the massive influence of the daily barrage of the bourgeois press to

their personal guillotine.

This is based on the articles in "Village News".

THE PRESENT

By Professor Herasymchuk

The President once said
 To the administration head:
 Do give me a present
 On inauguration day.
 The people I will round up for you,
 A bagful of money I will give you,
 And a guard that will protect you.
 A fine robbery that will be.
 Raise a mausoleum for me
 On the Central Square,
 So that people may come there
 On pilgrimages.
 I will raise it by Eastertime!
 Is it so difficult a task?
 I do love you as I would my mother!
 I'm just waiting for the corpse...

Translated by Professor Michael Ukas

The Design for the

New Symbol of Kuchma's Ukraine!



From newspaper "Tovarish"

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

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

STRUGGLE GOES ON COMRADES!

By I.V.KNYSHOV
Krasnyj Lutch, Ukraine

The struggles against the present regime of Kuchma in the Ukraine is going on in spite of the creeping fascism. A case in point are my struggles that readers of NSC have already become very familiar with.

My court appearances and my unemployment already for 3 years are known far and wide because of my activities in organizing the miners and as a safety inspector I am being hounded and controlled by the police so that I do not proceed further with my court case against the government and the private owners who have brought the miners lives to a danger point because of the terrible unsafe conditions in the mines.

Kuchma predicted that there shall not be May Day demonstrations anywhere...but look just at some of the photographs in my little locality! People came out en masse to protest all the policies and the living conditions.

I am forced to go from court to court, to different localities and undergo the degrading task of being accused of all sorts of crimes, just because I stand for the safety of the miners, for the resurrection of the Soviet Union and for socialism!

(Here comrade Knyshov writes details of all the prosecutors names and procedures he undergoes which is omitted here-Editor)

Because of all these events my father died of a heart attack and my mother is now half blind without any help from the authorities. But...this makes me even more determined to carry on and fight for socialism as a member of the All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks! ■



Knyshov, member of AUCPB in Krasnyj Lutch at a demonstrator on May Day. He is on the right of the sign. Notice many young people.

Knyshov on the right with young miners and the communist press.



OUR MOTHERLAND - USSR! VANGUARD OF COMMUNIST YOUTH

FROM NEWSPAPER
MOLNIYA
MOSCOW

On next page are some photographs showing delegates and demonstration organized by the "Vanguard of Communist Youth" which is closely associated with the movement "Trudovaya Rossiya".

The 2nd Congress of the Vanguard Communist Youth took place on May 8-9. The Congress called upon the youth of the USSR not to give up the gains of socialism to world imperialism and to defend the gains of the Great October Socialist Revolution of 1917.

The slogan adopted by all the



Logo of Vanguard Communist Youth

"Our Motherland is the USSR!"

delegates was:
"YOUTH IS FOR COMMUNISM!"

On May 7th which was the day of the inauguration of Putin, Vanguard Communist Youth held a demonstration and the police dispersed them violently and 14 young people were arrested. This Vanguard Communist Youth has branches in 32 regions of Russia plus four other former Soviet republics.

These young fighters also held a Festival of Songs that were protest songs against the bourgeois regime. It was held in front of the House of Soviets where in 1993 thousands of Soviet people perished by the tanks and cannons set upon them by Yeltsin.

We feel that these photos speak louder than words that Soviet youth do see that the future is very bleak for them unless they struggle, unite all of their forces, and together with the unified communist parties shall take the revolutionary step to completely overthrow the present US supported regime!



Sergei Udaltsov, Commander of the Moscow Battalion of AKM

Just some photos of young delegates to the 2nd Youth AKM Congress.



1945-2000



55th

The heroism of these Soviet veterans shall live forever Stalin and Lenin shall arise to lead the results of the war

On June 24, 1945, four years after Nazi Germany's attack on the Soviet Union, the banners of the defeated Nazi army were cast down by the participants in the Victory Parade on Red Square in Moscow. More than 26,000,000 Soviet people perished in this war. The world lost 50,000,000 people in this terrible carnage which was started and abetted by the imperialist powers, desperately trying to defeat the USSR. It is necessary that young generations should know these facts!

On May 9th there were thousands of former Soviet Union veterans proudly marching, with their hands on their hearts, as they are now 55 years old. Socialism is in their hearts and they were sold by the traitors.



Anniversary of World War II

Live on forever! Another Marshal Zhukov, refection of the Soviet Union!

place celebrations all over the main cities by veterans of the Great Patriotic War, bringing their well-earned medals. Although older, their heroism and dedication to soldiers, even though their hard-earned victories were instilled capitalism and the devas-

tation that the Soviet people find themselves in now. These veterans knew who was the enemy during the Second World War...they also know who is their enemy now. These veterans, together with the young generation, workers, communist and workers parties are heading towards unity in order to resurrect the Soviet Union.



IS THIS THE FUTURE OF PUTIN-RASPUTIN'S RUSSIA?



14 year old Slava of Leningrad, shooting heroin

In an excellent and very well researched article, published by the bourgeois newspaper in Canada, *"The Globe and Mail,"* Geoffrey York uncovers all the horrors of heroin and HIV epidemic sweeping Russia now. We just summarize the main points of this article. We wonder why is it that the communist press in former Soviet Union does not raise a hue and cry about this? If Socialism and the coming resurrection of the Soviet Union is ever-going to take place, these young people must be in the vanguard in the coming revolution!

*Production and shipping of heroin is coming from Afghanistan

without too much trouble. Border guards are bribed, police officials in the cities get their take also. The dealers in the cities and towns are also now openly brewing their own synthetic versions.

*A gram of heroin is only \$50 in former Leningrad, which is much cheaper than in the USA, thus giving the US racketeers an open door into Russia via Afghanistan.

*There are over 3,000,000 drug addicts across Russia.

*HIV epidemic has risen by 350 percent in Russia.

*Dr. Vadim Pokrovsky, a leading Russian scientist and epidemiologist stated that: *"An entire young generation will perish!"*

*In the far east city of Irkutsk,

where there was never any drug use or HIV before, the number of cases of HIV has risen from 200 to 5,000 in the past year alone.

*Because of the drastic health-care costs the hospitals are overcrowded, impoverished and now they cannot handle this drug epidemic.

*In Kaliningrad, more than 70% of the drug users are infected with AIDS and health authorities predict that inside of 10 years, if there is no help, over 10,000,000 Russians shall be infected with AIDS virus by the year 2005.

*Experts predict that by year 2050 Russia's population will fall below 100 million from the present 146 million people.

*Private Western companies supply clean needles and condoms since Russian authorities do not seem to care.

*To upkeep their drug habits, the teens turn to prostitution and now they could be seen in every corner of each city. These teen age prostitutes (*both male and female*) have to bribe the police by 50 rubles, plus pay their pimps. If the police change shifts, the new police on duty demand another bribe.

— *Geoffrey York ends his article by quoting teenagers that were interviewed for this article, which we feel says it all:*

"These people do not see any future, they have very few economic prospects to look forward to, and they're looking desperately for an easy way to solve their problems!"

The Future of any country are its youth. If our Soviet friends do not soon unite all of their forces against the tragic danger that is rushing upon them, it might be too late!

FELIX
GORELIK



FROM A MASS-TO A CLASS,- FROM A CLASS- TO A MASS

Why is the working class on the territory of the USSR not showing a determined struggle against its enemy, the present usurpers of power, leaving the working class without any social rights, thrown into a situation as slave labor or by not getting paid for 6-9 months at a time? This paradox is not understood by the communists in the West... it just takes a little provocation against the working class in France, Italy or Germany that touches upon their hard-earned rights, for the streets to be filled immediately with hundreds of thousands and millions of workers demonstrating against the injustice.

In order to answer this question of vital importance, let us look into the question of what kind role does a Communist party play in the workers understanding of their class nature and class interests? Without the role of a Communist Party, the workers represent a "class in itself". If there is not even a trade union organization besides, the workers represent an unorganized mass, capable only of a subdued demonstration in only their enterprise. A Party of Bolsheviks, formed by V.I.Lenin, brought into this subdued demonstration a class consciousness: "combining socialism with the working class". The role of a Communist party is to help workers to understand and see their basic class interests, raise the situation of the struggle for the elimination of exploitation of man by man, for socialism. The party, together with this, through party organizations in the enterprises and industries, in all regions takes on an *organizational form*, uniting all the workers. At the end, the Russian Communist party began to *lead and head* the working class and brought it to

the victory in a proletarian revolution, uniting around the working class the peasants plus the progressive intelligencia. The working class became a "class for itself", from a mass it became the leading class, becoming the predominant class in the revolutionary movement. The Soviet poet V.Mayakovsky wrote: "The Party - this is the backbone of the working class", "The brain of this class, the strength of this class, the glory of this class - see, what a Party is!" These words were written in order to show the enormous authority which the Bolshevik Party won amongst the working class: victory of the 1917 revolution, victory in the civil war, great success in the 5-year plans, the defeat of Hitler's Nazism, the building up of a backward Russia and the USSR into the second leading industrial country of the world - all these successes were the results of the leadership of the Communist Party of Lenin and Stalin!

Starting with 1960's, the party sank gradually from a revolutionary organization into an organization of technocrats and bureaucrats, losing its authority amongst all of the masses. The working class started to lose its understanding of its role and its class interests, not seeing concretely its class enemy, becoming more and more dependent on the will of its bureaucratic "party" officials. I remember one of the leaders of the present striking miners, former high ranking functionary of the CPSU regional apparatus with great agitation told me about his constant daily struggles on behalf the workers during his many stormy meetings with these bureaucrats in the CPSU plenums.

The traitorous acts of Gorbachev's clique, succeeded in a panned counterrevolutionary coup to eliminate the leadership of the party of the working class and

made it again into a mass. The Soviet working class lost its main strength - the leadership of a political party. The Communist party (CPSU) became discredited as well as Communist ideology, and the scientific outlook was eliminated as to the world situation where unity is needed for millions of workers as a class and this policy also eliminated belief in Soviet people and in the Soviet Union. The Judas-traitors with the help of daily television, press, radio, the church and the schools - day by day they discredit all of our past and our victories in a crooked mirror. They also discredit Marxism-Leninism and the remembrance of the first steps in building of socialism. The masses were beaten off the correct path and understanding, finding themselves in great shock. The people lost faith in the party: "Well, the Communists themselves destroyed the Soviet Union!", and "The same communists are now in power, the same ones as were before!"

Besides this, the main reason for the working class becoming a mass, there are other reasons as well, as was written up in a wonderful article by Stanislav Shegolev - one of the secretaries of the regional Communist Party of Ukraine and the Chairman of the Lugansk organization of the All Ukraine Union of Workers. His biography is very revealing and gives examples as to how these present traitors worked before in the CPSU. He was a former actor, but in order to make a living he became a coal miner. He became a member of the CP(Ukraine) only after its liquidation. In 1995, as a secretary of the party organization in Artomonsk region of Lugansk, Ukraine, I as the party secretary who welcomed him into the party ranks. Remaining a coal miner, he became a leader of the party organization. I hope that

unto this road of Stanislav Shegolev in the very near future will also step many workers, who will again give rebirth to the working, revolutionary class.

Isn't it time for all the communist, socialist and workers parties in former Soviet Union to stop their internal squabbling and form a United Front to fight the enemy? Surely they all see who is the enemy! Time of constant philosophizing is over! Time for action is now...before it is too late!

Editorial Board

SPECIAL FOR NORTHSTAR COMPASS

What Russia are we talking about?

By Francisco Brotons Beneyto
Member of NSC Editorial Board
Communist Party of Spain (r)

We are firm supporters of a public and frank discussion of ideas among revolutionary and progressive people and organizations. For that reason, we are pleased by the fact that the Editorial Committee of Northstar Compass have considered that our article "Chechniya: Let's denounce Russian imperialism unambiguously", published in March 200 issue of NSC, contains ideas "that are food for thought" and, therefore, deserves to be discussed. Therefore, we place ourselves willingly under the fire of criticism of the NSC readers. However, we want to express our opinion on some questions that we consider fundamental and that are pointed out in the above mentioned comment of the NSC Editorial Committee.

In the first place there is the question of the character of the

present Russian State; what Russia are we talking about? We consider the present Russia as capitalist and imperialist State and power; the Soviet power, the socialist State, do not exist nowadays. We think that this position must be a common starting point in order to centre the debate on a firm basis and, therefore, to be able to reach some conclusions. When the leadership of the USSR was held by the Krushchevist and Brezhnevist revisionists it was possible to speak about the "Soviet State", since this still kept the socialist key features. But, after the treason perpetrated by Gorbachev and the open restoration of capitalism accomplished by Yeltsin and company, we believe that the question has been completely clarified.

In our opinion, the fact of continuing talking about the "interests of Soviet people" or about "the dismembering of the Soviet Motherland", when what we are really talking about is the actions of the bourgeois leaders and of the present Russian State, seeds confusion amongst the people's masses, diminishes their support abroad and subordinates all their actuation to the chauvinist policy of the present counterrevolutionary leaders of the Russian Federation. The risk of falling into the "Great Russia" nationalism and the "defensism" advocated by the revisionist leaders of the II International, and that was such cleverly and mercilessly combated by Lenin, is more than real.

Taking this starting point into account, we have been surprised by the fact that the comment made by the Editorial Committee to our article states: "It also fails to more concretely name the players in Chechniya...the oil pipeline confrontations to make certain that it does not go through Russian territories, depriving the Soviet people of this necessary

fuel...". We believe that to consider things in this way is a form of opposing two peoples that, in fact, are oppressed by a common enemy: the new Russian monopolist capitalism. Why do not tell that those who are bombing Chechniya are the same ones who deprived the Soviet people of all their political, economic, social, scientific and cultural gains and who are plundering and selling to the Western powers the wealth "accumulated" during the Soviet epoch? The fact of justifying the aggression against Chechniya as an allegedly defense of the "fuel of the Soviet people" sounds in our ears as the same song when Bush attacked Iraq in the name of the interests of the "American people".

All this puts at the order of the day the following question: Does the denouncing and the consistent mobilization against the aggression of Chechniya favours the revolutionary process in the former USSR? And, therefore, does the consistent defense - as a general democratic banner of the right to self-determination of the peoples that formed part of the former USSR favour the revolutionary process of the former USSR? We believe so, because, among other reasons, this would mean to lead the revolutionary action against the present pro-imperialist leaders of the Russian Federation and would impede the consolidation of the bourgeoisie as the class in power. Well, we do not want to enlarge on that point, but only to point out all this to make clear that we are not in favour of supporting whatever process of independence, but we subordinate this to the development of the whole revolutionary process. For this reason we think that to maintain a conciliatory "understanding" or half-hearted attitude towards the crimes of the new Czars can only benefit to the

very counter-revolutionary bourgeoisie and other revisionist agents.

It is true that, as it is said in the comment to our article, we only make a general reference to the imperialist siege established which encircled Russia. We are fully conscious about that, because this has been done with full intention: we mention it just to reject it as a justification for the aggression against Chechniya. In any case, in the fight amongst the bandits for the sharing of the booty, we will always be on the side of the victims of the sharing. And we will be forced to behave in this way even with the greater motive if one of the imperialist-contenders is formed by the imperialist bourgeoisie of our own "motherland". Certainly, as regards this point, Marxism-Leninism teaches us that there is no place for any kind of ambiguity nor can we make any sort of concessions to the national-reactionary ideology.

In Russia, the State has changed hands and, therefore, its class nature has also changed. This must mark before and after when orientating our analysis. For instance, we cannot treat equally the actions of the Chechen leaders when the USSR existed and nowadays. For the same reason, we can and we must go back to the times of Czarist Russia, when Lenin denounced it vigorously, calling it a "prison of peoples"; what has this position in common with the counter-revolutionary attacks that accused the USSR of being "a prison of nations"? Should we continue to hide the reality with the old-fashioned and useless argument that "the enemy may use our criticisms for his own propaganda"? As we said at the beginning, we are not afraid of an open and frank discussion of ideas, and, in this sense, we cannot forget how such discussions were banned for decades to the

Communists of the entire world, including the Soviet ones, who were forced to hide the treason perpetrated by the Krushchevite and Brezhnevite revisionist leaders with the excuse of "not to give weapons to the enemy propaganda". In the end, the peoples' masses were the ones who lost out with this false approach and lack of freedom of criticism and of ideological struggle; they found themselves unarmed in front of their enemies, who, in this way, were able to raise and carry out their destructive task. Only revisionism and the bourgeoisie were favoured by so much accomplice silence. Has not the time come of tearing out the gag and making anything possible to avoid repeating such a bitter experience?

As far as we are concerned, we can assure that, in the same way we have always supported - during its existence- the socialist States against the attacks of their enemies, denouncing at the same time the Krushchevite revisionism, we will continue providing support and promoting active solidarity with "Soviet people" in the future, putting the same effort into this task as we do in the struggle against their present imperialist enslaves and the revisionist lackeys

COMMENT

We're asking NSC readers for comments to this insightful article by our Spanish comrade, a member of the Editorial Committee. We feel that our comrades in Spain misread our previous comment somewhat. NSC certainly does not support imperialism, be it American, British, Russian or even Spanish. Chechniya is the center of a great power struggle between capitalist Russia, USA, Britain and others. We mentioned the oil pipeline in order to point out that its not only a question of "self determination" of Chechniya, but that it is tied to the question of oil and Imperialist presence in the Caucuses.

As far as "criticism" during the Krushchev and Brezhnev period in the USSR, we shall ask our Soviet comrades to answer this.

I was in the USSR 37 times as President of the Canada-USSR Association since 1960 and myself heard much discussion and criticism of the policies of that time. Again, many sincere thanks for the article which is now very much needed in order to arrive at an understanding and thus provide the impetus for a United Front to fight the present regime in Russia!

The Editor. ■

US CONSIDERED A-BOMB ON MOON

By Associated Press
May 18, 2000

A secret US project in the 1950s called for detonating an atom bomb on the moon as a demonstration of the nation's Cold War might, according to a story released by a physicist involved in the plan.

The project, innocuously called "A Study in Lunar Research Flights," was never carried out. But its planning included calculations by the astronomer Carl Sagan - then a young graduate student - of the behavior of the dust and gas generated by the blast. Viewing the nuclear flash from the Earth might have intimidated the Soviet Union and boosted American's confidence after the launch of Soviet Sputnik, physicist Leonard Reiffel said. He directed the project at the former Armour Research Foundation, now part of the Illinois Institute of Technology. "Now it seems ridiculous and unthinkable," said Reiffel, now 72, who later served as a deputy director of USA's NASA during the Apollo program. "But things were very remarkably tense back then." Sagan went on to become a

worldwide celebrity for popularizing science on television. He died in 1996.

Reiffel described the plan in a letter which was published in the May 4 issue of the scientific journal "Nature".

"Nature" published a review of two new Sagan biographies. The author of one of the books suggested that Sagan breached US security in 1959 by revealing the classified project in an application for an academic fellowship. Reiffel then concurred that Sagan probably released classified information.

The exchange in the scientific journal "Nature" now inadvertently shines a spotlight on a period when science in the United States was greatly influenced by Cold War politics.

The U.S. space program was sputtering while the Soviet Union had launched Sputnik and a pair of lunar probes. The U.S. Eisenhower administration considered the lunar blast as a way to reassure Americans that the Soviet "threat" could be countered, while demonstrating to the Kremlin that the United States had an effective nuclear deterrent. Under the scenario, a missile carrying a small nuclear device was to be then launched from a U.S. undisclosed

location and travel 238,000 miles to the moon, where it would be detonated on impact. The planners decided it would have to be an atom bomb because a hydrogen bomb would have been too heavy for the US missile.

Reiffel said the nation's young space program probably could have carried out the mission by 1959, when the Air Force deployed the intercontinental ballistic missiles.

Military officials apparently abandoned the idea because of the danger to people on earth in case of a failure. The scientists also registered great concerns about contaminating the moon with radioactive material, Reiffel said.

The Air Force had declined to comment on the project, pending a review of historical records. "There was lots of talk on the part of the Air Force about the moon being "military high ground," Reiffel stated.

More proof of the "lunacy" from the US who brought us the Cold War!

Thanks to Jon Corlet, Ca.USA

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SPECIAL FROM CUBA!

CUBA ACCUSES POLISH REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES

Havana-MAY 16

Cuba has accused representatives of the Polish government of engaging in counterrevolutionary activities. The recent activities (according to *Granma newspaper*) refers to Polish senator Zbigniew Romaszewski, president of the Polish legislative body's human rights commission.

It should be recalled that Poland was one of the two co-sponsors of Washington's anti-Cuba resolution in the United Nations Human Rights Commission. The newspaper article states that Romaszewski and another Polish citizen arrived in Havana in May ostensibly to promote a scientific cooperation accord between the two countries. His wife plus a translator arrived before on tour-

ist visas to Cuba.

During his stay, the Cuban authorities saw the Polish Senator attend what was dubbed as an "economic conference on globalization" in Pinar del Rio, at which he spoke of the methods employed by the Present Polish government to destroy socialism in Poland-including the underground tactics used. Counterrevolutionaries, which included known agents of USA Miami's Cuban-American National Foundation, and members of the Pinal Del Rio's Catholic Church hierarchy

were present at this conference.

In another gathering attended by this Polish senator who systematically slandered the Cuban Revolution, was at the residence of the Polish Embassy in Havana, Romaszewski told his audience to prepare themselves to govern the island, since it is known that Cuba's socio-political system would "only survive another five years at the most". He also asserted that Cuba is now undergoing the process that occurred in the former Eastern European Socialist camp.

Noting that the Polish senator gave an undetermined amount of foreign currency to the so-called dissidents, the Granma newspaper article termed any comparison between Cuba and Poland as "absurd". It also noted that everything that imperialism was capable to muster against Eastern Europe and the once powerful camp of socialism, it cannot do anything against a small island only 90 miles from its shore.

The Granma newspaper said that Cuba will "continue to monitor the activities of those who are nothing more than mercenaries of the US State Department or the CIA - whose histories and horrors are overwhelming!" ■

The Miami Myth Machine

By Rodolfo F. Acuna

Almost every Mexican American, it seems, has a grandparent or a great-grandparent who rode with Pancho Villa. Few know or admit having ancestors who opposed the Mexican Revolution and supported the dictator Porfirio Diaz. The events surrounding the Cuban boy, Elian Gonzalez remind me of this tragic page in Mexican-American history.

Like the Miami Cuban Americans, the Mexican exiles arrived after the 1911 overthrow of Mexican dictator Porfirio Diaz, actively pressured the U.S. government to intervene in Mexican affairs and overthrow the revolutionaries who have taken away their land and privileges. Those exilados dreamt of the day when they would return to Mexico and resume the old ways. Time and the truth about Diaz and his dictatorship changed the reality of those exilados, for as imperfect as the Mexican revolution was, it at least gave most Mexicans another vision of themselves.

Although the Cuban revolution took place over 40 years ago, the

Cuban exiles fervor and dreams of returning to their land and privileges still burns hot. Few Cuban Americans remember that Fulgencio Batista Saldivar came to power as a result of a 1952 coup and that it was Batista's political illegitimacy that made the rise of Castro possible. In the process they seem to forget that it was Batista and other dictators who turned the island into a Mafia fiefdom that allowed Cuba to be monopolized by international land companies like the United Fruit Company. More important, they forget that many of their leaders supported these oligarchies.

Unable or unwilling to create a revolution from within, they continue to pressure Americans to fight a war that they themselves cannot wage. Cubans living in Miami, because of the Cold War and their alliance with the most reactionary sectors of US society, have been much more effective in controlling American foreign policy than Mexican exiles were in the first part of the 20th century. Certainly more enduring.

The appeal of Jorge Mas Canosa and groups as the Cuban American Foundation lies in the perception that they can control, or at least influence the American foreign policy now towards Cuba. Therefore it is not surprising that

**SPECIAL FOR
NORTHSTAR COMPASS**

Shortly after arriving at the U.S. air base, Elian smiles in the arms of his father, together with Nercy, Juan Miguel's wife and baby brother, Hianny.



they see the Elian Gonzalez controversy as a test of this power. So they desperately fall back on their habit of myth making, blaming their every calamity on the Cuban bearded one, and angrily blaming Castro for abolishment of democracy in Cuba, as if it ever existed.

U.S. Cuban exiles spin myths such as that Cuba was democratic before Castro, and that God destined them to free Cuba. The reality is that these people are not part of the modern Cuba. Anyone who has been to Cuba or had relations with the Cuban community in the United States would be dense if they did not notice the contrasts between the two societies just in terms of race. I remember a Cuban American neighbor telling my wife that she had married well because I was of a lighter hue. She would emphasize that although working class, she was a gallega (*Galician*), not an African Cuban. She very frequently called all the Blacks, *los morenos*, as apart and less than white Cubans.

When in Cuba last July (1999) I witnessed a racially mixed society, with over two-thirds of the island Black or Mulatto. Almost every Afro-Cuban intellectual I ever met repeated that he or she would not have become a professor if it had not been for the Cuban revolution. In watching the talk shows on TV from Miami or all the crowds in front of Elian's distant relative, Lazar Gonzalez's home, over 95 per cent of the Cuban-Americans in the audience or the mobs are obviously white Hispanics.

I make this point because Cuba of the *exilados* does not exist. The integration of the races in Cuba contrasts with the reality of Miami where any intermarriage between white and black Cubans has been more an aberration than the rule. If they were ever to return to Cuba, the wanna be Cubans will find a society with different memories and values than their own.

Out of historical curiosity, we should perhaps ask how and why

the Mexican exiles fervor burned out while Cuban American community remains now trapped in a cesspool of intransigent nationalism? It is because of the success of the extremist groups as the Cuban American National Foundation, natural immigration and contact with the island, has been prevented. Unlike the Puerto Rican or the Mexican American, its island has not continuously nurtured and regenerated the Cuban American. They now find themselves trapped in time. In turn, Mexican and Puerto Ricans in the US have become more racially mixed.

The 2001 census in the USA will make very clear the growing differences between Cuban Americans and other Latino American groups. Many Latinos are indeed questioning whether all the Cuban Americans as a group have suffered a history of discrimination in the United States similar to that of Mexicans and Puerto Ricans. Cuban Americans have become a tiny minority through the stretch of the "*Hispanic Label*", which has allowed them entitlements usually reserved for Americans who suffered a history of discrimination.

Census 2000 will also count some 32 million Latinos, 21 million of whom are of Mexican origin. Cuban Americans will number a tiny fraction of this total...about 1.4 million, contrasted to about 3 million Puerto Ricans and 3 million Central Americans. The census will also underscore all these differences between the Cuban Americans and the others, for example: the median age of Mexicans in the US is 24.3 years, whereas among Cubans it is 40.8 years (*versus 26.5 for all Hispanics and 38.2 for white Americans*). The age gap will make the disparity in the income between Mexicans and white Americans even more glaring. The income of the Cuban American exceeds that of the white Americans, while Mexican and Central Americans earn about two-thirds the income of white Americans.

Relations between the Cuban

American leaders and other Latino groups have always been tenuous. Privately, many Latino leaders resent the appeal of Cuban Congressional Representatives Lincoln Diaz-Balart and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen to the memory of the civil rights movement, remembering that in the 1960's Cuban Americans to advance their interventionist policies, crawled in bed with almost every reactionary group and leader, working and supporting the Republican party against the best interests of other Latinos. It has always been their way or no way, with the two mentioned Congressional representatives resigning from the Hispanic Congressional Caucus because Mexican American Congressman Xavier Becerra was elected its chair. Becerra committed the sin of visiting Cuba without asking their permission.

Thus, it is not too surprising that other Latino groups do not see the Elian Gonzalez case through the same prism as the Miami Cuba zealots. Unlike the Cuban American community, the continuing immigration from Mexico and Central America has restructured and changed most Latino communities. The Cuban American community in turn has become an intellectually incestuous, unable to regenerate itself, obsessed with preserving a past that was never...even at the expense of a small six-year old boy.

Because Mexican American, Central American and other Latino leaders have not spoken out, they have allowed the false impression that the Jorge Mas Canosas, Lincoln Diaz-Balarts and Ileana Ros-Lehtinens enjoy power within the Latino universe. Cuban Americans, to really set the record straight only comprise 4.3 percent of the 32 million Latinos in this country. They don't speak for the 95 percent!

Lastly, the elite always believe that they are the victims of revolution, no matter how much they contributed to it.

*With thanks to Dr. Wm. Bunge
member of the Editorial Board* ■

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

How To Get Declared a U.S. War Hero

By BERNARD LIVINGSTON

Of all that would-be U.S. Presidential Gang
I think that John McCain packed the biggest bang.
What, for instance, did George W. ever do
But send a hundred Texans on their last adieu?
Or Bradley? Yes, excellent at basketball.
(Why not? He's surely plenty tall).
But can he do more than drop balls in a basket?
Good Heavens! Don't even bother to ask it!

For sucking up to Big Oil, both on-and offshore,
We now know why's Al's name rhymes with whore.
Forbes? Mere successor to Dad's "Capitalist Toll".
And to think of Orrin Hatch as a match, you're a fool!

So, yes, McCain's the one with the biggest bang.
McCain didn't spend the war far from the din and clang,
Sitting safe in some Pentagon office chair.

No, he volunteered to bomb Vietnamese from the air.
It's not easy spotting kids to bomb from above,
Which he did at least twenty-three times for love
Of his country. Remember pictures of children
Running ablaze with napalm dropped by men
Such as McCain?...While Hanoi burned, like Nero
McCain kept fiddling away. That's why he's called a hero.

Media reported that there's a request from Hanoi that Clinton comes to Vietnam to apologize! Will this be enough to forgive US imperialism?



Phan Thi Kim Phuc, center, with her clothes torn off, flees with other Vietnamese children after American napalm attack, June 8, 1972.

ARGENTINA IN TURMOIL

The General Strike in Argentina held on June 7th was a complete success. The whole activity in the country was brought practically to a standstill. There was not a bus or streetcar on the streets of Mayan, called by the trade union center CGT. There were clashes between the police and workers. In Neuquen, while people were demonstrating, a teacher died and people ran in a rage and then stormed the Ministry of Education with stones and sticks.

From NSC reader in Argentina

Contemporary Colonialism

By Jon Corlett

Since the start of the violent civil war in Sierra Leone (Africa) in 1991, tens of thousands have died and over a million people have become refugees. The various warring factions mutilated many thousands. Finally, last year Britain and U.S. got the United Nations chief Koffin Annan to send in "blue helmets" the UN peacekeeping soldiers to enforce

a cease-fire. They came mainly from African countries. The Nigerian army was the leading force, imposing a "brutal peace" among the various factions. Once the Nigerian army left, the 10-month old cease-fire between the government and the "Revolutionary United Front" (RUF) ended when the RUF kidnapped 500 soldiers from the remaining UN forces.

Like many other conflicts in Africa and the rest of the world, this civil conflict is not mainly about ethnic rivalry, as the racist Western capitalist media says.

It's about which of these warring factions will control the richest diamond mines in the world, used to finance the armies and the power of faction leaders. The Lybia-trained RUF, which began in the early 1990's as a "people's movement" fighting the corrupt Sierra Leone ruling elite and its imperialist backers, degenerated into a brutal reactionary force. The RUF now control the lucrative diamond mines in eastern Sierra Leone. Over the last two years, the value of diamond exports has dropped from \$60 million to \$30

million. The RUF has grabbed the \$30 million.

For the imperialists it is more than regaining control of the diamond mines for the British and American mineral companies and saving the government of their puppet, President Kabbah, from the RUF forces who are closing in on Freetown, the country's capital. British and U.S. bosses fear the Sierra Leone conflict will endanger the cease-fire planned in the Congo. UN forces will be sent there shortly in order to end the civil/regional war involving armies from Angola, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Rwanda and South Africa. Congo is the largest country in Central Africa, and very rich in many key minerals, including those used for deadly military weapons. France, is also fighting for its military interests, and is now involved in the Congo, many times conflicting with the U.S. interests.

Also, oil-rich Nigeria is not exactly a land of stability for the Royal Dutch Shell and Chevron, with billions invested there. Re-

cently Nigeria has been wracked by religious and tribal clashes. Also, many workers and youth are fed up with the corrupt ruling class, who share the oil bonanza with the big imperialist oil companies while all the masses get poorer and poorer.

Britain immediately sent 800 elite troops from the 1st Battalion of the Parachute Regiment, which led the NATO forces that occupied Kosovo when the war ended there last year. These paratroopers then supposedly were sent to evacuate foreigners. But in reality they're trying to save the president of this former British colony. Royal Marines will follow. Britain also sent a carrier of the coast of Sierra Leone, the sixth Royal Navy ship in the region. (*Former Winston Churchill, the arch imperialist, would certainly be very proud of the "Labor Party" Prime Minister Tony Blair for defending the "British Empire interests" - Editor*)

Increasingly, oil, minerals and other huge deposits of wealth are

being uncovered in Africa. Internally, different factions are fighting for control of this wealth. Civil wars are erupting with murderous violence, with no clear end in sight. So while the UN chief Kofi Annan asked U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to send a U.S. rapid deployment force to Sierra Leone, Albright appears very reluctant to committing any troops. U.S. bosses are still affected by the Vietnam and Somalia Syndrome. Both U.S. invasions ended in costly defeats militarily, financially, and, at that time, in rising opposition of an anti-imperialist character.

(Therefore US imperialism relies on the UN itself to do the bidding for the interests of USA.)

For African workers, already ravaged by civil wars, Aids, mass poverty and hunger, imperialism and capitalism are a living hell. The situation cries for organizing a mass communist movement in order to unite workers and peasants against their local and international tormentors!

PAGES FROM OUR PAST

The article below was printed in "The Communist International" journal, November 1937, Vol. XIV, pages 804-807.

This article is printed in NSC in order for our readers to understand the history of the present Arab-Israeli conflict, where it had its origin and the policy of the Communist International which opposed this British plan to partition Palestine into three parts. Where British Imperialism left off in Palestine, US Imperialism has taken up the policy of divide and rule. Consequences of that policy are with us today.

AGAINST THE BRITISH PLAN TO DIVIDE PALESTINE

By WILLIAM GALLACHER

Member of British Parliament and one of the leaders of the British Communist Party

The question of Palestine has been raised in a new and acute form. The British Royal Commission proposes to divide this small country into three separate parts and by this means not only to prevent the people of Palestine from realizing national independence, but also to keep on and intensify the enmity and hatred between Arab and Jew that have been so sedulously fostered by British imperialism.

In the discussion of the report of the Royal Commission which took place in the British House of Commons, there were many different interpretations given of

what Sir Henry McMahon promised the Sherif Hussein of Mecca in 1915, or also of what he meant when he said that Great Britain will, "acknowledge the independence of Arab countries, in every sense of the word independence".

There were also similar attempts to water down what was done by "Lawrence of Arabia" just as there numerous interpretations of what even Balfour said, or what Balfour meant, in his declaration of a National Scheme for the Jews in November of 1917. But, however much speculation there may be on such matters as these they all appear to be besides the point.

Whatever British diplomats may have promised to one side or the other, nothing can alter the facts the Arabs of Palestine have and must secure the right to their own land, to develop their own form of government and to determine the course of their own lives in cooperation with all their Arab or non-Arab neighbors.

For centuries the Arabs and Jews have lived in close association, in peace and amity. There is no reason why it should not continue to be so. When during the middle ages, Jews were suffering the most unspeakable persecutions throughout all the rest of Europe, in Spain under the Moorish occupation they made there a mighty contribution to the advance of civilization.

Today, when in the number of countries, the terror against the Jews has reached a level never known before, the Jews in Palestine have an opportunity as loyal members of an Arab state, of contributing their share to a new advance in that country, and by this means to assist in winning the people of other lands for support of the campaign to end Jewish persecution in Europe.

This means finishing forever with the reactionary policy of Zionism. For Zionism, so far as the solution of the "Jewish problem" is concerned, has always been nothing but a harmful reactionary illusion. In actual fact it has represented and carried through an invasion of Palestine, not in the interest of the Jews, but of British imperialism.

The Arabs, I am certain, would never have objected to a moderate immigration from Europe of European Jews. The more far-seeing Jews would have welcomed them, realizing the valuable part they could play in helping forward the development of the country.

But this immigration could usefully take place only on the basis of the full recognition of Palestine as an existing Arab State. Therefore, from the earliest stages of the immigration the

Jews ought to have worked with the Arabs for the ending of the British mandate and for the setting up of an independent legislative assembly. Instead of following this, the only wise course, the Jews of Palestine then endeavored under the incitement of the Zionists, to carry through an occupation of Palestine at the expense of the Arabian people.

What other result could have been expected other than the tragic events recorded in recent history? No people, unless they were utterly lost and decadent, would submit without a struggle to the loss of their homeland and to the wholesale buying up of their land, which threatened to deprive them of their living and turn them into homeless wanderers. Certainly all the Arabs were not prepared to tolerate it and time and time again they demonstrated their hatred against the administration that was primarily responsible for their bitter wrongs.

In the report of the Royal Commission we read:

"It has been pointed out that the outbreak of 1933 was not only, or even mainly, an attack on the Jews, but an attack on the Palestine government. In year 1936, this was still clearer. Jewish lives were taken and Jewish property destroyed, but the outbreak was chiefly aimed at the government. The word "disturbance" gives a misleading impression of what happened. It was an open rebellion of the Palestine Arabs assisted by fellow Arabs from other countries against the British mandate rule."

Despicable propaganda has been used in Britain and elsewhere in an effort to discredit the heroic struggles of the Arab people. Arab men and women valiantly placed their lives and liberty in jeopardy because they were fighting in a cause that was just, the cause of national liberation. Yet we were told that it was the outcome of some "foreign incitement" or that it was the "fanatical" Mufti and his immediate associates amongst the Efendi who were using the Arab

people for some sinister end of their own. But it does not require "foreign incitement" or Muftis, to arouse the people threatened as the Arabs were. They were left no other course but the path of revolt, and all who believe in freedom, in the right of peoples to self-determination should have been wholeheartedly with them in their fight.

With great courage they have asserted their right to Palestine and demonstrated their determination to carry on till this right is recognized and established. So now, the British imperialists, faced with the impossibility in continuing with the imposed mandate, make a new and unbelievable maneuver in order to retain their power over this important center in the Near East. On several occasions in the House of Commons emphasis has been paid on the vital position of Palestine arising out of a new international situation in the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. With quite cynical disregard of the Arab people, Mr. Amery, the die-hard imperialist and Conservative leader, told the House of Commons that in the new situation that had developed, "Palestine was the 'Clapham Junction' of the air" and must be retained at all costs by the British Empire. (Clapham Junction is a well-known center in London from which roads and transport branch out to all parts of London -note by William Gallacher.)

The mandate, the regime that existed hitherto, having failed, it is with this end in view that partition is now proposed. Whatever is offered to the Arabs or the Jews, the real power, the real control, remains with the British imperialists.

But the Arab people will no more submit to partition than to the Mandate. They will carry on the struggle against the proposed "rape of Palestine" and for full self-government over the whole of the country. Already much of the best land has been taken from the Arab peasants and it is proposed that 225,000 Arabs on the Jewish

side of the "partition" are to be transferred. What a blessed word - "transferred." Driven off the land they have owned and cultivate for generations, they will now be "replanted" somewhere, maybe to starve and die. "Transferred" and "replanted". How is it possible that such barbaric treatment of people (*however simple their economy may be*) can be contemplated?

At the dawn of capitalism in Great Britain forced year after year thousands of men, women and children were driven off the land, forced to cross the sea to the new land in the West, never any more to see or cultivate the land they loved so dearly.

Is this picture to be repeated in Palestine?

Can the people of Britain tolerate such a terrible injustice, which can only be perpetrated by the prodigal use of armed might? For certainly the Arab people will not tolerate. They will fight with every means against this robbery, against the attempted "rape" of their land, against the attempt to turn it into a "Clapham Junction in the air" for British imperialism - and they will be right to fight.

But what of the Jews throughout the world? What have they to say to the criminal attempt forcibly to tear a country into pieces and drive all its peoples off the land? Are they still under any illusions about the politics of Zionism or are they beginning to understand that the Zionist reactionary leaders of this movement are actually betraying the Jewish people?

My own Jewish comrades have always been clear of the reactionary role of Zionism, but thousands of splendid Jewish men and women have come under the influence of Zionist leaders and have been led to believe that Zionism was the way of release from the persecutions that have made life a continuous hell of torture for so many Jews.

But when the Zionists lead them into the camp of British imperial-

ism, when they identify their interest in Palestine with the interests of Britain and against the Arab people, then the question arises: is this policy calculated to bring relief to the Jewish people who are enduring so much in Germany and Poland? Will it make their lot easier or more difficult? Obviously the latter is the case.

Have the young men and women in the Zionist movement ever discussed the meaning of the project that Palestine should be given to the Jews and should become "a dominion of the British Empire"? Ivor Montagu, one of our best Jewish comrades, effectively exposes and disposes of the Zionist Congress in the Daily Worker of August 14. Here is what he says:

"The Zionist Congress in Zurich, Switzerland must make all Jews, proud of their people, blush with shame.

"They will assert their rights to Palestine. They will obtain their rights. From whom? The British Government.

"The British Government, to whom Palestine does not belong, is called upon to keep its promise, which it has no right to make, by forcing the inhabitants, to whom the country does belong, to give it to the Zionists.

"The Zionists are modern; go-ahead, destiny is on their side; Arabs are backward, lazy, barbaric, and will be benefited by the invaders. The Zionists claiming Palestine speak with the accents of Mussolini and empire, or Hitler, or Japan in China...

"Realists among the Zionists are aware, and say frankly, that their one trump card is to play good little combination excuse-policeman for the British Empire. They are not realist enough to reflect on what happened to the Assyrian, who did the same thing, when the British Empire had no more use for him.

"Jews who were not Jewish Nazis would know their only "right" in Palestine is such that they can negotiate with liberated Arabs in the building up of a

prosperous Arab state. If only they will understand this and act accordingly how much better it will be, not only for them, but for the Jewish population throughout the world."

For all of us must participate in the struggle to secure for Jewish men and women in the land of their birth or adoption of equal rights to citizenship as any other citizens. This must apply in Germany, also in Poland and all other countries. Only in the land of triumphant socialism, the USSR, has put an end to all kinds of national oppression and to anti-Semitism. The USSR represents a real fraternal alliance of the peoples. The Jews throughout the world have made a civilization of which they can be rightly proud of. Cooperation of the Gentiles with the Jews must take the place of the criminal anti-Semitism that is being so vigorously fostered in certain European countries at the present time.

But the struggles to establish the rights of the Jews in Germany, Poland and elsewhere cannot be aided if the Jews allow themselves to be used by the British imperialists for the purpose of depriving the Arabs of their rights. On the contrary the greatest possible injury will thereby be inflicted on the Jewish cause.

Therefore, I appeal to the Jewish men and women, as one long associated with them in the fight against persecutions and slander, to give no support to the attempt that is being made to carve up Palestine. Palestine is the country of the Arabs. An independent Arab state guaranteeing full and equal citizenship to Jewish men and women and will do a thousand times more for the Jews throughout the world than any alliance with British imperialism can ever do.

In unity with the Arabs, establishing a strong democratic legislative assembly, building up the economic life of the country, and in this the Jews can give an extraordinary contribution, developing its culture and general well-

being - in this way Palestine can become a prosperous and happy country and the unity established there can be the forerunner of a much greater unity throughout the world.

No partition of Palestine, but Palestine as an independent Arab state, for this all honest Jews and all lovers of freedom, man and woman, must fight!

With many thanks to Eric Mueller, reader of NSC in Texas, USA

COMMENT

Now US Imperialism has taken over from British Imperialism and consequently the Zionist expansionism is now an unfortunate fact. Zionism is another form of Imperialism and reactionary ideology. working hand in glove with US Imperialism.

FEATURE ANALYSES

LENIN'S ANALYSIS OF IMPERIALISM

Below we publish the Statement that was agreed upon by the Executives of the Marxist Workers Party of Australia and the Executive of the Communist Party of Australia, Melbourne Branch.

Both of these parties signed the issued Call for an International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People.

LENIN in his profound analyses of Imperialism drew the conclusion that imperialism has reached its highest stage of development and was in decay, was parasitic and moribund. That the era of socialist revolution was at hand.

Marx showed that each social system developed and changed with the development and changes in the means of production...and that each social system decays when the relations of production become a fetter to the operation and development of the means of production.

Imperialism has reached this stage. The social reforms of production require that the fetter of private appropriation and private ownership of the means of production be removed. The only solution to the contradictions of imperialism requires the abolition of private ownership through the socialist revolution.

The huge surplus wealth, accumulated by capitalism is not used to increase the wealth of society

by increasing the amount of commodities produced, because imperialism has severe market problems. Capitalist production and reproduction is dependent on the sale of commodities produced



before reproduction can take place. But imperialism is restricting the market through its attack on wages, longer hours of work, fewer workers, lower wages, poorer conditions, part time and casual labor, and the impoverishment of the Third World. Imperialism intensifies exploitation, and reduces the percentage of surplus

value going to the working class. It is driven to this through the falling rate of profit. The growth of unemployment, poverty, illiteracy, disease and homelessness effects the market. Imperialism is decaying. Imperialism is moribund. It is unable to develop at the rate that the highly developed means of production makes possible, because the market does not grow as fast as the means of production. While the human need is there, the lack of purchasing power prevents the satisfaction of that needs. A savage struggle for markets between the imperial powers racks the people of the world, which if not resolved will result in war.

WHAT DO THE IMPERIALIST DO WITH THEIR SURPLUS VALUE?

They speculate on the Stock Exchanges, they speculate in currency, they speculate on the future price of shares. There have been repeated crashes on the world Stock Exchanges. The most recent one was the most serious. The accumulated wealth of the capitalist class does not result in greater wealth in society but in waste and speculation. Imperialism is parasitic.

Lenin's conclusion was that imperialism speeded up the centralization and concentration of capital, and consequently caused more devastating and ruthless competition between monopolies. Bankruptcies, mergers, and take over are part of the process on the concentration and centralization of capital. This process is rampant in capitalist society today. This process also increases the tendency for the rate of profit to fall, not necessarily the amount of profit, but the rate of profit.

The imperialists fight this inevitable process by intensifying exploitation. This is the law of capitalism. The more the capitalist crisis and competition forces mergers and takeovers the bigger becomes the problem of the fall in the rate of profit, and the contradiction of imperialism grow

sharper. Efforts are made to destroy the Trade Unions, after destroying the workers political party, the Communist Party...the capitalists wage an ideological war to destroy working class consciousness, assisted by the revisionists and reformists with proposals that class struggle is not necessary and that a peaceful transition to socialism is now the road forward. The peaceful cooperation between imperialists will replace the violent struggles for world domination by the imperialists and their transnationals.

The capitalists wage an ideological campaign to replace the proletarian collective methods and views with individualism. Part of this process is to eliminate the trade unions in the work place and replace them with various forms of individual contracts, part of this ideological campaign is the idea that the working class do not need a party of the working class, but a party of the whole people, i.e. class collaboration and similarly the idea that is the concept of the state of the whole people which is meant to replace the dictatorship of the proletariat. This is a further betrayal to subordinate the interests of the working class to the interests of the capitalist class.

Lenin also drew the conclusion that the contradictions between the imperialists grow sharper. The struggle for the world hegemony is very sharp today. While the USA remains the most powerful imperialist power, it is being challenged by the European Community, particularly Germany and also by Japan.

US as a world power is finding it more and more difficult to force its partners into supporting all of its military adventures.

Even though the United States is being challenged by Germany and Japan, the decay of imperialism is also evident in these countries, i.e. high unemployment, financial crisis, stagnant economies. As V.I. Lenin pointed out, imperialism will not fall on its own accord, it will have to be overthrown because imperialism has no answers to its problems, they

are playing out the laws of capitalism. Imperialism invents lots of bodies to try and protect its interests, i.e. NAFTA, WTO, IMF, NATO etc. The challengers to American imperialism are also developing similar trade and economic blocs to protect their interests.

The third contradiction that Lenin spoke about is the contradiction between imperialist powers and the developing countries. These contradictions are also growing much sharper, and in a number of countries armed struggles is now the main feature of this contradiction. This is the weakest link of imperialism.

The capitalist rationalists answer to the crisis of over production is to privatize public utilities, deregulate, cut government spending on health care, public education, public transport, civil liberties. Governments seek to reject their civil responsibilities through such policies as "mutual responsibilities", "user pays", "small government" and "low taxation" and reducing the share of surplus value taken by the working class.

All of these "remedies" increase the problem of overproduction, while the basic problems remain untouched. This is just one example...social production is fettered by the private ownership of the means of production and the private appropriation of the products so produced.

The solution remains a social revolution, the social ownership of production and the goods so produced. The elimination of the profit motive and replacement by production to serve the needs of the people is a must. This needs the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Why the dictatorship of the proletariat? Marx and Engels have brilliantly showed that the class most closely associated with the developing means of production will lead the revolutionary movement. The working class is the class on whom this responsibility falls upon.

The imperialists talk about the

"globalisation" but in fact they're talking about Imperialism, this is in fear of the conclusion drawn by Lenin that imperialism is on the eve of a socialist revolution. So these imperialist developed a whole new series of "remedies" such as more democracy, concern for the impoverished, concern for the inequalities produced by economic rationalism etc.

The revisionists endorse this view that the transnationals are all powerful, that nations have almost ceased to exist. But the fact is that nations do exist, and the transnationals are all Nation, based on and work in the interest of the domination of their base nation.

The capitalists and revisionists try to stifle resistance through fear and in this way they serve the interests of imperialism, in the same way as they tried to prevent the struggle against nuclear war by fear.

The fact is the imperialism is in a deep crisis and has no way out.

Another false conclusion that many supporters of globalization draw is that since globalization is the world power, and not a nation based, then a revolution must be a world revolution. That is a Trotskyist theory, which rejects Lenin's theory, proven in practice that since a characteristic of imperialism is its uneven development, socialism is possible in one country. Lenin also wrote that a revolution would be most likely where imperialism had its weakest link. This today is in some of the developing countries.

The need for genuine unity of all the Marxist-Leninist parties is now so that the unified demands shall be made to reverse the policies of economic rationalism.

These immediate needs, if we are to avoid reformism must be tied-to raise the strategic demand for a socialist solution to the contradiction of capitalism.

Ray Berbling
State President
Communist Party of Australia
Melbourne Branch

LETTERS

May we ask that you keep your letters as brief as possible, not more than 80-90 words, so that we can print as many as we can.

FROM
EDMONTON
CANADA

I was in the Soviet Union in 1989 before the COLLAPSE. I was sitting in a coffee shop, when over the TV the news came that the Berlin Wall came down. It sent shivers down my spine. The dread I felt that day came true! There was a group of German tourists here on holidays and they cheered. I told one of them that his cheers are a bit premature, he might out of work soon.

I was disappointed in what I saw and some of the wrongs that were committed even at the beginning of "perestoyka". It took me a lot of reading and thinking to come to some conclusion, but there are still a few things that bother me.

It's hard to explain to our people that they are as much to blame as people in former Soviet Union for the collapse. I grieve for all of the dead comrades who lost their lives to give us a better place to live. For what? It only took a few traitors to wreck it, but they didn't do it overnight.

Sending you \$245.00 towards sub, membership and donation for our Sustaining Fund. Keep up the good work!

John Greene

FROM
SAN MATEO, CA.
USA

Dear friends:

I am so impressed with Northstar Compass which I read avidly each month. I have told my many friends about NSC and enclosed are two new subscriptions.

After many years of correspondence with all my Soviet friends through the Esperanto language, and after many trips to the USSR to visit these friends, I now no longer hear from them and I know that times are very difficult for them. Please let me know about my friend Lydia S. Karhu.

With many thanks for your dedicated work.

Minerva Massen

Unfortunately Lydia S. Karhu, the dedicated life-long fighter for socialism has passed away on May 4th.

THE ELUSIVE WORKING CLASS UNITY

By Walter Doskoch
Edmonton, Canada

The question raised in the May issue of NSC is very interesting about the working class unity. I would like to add my voice to this necessary understanding.

It was mentioned in the article that there were scores of meetings, many congresses and conferences, where they preached anti-imperialism and pro-Marxism-Leninism, but no unity was achieved amongst the Communist parties of the world or among the communist parties in former Soviet Union.

As I discovered myself and as I am convinced that somehow this necessary communist solidarity is treated more like a religion, not as a social-economic problem that must be resolved.

Somehow we view all political parties as separate entities, each trying to advance itself. Some of the communist and progressive parties do not seem to recognize the working class as an entity, but demand that the working class finance them and do the assigned tasks and at the same time some party leadership take the attitude

as if it is the only thing that the working class is ever capable of. Sorry, but this just does not work that way.

The capitalists, their political parties and some well meaning trade unions suffer the same disease, competition and contradiction. Competition puts capitalism on a tread mill, and that is the way that many private enterprises go broke.

Political parties in all capitalist society suffer from the same competition as they try to resolve their problems.

Unions and their members are forced to compete for jobs, bargaining units, agreements, overtime, grievances...each time trying to advance.

Astute corporations in the imperialist stage are forced to form joint ventures and amalgamations, industrial take-overs, partnership, mergers, forming big oligarchies in order to improve their market share and profitability.

The working class in order to overcome all of their capitalist socio-economic problems have to understand how the working class is used by capitalism. The working man has nothing but his 10 magical fingers and the ability to work. The very great majority of the working class have no assets or investments to make them money. They need a job always.

Workers are constantly being used by capitalism to achieve their ends by means of racism, bribery, religion, national color, in order to keep them divided and to insure that capitalism is their boss and shall remain their boss.

Workers must be made to realize that the only way to win their demands in the social-economic field is to organize unions and unite on political issues. Put forward issues and fight to achieve them, without any of the trade union elite selling out during negotiations. Left-leaning trade unions, guided by the lefty-wing political parties is the sure success combination.

Working class must produce for need, not for profit. We cannot no longer afford to support a

capitalist market economy to feed the rich at the expense of the majority of the poor. *Socialism is the answer!*

Back in 1930's as I was growing up, the Alberta coal miners and other industrial workers (*mostly immigrants*) read Karl Marx's Capital and pledged loyalty to their class - the Working Class - they fought for justice!

We must demand freedom of association as we have for 150 years.

NSC asks readers for their comments.

FROM
SAO PAULO
BRAZIL

Am sending you \$100 for renewal and a donation to your invaluable work in support of Socialism and the Soviet Union.

As soon as we come to a decision regarding the World Congress and me coming to it, I will let you know.

Guaracy Gouvea
Uniao Cultural pela Amizade
dos Povos

FROM
BATH, ONT.

Enclosed is a \$50 donation towards the NSC Sustaining Fund. I believe that NSC is better reading than ever, and judging by all the letters, the membership is also increasing. Keep up the information and encouragement coming!

Bernard Podhy

FROM
BAD MITTERNDORF
AUSTRIA

We are now in Austria and greetings to all NSC readers all over the world. We were at the commemoration at the Malhousen Concentration Camp. It's an excellent memorial for those who

suffered and died at the camp, amongst whom were 12% Jews while the rest were other nationalities and progressives mostly.

Jerry Morse
Member of Editorial Board

FROM
CROSSVILLE, TN.
USA

Dear comrades:

It's amazing to me how much people hear here every day about Communism being so bad. They convince themselves that they are against it, yet they don't even know what it really is. Just like my teacher or World Geography in the High School where I attend. He did not even know what Karl Mark meant by the word Bourgeoisie. We had learned from him that in the French Revolution this meant "middle class". So, he said: "Those are Communists, who blame everything on the middle class!"

I feel as a student that this was meant to scare us, because most of the students here consider themselves to be part of the middle class.

A bit later as I was starting to research this subject mainly on the Internet as to the question as to "What is a Communist?" What I found out amazed me! I saw on the Internent the Web page of Northstar Compass a letter by one of your readers in Cuba, Martha

Acevedo. Cuba seems like a nice country and I was wondering if I could go and visit Cuba. I'm afraid that it will be impossible because I'm an American. Please give me some information about this possibility.

I am ordering two books..."The Lie of the Lenin Testament" and "Next to Stalin". Also, as a student I'm sending in a donation to the NSC Sustaining Fund.

I look forward eagerly to getting my NSC each month sand will continue to do so.
E.A.B.

Dear reader:

We're giving just your initials, for obvious reasons. Your books shall be sent to you very soon. Yes, you certainly can visit Cuba, but from Canada only...this is your "American democracy". Maybe you should get your teacher to take a refresher course in World History!

ON A LIGHTER NOTE

I enjoy NSC and especially the last article on Stalin. I cherish this statue of Joseph Stalin given to me in Georgia. As you can see by the photo, Comrade Stalin is lecturing my Barbie dolls about their extremely very materialistic lifestyle. The little bears are Sasha and Natasha!

Eileen O'Leary
Brooklyn Park ,Mn..USA



The Moro Liberation Struggle

Felipe Tagabalita

Recently, the kidnapping of foreign (mostly Western) plus Filipino nationals from a Malaysian island resort by the terrorist organization Abu Sayyaf once again cast the international spotlight on the Moro people's struggle for liberation in the southern Philippines. Strangely enough, the Estrada regime unleashed an all out military offensive not against Abu Sayyaf but against a very different organization, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), even as it vowed to destroy terrorism. As a result hundreds of thousands of people were quickly displaced from their homes.

The Moro people are the Muslim minority of the Philippines. They consist of 13 ethnolinguistic groups living mainly in the southern Philippine island of Mindanao and the archipelago of Sulu connecting Mindanao with Sabah, the northern Malaysian peninsula on the island of Borneo.

Islam came to the southern Philippines during the 13th century courtesy of trade and began its slow advance to the rest of the country. In the 16th century, its advance was halted with the coming of Spanish colonialism. The Spaniards eventually conquered and converted to Catholicism most of the Philippines. The Muslim groups in the south, called Moros by the Spanish, resisted colonization until the end of the 19th century. During this period, Spain repeatedly tried to subjugate them going so far as to mobilize the newly Christianized populations of the archipelago against their Muslim brethren. The carnage was horrific. The Spanish colonialist were out to exterminate Islam from the archipelago and to subjugate all its peoples. The result was devastation of the economies of these Muslim groups, isolation from the rest of the world, stagnation, an inward looking culture and a siege mentality, the hardening of class divisions and the entrenchment of feudalism. By the end of the 19th century, these Muslim groups were eventually conquered by Spain and put under nominal subjugation. Fortunately just then the Philippine revolution broke out relieving pressure from Muslim Mindanao. This new start was alas quashed by the massive invasion of US imperialist forces. US imperialism used a two prong approach to subjugate the Moros: massive violence and the winning over of its tradi-

tional leadership through annual annuities while leaving Islam well alone. Nevertheless, this was the time that the dislocation of Moros from their ancestral lands began with the establishment of big American concerns in Mindanao.

Moro grievances built up during the early years of the republic as a result of the largely Christian central government's neglect and insensitivity, in tandem with the Moro ruling class's corruption. Matters took a turn for the worse with the defeat of the Communist-led Huk movement in the north. To relieve social pressures in the crowded north, the central government began the policy of shipping massive numbers of non-Mindanaoans to the south. As a result, massive displacement of Moros from their ancestral lands began. With the crisis of the ruling system intensifying in the late 1960s, political violence grew explosively in the country especially in Mindanao. Moro communities often became the victims, usually by nominally Christian settler bands frequently armed or tolerated by the government. It became an explosive mix that blew up with the declaration of martial law.

The modern Moro struggle has its roots in the upsurge of the peoples movement beginning in the mid 1960s. Many Moro students participated in this upsurge and were influenced by the currents of the time. The result was a curious breed of petty-bourgeois radicalism and Islamic nationalism. These Muslim student radicals would form the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and its Bangsa Moro Army. The MNLF sought to create an independent Mindanao for Moros which it redefined to include all people in Mindanao, not just Muslims, who identified themselves as such. It was however Muslim dominated. The war between the MNLF and the Marcos dictatorship began in 1972. It was a horrific war. The bulk of the Philippine military was sent to Mindanao to fight the MNLF. Around two hundred thousand people died and around an equal number fled to Sabah. Property worth billions in total was destroyed. Nevertheless, due to its own weaknesses, namely reliance on help from conservative Islamic states, and a desire to prove Islamic credentials to the point of rejecting a broad united front with the national democratic movement, the MNLF agreed to the Tripoli Agreement in 1976 which in effect was an act of surrender as it bound the MNLF to the Philippine constitution.

A split ensued in the MNLF the year after that eventually leads to a totally new organization in the 1980s, the MILF. Nego-

tiations between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the MNLF continued for many years afterward even as fighting between them subsided. These were negotiations of surrender. The result was bogus autonomy, the incorporation of the MNLF into the ruling system and of its army into the police. Meanwhile, the MILF built its strength in the late 1980s because of the unresolved problems of the Moro people and became a real force in the decade afterwards. The MILF differs from the MNLF in its greater stress on Islam. It is nominally critical of the MNLF's secularism. It seeks not independence of all of Mindanao but of areas of Muslim majority and the formation of an Islamic state. Yet at the same time, the MILF is more open than the MNLF ever was to relations with the communist-led National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP). In fact, the MILF formed a formal alliance with the NDFP in December 1998. One other difference between the MNLF and the MILF is the latter's emphasis on self-sufficiency and internal factors. Meanwhile, in the NDFP there is a Moro member organization, the Moro Revolutionary Organization (MRO). The MILF and the MRO work in different sometimes adjacent areas.

The Abu Sayyaf however is not a liberation movement. It has no mass support. It is a terrorist organization created by the military to try and break Moro unity. The Abu Sayyaf consists of renegade MNLF members with, it is said, links to Afghanistan. It appears on the scene at opportune times for the reactionary regime, namely during times of intensified crisis. The current administration of President Estrada is in trouble with his popularity rating taking a nosedive. Meanwhile, the crisis of the ruling system is rapidly intensifying. Rumours of coups now abound. The regime has suspended peacetalks with the NDFP and has gone into all out war against the New People's Army throughout the country. It has increased repression against all opposition and is engaging in a creeping martial law. Just then the Abu Sayyaf reappears with its kidnapping stunt. In the north the shenanigans of the counterrevolutionary "Revolutionary Proletarian Army" reappears with its rocket attacks. Bingo, increased mysterious bombings in Manila the capital like in the days just before the declaration of martial law. Moros and communists are blamed by the GRP. Most know better. Meanwhile the GRP breakoffs its peace talks with the MILF and unleashes an all out military offensive against them. ■

**Monopoly Capitalism
Is doing well in
UKRAINE!**

IN WHOSE HANDS IS UKRAINIAN TV?

These facts are taken from the newspaper "Burevestnik" from Sevastapol. Detailed survey was published in "Soviet Russia" newspaper, organ of the CPRF. The same facts seem to be prevalent in Russia also and other former Soviet republics. That's why it is so hard to break through the media manipulation of the population!

UKRAINIAN TV - I

Covering 100% of Ukraine and having 18 million viewers. The owners are:

- *B.Berezovsky - Russia
- *B.Bershtein - Switzerland
- *V.Rabinovich - Israel

UKRAINIAN TV - II

Covering also 100% of Ukraine and with 24-26 million viewers. The owners are:

- *B.Berezovsky - Russia
- *R. Lauder - USA
- *V.Rabinovich - Israel

UKRAINIAN TV - III

Covering 70% of Ukraine, with 10-12 million viewers. The owners are:

- *V.Berezovsky - Russia
- *V.Gorbulkin - Ukraine

UKRAINIAN TV - IV

Covering 50% of Ukraine and with 6-8 million viewers. The owners are:

- *P.Gervy - USA
- *M. Friedman - Russia

SPUTNIK TV

Covering 50% of Ukraine and 6-8 million viewers. Owners are:

- *V.Berezovsky - Russia
- *V.Gusinsky - Russia
- *V. Rabinovich - Israel
- *M.Friedman - Russia

**IN AUGUST ISSUE:
Details about World Congress
in 2001**

**Conference of Organizing
Committee and NSC Editorial-
Board**

**News from Russia about Con-
ference for a united CPSU**

BOOK REVIEWS

HITLER'S POPE

**The Secret History of
Pius XII**

By John Cornwell

Viking, 430 pages

Reviewed by
Professor Michael Ukas

John Cornwell's historical account throws much needed light on the part played by Pius XII (Eugenio Pacelli) in the world-shaking events that convulsed Europe and Asia between 1933 and 1945, events that resulted in the death of some fifty million people, and the destruction of untold numbers of villages, towns and cities, and the devastation of the countryside as a whole. First, as Papal Nuncio (*ambassador*) to Germany, and later as Pope Pius XII, he collaborated with Mussolini and Hitler both actively and passively. He admired the dictator Antonio Salazar of Portugal and the even more brutal dictator, Francisco Franco of Spain. Like Hitler, he was rabidly anti-Semitic and had a morbid fear of liberal and democratic ideas. Cornwell calls Pacelli "*Hitler's Pope*" because the latter worked most closely with the Nazi dictator of the Third Reich.

Cornwell describes Eugenio Pacelli's life and his reactionary views in quite some detail. This information is useful, of course, but more could have been said about the comparatively recent past of the Vatican and the popes that ruled there. Such background knowledge is very essential for the understanding of what had and has been taking place in the

Catholic world.

It is perhaps not surprising that throughout the history of the Vatican and the popes, the Holy See and its absolute rulers have stood in opposition to progressive liberal ideas and have favored instead all reactionary politicians and their regressive policies. What is especially disturbing is that in the case of Pope Pius XII (*Hitler's Pope*) this reactionary stance included the taking for granted of some of the ugliest forms of racism and anti-Semitism that culminated in genocide. Pius XII was well aware of what was taking place in Hitler's Germany and the occupied territories, but he never uttered a word of protest. He remained silent.

We know from history that what the Vatican detested and feared most was socialism because it led to enlightenment and emancipation of the people. The Vatican preached and generally forced unquestioning obedience to the church and its numerous dignitaries, ranging from the deacons and priests to all prelates and popes. This is understandable because all reactionary politicians tend to work hand in hand with church officials. It is to be expected that for such politicians it has been invariably advantageous to encourage all religious beliefs and practices. It has been a case of mutual convenience. Lenin was right when he said that religion was the opium of the people.

Pius XII, pope from 1922-1939, who signed the treaty with Mussolini that then established the Vatican City as a sovereign state. He declared in his encyclical, *Quadragesimo Anno*, 1931, that "*no good Catholic can be a Socialist.*" He also stated on many occasions that the fascist dictator Benito Mussolini was "*a man sent by Divine Providence.*" Of course, it can't be denied that it was providential for the fascist government in Italy and the pope in Rome to have someone like Mussolini in power. They kept the population in hand. They destroyed the trade unions and imprisoned or sent into exile anyone

who protested. But it was Pius XII, "Hitler's Pope", who served both Mussolini and Hitler first of all.

Particularly disgusting but not really so surprising, has been the recent announcement by John Paul II (Karol Wojtyla), the present pope, that he is going to canonize Eugenio Pacelli, in other words, that he is declaring him a saint. What can one say about this decision by John Paul II except that his criteria for qualifying someone for sainthood are remarkable indeed. One can't help wondering whether Adolph Hitler shouldn't also be given a place in John Paul's heaven and have him seated next to Pacelli. Or might one say that they were blood and ashes brothers. Let's not forget Auschwitz and Buchenwald and all of the other nazi extermination camps where millions of innocent people were gassed and burnt.

John Cornwell's title for the book is very well chosen, as is the subtitle. It is high time that this secret history no longer remains a secret in the not so Holy Seat of the Vatican!

**YES!
UNFORTUNATE-BUT TRUE!**

According to the Russian newspaper "Voice of a Communist" organ of the Russian Communist Party-CPSU, there are existing now in all of Russia 24 Communist parties and Marxist movements. From amongst them there are only 7 Communist Parties which are active and recognized.

Is there a need for another Communist Party? This question was asked by A.Prigarin, leader of the RCP-CPSU of O.Shein of the new "Movement for a Workers Party" and also of the leader of a new party that is being formed by V.Burdyugov called "Left Russia" who now is in the process of organizing the "Communist Party of Russian Federation (Leninist)".

Both leaders defended their position that there is a need for

SPECIAL FOR NORTHSTAR COMPASS

US FRIENDS OF SOVIET PEOPLE NEWS

Over 6,000 New Yorkers held a Rally to demand a new trial for imprisoned Black Marxist Mumia Abu-Jamal. Everyone who attended received a journal of the event. U.S. Friends of Soviet People were there. Below is the cover of the Journal and the greetings from USFSP which was published inside.

**Every generation has
its moral assignment:
ours is to save the life
of Mumia Abu-Jamal.**

— OSSIE DAVIS.



ETHIOPIA

The US press, while reporting on the fighting between Ethiopia and Eritrea in Africa, shows the influence of Soviet Union on the former Ethiopian Marxist government which was overturned by the feudalistic and anti-Communist bourgeoisie when the Soviet Union and the Socialist states of Eastern Europe were destroyed by a capitalist counter-revolution in 1991.

Note the Marx Memorial in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Dr. Angelo D'Angelo



U.S. Friends of Soviet People

**JOINS US IN SOLIDARITY
WITH MUMIA ABU-JAMAL**

Mumia's fight against capitalist imprisonment is the same fight as the former Soviet people's imprisonment in present day Capitalist Russia

U.S. Friends of Soviet People
P.O. Box 1234

two more parties to come on the scene.

A QUESTION -

Most people outside of Russia who are dedicated friends of Soviet People ask always only one question: "If all these communist and workers parties now existing

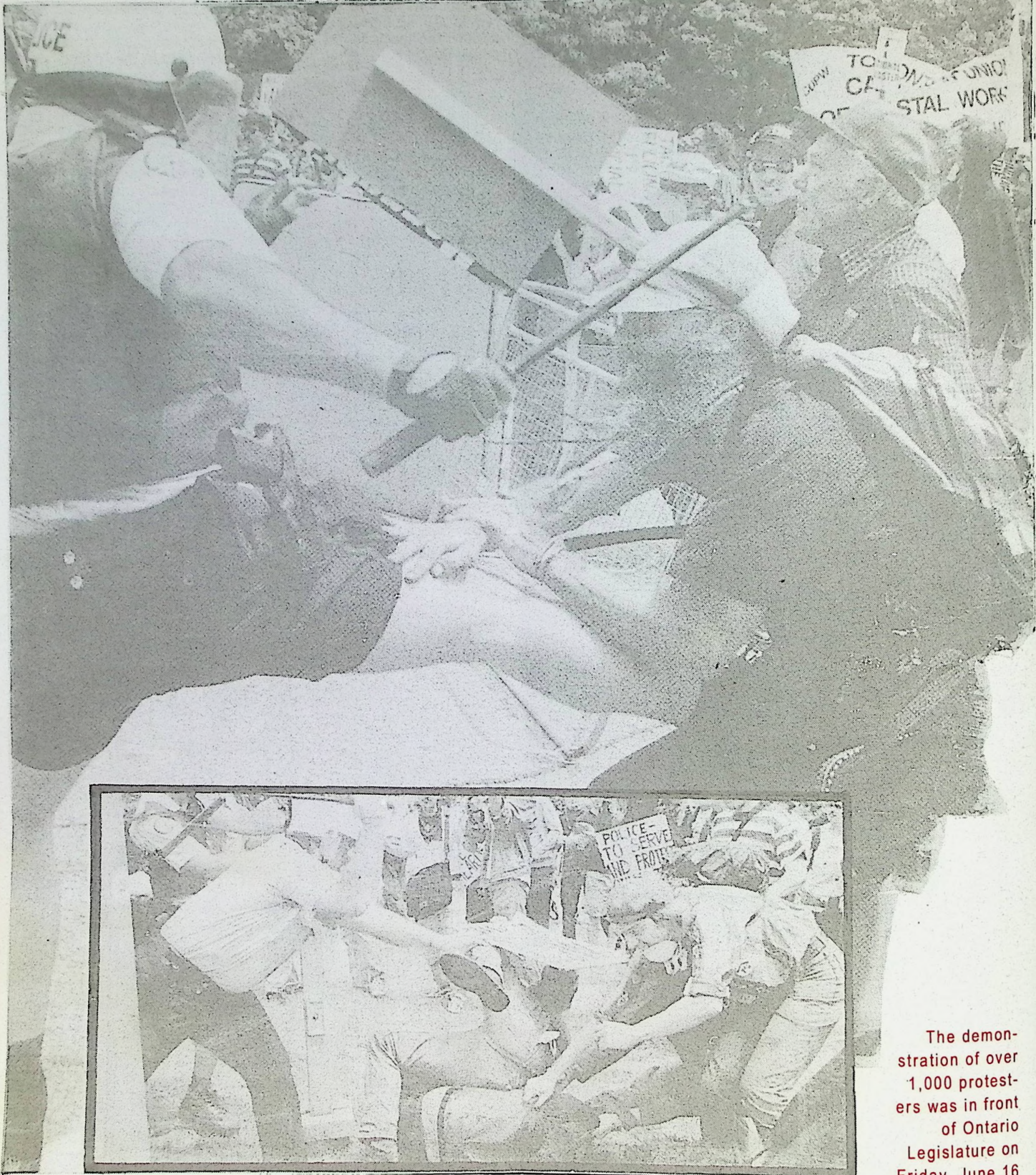
in Russia, cannot find common ground for necessary cooperation and agreement amongst themselves...how can they expect to overthrow the present bourgeois regime that is heavily supported by foreign and internal enemies?

IN MEMORIAM

Northstar Compass had many requests to have a section in NSC where ads in memory of loved ones and friends can be expressed. Donations will be accepted in this column.

CANADIAN DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

AGAINST THE POOR... FOR DEMANDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING!



The demonstration of over 1,000 protesters was in front of Ontario Legislature on Friday, June 16