

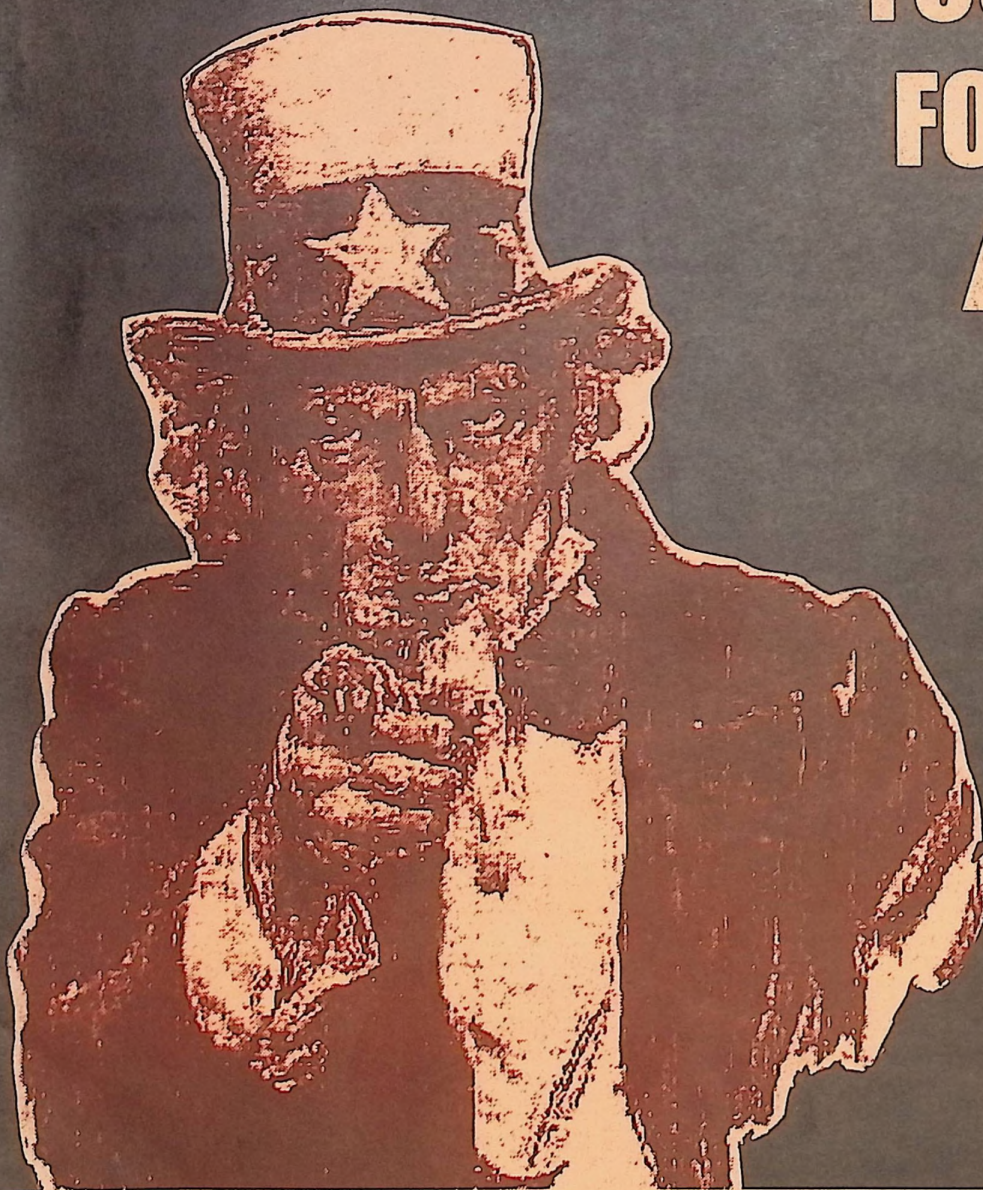
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AMERICA'S EMPIRE OF BASES AROUND THE WORLD!

By **CHALMERS JOHNSON**

As distinct from other peoples, most Americans do not recognize – or do not want to recognize – that the United States dominates the world, through its military power. Due to US government secrecy, our citizens are often ignorant of the fact that our garrisons encircle the planet. This vast network of American bases on every continent except Antarctica actually constitutes a new form of Empire – an Empire of bases with its own geography not likely to be taught in a high school geography class. Without grasping the dimensions of this globe-girdling Baseworld, one can't begin to understand the size and the nature of USA's imperialist aspirations or the degree to which a new kind of militarism is undermining the US constitutional order.

US military deploys well over half a million soldiers, spies, technicians, teachers, dependents, and civilian contractors in other nations. To dominate the oceans and the seas of the world, we are creating some thirteen naval task forces built around aircraft carriers whose names sum up our martial heritage, like – Kitty Hawk, Enterprise, Constellation, Nimitz, Harry S. Truman and Ronald Reagan amongst other. We operate numerous secret bases outside our territory to monitor what the people of the world, including what our own citizens are saying over the telephone, faxing, or e-mailing to one another.

US installations abroad bring huge profits to civilian industries, which design and manufacture weapons for the armed forces or, like the now well publicized Kellogg, Brown & Root Company, a subsidiary of the Haliburton Corporation of Houston,

undertake contract services to build and maintain our far-flung outposts. One task of such contractors is to keep uniformed members of the Imperium, housed in comfortable quarters, well fed, amused, and supplied with enjoyable, affordable vacation facilities.

Whole sectors of the American economy have come to rely on the military for sales. On the eve of our second war with Iraq, for example,

while the Defense Department was ordering up and extra ration of cruise missiles and of depleted-uranium armor-piercing tank shells, it also acquired 273,000 bottles of Native Tan sunblock lotion, triple its 1999 order and undoubtedly a boon to the supplier, Control Supply Company of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and its subcontractor, Sun Fun Products of Daytona Beach, Florida.

US HAS AT LEAST 700 FOREIGN BASES

It's not easy to assess the size and the exact value of our empire of bases. Official records of these are misleading, although very instructive. According to the US Defense Department's annual "Based



Structure Report" for the fiscal year of 2003, which itemizes foreign and domestic US military real estate, the Pentagon currently owns or rents 702 overseas bases in about 130 countries and has another 6,000 bases in the United States and its territories. Pentagon bureaucrats calculate that it would require at least \$114.2 billion to replace just the foreign bases – surely far too low a figure, but still larger than the gross domestic product of most countries and, estimated \$591,519,8 million to replace all of them. The military high command deploys to our overseas bases 253,288 uniformed personnel, plus an equal number of dependents and Department of Defense civilian officials, and employs and additional 44,870 locally hired foreigners. The Pentagon claims that these bases contain 44,870 barracks, hangars, hospitals, and other buildings, which it owns, and that it leases 4,844 more.

These numbers, although staggeringly large, do not begin to cover all the actual bases US occupies globally. The 2003 Base Status Report fails to mention, for instance, any garrisons that we have in Kosovo – even though it is the site of the huge Camp Bondsteel, built in 1999 and maintained ever since by Kellogg, Brown & Root. This Report similarly omits bases in Afghanistan, Iraq, Israel, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Qatar and Uzbekistan, although the US military had established colossal base structures throughout the so-called arc of instability in the two and a half years since 9/11.

For Okinawa, the southernmost island of Japan, which has been an American colony for the past 58 years, the Report deceptively lists only one Marine Base, Camp Butler, when in fact Okinawa "hosts" ten Marine Corps bases, including Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, occupying 1,186 acres in the center of that modest-size island's second largest city. (*Manhattan's Central Park in New York, by contrast, is only 843 acres.*) The Pentagon similarly fails to note all of the \$5-billion-worth military and espionage installations in Britain, which have long been conveniently disguised as British Royal Air Force base. If there were an honest count, the actual size of US military empire would probably top 1,000 different bases in other

people's countries, but no one – possibly not even the Pentagon – knows the exact number for sure, although it has been distinctly on the rise in recent years

The Pentagon spares no effort to make these bases seem like a Hollywood summer resort. For instance, the Washington Post reports that in Fallujah, just west of Baghdad, waiters in white shirts, black pants and black bow ties serve dinner to the US officers of the 82ND Airborne Division in their heavily guarded compound, and the first Burger King has already gone up inside the enormous US military base has established in Baghdad International Airport.

Some of these US bases are so gigantic that they require as many as nine internal bus routes for soldiers and civilian contractors to get around inside the earthen berms and concertina wire. That's the case at Camp Anaconda, headquarters of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, whose job is to police some 1,500 sq. kilometers and will ultimately house as many as 20,000 troops. Despite all these extensive security precautions, the base has frequently come under heavy mortar attacks, notably on the last Fourth of July, 2003, just as Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger was chatting up the US wounded at the local field hospital.

The US military prefers bases that resemble small fundamentalist towns in the US Bible Belt, rather than the big population centers of the United States. For example, even though more than 100,000 women live in the US overseas bases – including women in the services, spouses, and relatives of military personnel – obtaining an abortion at a local military hospital is prohibited. Since there are some 14,000 sexual assaults or attempted assaults by US servicemen each year in the military, women who become pregnant overseas and want an abortion have no choice but to try the local economy, which cannot be either easy or pleasant in Baghdad or other parts of the US empire these days.

Our missionaries live in a closed-off, self-contained world serviced by US air force transport planes, while the Generals and Admirals are flown in seventy-one Lear Jets and other luxury jets which fly them to such

spots as the armed forces ski and vacation center in Garmisch and Bavarian Alps or to any of the 234 military golf courses the Pentagon operates word-wide. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld flies around in his own personal Boeing 757, called the C-32A in the Air Force.

OUR "FOOTPRINT" ON THE WORLD

Of all the insensitive, if graphic metaphors we've allowed into our vocabulary, none quite equals "footprint" to describe the military impact of the US empire. Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff, General Richard Myers and senior members of the US Senate's Military Construction Subcommittee such as Dianne Geinstein (D-CA) are apparently incapable of completing a sentence without using this word. Establishing a more impressive footprint has now become part of the new justification for a major enlargement of the US empire – and an announced repositioning of our bases and forces abroad – in the wake of our conquest of Iraq. The man in charge of this project is Andy Hoehn, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense to draw up plans and implement US President Bush's preventive war strategy against "rogue states", "bad guys", "evil-doers". They have identified something they call the "arc of instability", which is said to run from the Andean region of South America (*read: Colombia*) through North Africa and then sweeps across the Middle East to the Philippines and Indonesia. This is, of course, more or less identical with what used to be called the Third World – and perhaps no less crucially it covers the world's key oil reserves. Hoehn contends, "When you overlay our footprint into that, we don't look particularly well-positioned to deal with the problems we're now going to confront."

Once upon a time, you could trace the spread of Imperialism by counting up the colonies. America's version of the colony is the military base. By following the changing policies of global basing, one can learn much about our ever-larger imperial stance and the militarism that grows with it. Militarism and Imperialism are the Siamese Twins

joined at the hip. Each thrives off the other. Already highly advanced in our country, they both are on the verge of a quantum leap that will almost surely stretch our military beyond its capabilities, bringing about fiscal insolvency and very possibly doing mortal damage to our republican institutions. The only way this is discussed in our press is via reportage on highly arcane plans for changes in basing policy and the positioning of troops abroad – and these plans, as reported in the media, cannot be taken at face value.

Marine Brig. General Martin Robeson, commanding the US 1,800 troops occupying the old French Foreign Legion base at Camp Lemonier in Djibouti at the entrance to the Red Sea, claims that in order to put “preventive war” into action, we require a “global presence”, by which he means gaining hegemony over any place that is not already under the US thumb. According to the right-wing American Enterprise Institute, the idea is to create a “global cavalry” that can ride in from “frontier stockades” and shoot up the “bad guys” as soon as we get some intelligence on them.

“LILY PADS” IN AUSTRALIA, ROMANIA, MALI, ALGERIA...

In order to put US forces close to every hot spot or danger in this newly discovered arc of instability, the Pentagon has been proposing – this is usually called “repositioning” – many new bases, including at least four and perhaps as many as six permanent bases in Iraq. A number of these are already now under construction – at the Baghdad International Airport, Tallil air base near Nasariyah, in the western desert near the Syrian border, and at Bashur air field in the Kurdish region of the north. (*This does not count the previously mentioned Anaconda, which is currently being called an “operating base”, though it may very well become permanent over time.*) In addition, US plans to keep under control the whole northern quarter of Kuwait – 1,600- square miles of Kuwait’s 6.9000 square miles of territory – that US now uses to re-supply our Iraq legion and as a place for Green Zone bureaucrats to relax.

Other countries mentioned as sites for what Colin Powell calls US’s

new “family of bases” include: In the impoverished areas of the “new” Europe – Romania, Poland and Bulgaria; in Asia - Pakistan (*where US already have four bases*), India, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, and even, unbelievably, Vietnam; in North Africa – Morocco, Tunisia, and especially Algeria (*scene of the slaughter of some 100,000 civilians since 1992, when, in order to squash an election, the military took over, backed by USA*

Korea, and perhaps Okinawa as part of Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld’s “rationalization” of our armed forces. In wake of the Iraq victory, the US has already withdrawn virtually all of its forces from Saudi Arabia and Turkey, partially as a way of punishing them for not supporting the war strongly enough. It wants to do the same thing in South Korea, perhaps the most anti-American democracy on Earth today.

In Europe, these plans include giving up several bases in Germany, also in part because Gerhard Schroeder’s domestically popular defiance of Bush over Iraq. Lt. Colonel Amy Ehmann of Germany has said to the press: “There’s no place to put all these 71,702 US soldiers in Romania or other former

A new statue to be erected on the spot of Saddam’s in Baghdad of President Bush and his NATO New World Order!

Heil Bush!

and France); and in West Africa – Senegal, Ghana, Mali, and Sierra Leone (*even though it has been torn by civil war since 1991*). The model for all these new installations, according to the Pentagon sources, are the string of bases we have built around the Persian Gulf, in the last two decades in such anti-democratic autocracies as Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, and the United Arab Emirates.

Most of these new bases will be what the military, in the switch of metaphors, calls “lily pads” to which our troops could jump like so many well-armed frogs from the homeland, our remaining NATO bases, our bases in the docile satellites of Japan and Britain. To offset the expenses involved in such expansion, the Pentagon leaks plans to the world media to close many of the USA’s huge Cold War military reservations in Germany, South



Warsaw Pact countries. It is predicted that more than 80% of the US forces will remain in Germany."

One reason why the US Pentagon is considering moving out of the rich democracies like Germany and South Korea (!?) and looks covetously at military dictatorships and poverty-stricken dependencies, is to take advantage of what the Pentagon calls their "more permissive environmental regulations and the like-mindedness of these governments to US policies". The Pentagon always imposes on countries in which it deploys its troops, the so-called "Status of Forces Agreements", which usually exempts the USA from cleaning up or paying for the environmental damage it causes. This is a standing grievance in Okinawa, where the American environmental record has been nothing short of abominable. Part of this attitude is simply the desire of the Pentagon to put itself beyond any of the restraints that govern civilian life in these countries, an attitude increasingly at bay in the US "homeland" as well. For example, the 2004 defense authorization bill of \$40.1 billion that President Bush signed into law in November 2003, exempts the US military outside the USA and also inside the USA from abiding by the Endangered Species Act and the Maritime Mammal Protection Act plus other environmental laws that the US military does not obey.

By far the greatest defect of this USA's "Global Cavalry" strategy, however, is that it accentuates Washington's impulse to apply irrelevant military remedy to terrorism. As the prominent British military historian, Correlli Barnett, has observed, the – US attacks on Afghanistan and Iraq only increased the threat of al-Qaeda. From 1993 through 9/11 assault in 2001, there were 5 major al-Qaeda attacks world-wide; in the two years since the invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq, there have been seventeen such bombings, including the Istanbul suicide assaults on the British Consulate and an HSBC Bank. Military operations against terrorists are not the solution. As Barnett puts it: *"Rather than kicking down the front doors and barging into ancient and complex societies with simple nostrums of so-called "freedom and*

democracy", we need tactics of understanding of the people and the culture we are dealing with – an understanding up till now entirely lacking in the top-level policy-makers in Washington and especially at the Pentagon. You cannot bring democracy at the point of a gun"

In his notorious **"long hard slog"** memo on Iraq of October 16, 2003, Defense Secretary Rumsfeld wrote:

"Today, we lack metrics to know if we are winning or losing the global war on terror." Correlli Barnett's "metrics" indicate otherwise. But the "war on terrorism" is at best only a small part of the reason for all of the construction these new world-wide military bases around the world, this is to expand the USA's Empire and reinforce the US military domination of the world!"

FEATURE ANALYSIS

New Forms of the Class Struggle in Poland

By Prof. Zbigniew Wiktor

It has now been over 14 years since the victory of the counterrevolution in Poland.

As a result of the "transformation of the system," Poland has become a semi-colonial country, dependent on capital from the US and European Union [EU]. Whole branches of industry have been shut down, thousands of large industries have been liquidated and thus millions of jobs have been lost. Agriculture is producing 30 to 50% less than before 1989. As a result, there is much chronic and structural unemployment – according to official figures it is 3.4 million (18.5%) – but according to independent economists it is 5 million, or 25% of the Polish labor force.

The contradiction between the new bourgeois class (10 to 15%), who together with their political and social hangers-on spend up 40 to 50% of consumer funds, and the great majority of the oppressed and exploited people, is steadily increasing. Thus 20% of the population are living under minimum living conditions, and about 60% are below the poverty level.

All social illnesses such as tuberculosis are spreading once again. Through homelessness (which affects 500,000 people) and



the cold, between 200 and 500 people die every winter. Seeking after drugs, drug addiction and alcoholism are growing among young people. Hundreds of thousands of young people are joining the ranks of the unemployed, people who cannot get jobs even after they completed professional training or finished vocational school. Officially in Poland more than one million graduates with university or vocational school diplomas are unemployed. At the same time, the workers and farmers are being held back culturally and by lack of education.

The bourgeois Polish state has fallen into deep dependence on the international capitalist centers. The debt has grown to more than \$80 billion U.S., and the internal debt has become more than \$20 billion U.S.

Because of these policies, Poland is clearly headed in the direction of a Latin-American type economy. For 14 years, the chief proponents of these policies have

been the big bourgeois and social-democratic parties which, despite their political and ideological differences, have concluded an "above-party pact" in favor of:

- *Privatizing the economy (sale for 10% of its actual value),
- * Integration into NATO, and
- * Support for EU expansion to the East.

These policies unite all groups of the comprador bourgeoisie (those bought-off bourgeois who are linked with foreign capital), which as the chief class subject serves the interests of foreign capital.

In this dramatic economic and social situation, the consciousness of the Polish working class has changed. Many workers have lost their former ideals and illusions. But the working class is split, thanks to "Solidarity" and the opportunists. Within the upper strata of the trade unions there is the consciousness of class solidarity, of social reformism and church influence. A section of the unemployed has become declassed and become a lumpen-proletariat. They could be bought for a few pennies and easily fall under the political and ideological domination and for the arguments of their own class enemy, for example, regarding the EU expansion to the East and the EU referendum.

There are great difficulties, given the poisoned consciousness in the ranks of the working class, to prepare to organize a new struggle against capitalism. The present slogan for the communists in Poland should be: Unity in the struggle against the class of exploiters.

The successes of the bourgeoisie in Poland as well as in other countries will be possible, as long as the workers and other working people do not remember the old Marxist slogan: Workers of all countries (in particular of all industries in one country – Zb. W.), Unite! It is still too early to put forward concrete, socialist goals and tasks in Poland. The chief slogans should for the time being be anti-capitalist ones, which create the possibility of uniting broader forces.

The contradictions will become clear through the view of the trade unions. There is a great split within the trade unions in Poland. There are

many weak trade unions within the same enterprises, for example there are 12 among the railway workers, 8 among the miners, and in the new enterprises, thanks to the wishes of the employers, there are no trade unions. In the remaining large industrial plants, the OPZZ (social-democratic oriented) and "Solidarity" (church-conservative) play the leading role. They serve to help and support their "own" regime.

The leaderships of the trade union federations do not work together. They are often hostile to each other. On the other hand, the employees in individual enterprises are forming (independently of the trade union federations) a broad front against the liquidation of their enterprise and of their jobs. They are organizing against the destruction of social services.

The author is teacher at the University of Wroclaw. Until 2002, he was the Chairman of the Union of Polish Communists "Proletariat."

From Red Brandenburg
December, 2003

OPEN FORUM

From OBSERVER

United Kingdom. Feb. 22, 2004

SECRET PENTAGON REPORT

* By 2007 the report predicts violent storms due to ozone layer warming that will render large parts of The Netherlands inhabitable. Cities like The Hague will be abandoned. In California, USA, the delta island levees in Sacramento river will be breached, disrupting the aqueduct system transporting water from north to south.

* Between 2010 and 2020 Europe will be hardest hit by climatic change, with the average temperature drop of 6 F. Climate in Britain will become colder and drier as weather patterns become to resemble Siberia.

*Death from wars and famine will run into millions, until the planet's population is reduced to such an extent that the Earth will be able to cope.

*Riots and internal conflicts will tear India apart, as also South Africa and Indonesia.

*Access to water will become the major battleground. The Nile, Danube and the Amazon rivers are mentioned as being high risk.

* A "significant drop" in the planet's ability to sustain its present population, will become apparent over the next 20 years.

*Rich areas like the USA and Europe will become "virtual fortresses" to prevent millions of migrants from entering, after being forced from the land drowned by the sea-level rise, or no longer able to grow their crops. Waves of boast-people will pose significant problems.

*Nuclear arms proliferation is inevitable. Japan, South Korea, Germany will develop nuclear weapons, as will Iran. Egypt and North Korea, Israel, China, India and Pakistan.

*By 2010 the US And Europe will experience third more days with peak temperatures going above 90F.

Climate becomes an "economic nuisance" as storms, draughts and hot spells will create havoc.

*More than 400 million people in subtropical regions will be at grave risk.

*Europe will face huge internal struggles as it copes with massive numbers of migrants, washing up on its shores. Immigrants from Scandinavia will seek warmer climate to the south. Southern Europe will be beleaguered by refugees from the hard-hit countries in Africa.

* Mega-droughts will affect the world's major breadbaskets, including America's Midwest, where strong winds will, bring soil loss.

*China's huge population and food demands will become particularly vulnerable. Bangladesh will become nearly uninhabitable because of the rising sea level, which will contaminate all of the inland water supplies.

COMMENT:

With these dire predictions, the world can just see Uncle Sam Bush riding his white charger and with his mercenaries of NATO to envelope the world and thus save this civilization for another 1000 years for the New World Order! Editor.

PUTIN DISMISSED RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT JUST BEFORE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

On February 24, 2003 President Vladimir Putin dismissed the Russian Government after he first fired his Prime Minister Kasyanov. According to Putin, this decision was not the result of his dissatisfaction about the work of his cabinet at all. He said that their work was very satisfactory, but he also stated that his decision was made to give him a clear command after March 14th in which everything points to his easy victory!

Putin is confident that he will get his second term as president, since the opposition from the CPRF is absolutely abysmal to say the least.

Putin is being PUT-IN as before by the big oil gurus and with the helping hand of all the corporations, Western Transnational Corporations and Imperialism itself...since Putin is the man that Uncle Sam considers as "his man" in the Kremlin.

It is very interesting that Putin is surrounding himself with his cronies who were with him in St.Petersburg – all of whom were undermining the Soviet Union and catering to the West in every aspect...while money was flowing in to help...including from that rabid anti-communist George Soros, a personal friend of Putin.

Even though the Russian stock market practically crashed, Wall Street stocks jumped up, since it is a sure sign as to who sleeps together with whom in one bed and – obviously President Bush is hoping for a victory in the USA, thus the partnership that will be formed broods evil for the whole world and for the Soviet people in particular.

The lie that Putin fired the prime minister because of being the last hold-off of the Yeltsin regime - is nothing but hog wash. With the

economic situation getting worse by day, with the complete sell-out not producing for the Russian people the standard of living that they were promised; with internal strife mounting, with labour strikes, with demonstrations gaining momentum, President Putin very cleverly had gotten rid of his government just before the election, thus he can say that "it was they who sabotaged my plans to improve the life of Russians. I tried, but my hands were tied!"

That brings us to the CPRF and Zyuganov, its leader. History will never forgive Zyuganov and his sell-out policies. He sold out to Yeltsin and he sold out to Putin.

In a news dispatch just in, it was reported that there is a bitter internal struggle inside the CPRF and questions about their candidate for



president, Nikolai Kharitonov. There are demands for the resignation of Zyuganov as leader. The party is split and is not likely to be active until a new leader of the CPRF is picked at the CPRF congress this June.

MICHAEL LUCAS - Editor

MUSEUM OF LOCAL LORE AS THE CENTER FOR PATRIOTIC LEARNING

PROFESSOR
VLADIMIR
HERASYMCHUK



In many of our previous issues of NSC we have pointed out to our readers that at the present time in all of the former Soviet Republics, the most important tool and method of

ideological brainwashing is the lies that are constantly repeated. The constant and daily lies and psychological brainwashing is being carried on not only in the mass media, but in the present school books as well. In this broken world of former USSR, the lies are constant about the history of the USSR and it's Communist Party and especially the debunking of the glorious role the Soviet people played during the Great Patriotic War. Therefore our task – unmask all of these lies!... The greatest task falls on the shoulders of workers of the historical section of folklore museums on history in order to resurrect socialism

in our Motherland. A perfect example is the work of such a museum in the Ocherentsky public school, Chernoarmejsky locality of the Zhitomir province of Ukraine. Its director and dedicated Communist is Vladimir Davidiuk.

In this school there is organized a group of young pioneers who are versed in the history of the Soviet people and are charged with gathering historical facts and documents and they lead excursion to the sites of historical battles and museums of the Great Patriotic War. While visiting this museum, we were amazed to hear from the lips of these young school children the history of the Soviet Union, its struggles against intervention, internal and external enemies and the role the Soviet Union played against fascism. Among the most noteworthy of these young people - were Natasha and

Katya Matvijchuk, Ira Bander and Ira Tereshenko. These young people, under the direction of their teacher-tell the objective truth about the real history of the USSR, debunking the constant and the accumulated falsehoods that is daily trying to subvert the minds of the people.

Especially they tell the truth about the lies by these present enemies of Socialism that in 1941 the Red Army ran away in panic from the Germans. This is a vicious lie that even Western imperialist leaders could not force themselves to say. This is debunked by historical facts that are gathered in this historical museum. The documents, the photographs and the facts gathered here, show the heroism by the Red Army in 1941, especially by the 5th Army, led by General Potapov. During that war in June-July, the Hitlerites were successful to breach this front and

quickly to take Zhitomir and start the attack on Kiev. The Hitlerites thought that it shall be an easy occupation. But, the army of General Potapov attacked the fascists from the north. The soldiers of the 19th and 41st tank division attacked and took the strategic positions on the highway Novgorod-Volyn-Zhitomir, which was to be used by fascists to come to Kiev. The bitter battle lasted for 8 days and this gave the defenders of Kiev time to get even better prepared. One document shows the heroic participation of this defense by Lt. Kulikov, later to become Marshal of the Soviet Union, and still later to become the Commander of the Warsaw Pact Countries. The heroism of the soldiers of the 5th Army in 1941 will forever remain in the hearts of the people and their grandchildren.

In the present bourgeoisie daily media there is constant propaganda of the most vicious kind that says that the Great Patriotic War was a battle between "two tyrants"?! History proves that this was a world war of the worlds - the world of Socialism and the world of Hitler's fascism. Many of the displays and facts in this museum show that this war was an international struggle for the liberation of the Motherland, the liberation of Europe.

In one photograph there is shown a former partisan, sergeant of the Red Army, son of the Azerbaijan people Kunaybezha Novruzaliev. Together with all the people, he fought to defend the Soviet Motherland and he was awarded three medals for bravery, the highest recognition that can be given. After the war, this hero lived and worked on a collective farm Ochereryantsk. The school here is named after him.

Many exhibits show the rebuilding of the country after the devastation of the war, the heroism of Soviet workers and farmers while building socialism and the future communism.

These kind of historical teaching through the exhibitions, visiting museums and explaining the truth to the young generation, is the only way to debunk the lies that are being daily perpetrated against the people, not only through the daily media, but through school books which falsify the actual history of the Soviet Motherland.



The above photo shows the young Pioneer Katya Matveychuk showing and explaining historical facts in the Museum to young people that are visiting..

The Director of this school and museum is Vladimir Davidiuk, showing the exhibit of General Potapov and his heroic Red Army soldiers during the Great Patriotic War.



STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARIAT OF THE UNION OF COMMUNIST PARTIES-CPSU

BY SOWING THE WIND, THEY WILL REAP A HURRICANE

The Russian bourgeois-comprador regime once again decided to do away with the ideals of Communism and Bolshevism, to bury the great historical facts of former USSR. This is on the eve of the 80th Anniversary of the death of V.I. Lenin. In this muddy, filthy, obnoxious campaign the government pulled out all the stops in this murky attempt, of course of the eve of the Presidential election, with the help of their "masters of culture" to do away with the body of V.I. Lenin from the Mausoleum on the Red Square.

Even with all of these "experts" in muddying the waters, they could not come up with anything new. Calling Lenin a national traitor, getting German gold to start the 1917 Revolution, his bloody cruelty and murder of people...they call upon all people to agree to rebury Lenin in a "Christian Burial" - of course, get him out of the Lenin Mausoleum. And of course, the 125th Anniversary of the birth of Stalin coming, these traitors could not let this pass by, they dragged out again and again the stories of "repressions". Of course they could not leave Karl Marx out of this mud slinging to be sure, debunking all of Marx's theories as

utopian, foreign and its failure etc. etc.

(It is interesting that here in Canada, as if on cue by a master behind the scenes, all the bourgeois newspapers and media are full of the same vile propaganda as in Russia. Editor)

There is no need to have to reply to all of these vile statements, history itself has given answers to them. The world has recognized the genius of Marx, Lenin and Stalin. These pygmies are now inflated with their self-importance, But, these pygmies sooner or later will pay the supreme price before the wrath of the people.

Under the guise of blaming Lenin and Stalin, in the last 12 years of these reforms, these rulers have devastated Russia with hunger, sicknesses, cold and terrible living conditions and are responsible for the death of more or less ten million people. **This is outright genocide.** Only during January of this year, there were 45,000 people who froze to death on the Sakhalin Island ! But the president is quite on this tragedy. Near Kursk, there were many children who died for a lack of medicines and medical help.

What about the "Volgograd Battle"- which was the Stalingrad Battle of heroic proportions. A high-ranking Putin apparatchik made such a mockery of these heroes that he should be tried as a traitor, as any other country would do, heaping abuse against the Red Army heroes who broke the back of German fascism and thus saved not only the Soviet Union, but the whole world!

During the celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Blockade of

Leningrad, one veteran who fought that heroic battle wrote to Putin: "give back to us our health care that we had under the Soviet Union!" Of course this veteran did not receive any reply.

Time is coming when questions will be asked of these traitors and the punishment will fit the crime. The Judases like Yakovlev and Pozner and their ravings over the Russian TV against V.I. Lenin, they are trying furiously to bring on a civil war in Russia. And these were former CC CPSU members!

We as Communist and Patriots of Vladimir I. Lenin will not ever allow this travesty to take place! We will not allow the body of our founder, V.I. Lenin to be taken out the Mausoleum on the Red Square! This is a sacred spot for the Soviet people, for the Soviet Motherland and for the international working class!

We are warning the present government, that we will organize such a mass movement that you will be swept out existence!

Those who sow the wind, shall reap a hurricane!

A SOVIET WAR VETERAN SPEAKS OUT

By. A.M. STAR

When Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko died, a hastily called meeting of the CPSU Politburo voted five against to elect Mikhail Gorbachev as his successor. Coincidentally (?) three opponents of Gorbachev in the Politburo, among whom was Grigori Romanov, were out of town and not present at this all important meeting and were not notified to come immediately.

Grigori Romanov once was a powerful figure at the highest level of the Soviet State. As a young man during the 1940's he had fought the Nazi invaders in the defense of Leningrad. A committed Communist, he later rose through the Party ranks to become the head of the Soviet Union's second largest city, Leningrad, for a period of 25 years.

In 1983 he was summoned to



Moscow by the then president Yuri Andropov and became a member of the CPSU Politburo. When Andropov died in 1984, Konstantin Chernenko took over. But he too was not healthy and passed away the following year. Grigori Romanov was considered one of the two possible successors to Chernenko, the other one was Vladimir Shcherbitsky. "No one seriously considered Gorbachev," says Romanov (1)

On the day that Chernenko died (March 10, 1985-19.20 hrs) Romanov was in Vilnius, Lithuania with his wife. They had been given a trip to the sanatorium and could only fly back to Moscow on the following day. Two other Politburo members were also at that time out of town; Dinmuhammed Kunaev was in Alma Ata, Kazakhstan and Shchetbitsky was in the United States. If these three members (*the usual size of the Politburo is about 14 full members*) had been present at the meeting, as they could have been the following day – Gorbachev would never had been elected, says Romanov. "By the time we arrived in Moscow, the very next day, he'd already done it without waiting for us as Politburo rules demanded. That fast! That was it... He'd already cut the deal in secret with all of them. And you think that the timing of Chernenko's death, I mean, was all accidental? (bid).

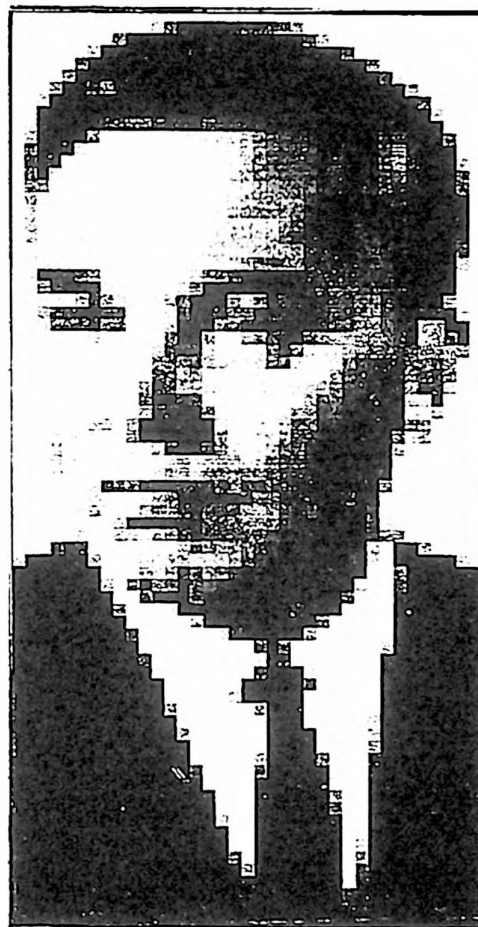
The fact that Gorbachev was not even seriously considered as the successor to Chernenko, appears to be supported by an article in 1992 in the New York Transfer News Service (2), which wrote the following about Gorbachev's performance:

"When Mikhail Gorbachev was elected General Secretary of the CPSU, he had done little to distinguish himself with his comrades in the Central Committee or later in the Politburo. The highest ranking job he held was that of a Central Committee secretary in charge of agriculture. He had earlier studied at the Stavropol Agricultural Institute where he obtained a degree in agriculture, to which he later added a degree in law. Thus, he was a lawyer and an agricultural official directly responsible from the Central Committee to the Politburo. His performance until then was, if anything, lackluster. Indeed, his last years in that post were characterized by agricultural failures attributed by

the Soviet press to poor weather(!) They certainly did not add to his stature. Nothing he had done could recommend putting him on a pedestal above all the others."

Furthermore, an article in "Time Europe" of January 4, 1988, confirms that Romanov was the chief candidate for the top job.

But Gorbachev and his cabal appeared to have outmaneuvered his rivals. He succeeded because Chernenko died at a moment that his main rivals were out of town, either by pure luck or timing or "in a planned manner", as Romanov



seems to suggest by his question – "Was the real timing of Chernenko's death accidental?" There is no doubt that Chernenko was a sick man which he spent much of his last few months in hospital and that his death was not unexpected. The Soviet news agency TASS later released the text of his medical bulletin, which stated the following "following the manifestations of liver and pulmonary-cardiac insufficiency, Mr. Chernenko's heart had stopped." But doctors do have a good deal control over the timing of a person's death. Romanov could be right that the timing was not altogether "accidental".

Tom Paine (3), writing in the "Cold War Series: Ten Years After" said about Gorbachev: "In order to trump his Politburo rivals, Gorbachev did every wild thing that he could think of, the better to be able to brand them all, quite inaccurately, as reactionaries, as Stalinists. In the process he ruined the Soviet economy, encouraged the nationalities to rise up against his enemies, and inadvertently (4) broke up the Soviet bloc in the attempt to remove Communist leaders who sided with his perceived enemies in Russia. Finally he started the process of breaking up the Soviet Union itself, in April of 1991, by initiating talks on a new Union Treaty. This was done in order to head off an attempt by the loyal members of Central Committee of the CPSU to remove him from power."

Not surprisingly, Romanov does not have a good word to say about Gorbachev. "He will pay for his sins! I can't stand the sight of his pig's mug. He's a traitor A traitor to the Motherland! He's sniveling about how no one here thanks him, about how ungrateful Russians are to him. To hell with Gorbachev! He started this disaster. He was a catastrophe, an ignorant peasant who had no right to come into the big city..." (1)

And so writes Andrew Meier in "Black Earth": "Now, in advanced retirement, far from his rarefied life among the Party, Romanov echoed the lament of many a common man in Russia. In the years after the Soviet collapse, he had found company. Romanov has no power now, but he took solace in the knowledge that millions of Russians share his views. His principle conviction – things were much better before – has become the motto of his generation."

(1) From the book "Black Earth", chapter 1-5 by Andrew Meier

(2) NY Transfer News Service 1992, article by Sam Marcy. The Collapse of the USSR and the Destiny of Socialism"

(3) Tom Pine is publisher of a Public Internet Journal

(4) Personally don't believe that the break-up of the USSR was "accidental". Rather, it was planned by Gorbachev and Yakovlev and others for many years. (W.V.R.)

72 HISTORICAL VIDEOS FROM USSR

These videos were taken off the 16mm/35mm Soviet films and are no longer able to be shown in capitalist Russia. Ask for the catalogue.

AGAINST SELF-DELUSION

BY N. GALIN - Young AYGB

The campaign by Putin and his cronies to get elected for another term (*since the first term as President, Putin was put in - Editor*) - from a political point of view this is of no interest. Other candidates for the president are there as toys to be shuffled everywhere as a screen to be seen as he has opposition. All is done to make certain that Putin has no opposition from anyone, and that the voting will go on as planned

without any interruptions.

It is obviously clear that Putin will become again the president.

The bourgeois system of elections in all the capitalist countries is such that it is practically impossible to make any radical changes by the so-called opposition parties or personalities who are behooved to the influential money cartels and business interests. In other words, the "elections" in these countries as in Russia now, is between the candidates who have huge amounts of money, supplied by their benefactors and to whom they are tied to.

In Russia now, in order to collect the number of signatures required to run and register yourself as a

candidate for president, you need no less that \$2 million dollars. To promote yourself over the TV, radio, press - you need a much higher sum that the \$2 million. You can see as to who is or will be a candidate, you have to be a millionaire yourself or have the big business support you. And the one that pays the piper - calls the tune.

Among the candidates for president here, there are none that represents the working class or farmers.

The only logical step is to boycott the election and thus show your opposition to the present regime.

We are appealing to the working class not to take part in this election. We are asking the people not to delusion themselves.

But we are aware that with this boycott we are not going to be able to cancel the election or question the legality of the elected president. But we must and we will try to open the



eyes of the electorate as to the falseness of the election and the shady dealings that are being made and will be made in order to guarantee that Putin gets elected.

Our effort must be to convince as many of the masses to boycott the election as possible. By voting against all the candidates, that person is also falling into the trap of the bourgeois oligarchy.

Our slogan must be *"Down with the President and the Presidency!"* This is a call for workers solidarity and the higher understanding of the thick fog that surrounds these elections.

Down with the Presidents! ■

The Techniques of a Coup d'Etat

By JOHN LAUGHLAND

When Edward Shevarnadze, the president of Georgia was overthrown in what a CNN dubbed *"the Rose Revolution"* (on November 22, 2003) I was in Croatia. And just before the *"election"* of his successor (January 4, 2004) Mikhail Saakashvili, the American educated lawyer who was his former Minister of Justice, I was in Serbia. The Balkans, as it turns out, are a perfect place from which to observe the developments in the Caucasus, because the covert operations which are currently being deployed in Georgia, have already been used with devastating effect across all of South-East Europe.

There can be no doubt that the change of the regime in Tbilisi is the result of the US secret service operations. The allegations that the elections on November 2nd were flawed was based exclusively on exit polls conducted by an American *"polling agency"*; also, the student activists from the *"Kmara"* organization are modeled on, and trained by, their US-backed opposite numbers in Serbia, *"Otpor"*. The two groups even have the same logo, presumably so as to give their sponsors some economies of scale when it comes to printing costs.

Everything down to the storming of Parliament in Tbilisi of November 22nd, 2003, in Belgrade on October 5, 2000, and the visit of the Russian foreign minister Igor Ivanov, to

ensure the hand-over of power, followed exactly the same carefully choreographed plan. Moreover, the identity of the choreographer is not difficult to establish: the last posting of Richard Miles, the current US Ambassador in Tbilisi, was Belgrade.

While in Serbia, I came across unexpected confirmation of the extent of the US secret service involvement in politics of that country. Tim Marshall, a reporter for the Sky TV, has published a book in Serbia on the period 1998-2000 i.e. the Kosovo war and the overthrow of Milosevic. Marshall is very proud of his connections with the Secret Services, especially the British ones, because his book, entitled *"Shadowplay"*, is a detailed account of their activities, which are presented as the key factors in the political events that he describes. The value of his account is all that much greater, because Marshall, like all other TV reporters, supports the US New World Order view that Slobodan Milosevic was evil and that NATO was correct to attack Yugoslavia in 1999.

At every turn, Marshall seems to know who the main intelligence players are. His account is thick with references to *"an M16 officer in Pristina"*; *"sources in Yugoslav Military Intelligence"*; *"a CIA man who was helping to put together the coup"*; *"an officer of the US naval intelligence"*; and so on. He quotes secret surveillance reports from the Serbian secret service; he knows who the Minister of Defense desk officer is in London who draws up the strategy for getting rid of Milosevic; he knows that the Foreign Secretary's telephone conversations are being listened to; he knows who are the Russian intelligence officers who accompany Yevgeni Primakov, the Russian Prime Minister to Belgrade during the NATO bombing; he knows which rooms are bugged in the British Embassy; and where the Yugoslav spies are who listen to diplomats conversations; he knows that a staff member on the US House of Representatives International Relations Committee is, in fact, an officer of US intelligence; he seems to know that secret service decisions are often taken with a very minimal ministerial approval; he describes how the CIA physically escorted the KLA delegation from Kosovo to Paris

for the pre-war talks at Ramboillet, where NATO issued Yugoslavia with an ultimatum it knew that it could only reject; and he refers to *"a British journalist"* acting as go-between London and Belgrade for hugely important and very high-level secret negotiations, and people sought to betray one another as Milosevic's power collapsed.

Perhaps the unidentified journalist is himself. For one of the themes which inadvertently runs through his book, is that there is a thin line dividing the journalists and the spooks. We have observed this phenomena in Georgia, as Western newspapers do the work of the secret services by gushing with undiluted propaganda about the *"hopes"* the Georgian people have in their *"young"* new American-installed president.

Above all, Marshall makes it clear that in 1999, the USA's State Department and its intelligence agencies decided to use the Kosovo Liberation Army to get rid of Slobodan Milosevic. He quotes one source, quoting Mark Kirk a US intelligence officer saying that: *"Eventually we opened up a huge operation against Milosevic, both secret and open. We gave KLA both military, technical, officers as directors, logistical support, we smuggled drugs, ran prostitution rackets and murdered civilians, and blamed all this on the Serbs and Milosevic."*

The war was started and Yugoslavia was ferociously bombed. But Milosevic stayed in power and the people rallied to the cause. So London and Washington then started the *"political warfare"* since military bombing only solidified the will of the people. This involved giving very large sums of money, logistical support, arms, to various *"democratic opposition"* groups and also the *"non governmental"* organizations in Serbia. The US was operating then through the International Republican Institute, yet another CIA front, which had opened their offices in neighbouring Hungary for the purpose of getting rid of Milosevic.

It was agreed at one of their meetings, writes Marshall, *"that the ideological arguments of pro-democracy, civil rights and a humanitarian approach would be far*

more forceful if accompanied by large bags of American dollars." This plus others things were shipped to Serbia via the diplomatic pouches, through and from Sweden, which was not participating in NATO, thus they were able to maintain a full embassy staff in Belgrade. The US CIA set up the radio station B92 and funded it – and this station B92 is Marshall's publisher of his book. All of these organizations were largely funded by George Soros, and he was later to play a crucial role in 2003-2004 events in Georgia. These "democrats" were, in reality, nothing but foreign agents – just as the Yugoslav stolidly maintained.

They pushed Kostunica as a single candidate, since he was unknown by the general public, and Marshall also describes the so-called "spontaneous uprising" of the people and the carefully arranged people to appear on the TV screens.

All of the above will eventually be known publicly and the lies, deception, intrigue, murder, assassinations, and the kidnapping of Milosevic.

After Marshall's expose of the reality behind the almost identical events in Serbia, there can be no doubt that the US takeover of Georgia is a textbook case of US covert operations at work. ■

OUR ENEMIES ARE REWRITING HISTORY

By VLADIMIR PRONIN-UKRAINE

From the time that Socialism appeared on the world arena, the struggle against it by the bourgeois ideology are running from one end to the other in their lies, innuendo, fabrication in order to completely besmirch the truth about socialism and what transpired in the first land of socialism.

One of the most vicious lies are the never-ending attacks on historical practice of communists, on the difficult and heroic history of Soviet people, and other peoples of countries of socialism – trying with all their might to cloud over and debase it all. These attacks by capitalism are intensified when capitalism is going through a crisis, both politically and economically, but they never cease or die. In the school system, in the educational and in history books, these attacks are constant and do not stop for a minute. This is done so cleverly and psychologically that many people do not even realize as to what is happening and become zombyorized, and many historical myths are then taken for the truth.

As an example we can bring a few of those constructed myths, although we can point out hundreds of them. It must be pointed out that

these are myths that are used in conjunction with the ideology as promoted by Krushchev and his revisionism and manipulation of facts regarding Stalin and his leadership, and these myths were immediately accepted with glee and supported, publicized and given accolades by capitalism and the bourgeois propagandists and historians.

When a communist steps unto a revisionist road, he immediately is part of that movement which becomes the enemy of the working class and socialism. It doesn't matter whether he does this knowingly or unknowingly. Regarding the Soviet Union, these myths are propagated from one book to another, from one story to another, from one TV program to another, with any show of evidence or facts to support these accusations and myths.

These falsehoods are worked like this – they take historical facts, based on actual life at a given time, then it is taken and quoted out of context and placed in an unrelated context and sometimes it is hard to see the truth through these inserted and subverted facts. How can these historians and propagandists live with themselves, having put these lies into context of historical reality?

One of these historical lies

concerns a group of high ranking Soviet Army commanders, amongst whom were General Alexander Loktionov, Grigory Shtern and Yakov Smushkevich and Pavel Rychagov, who were sentenced to death in 1941. The enemies cry crocodile tears about the just sentence that these high-ranking Red Army officers received, and they blame the "totalitarian regime."

Not one of these son of bitches writers or historians wrote as to why these high-ranking officers were shot, what their crimes were, at the beginning of the German Nazi attack against the Soviet Union! They say that Stalin and Beria just took it upon themselves to shoot these Red Army officers who were innocent.

We are not going to go into the question of was it right, was it necessary, because we have had to be living at the time when Nazi Germany was preparing to attack the Soviet Union, when Western Imperialists were goading Hitler on, when the West did not want to sign on as Allies – when the Soviet Union was alone and had to prepare itself for the onslaught. Were the Soviets prepared at that time?

We must point out to the NSC readers that in 1941 the front was coming ever closer to Moscow and we must also point out that the German fascists were absolutely master of the skies & their aviation. We must just concentrate in this article on whether the Soviets were prepared, and if not, what was the cause? These tools of revisionism and lies do no ever mention or ask the question whether the Red Army Aviation was ready to defend the skies, and if not, what was the cause, especially before the onslaught of the most powerful enemy and the war that followed that cost over 50 million lives worldwide and over 20 million in the USSR alone.

This question is touched upon by Pavel Sudoplatov, who was assistant to the director of USSR NKVD –

"In May of 1941, a German Yonkers bomber 52 broke into the Soviet airspace and proceeded to land peacefully unto the central airdrome near Moscow, near the Sports Stadium "Dynamo" without one Soviet fighter or air defense battery having noticed this incursion and the

German plane that landed near Moscow could have obliterated the Kremlin and all of the General Staff and leadership of the country!"

Of course this caused a sensation and recriminations in the government and the General Staff of the Red Army and Air Force, since this one fact showed Hitler that the air defenses of Moscow and the front can be breached without any opposition.

This dangerous scandal was the last straw the broke the camels back, because it showed that there were internal enemies right in the Red Army High Command and after immediate investigation there were facts that came to light which showed absolutely that the high command was lax in preparedness, sabotaged the requirement of new weapons, new techniques and technologies, even though at meetings with the CC CPSU, these general and colonels said that everything was in readiness to defend the Motherland and that the USSR was safe.

The facts emerged that these facts were hidden by the high command from the government already one year before the start of hostilities. With this terrible news coming out, and with the West pushing Hitler to go against the Soviet Union, with the possibility of having Japan attack Siberia and the struggle to be waged on two fronts – this sabotage was unforgivable, to say the least.

Marshal Tymoshenko in early 1940 outlined what should be done, what weaknesses are needed to be fixed and all the necessary steps that must be taken and these Generals vowed that they will fulfill them. There were many weaknesses since the Soviet Union was busy before 1940 trying to build industries, infrastructure and rebuilding of the devastation of the civil war and the backwardness of the nation.

It is good to remember that after 1953 and the advent of Gorbachev, what transpired in late 1990's when a German civilian light plane piloted by Matiasa Rustas landed right in the Red Square of

Moscow, without any Soviet aircraft noticing it or as the saying went then, the air defense soldiers in Moscow were sleeping.

What did Gorbachev do? He got rid of all the general staff, expelled them, retired them and never-ever allowed them again into the army or air force.

Stalin was informed correctly on the date of the attack, no matter what these traitors and revisionists now try to say in their numerous well-paid books in interviews. Let us not forget that the one that pays the piper calls the tune. These modern Judases are wined and dined in the West and their books are promoted, they get advances, they get bonuses on sales – in other words, they are paid falsifiers.

Article condensed for space reasons.

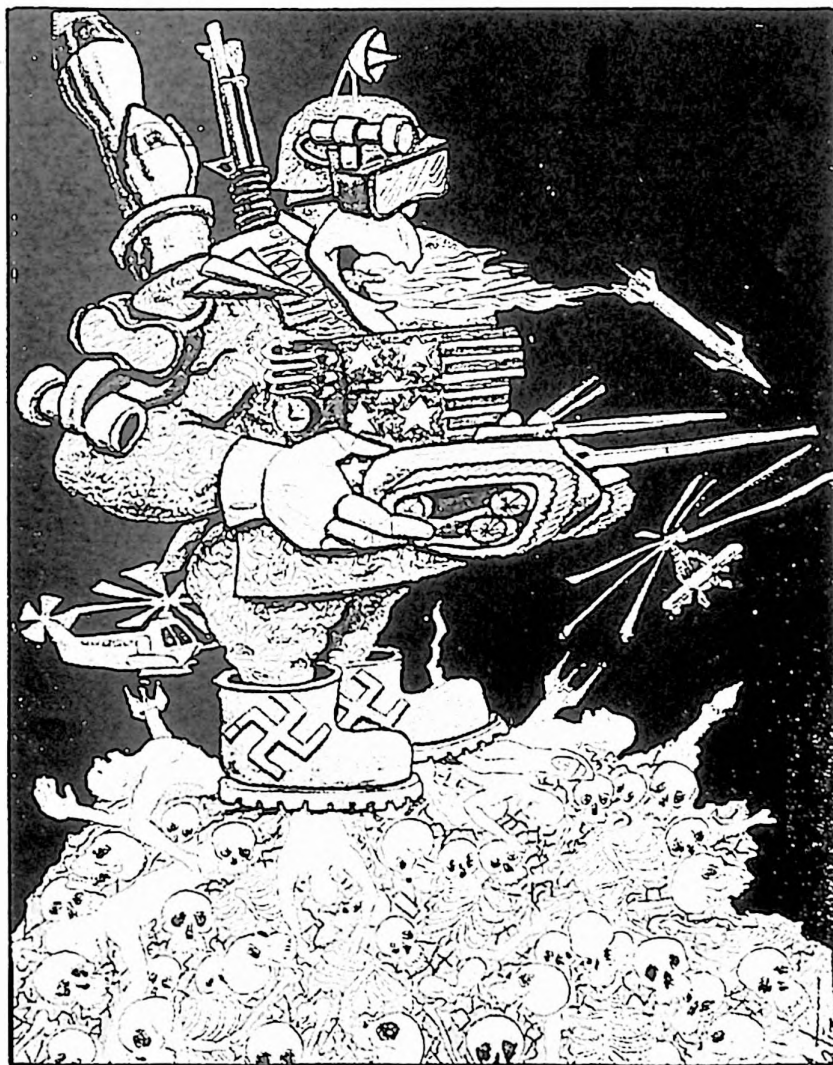
APPEAL TO POLITICAL PARTIES AND MOVEMENTS

FORGERY, PROVOCATION AND POLITICAL PROSECUTION

In February of this year, the terrorist formation of the Russian Ministry of Internal affairs instigated another provocative crime against the working people. On a forged charge, an outstanding active worker of the AUCP of Bolsheviks, 19-year old Anton Kass was detained and put into the Putin's torture chamber, These gangsters of Saratov in their militia uniforms placed drugs on the person of Kass and then proceeded to charge him and beat him up. The Saratov militia told the press that they are just fulfilling orders from the top.

This arrest was preceded by the militia putting enormous pressures on the Saratov organization of the All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks. Not having any success, the authorities then picked on this active worker Kass and planted drugs on him and then proceeded to charge him and beat him in the jail cell.

The AUCPB and its young wing planned to hold a mass protest on February 7th, pointing out the false elections to be held in March for the Presidency. The meeting was peaceful and there was no disturbance by the people at this



From Proletaren

large gathering, but the authorities are afraid of the truth that we are placing before the people.

The authorities do not go after the "drug lords" but harass their political opponents. Shame on these dogs of political reaction!

We demand the immediate release of this representative of the progressive youth Anton Kass and stop this forgery! We demand the stoppage of constant reprisals against the working class.

We ask for international solidarity and protests.

Protests should be sent to:

Chief of Department of Internal Affairs of Saratov Area
Paul P. Omentums
410600 Saratov St. 30
Russia

Fax 50-78-46

Letters of support to be sent to

vkpb@pochta.ru or
atomov@pochta.ru

FROM THE "MOVEMENT FOR USSR – UKRAINE"

In an excellent statement made on behalf of this very active a patriotic movement, Galina Savchenko, among other informative items wrote the following. Due to space we have just printed excerpts from this leaflet.

US Pentagon has the following plans for the former republics of the USSR.

* There are being shipped 15,000 German soldiers of NATO to Azerbaijan in order to guard the "oil pipelines".

*Two huge and sophisticated radar installations are gong to be erected by NATO in the Balkans from which the whole territory of Russia will be observed.

*There is a plan being put into place by NATO that their forces will be stationed in Georgia for many years to come. This is being done on the eve of the 200 Anniversary of Friendship between Georgia and Russia

*The Russian Minister of Defense-Sergei Ivanov made a statement to the effect that NATO's plans to have military bases and soldiers on the former Soviet territory is "their business only, that is NATO's internal affair and Russia does not object."

We can only add, that the present

regime of Russia knows or should know, that the ultimate plan of NATO and Imperialism is to divide Russia into 7-9 independent parts and have them ruled by installed cronies and thus it will be easier to divide and rule. Some of this information is readily available on the Internet and freedom of information act that releases some of these former secret plans.

RUSSIAN RADARS DETECT OVER 1,000 FOREIGN COMBAT AND SPY PLANES ALONG BORDER IN 2003

By INTERFAX

Russia's radar engineering troops detected more than 1,000 foreign combat and spy planes along its border, according to the Russian Radar troops chief, General Alexander Shramchenko. In total, over 500,000 radar targets were detected last year. This intensity of these incursions rose by 16% in 2003.

"The air violation was most disturbing in the Northwestern, Central, North Caucasian and Kaliningrad air defense zones", General Shramchenko said.

The system of gathering and processing information and controlling the use of the country's air space is being perfected, Shramchenko concluded.

Last words by opponent of Russia's Putin

By News Network.com Feb. 11,2004

The apparently final words of a Russian missing presidential contender are a withering indictment of incumbent President Vladimir Putin's record.

Late last month, the former Russian Duma Speaker of the House, Ivan Rybkin vanished. Within hours Putin's authorities began –and then suddenly suspended – a criminal investigation into his disappearance in Moscow.

Last month, February 10, the Wall Street Journal published an essay by Rybkin that supports the fear that his own fear may prove to be eerily

prophetic about his own fate. He wrote...

"Those in opposition in Russia to Putin are branded criminals and are persecuted by those in power. Blackmail, murder and exile have become the principal methods used by the Putin regime in the Kremlin, to oppose independent minded people.

"Where is the revival of the Russian statehood as promised? It's heart has been pierced by Mr. Putin's consolidation of power. Our Russian Sate Duma parliament has ceased to express the people's will.

"The Russian courts have become auxiliaries to the omnipotent executive in the Kremlin. The independent media has been destroyed. The State Security and the State Prosecution Service as well as the Ministry of the Interior are free to do as they like, unchecked and unrestrained.

"Freedom of speech is being destroyed, as well as the freedom to elect people to positions of authority and the freedom of any political and economic competition" .Ivan Rybkin wrote.

COMMENT:

This is by a non-communist and it shows the correctness of NSC expose of these traitors since we started publishing NSC eleven years ago!

Here is what the Russian commercial press says about upcoming election

From KOMMERSANT, Feb. 5/04

The Communist Party of the Russian Federation (CPRF) is not going to pull out its presidential candidate, Nikolai Kharitonov from this month's election race as leader Gennady Zyuganov said. But, Komersant notes, to judge by some of his remarks, an early withdrawal of Kharitonov from the election race is in principle possible – for example – as a protest against "unfair" contest or none participation of Vladimir Putin in election debates, although the real reason for such a step, the paper believes, will be Kharatonov's very low rating.

If by some magic he achieves at least 10-15 per cent, the CPRF might rethink and leave his name on the

ballot papers. If, however, by early March (the poll is set for March 14) as now, Kharitonov's rating stands now only at 2-3 per cent, then we believe the CPRF will find some pretext to have him removed from the race. Because, a second fiasco, far more resounding than the Zyuganov's December's only 13 per cent at the parliamentary elections, may have disastrous consequences for the CPRF and its leaders.

Zyuganov and the CPRF policies are devastating the anti-Putin regime forces and he should have resigned long ago - Editor. ▣

Russian school children take to the streets in Riga, Latvia

From Russian Information Agency

A mass protest was held in Riga last February 14th by school children and their parents, in front of the president's residence. The protests are aimed at the limitations imposed on ethnic minorities' education in their native tongue. Over 20,000 people, protested, including children participated in this action.

Last month the Latvian parliament introduced an amendment to the law on education that only Lettish language be taught in schools. Since Russians comprise over 40% of the Latvian population, thus the new law is meant to practically eliminate the Russian language from all the schools.

The Latvian press refuses to meet with students in Russian schools, on orders from above. Since Latvia will be admitted now into NATO, this policy is meant to eliminate the Russian language, even though it was taught in schools since 1940.

The protestors had signs saying: **No to the Reforms! Freedom for the Russian language! We won't have our native tongue murdered! We are not Russian Latvians, we are Latvian Russians!**

As Rick Rozoff wrote as a comment to this news article:

"Pardon the intrusion, but it's impossible not to contrast the current situation in Latvia, with the American born Latvian president pushing this new law - with the Serbian province of Kosovo. In the latter case, some

five years ago, the ethnic Albanian minority in ex-Yugoslavia, representing at most only 15% of the nation's population, enjoyed all language and other rights that peoples around the world are still struggling - and dying - to obtain.

Yet in Latvia, whose present regime has recently consecrated a cemetery containing the remains of Nazi Waffen SS troops, but the Slavic ethnic people, comprising over 40% of the population have no cultural and linguistic rights, Yet, the Latvian Armed Forces are entrusted by the West to put forward "Atlantic values" in the conquered colonies of Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq! ▣



DANCING ON ILYICH'S GRAVE

On the 80th Anniversary of the death of V.I.Lenin, Russian television was showing only one theme. Having received a directive from the Kremlin, on all of the TV channels, there was let loose Judases demanding that the body of Lenin be taken out of the Mausoleum and reburied. This attack was headed by the well known TV personality Pozner, and one of the top pall bearers of the demise of the Soviet Union, Yakovlev, plus Zakharov, heading the theatre named after "Lenin's Komsomol" which was renamed in order to disguise the previous name, and now is called "Lenkom", so that the name Lenin and Komsomol will not be spoken; the writer Yerofeev, plus another TV personality Pushkov, appealing to the TV audiences to support the reburial of the body of Lenin.

Zhirinovskiy in Moscow, undertook upon himself the role of heading the campaign to rebury Lenin, away from the Mausoleum and Red Square in Moscow. Their opening slogan and vile accusations were leveled at Lenin, that he was "the biggest criminal in history, responsible for the death of 100 million people." This

was followed by the lie that was started by Imperialists and the White Guards, the Black Hundreds reactionary cabal and taken from the White Guard newspapers published in Europe, about the "Tons and wagons full of German Gold" supposedly given to Lenin to support the revolution, plus numerous other vile lies and vicious attacks against the policies of V.I. Lenin.

Looking at this propaganda, listening to these former CPSU CC members, using the CPSU as a gift horse to travel across other countries working against the USSR, now



barking like wild dogs - it was hard for a normal person to look at this and hear them. I wanted to ask: do you not understand this fact yourselves, that you cannot compare yourself to Lenin? You are just stupid pygmies, cockroaches, compared to the Titan Lenin, a genius, who will live in people's minds forever!

These present pygmies cannot discuss or hold in their minds the meaning of the teachings of Lenin, their brains are clogged with hate against what Lenin and Stalin stood and fought for. Why? Because Lenin stood for the working class and peasants! While these pygmies with all their hearts want to defend and bring again to power the exploiters,

from which they receive their thirty pieces of silver!

A well known Russian stage artist Nazarov, who was asked to appear on this vile talk show, said what the hosts never expected him to say: "I do not like private ownership of the means of production! This is nothing but vile exploitation"! How true and to the point!

Lenin headed the world's first Socialist Revolution, against private ownership and exploitation. He fought against illiteracy, for schooling for all the people, and thanks to these policies, the USSR gave birth to many world renowned Generals, Marshals, Scientists, Doctors, Directors, Engineers, Artists and brought up the Soviet culture to the highest point of achievement.

Now, being successful in the demise of the Soviet Union by counter-revolution, having taken over the leadership of former CPSU-Gorbachev, Yakovlev, Yeltsin and others, with the support of the former "intelligencia" like the likes of Zakharov, Liubimova etc. left the working class and social ownership of the means of production, and are now celebrating.

They hate Lenin so much that they cannot stand him being buried on Red Square in the Lenin Mausoleum! You can tell by the writings of these anti-Leninists, anti-Communists, they are the followers of those who organized the intervention against Russia after 1917. They also follow their former leader, Winston Churchill, who said, "Let's choke the Bolshevik baby in its cradle!" They also are the followers of Hitler and Goebbels - who also hated Lenin and Stalin and Communists. Wanting to destroy Leningrad during World War II, Hitler called it Peterburg, not Leningrad. It is not a coincidence that the former CPSU CC member and Mayor of Leningrad, Sobchak, pushed through the elimination of Leningrad and named it St. Peterburg as did Hitler before, just to make certain that Lenin's name is not spoken there.

No wonder that they now call themselves "democrats", "liberals", "reformers" - no matter how they call themselves now, they are the followers of Churchill, Hitler, White Guards, Imperialism - united in their hate of V.I. Lenin, October Revolution, USSR and Socialism.

They are in fact "demofascists", agents of Imperialism and of the multinational corporations. The millions of deaths that they say was the responsibility of Lenin - these are the deaths perpetrated by the vicious hate of Capitalism against the new Soviet State - who since 1917 did everything to dismember the USSR in order to again get the opportunity to own and exploit the riches of the sixth part of the world's land mass.

Looking at these fat, smug faces on the TV- they look like death souls, political corpses, who arose from the graves of their former masters.

No Vladimir Ilyich! You will not be killed or moved by those who now want to touch your body - they will not be able to get away from their deserved retribution!

Just a few lines from a well known poem to show you my feelings:

Lenin, Lenin, Lenin! Our ideal, our Banner!

In our fight, in our struggle, you were and are with us! ■

FOREVER WITH RUSSIA

Below is a Statement adopted on January 30, 2004, at a round table discussion concerning the growing movement in Ukraine by the people for unifying the people of Russia, Ukraine and Byelorussia.

We, representatives of political, public and religious organizations, realized that the present government of Ukraine is not listening and did not listen to the will of the people of Ukraine, regarding the results of the Referendum on unity held March 17, 1991 and on December 1, 1991. Therefore the people of Ukraine voted almost unanimously on March 17, 1991 to form an alliance between Ukraine, Russia and Byelorussia.

Regrettably, this demand for a union is yet not signed, instead the official plan is for Ukraine to join NATO instead and also the European Union. This is against the wishes of the majority of people of Ukraine. By not joining into this

alliance, Ukraine has now sunk into a deep economic, political and social crisis.

At the same time, the kinship with the Russian Orthodox Church has not happened, thus betraying the need for spiritual unity of the Slavic peoples.

This Round Table states that the kinship of our people, both in language, culture and religion are historically bound in economy, science, schools and military. Therefore, we declare that our slogan is **Forever with Russia!** Only in this way can we see the solving of our most pressing problems and the safeguarding of the Slavic civilization here and in other Slavic nations.

Signed by the:

*Progressive Socialist Party of Ukraine - N.M.Vitrenko

*Alliance of Orthodox Brotherhood of Ukraine

V.B. Lukiyanik

*Cossacks of the Left Bank of Ukraine

V.I.Guziy

*Confederacy of Labour of Ukraine

V.R. Marchenko

*All Ukrainian Feminine

Organization Grant to Life

L.Y. Bezuglaya ■

THE VOICE OF RUSSIA

By VALENTIN ZOREN- Moscow

Fortunately, common sense prevailed when the Caribbean crisis put the world on the brink of nuclear disaster back in October of 1962. The Soviets withdrew missiles from Cuba and President Kennedy gave orders for the dismantling of the US air bases in Turkey.

Forty years later, a group of US leaders whom even the American media describe as "war hawks" must have decided to put things right. A White House spokesman said last month that the US was reopening its air base at Injirlik, Turkey.

One would hardly see the logical link between the decision to close and the decision to reopen the American base in Turkey. But it is not an isolated development or one historical anecdote that we are talking about. What we are talking of is a link in the chain of alarming

efforts to extend American military presence into the territory of some 70 nations.

It turns out that Washington has made no move to reduce its military presence in other countries with the end of the cold war. It has instead, brought some of its bases closer to the Russian border. The US Undersecretary for political affairs Marc Grossman recently spoke – much too frankly for a diplomatic official – about the American plans to open army bases in Eastern Europe and in the former Soviet Republics.

There's much more to what Grossman said. Preparations are in full swing for the deployment of US troops into Poland, Bulgaria and Romania. I can even tell where the US is planning to open up its bases. How about Biala Podlaska which lies a mere 30 kilometers west of the Byelorussian city of Brest? One cannot help remembering that the war between the USSR and Nazi Germany began with a German attack on Brest and that the months-long defense of the Brest Fortress is seen as a heroic page in the history of the Great Patriotic War. We Russians cannot help seeing foreign military presence near that place as a gloomy reminder of those terrible war years.

US bomber planes capable of carrying nuclear weapons will be based near the Polish city of Minsk-Mazowiecki. US armored units will be positioned near the Polish city of Swietoszov. The Pentagon is also seeking control of the Bulgarian port of Burgas and the Romanian naval base at Constanca. I can easily extend this place name list. It is a long list and gives much food for thought.

And a question arises: Why does the Pentagon want to deploy forces close to Russia? There is no need to rack your brains for an answer to this question. Washington says that it goes to the borders of Russia to counter the biggest challenge of modern history – the international terrorism.

This makeshift argument will hardly convince anyone. Tensions mounted quite high over Christmas and New Year's Eve in New York, London, Paris and Los Angeles. The threat of terrorist acts forced the authorities to cancel dozen of air flights, and police patrolled the

streets of cities whose residents preferred to spend the holidays indoors.

Wherever they live – in America, Europe or Japan – any unbiased person would surely wonder what is the use of having US tanks and planes and Marines on the Poland-Belarus border and in Romania? Would not these troops do more good close to home territory?

This all boils down to attempts to take advantage of a noble cause, and not the fight against terrorism, which requires a concerted effort by all countries, including Russia and the US.

What it boils down to may eventually discredit the very idea of fighting terrorism and destroy confidence in those who call for a fight against terrorism, while pushing the world back to the ungainly years of the cold war. ■

4 MILLION ADDICTS IN RUSSIA!

According to the Russian official statistics, Lt. General Alexander Mikhailov, deputy chairman of the State Narcotics Commission, declared this at a press conference last month in Moscow, that the strong upward trend of addicts, has risen by 900% in ten years, after the advent of "perestroika" and the capitalist market economy.

"The gloomy prediction of our own and foreign colleagues is for Russia to have 35-27 million addicts by 2014. That prediction is likely to be born out if our Society does not manage to impede the distribution of drugs. In just six months last year, we have seized over 11 tons of various drugs."

We can ask the question, whether you Lt. General will vote for Putin for president again? ■

THE PRICE OF CAPITALISM IN EX-USSR!

The United Nations has warned that Russia and Eastern Europe and the other former Soviet Republics suffer some of the fastest rates of HIV/AIDS growth in the world, and

that the region's development was coming under threat as a result of this.

This study was released in Moscow last month by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and is the first report on Aids in the ex-USSR since its collapse. Before that, the question of Aids did not even enter the Russian vocabulary.

AIDS could cost Russia close to 20 million lives, the UN study said. The study conducted by the UN of 28 nations, found that Russia, Ukraine and Estonia have the highest rate of HIV infections in the world. The city of St. Petersburg (Leningrad) is the worst hit. ■

Armenia, the next target for a "Regime Change."

By Sipila@kominf.pp.fi

A "Revolution if White Carnations" is being planned for in Armenia, something like the "Velvet Rose" in Georgia. This was announced by Aram Karapetian, the leader of the Armenian opposition party - "New Times". It is said the present president of Armenia will resign soon. Shades of USA's involvement is very strong, similar as that which transpired in Georgia. Although Karapetian said that his party is willing to cooperate with all peoples, they have their own program and purpose. ■

LATVIA OPENS AND HONOURS A NAZI SS CEMETERY

From PRAVDA – ENGLISH

The ceremony to open the cemetery of Latvian Legion – the Nazi SS veterans took place last month in Riga. The ceremony was broadcast nationally over the TV and radio. Three military orchestras played along the route and at the cemetery.

We must remember that these SS legion members were organized from volunteers and fought against the Soviet Army, murdered their own people and helped Hitler against all the Allies. After the war people

despised these SS veterans in every country and no country ever allowed monuments and or ceremonies commemorating their existence to take place, Until now.

The ceremony in Latvia was very pompous and the police guarded these SS veterans from the hate of the people.

UBEKISTAN WILL ALLOW U.S. MILITARY BASES

From STAR TRIBUNE
Minneapolis -St.Paul,USA Feb.24/04

What is next? Previously President Karimov ruled out a long-term US presence, but now the policy is that the US can station its troops and build a large army-airbase in order that it will have operational means into Afghanistan.

Uzbekistan was a largely forgotten place on the map, but USA saw its potential in the "fight against terrorism". The US base that is already existing in the southern town

of Khanabad, became a key staging point for the US operations in Afghanistan.

Uzbekistan and Washington signed a strategic partnership agreement already in 2002. With US Rumsfeld visit last month to Uzbekistan being a huge success, he was honored and feasted as the "savior" of Uzbek people.

To cover its tracks, the US says that it is still worried about the Uzbekistan's human rights violations

But since the US troops are there, and many more coming, with a couple of army and air-bases already functioning, and a signed strategic partnership agreement in effect, this "human rights" issue is just a smokescreen.

Hungarian protestors remain adamant

By Nick Thorpe, BBC, Budapest

Environmental protestors are claiming victory in their first battle to prevent the construction of a NATO radar station in the country's south region. Hungarian security guards,

although they fought with the protestors, they had to back off, because the protestors chained themselves to the trees in this environmentally-sensitive part of Hungary.

This is an ongoing protest against this 18-meter high radar tower. The Hungarian Ministry of Defense has been planning this and two other NATO radar towers since 1995 and they promised NATO that they shall them finished by 2006.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defense told the BBC that it's up to the construction company to find a way to fulfill their contract. That means that whatever this private company does is fine with the Hungarian Defense Ministry – bloodshed and all – they then can say that their hands and NATO's hands are clean!

HAITI-WASHINGTON'S HAND

The capitalist media story line is lying, saying that leader Aristide. In reality, the anti-Aristide opposition is behind the uprising and it is Washington-connected collection of Haitian businessmen and a scattering of bought-off former leftists.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

BUSH'S MIDEAST STAND : GOD'S WILL OR IS IT OPPORTUNITY?

BY JOHN IBBITSON
GLOBE & MAIL NEWSPAPER-
CANADA



In 1986, George W. Bush went through a bit of a middle epiphany. He gave up drinking, joined a Bible study group and "recommitted my life to Jesus Christ". Evangelical Christians call the experience being born again, although Mr. Bush avoided that phrase.

There are 270,000 Evangelical Christian churches in the USA, representing more than 30 million Evangelical Christians, including Mr. Bush. Evangelicals believe the Bible contains a road map laying out the events preceding the end of the world.

We don't have to go into the details, because the Evangelicals disagree amongst themselves – the premillennial dispensationalists are one prominent faction – but it involves the emergence of an anti-Christ and his false prophet, the literary ascension of all true Christians from Earth (*the Rapture*), the massing of great armies, and an

epochal battle on the fields of Armageddon, a millennium of peace and the final wrapping up of human history.

The essential precondition for this apocalypse is the return of the Jews to the Holy Land. This is why Evangelical Christians are passionately pro-Zionist and pro-Israel. These Christian Zionists as they are called, see the rise of Israel as the sign of the End Times, and believe that the most important role the United States serves, biblically speaking, is to protect Israel from its enemies, while events take their course.

If Mr. Bush studied and absorbed all of these prophesies, then it's reasonable to ask as to what extent, even if subconsciously, they influenced his thinking about the Middle East. Similar questions were raised when Ronald Reagan said that he believed that Armageddon would take the form of a nuclear war. Some found it disquieting that the man who had the ability to end the world, thought that it was going to happen anyway.

We know that before arriving at the Oval Office, Mr. Bush was a strong supporter of Israel. In 1998 while trying to gain some foreign-policy experience as part of his run-up to the presidency, Mr. Bush met Ariel Sharon, who was then Israel's

foreign minister. The two warmed up to each other very quickly, observers report. Mr. Sharon took Mr. Bush on a helicopter tour, where he pointed out, that Israel under its pre-1967 borders, was at its narrowest point, only nine miles wide. *"In Texas, some of our driveways are longer than that,"* Mr. Bush later joked.

We also know that part of Mr. Bush's political base resides among the religious right, who tend to be Evangelical, apocalyptic and pro-Israel. And Moshe Hox, chief spokesman at the Israeli Embassy in Washington, speculated that Christian Zionism *"is one common explanation...of why and how Bush is sympathetic to Israel and its cause."*

So, if Mr. Bush supports Israel over the Palestinians, it is because he believes it's God's will, or at least the will of the fundamentalist Christian supporters. The great tragedy of the Middle East is that, even as it becomes more complicated and bloody each day, no one of goodwill disagrees about what the outcome shall be.

USA's one-sided policy will not bring peace in the Middle East. You cannot arm Israel to the teeth and condemn the Palestinians for defending themselves and also demanding their rights. ■

hundreds of thousands that are mobilized in Western Europe and the American continent.

The people somehow are convinced that they cannot do anymore and concentrate all their hopes to the resistance movements outside Bulgaria, in Iraq, Afghanistan, Colombia, Bolivia – recently in Haiti. They usually congratulate each other on the successes in other countries where people are taking actions and demonstrating.

Still, why are the Bulgarian people afraid to demonstrate their political ideas, visions and convictions?

It is because –

Bulgaria is a total dictatorship and dangerous. In fact, it is a police state.

There are no concentration camps (*why spend money on food and guards?*) but if you declare different views and prove dangerous, i.e. have all the charm, integrity, enthusiasm, intelligence to be a leader, you get simply killed. The murders are labeled either as car accidents or burglar killings... which means that there are **NO** political killings at all, they are just criminal killings.

Or more often than not, you lose your job, your small business (*if any*) or something happens to your daughter, she is either raped or stuffed with drugs or both – or your son disappears or is beaten to death or crippled for life.

Just as it is in a very low-quality Hollywood movie.

CONCLUSION:

If any country allows the establishment and strengthening of Globalized institutions, it is caught as if in a tempered-steel cage with handcuffed hands. At that stage, the possibility of protests or fight back is already very small indeed.

As an example: Only last month, the so-called Bulgarian Parliament rejected the much talked about democratic right to protest.

This was done in Jesuitical kind of way: Bulgarians have no right to protest in front of or near any Government building or institution in the center of Sofia; by any public-government building, because the protest **"would endanger Bulgarian National Security."** Otherwise, we can protest in the countryside or up in the mountains!

THE MECHANISM OF ENSLAVING PEOPLES

"A nation can survive its fools, and even the ambitious... But it cannot survive treason from within. An enemy at the gates is formidable, for he is known and carries his banners openly. But the traitor moves amongst those within the gate freely, his sly whispers nestling through the alleys, heard in the very halls of the government itself. For the traitor appears not as a traitor; he speaks in accents familiar to his victims, and he wears their face and their garments, and he appeals to the baseness that lies deep in the hearts of all men. He rots the soul of the nation, he works secretly and unknown in the night to undermine the pillars of a city, he infects the body politic so that it can no longer resist. A murder is less to be feared"

Marcus Tullius Cicero, 42 BC

BY BLAGOVESTA DONCHEVA - BULGARIA

About 80% of the people here have been and are against the war in Iraq, against the presence of Bulgarian troops there, and insist that they should return back to Bulgaria. But they only declare this in anonymous telephone calls to the TV or radio political talk shows or in conversations amongst themselves. They somehow will not take part in demonstrations or openly support the Iraqi and Palestinian resistance. Even if some left parties managed to get permission from the Bulgarian authorities to demonstrate, the turn out is not large as opposed to the

Something else that is important to know, the government has enough of well-paid and well-trained "our guys" and sends them into action if they find out that some organization is being formed, or a meeting is to be held. The government has paid spies everywhere. Some people are under constant surveillance, their phones are bugged. Then the authorities start to set up the organization that the patriots talked about and lo and behold this "organization" is legal, same so-called program, but with different players in the lead and they are in full control to make certain that this organization or movement will lead nowhere. The real patriots are pushed out, jailed or murdered or just disappear.

Without knowing what transpired, the people are confused and the idea of protest just evaporates. This is a very well known CIA scheme, surely tried many times in Latin America, Puerto Rico, Haiti and other places.

FURTHER EXAMPLES:

The same thing happened in Serbia – have you heard about any peoples resistance in Serbia after the CIA Belgrade October coup in 200? No!

There were and are many executions of people who try to protest or organize. This is a well-tested CIA method of cleansing away dangerous people. It is also very interesting that the assassinations before the October 2000 coup were ascribed to Milosevic and his secret police – of course.

As in Yugoslavia, as in Bulgaria and in other countries, the CIA is very adapt in setting up "left" and "socialist" front organizations and thus confuse some people who are not yet aware of this clever deception. US Imperialism and world reaction always prepares the ground to recruit and support trained agents in countries that they want to subvert. The prime example is the former Soviet Union itself. This subversion did not happen overnight – it took years of undercover work by Western intelligence agencies and the local internal traitors.

The easily bought egotistical, amoral, ambitious, ignorant, inherently cruel locals form the US Imperialism's Global Masters' Army inside, while the local scum help effectively to turn the enslavement into an almost irreversible fact...

Other examples for CIA's scheme for the Traitors' Network in action:

Look at the recent Georgia's circus-like coup – who is this Saakashvili? Who is the new Georgian Minister of Defense – Gela Somebody? Where were they both trained for many years? Harvard University in the USA of course!

Look at what happened in Bulgaria – the same names are turned around and around in the Parliament, the Government, the Presidency, the party's leadership, the USA –Israel Foundation, NED's, NGO's for already the past 15 years. These are all US trained Judas! All of them have passed the necessary training in the USA for many years!

The same thing happened in the former Soviet Union. The USA proclaimed that the USSR collapsed because –

**It had exhausted their possibilities*

**It had reached the bottom economically*

**It had been so rotten as a political system that there was no other way out, but the total collapse and full surrender, etc. etc.*

The system in the USSR and East European socialist countries was fully functioning, very much alive and well harmonized – but US

Imperialism and the CIA and other Western intelligence organizations were buying out some of the leaders, training them in the US, sabotaging plans, boycotting trade, subverting the school systems, subverting the economic plans and had saboteurs and agents working inside even the Central Committee's of the Communist Parties for many years.

Some quotes which I feel describes the situation above and the way forward:

"Our every action is a battle cry against imperialism and a battle hymn for the peoples' unity against the great enemy of mankind: the United States of America."

Ernesto Che Guevera

"Contrary to the popular belief, conventional wisdom, would have one believe that it is insane to resist this, the mightiest of empires...But what history really shows is that today's empire is tomorrow's ashes, that nothing lasts forever, and that not to resist is to acquiesce in your own oppression. The greatest form of sanity that anyone can exercise is to resist that force that is trying to repress, oppress, and fight down the human spirit."

Mumia Abu-Jamal

This article is foreshortened for space reasons.

**FUTURE
BELONGS TO
THE WORKING
CLASS!**



BUSH'S INTELLIGENCE FAILURE FRAUD

By BARRY GREY

With the collapse of the edifice of lies used to justify the war in Iraq, the entire US political establishment has rallied around a new lie concocted to conceal the old ones, which is to blame the CIA for the false pre-war claims about Iraqi weapons of mass destruction.

President Bush last month named the members of his hand-picked "independent" members of the panel, headed by a trusted defender of US imperialism and the American ruling elite. The appointment of a retired

federal judge Laurence Silberman as co-chairman, in particular, exposes the utterly fraudulent character of the investigation (*whitewash is better - Editor*) that this commission will conduct.

Silberman, a long-time operative for the US Republican right, is an old hand in covering up the crimes of the Republican administration. Before, he was appointed by former President Reagan to the court of Appeals in Washington DC., and together with the judge David Sentelle threw out the conviction against Lt. Col. Oliver North and Admiral John Poindexter for crimes related to the Iran-Contra affair. At the heart of the Iran-Contra was a secret operation sanctioned by Reagan to finance and arm, in violation of US law, the Contra death-squads that killed tens of thousands of people of Nicaragua. Silberman's intervention then played a key role in sabotaging the investigation by Iran-Contra independent counsel Lawrence Walsh.

This newly appointed commission to which Bush reluctantly agreed to, after Washington's chief weapons inspector on Iraq, David Kay, resigned and declared that there were no Weapons of Mass Destruction in Iraq. This is a transparent fraud that will have no credibility with the majority of the people in America or in the rest of the world. To ensure that this panel has no authority, it cannot start to investigate right away. Bush said that they cannot start this investigation until the November 2004 presidential elections in the US! This alone establishes the utterly anti-democratic essence of this exercise.

Three points should be emphasized about this George W. Bush commission.

(1) Its premise and framework are themselves arbitrary and politically motivated. Prior to any investigation, it is declared that the reason for the total discrepancy between the claims of Bush, Cheney, Rumsfeld, Wolfowitz, Powell, Rice, etc. about Iraq's WMD and the true situation, is the failure of intelligence. This then already makes the commission assume a conclusion tailor-made to white wash the Bush administration and exonerate its leading figures of

the political crime of deliberately dragging the country into an unprovoked war, based on false and misleading claims.

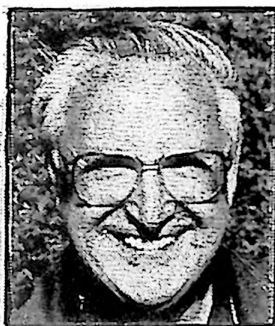
(2) The subjective mental state of Bush and company knowingly lied on this question. One could just as well exonerate Enron boss Kenneth Lay or, for that matter, any other corporate criminal, because he really believed the fraudulent data he was giving on to the public.

(3) The political responsibility for bombarding the people of the US and the world with false stories of an imminent threat from Iraq of chemical, biological and even nuclear attack at the hands of Saddam Hussein rests not with the CIA analysts, or even with the CIA director George Tenet. It rests with Bush and his cohorts in the

administration. They are the political leaders who chose to make these claims, and use them as the pretext for an aggressive war, which ruined and had thousands if Iraqis killed, as well over 500 American soldiers, and consumed more than \$160 billion.

COMMENT:

Since Bush admits that the CIA lied to him and that is why he attacked Iraq, and therefore this Commission is being set up...then, why not ship all the US soldiers back home, plus the other US paid for "allies" who came along as a foreign legion? Here is a good election tool for the US Democratic Party presidential candidates to use and defeat Bush. But, do not hold your breath, there is absolutely hardy any difference between the two party's in the USA. □



If the United States had been sincere in its concern for the well being and human rights of the people of Afghanistan, they would have supported the government of former president Noor Mohammed Taraki in 1978, instead of arranging for his overthrow.

For the people of Afghanistan, daily life in 2004 does not appear to have progressed from where it was in early 1978. Full twenty-five years have been wasted through wars, civil strife and outside interventions, leaving the country desolate and its people desperate.

In April of 1978 a revolution took place in Afghanistan which brought the government of president Noor Mohammed Tarako to power. Its declared objective was to establish a secular state, including freedom of religion and a policy of non-alignment in foreign affairs. This was not a communist take-over (*no communist party ever existed in Afghanistan*) and the government maintained that the revolution was



not foreign inspired, but rather carried out by the Afghan nationalists and revolutionaries.

As William Blumm tells it (1): "Taraki's Peoples Democratic Party inherited a backward nation, where people had a life expectancy of only about 40 years, an infant mortality rate of at least 25%, absolutely primitive life with widespread malnutrition, illiteracy of more than 90%, very few highways, not one mile of railway, most people living in tribes or as impoverished farmers in mud villages, identifying more with ethnic groups than with a larger political concept, a life scarcely different from that of many centuries earlier."

Clearly the Taraki government faced a monumental task to bring the nation into the modern era. But they tried. Reform with a socialist bent was the new government's ambition. It included land reform, (*while still retaining private property*), controls on all prices and profits, and strengthening of the public sector, as well as the separation of church and

state, eradication of illiteracy, legalization of trade unions, and the emancipation of women in a land almost entirely Muslim. These objectives were clearly in the interest of the Afghan people and, had the USA been truly interested in the well being of the Afghans, they should have supported such efforts for reform. In May of 1970, after just one year of the Taraki government, British political scientist Fred Halliday observed that *"probably more has changed in the countryside over the last year than in two centuries since the state was established."* Peasant debts to the landlords had been cancelled, the system of usury (by which peasants, who were forced to borrow money against future crops, were left in perpetual debt to money lenders) was abolished, and hundreds of schools and medical clinics were being built in the countryside.

But the United States saw the hand of Moscow lurking behind all this, and decided to thwart the Taraki program. A CIA inspired coup overthrew Taraki government (he died or more likely was killed right after) and brought his former deputy Hafizullah Amin to power, who tried to institute social change by riding roughshod over tradition and tribal and ethnic autonomy, thereby strengthening the powers that opposed change. The US was meanwhile supporting actively the opposition forces, including at that time rather unknown (to us) Osama bin Laden. According to Zbigniew Brzezinski, US President Carter's National Security Advisor: *"it was July 3, 1979 that President Carter signed the first directive for secret aid the opponents of the pro-Soviet regime in Kabul. And that very day, I wrote a note to the president, in which I explained to him that in my opinion, this aid was going to induce a Soviet military intervention. That secret operation was an excellent idea. It had the effect of dragging the Russians into the Afghan trap."*

Meanwhile the USSR, which shared a 1, 600 kilometer border with Afghanistan, feared very much the establishment of an Islamic state next door to its southern Soviet Republics, a fear that in hindsight appears fully justified. They also rightly feared a potential US presence on their southern border.

When President Amin requested troops from USSR, and with a mutual assistance treaty in effect, the Soviet Union walked right into the US trap and got embroiled in what Brzezinski called *"the Soviet's Vietnam."*

What followed is well known. Ten years of a devastating war, tens of thousands killed and maimed and the whole country in ruins. Then followed the years of the Taliban, in turn followed by more wars, ending in today's US and NATO occupation. With US appointed government more or less in control of Kabul and the rest of the country in the hands of regional warlords, Taliban forces are again increasing their strength and biding their time for a return to power.

Where does this leave the Afghan people? With the benefit of hindsight, if the US had not been so blinded by its obsessive anti-communism and instead supported the social reform efforts of the Taraki government, the people of Afghanistan might have been spared 25 years of misery. If the US-NATO promises of today can be believed, their efforts are aimed at the implementation of the same reforms that the previous Taraki government had already started to put into place back in 1979, i.e, building of hospitals for the sick and schools for the children, giving women equal status with men, the freedom to work and the right to wear or not to wear the Burka.

Twenty-five long years...and the struggle appears a long way from being over. For the Afghan people Being caught in the grips of power – politics, it must seem like a lifetime.

(1) Much of this article is based on information contained in chapter 53 of the book "Killing Hope: US Military and CIA Intervention Since World War II", by William Blum. Also see: <http://www.tao.ca/solidaritu/s11/afghanist/an1979-1992.html>

AMERICA'S ELECTION

The date is still quite far away,
Election time in U.S.A.
Yet months and even years before,
Potential candidates galore,
They line up pleading for your vote,
And spew out the lines they've

learned by rote.

They promise all things good and well.
I'm on your side and I won't sell you out, like others often do.
Because I'm honest, fair and true.
I'm for the common man, he says,
I'll give you healthcare when I'm Prez.

He looks to be a man of wealth,
A silver tongue, and looking stealth.
He doesn't wear a Walmart suit,
Nor are his shoes the type you put on when you go to work,
He's upper class; you're just a clerk.

Financed by the rich and big corporations,
Who pay to insure more privatizations,
Reducing wages and benefits too
So their profits will rise, your concerns are taboo.
For they pay the piper and thus call the tunes
Leaving you as the succor who fell for these buffoons.

The Great Divide, they all agree,
is between the Democrats and the GOP.
But check them out and you will find
They all represent the elite of their kind.
Ensuring no working man will get elected,
So the power remains with them,
well protected.

Well, this is democracy, they declare.
But they make the money while you pay the fare.
When it's time for election you are their best friend,
But all is forgotten, once in control of the land.
So it's time for a change in the structure of power,
When the people rise up, comes the finest hour.

For the Great Divide, you understand,
Lies between the classes in the land
Between those who own and those who labour,
You need not go, and beg for their favour,
For once you take their power away
Real democracy rules, the People's way. ■

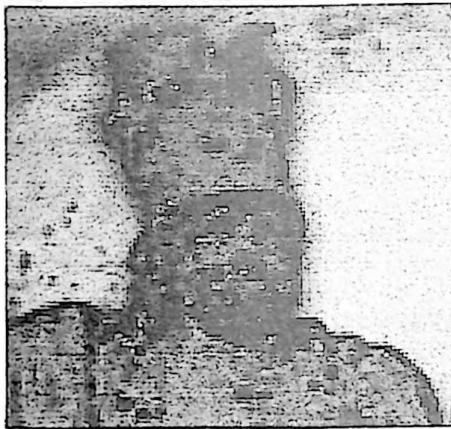
SPECULATION

By RED HORIZON

Sometimes it can be fun to just speculate on something. You may speculate on tomorrow's weather and hope it doesn't rain or snow, you may buy a lottery ticket and speculate that your numbers will win or you may speculate that your team will win tomorrow's match. That's all pretty innocent stuff.

Not quite so innocent are the money and stock market speculators who may gain or lose a lot of what is usually your money at the touch of a computer key. Worse yet, they may engage in insider trading and speculate that they will get away with it - then run off with a big bankroll of other peoples money.

By I like to speculate on something quite different, You see, since George W. Bush's State of the Union address, I've been wondering why he's suddenly so keen on putting a man on the planet Mars. After all, he's already running the biggest deficit in the history of the USA, wants to give more tax cuts to the rich, more money for the military etc. You would think that with all the needs of the people on the home front, there wouldn't be any money left for such an extravagant idea as traveling to Mars.



But then, it suddenly dawned on me. It is a known fact that George W. has a direct line to God, or at least he says so. After all, it was God who told him to attack Afghanistan and chase out the Taliban, and it was God who told him to attack Iraq, get rid of Saddam Hussein and get all that delicious oil for himself. So what if you have to go to war for that.

But there was one thing that

didn't quite fit. The God most people know or believe in, in any religion, is a God of love, a God who preaches tolerance, sharing and care for your fellow humans beings. And that just can't be the same God that George W talks to!

So, who does he talk to and who gives him his instructions? I'm speculating that George's God is located on the planet Mars, for in the old Roman day Mars was the God of War. George wants a private audience with Marsicon, the God of Neo-cons to slap him on the back, to thank him for the wonderful ideas about Afghanistan and Iraq, and then sit down for a planning session to tell Marsicon where he wants to take his armies next. For George is not the kind of man, he will take second place to anybody, not even to God Marsicon. He'll set up a military base on Mars, remove Marsicon from power and become himself the God of War. Now, that's the boy George!

ON THE 67TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT FLINT SIT-DOWN STRIKE IN THE USA

*An Open Letter to George
"I'm a War President" Bush*
By Michael Moore

Dear Mr. Bush:

Thank you for providing the illegible Xeroxed partial payroll sheets (*or whatever they were*) covering a few days in the National Guard. Now we know that, not only you didn't complete your tour of duty, you were actually paid for work you never did. Did you cash those checks? Wouldn't that be, um, illegal?

Watching the press aggressively, demands the truth from your press secretary - and refusing to accept deceit, the dodging, and the cover-up - was a sight to behold, something we haven't seen since you took office.

More than one reporter present pointed out that those pieces of paper your press secretary waved at them, meant nothing. Even if they are not forged documents, getting paid does not necessarily mean that you showed up to do your duties. As

a retired Army Col. Dan Smith, a 26-year veteran, told the AP:

"Pay records don't mean anything except that you're in or you're out", said Smith. "It doesn't necessarily reflect what duty you've performed, because pay records simply record your unit of assignment and then all of your pay and benefits per pay period."

Mr. Bush, this issue is not going to go away - and I think that your press conference and your actions just dug you into a deeper hole. You're probably wondering as to why the heck this story won't just die. You probably thought that after I brought it up last month and then got slammed by Peter Jennings in Canada for uttering the "d" word, the



whole matter would just disappear as fast as a bag of blow being thrown out of the window of a speeding car on a deserted Maine highway.

But your *"desertion"* did not go away - and I think that your press conference last month just dug you a bigger hole...and here's the reason why. You have sent countless of our sons and daughters in the National Guard to their deaths in the last 11 months. You did this while misleading their parents with bogus lies about weapons of mass destruction and that Saddam had ties with alQaeda. You sent them off to a never-ending war in Iraq and Afghanistan so that your benefactors at Halliburton and the oil companies could line their pockets. And then you had the audacity to prance around in a soldier's uniform on an aircraft carrier, proclaiming *"Mission Accomplished"* - while the cameras from your re-election AD Agency rolled.

That is what makes this whole

business of you being **AWOL** so despicable, and makes the grief-stricken relatives want to turn away from you in disgust. The reason of you skipping out of your enlistment didn't matter in 2000 election, because we were not at war. Being stuck in a deadly, daily quagmire now in 2004 makes your military history-fiction and your fly-boy costume **very** relevant.

You still have not answered the questions surrounding your National Guard "service". Let me repeat them as simply as I can for you (*all of them based on the investigative work of the Associated Press and the Boston Globe.*)

(1) How were you able to jump ahead of the 500 other applicants to get into the Texas Air National Guard, thus guaranteeing you would not have to go to Vietnam? What calls did your father (*who was then a US congressman representing Texas*) make on your behalf for you to get this assignment?

(2) Why were you grounded (*not allowed to fly*) after you either failed your physical or failed to take it in July of 1972? Was there a reason you were afraid to take the physical? Or, did you take it and not pass it? If so, why didn't you pass? Was it the urine test? The records show that, after the US Guard spent years and lots of money training you to be a pilot, you never flew for the rest of your time in the Guard. Why?

(3) Can you produce one person who can verify that he served with you in the Guard during the year that your Texas commanders said that you did not show up? Why have you failed to bring forth anyone who served with you in the Guard while you were in Alabama? Why hasn't one single person come forward?

(4) Can you tell us what you did when you claim, to have shown up in Alabama for Guard duty? What were your duties? You were grounded, so what did they have you do instead?

(5) Where are the sign-up sheets that would have your name and service number on them for each weekend you showed up? Aaron Brown of the CNN told us how, when he was in the reserves, he had to sign up each time he reported, and his guest from the Washington Post said, that's right, and there would be

"four copies of that record" in the files of various agencies. Will you ask those agencies to release those records?

(6) If you were in fact paid for that time when you apparently went AWOL, will you authorize the IRS to release your 1972-73 tax returns?

(7) How did you get a honourable discharge? What strings were pulled? Who called who?

Look, I'm sorry to put you through all of this. I still would like to see a debate between a general and a deserter. I had no idea that it would lead to this. And your comment on another TV program that "*I'm a War President!*" I guess that you believe that, or you want us to believe that. Americans have never voted-out a their Commander-in-Chief during a war. I guess that is what you're hoping for. You need this war to go on and on.

But we, the people, do not. And our troops in the National Guard don't either. I know that you see the writing on the wall, so why not come clean now? We are a forgiving people, and although you will not be returning to the White House, you will find us grateful for a little truth. Answer our questions, apologize to the nation, and bring our kids home.

Yours truly,
Michael Moore

UNITE TO LEAD ANTI-IMPERIALIST STRUGGLES

*Statement by the Coordinating
Committee of the CPI(ML) and
CPI(ML) Red Flag*

The International Conference Against Imperialism, Globalization and War that was organized by the Coordinating Committee in India was a great success. The Conference was held January 16 to January 21, 2004 in Mumbai, India.

The aim of the conference was to discuss in depth as to what communist and left forces should do in today's situation, where there is such a massive upsurge against imperialism all over the world. What

should the role be at a time when US aggression has been trained in an unbroken chain from Afghanistan to Iraq and is increasingly threatening other countries like Iran, North Korea, Cuba and many others.

Seven international organizations attended the conference. They were: The Bolshevik Party (North Kurdistan-Turkey), The Labour Party of Turkey (EMEP), the LCR (France), the MLPD (Germany), the MLPP (Philippines), the NCP (UC-Marshall) and the PTB (Belgium). Many papers were presented by the above, besides papers were sent in to the conference by the Afghanistan Socialist Association, the Emanation Group of the Communist Workers Party of Iraq, the Left Radicals of Afghanistan, The Tanjbaran (Iran) and the Ray O Light (USA). There were also messages from the All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks in ex-USSR. Greetings were sent by the RCP of Uruguay, the Partija Rada in Yugoslavia, the Israel Communist Forum, and the Organization for the Communist Party of the Proletariat of Italy and by organizations from Pakistan and Indonesia.

Almost all of the participants agreed that the present phase of attacks by imperialism through globalization must receive a global reply and that this menace can only be fought by socialism. This requires the rebuilding of a genuine Marxist-Leninist movement at the national and international levels. This can only be achieved if the fight is ongoing also against revisionism and sectarianism.

After presentation of papers the conference broke up into discussion groups, which lasted over six hours. There was a short address to the delegates by comrade Rekuabi of the Iraq National Democratic Movement and from a European organization in support of Palestine.

The conference culminated in the evening of January 15 to the singing of the International in many different languages, including Turkish, German, Philippines, Hindi, Bengali, Telugu, Malayalam, Tamil, Kannada and many others.

**DOWN WITH IMPERIALISM!
SOCIALISM IS THE ONLY
ALTERNATIVE!**

RAY
STEVENSON



**GREETINGS TO:
ANNUAL GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF
THE CANADIAN FRIENDS OF
SOVIET PEOPLE**

Toronto Branch, February 1, 2004

I extend my warmest greetings of comradeship and solidarity to your meeting. Our work and the dedication of this body is not only a historic meeting...it is also of fundamental purpose to the overarching efforts of humanity to thwart and defeat the vicious and extremely dangerous and militarized efforts by world Imperialism who seeks to establish their rule and control of peoples and resources world wide. I extend my total respect and congratulations to you all and particularly to Michael and Helen Lucas and to the never failing support of the Society of Carpatho-Russian Canadians. Over the past many years theirs has been the role of superb leadership, coupled with great personal sacrifices. May I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I profoundly regret my inability to be with you in person.

When we speak of Imperialism and the vicious role of monopoly in this year of 2004 in the new millennium, the continuation and upsurge of Imperialist aggression and war, obviously has created new historic problems rising from the "globalized" conditions of aggression by monopoly capitalism. We must study and seek instruction of these in great detail. The material conditions that gave rise originally to Marxism-Leninism have advanced with seven-league boots in terms of militarization, of the economic production, scientific and also technological development. On the contrary, the sciences of how we can live together have failed. Within the time of a single human life, society

THE DAWN OF SOCIALIST REVOLT

has grown from ox drawn transport to sending vehicles to Mars, and to a state of communications that our grandparents would never have believed possible. Again, to the contrary, the ability to destroy life is highest ever.

Yes, we live in a vastly changed world in those terms and we would be naive indeed not to recognize and seek to understand what immense changes for better or for worse we all now face. In many discernable ways political, social, cultural and inter-human conduct has either regressed, or responded in often chaotic and confused way to the changing methods of material production, inter-state relations, and varying forms of governance.... International, national and local. The continuing factor is the class struggle and wars, attended by wars of national liberation. All of this now falls under militarized intrusions and wars flowing from "monopoly capitalism"... what Lenin analyzed as the "essence of Imperialism". The first line of his seminal 1916 work "Imperialism, The Highest Stage of Capitalism" reads:

"The enormous growth of industry and the remarkably rapid process of concentration of production in ever larger enterprises represents one of the most characteristic feature of capitalism."

It is obvious that cancer-like growth of capitalism since that time reached levels almost incomprehensible for us. But Lenin's exposure of the political and economic growth in his time still provides basic foundations of knowledge and understanding for us today. He exposed vicious political-ideological theories and practices that blocked the way of revolutionary advances then...and still do today. Correctly he defined in the preface (written in 1920 to his 1916 "Imperialism") for the French and German editions that:

"Not the slightest progress can be made towards the solution of the practical problems of the Communist movement and the impending social

revolution unless the economic roots of this phenomena are understood and its sociological significance is appreciated..."

He was underlining his earlier reference of prevailing attitudes, policies and ideological and philosophical positions of the reformist and revisionist leadership of what he described as the "disintegrating and decaying Second International" and activity to re-assert Marxism and the revolutionary concepts of working class and peoples united action to establish a new "Socialist state". He was engaged in this immense political struggle against the socialist reformists such as Otto Bauer, Kautsky, Bernstein, Schedieman, Noske, Thomas, Ebert, Ramsay MacDonald and a host of others of that ilk who in fact were the "agents of capitalism and labour's ranks."

He exposed the source of their opportunist efforts to "live in peace" with the Imperialists, thus undermining and denying the class struggle and disarming in every way the working class. With the 1917 Proletarian led Soviet Socialist Revolution success was to crown the efforts and wrest from the decadent Second Socialist International. cratic The peoples, placed their feet on the path to establishing a fully integrated Socialist future as they carried through the Bolshevik (majority) Proletarian (working class) Socialist revolution. They smashed Imperialism's stranglehold on the resources and riches of the old Czarist ruled Empire.

History tells us the immediate reaction of world Imperialism was an organized military invasion of the new state to retrieve and re-establish and emplace foreign financial and industrial ownership. Headed by Great Britain no less than fourteen foreign armies assembles and invaded the new Socialist State. Included were the military of Canada, side by side with Great Britain, the USA, France, Germany, Italy etc. They went down to inevitable defeat

at that time. But from that historical point forward until 1990 every means possible, including the Nazi Imperialist war of 1941 was carried forward to re-establish the Imperialist's ownership and control of their "lost" fields of plunder. Apart from the military, economic, political wars and sabotage (read *Cold War*) a central and particular ideological and theoretical weapon in the hands of the Imperialists was inexorable anti-Marxist, opportunist bureaucratic conduct through out more than seventy years of very aggressive subversion and sabotage of Soviet Socialism.

This was a fundamental political struggle waged first by V.I. Lenin against what he described as "**the principal social (not military) support of the bourgeoisie...the real agents of the bourgeoisie in the labour movement...**" For those who may reject totally or in part that indictment, we can only suggest a historical review from 1917 forward to the present to check it out. Included would be found and brought into focus the "works" of such as carried by the Second International as counter-revolutionary.

"Imperialism is the eve of the proletarian social revolution. This has been confirmed on an international scale since 1916" he wrote.

His full meaning and purpose was underlined in yet another preceding paragraph of the Preface of 1920, when he exposed Imperialism, using part of its enormous "super-profits" raped from their "foreign investments" is the colonial holdings, literally corrupted and "bought off". whole sections of labour leaders:

"...it is quite possible to bribe the labour leaders and the upper strata of the labour aristocracy... The stratum of the labour aristocracy who have become quite bourgeois...serves as the principal bulwark of the Second International, and in our day, the principal social; (not military) support of the bourgeoisie. They are the real agents of the bourgeoisie in the labour movement, the labour lieutenants of the capitalist class, channels of reformism and chauvinism..." (emphasis in original)

Lenin and the Communist Party of Bolsheviks, in the years leading to 1917, confronted the enormous task

of bringing leadership to the developing, war exhausted, revolutionary forces moving together in opposition and activity among workers, peasants and important sections of the intelligentsia. Essentially two central slogans expressed the long seething demands of the people.

The Lenin slogan of "**Land, Peace and Bread!**" was coupled with "**All Power to the Soviets**" (*Peoples Councils in which increasing numbers of workers came to the leadership.* But the development of revisionist theories of Marxism and the denial of class struggle were only temporarily defeated. The roots remained within the Soviet society and were corrupted and "bought-off" by monopoly finance capital and indeed counter-revolutionary betrayal proliferated and came to the fore even within the leading ranks of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union from Krushchev to Gorbachev, Yeltsin and Yakovlev. The results are the current massive degradation of the USSR, and of all standards of life in the former Soviet Republics and our era of monopoly imperialist dominated "unipolar" world of wars and Imperialist corporate terrorism on all continents.

The pre-eminent and unrelenting political struggle begun by Lenin did not and could not end with the establishment of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. In fact we know that anti-Soviet traitors such as Trotsky, Bukharin, Kamenev and an army of other "inside workers for counter-revolution" were welcomed world wide by Imperialism and embraced as "heroes" of Imperialist totally false and hyped claims of "freedom and democracy". In latter years, with some honourable exceptions, the unscrupulous, undermining of the Marxist-Leninist aim and purpose of developing conditions for the growth of the "New Soviet Citizen" by ongoing empowerment of the people with educational, ideological, economic, political and cultural programs developed by the people were sidelined and lost. This was done under very noxious, unrelenting bureaucratic opportunism, and Imperialist pressure of lies and the Cold War, spawned by subversive US financial and corporate powers.

The Nikita Krushchev's alleged "revelations" and the "demonization" of Socialism and Stalin, opened the door to penetration of counter-revolutionary activity that led to the final dismantlement of the USSR by the internal counter-revolutionaries, Gorbachev, Yeltsin, and the ideological "agent of influence" Yakovlev. The "real agents" of the bourgeoisie both within the USSR and leading forces of labour movements from outside had served their Imperialist masters well. The Soviet people and the people of the world paid, and continue to pay as this is being written.

It is not my intent to place before you definitive or total answers as to how or in what manner organizations such as ours can proceed. That will require far-reaching and ongoing debate and discussion in totally frank exchanges – as will final analyses of how the anti-Marxist-Leninist "leaderships" brought down the USSR.

However, on this occasion I cannot other than suggest that any such discussion or debate that fails to connect the historic assessment and analyses of Lenin's first all-important encounter with the supine 2nd International "labour lieutenants of the capitalist class, channels of reformism and chauvinism..." will be barren of meaning for the struggles today for socialism. The working class and people will continue to struggle blindly...to their detriment and to Imperialism's advantage.

Our program of Friendship, Solidarity and Peace cannot stand in isolation from the general political crisis Imperialism has imposed. We recognize that a program of Friendship, Solidarity and Peace is a subjective factor that can grow essentially only with the class struggle of a political character that are the opposite, or flip side of the Imperialist onslaught on all the people. We are totally aware that such struggles arise as part of the movements by the people in sometimes chaotic efforts to effect fundamental change. The role of Marxism-Leninism, and its practice by the Communist Parties we fully recognize as primary when based upon and rooted in such struggles of the working class and of the people. From this point of view we fully

expect that national demands and activity will unquestionably take a pre-eminent position in the development of policies, programs and activities developed by political forces.

But, precisely because of the "globalized" character of monopoly capitalism...Imperialism...that now threatens all people everywhere, the international development of Friendship and Solidarity where possible under peaceful conditions, ranks at the top level of consideration.

Without the element of real International Solidarity, today unconvincingly displayed by actions of some Communist Parties, Global Imperialism will confront only a series of nationally based opposition. The very survival of the species, demands more and taking into full account the varying tactical requirements and national anti-Imperialist movements that run the gamut of different historical and political experience, globalization of human and political qualities of our Friendship and Solidarity program stands as absolutely indispensable. Race, colour, creed, national origin and cultural heritage must now be turned into paths of international solidarity in anti-imperialist struggles to build a "globalized" united front of all peoples.

It is on these grounds, as an active member and to a modest degree locally, nationally and internationally, a leading force in the Communist, labour and peace movements since the late 1930's, a period of some three generations, in all humility I offer my sincere greetings on this important occasion. In 1916 Lenin wrote *"Imperialism on the eve of the proletarian, social revolution"*. In 2004, eighty years later, I profoundly believe we can say: *"Imperialism now stands in the first light of the dawn of proletarian and peoples social revolution."* Their crisis is without possible remedy.

Long live the programs of Friendship, Solidarity and Peace among peoples, everywhere!

May we all join together in unity in our endeavors and work! With fraternal and comradely greetings and embraces.

Associate Editor
Northstar Compass

DID YOU KNOW?

NSC Reporter

*According to a senior US official, the US is prepared to help finance the withdrawal of the remaining Russian troops from Georgia (VOA News). Well, well, what a wonderful offer! In appreciation, the whole world should reciprocate and offer to pay the withdrawal of all US troops stationed outside the US borders.

*That'll be quite a task though. According to the US Defense Department annual *"Base Structure Report"* for fiscal year 2003, which itemize foreign and domestic US military real estate, the Pentagon currently owns or rents 702 overseas bases in about 130 countries and has another 6,000 bases in the USA and its territories. (You can read other details in another article in NSC.)

*The use of violence is certainly nothing new for the USA. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in a speech delivered on April 4, 1967 at the Manhattan Riverside Church, called the United States: *"the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today"* and he noted also *"a nation that continuous year after year to spend more money on military defense rather than on programs of social uplift, is approaching spiritual death."* Some things just never seem to change.

*By driving out Saddam Hussein, the US has created a Gordian knot in Iraq. Having promised to deliver democracy to the Iraqis, they now appear to be stuck in an unsolvable problem. The US wants a government appointed by their appointees, the Kurds want selfrule, the Shiites want full democratic elections by June 2004 and the Sunnys don't want anything until the Yankee troops have gone home. So far, it doesn't look like anyone will get their way, so Yankee troops will keep on dieing for *"freedom and democracy"*.

*Note this revealing observation broadcast on the CBS TV program

60 Minutes: *"American corporations are doing brisk business in the countries that Bush has identified as "Rogue States". Even though this is illegal by US law, companies like Haliburton, Conoco-Phillips, General Electric and others have set up new subsidiaries in places like Dubai and the Cayman Islands, from where they do business with Iran, Syria, Libya. If terrorism indeed originates from these countries, we now know where some of their money comes from: US workers whose money is invested in these corporations' pension funds."*

*Remember the Soviet days, when the price of a loaf of bread was extremely low and the same price was everywhere in the USSR? Not today! Speculators have been driving grain prices up at an alarming speed – up to 17% a month – since 2003. In many places the price of bread has more than doubled.

*When George W. Bush decided on running for the Presidency, he called a group of Evangelical Pastors together, announcing to all of them: *"I have heard the call"* and then receiving from all of them the *"laying of hands"* which corresponds to divine ordination for the task ahead. On September 14, 2001 he stated: *"Our responsibility before history is already clear: to answer these attacks (9-11) and rid the world evil."* He then launched the crusade Operation Infinite Freedom against Afghanistan. Yet other messianic statements from Bush: *"History has called America to action. The great hope of our time, and the great hope of every time, now depends on us!"*

"We must also remember our calling as a blessed nation to make the world better, and confound the designs of evil men."

"Our nation has been chosen by God and commissioned by history, to be a model of justice before the world."

Not to be outdone Vice President Cheney said: *"America has the duty, to act with force to construct the world in the image of the United States."*

* Fascism certainly has its supporters among the official government circles in Estonia these days. When the Estonian heavy

metal band Marras performed a song at a concert recently that proclaimed: "It's pleasant to kill Jews", the police and officials said the phrase did not include ethnic or religious hatred and refused to press charges, according to Cilja Laud, the head of Estonia's Jewish community.

*And this from Tallin, Estonia: When the United States stripped Michael Gorshkow of his American citizenship and forced him to leave his Florida home over 18 months ago, a USA Federal Judge said that there was no doubt that he helped slaughter at least 3,000 Jewish men, women and children during the Nazi occupation of Eastern Europe. But now, he is free in Estonia, surrounded by the quaint medieval steeples and tranquil snow, Gorshkow, now 80 is a free man. This case has barely stirred the interest of Estonian prosecutors or government officials in this tiny Baltic nation.

*And to conclude: - Some Republican presidents seemed to have been smarter than others. Note this, from former president Eisenhower: "A preventive war, to my mind, is an impossibility. I don't believe there is such a thing, and frankly, I wouldn't even listen to anyone seriously that came in and talked about such a thing" - From a press conference.

*That's it for now. See you next month. ■

FOOD RIOTS IN SLOVAKIA

Before NSC was going to press we had a phone call from Slovakia that food riots are taking place in cities around Mihalovce in Eastern Slovakia, led by the Gypsies (Roma) and poor working people who have had enough of this capitalism and are yearning for and demanding a return to former Czechoslovakia and Socialism.

According to our contact there, the government had ordered 3,000 army soldiers plus the police into the area.

Full write up by our friend there is in the mail, but it shall have to be in the April issue of NSC. ■

SALT & PEPPER ON WRY

Frank
Ray Davis



Our reader and contributor from Mexico.

DON'T PLURALIZE SINGULARS:

Bush's national security advisor admits that there were "errors" made in Iraq. Errors? No Dearie! Only one error! Attacking Iraq in the first place. The Good Book says that you should not covet your neighbour's wife. In this motorized age, you'd better not covet your neighbour's oil either.

JUNIOR WAR PRISONERS:

Three kids from among the hundreds of war prisoners penned up in the US's Guantanamo Bay prison, in violation of every American right and tradition, have been released at long last.

US government spokesman admitted that they are no danger to our country, and won't be tried for any crime. Except maybe to humour a psycho US Attorney General, why the heck were the children caged in a concentration camp in the first place?

ALWAYS A JUMP AHEAD:

Now that Bush's lies about the mounds of weapons of mass destruction have been nailed to the wall, he's come up with a new lie to cover the tired old ones. Those mounds of WMD's were robbed by anonymous thieves and hid someplace.

STEELING OUR SECURITY:

US Senator Hillary Clinton favours great high steel walls between US and Mexico and US and Canada. Before you dismiss this as completely stupid, consider how the Chinese have converted their worthless wall into a great money-making tourist attraction. Also, it would be a terrific shot in the arm for the US ailing steel industry. Just don't ask me what it would do for taxpayers. Especially the jobless ones.

REVISION REQUIRED:

The latest obesity statistics suggest that the USA should revise its national slogan to - United we stand - too dam fat to run.

SEND BUSH THERE: Now we're going to jazz up our job-starved economy by a much ballyhooed trip to Mars. Bush policies have exported thousands of American jobs to Indonesia, Mexico, China etc. etc. Now he wants to export them to Mars?

But wait; I just had a chilling thought. What if Mars turns out to be teeming with terrorists?



THE POLITIX OF CONFUSION: For Bush, no human fetus should be subjected to the "violence" of abortion, because every human life is precious, even if unwanted by anyone. So, those thousands that he murdered in Iraq - they were unprecious because they've been around for a while? Because they were not Americans? Because their family values are low, vulgar, and heathen? Or because phoney baloney is great bait in an election season?

QUOTE TO NOTE: "These economic summit meetings are a waste of time, because the liberal model has impoverished Latin America. We go from summit to summit, and our people go from abyss to abyss." President Hugo Chavez ■

ERRATUM

In the December 2003 issue of NSC obituary for comrade Gibson of Australia, the obituary was written by Pablo Gonzales not Peter Prior as was noted.

FREE ELECTIONS IN IRAQ?

From Antiimperialist Camp news

Last month, occupied Iraq saw a major conflict over the plans by the US aggressors to at least partially hand over power to their puppet regime. This step is to provide US rule an Iraqi cover-up that has been scheduled to take place by the end of this year.

In massive demonstrations in the previous two months, however, significant parts of the Iraqi population contested the US designs, following the statement by the supreme Shia cleric, al-Sistano, who called instead for free elections. The pressure from below is rising despite the attempts of the clerics to calm down the popular anger.

The fact that the US occupying power reacted by spreading rumours of a postponement of their plans, while decidedly refusing elections, exposed their weakness. On the one hand they did not want to antagonize the Shia clerics, who are for the time being their only pillar – as their so-called “*Governing Council*” has lost any credibility among the Iraqi people. The overt and covert co-operation of most of the clerics still keeps important sections of the Shia population away from actively joining the resistance. On the other hand, the USA is not ready to even grant elections, as they fear that their direct puppets will be completely smashed. They have no trust in their main ally. This shows their strategic trouble to build a trustworthy and anchored puppet regime.

However, the demand for “*free elections*” shows not only the ambiguity of the clerics, but also their continued ability to deceive the Iraqi people.

How can one speak about holding free elections under occupation? Such elections can never be free! Everything will happen at the mercy of the occupiers and aggressors.

We must not forget that USA is the unchallenged master of fake elections in their own country and throughout the world. Their corporate media will cover up any fraud and term any operation as “*free elections*” which brings their puppet

into power, regardless of their dictatorial record and atrocities committed – remember the Peruvian butcher Fujimori, to name only one. The only reason why they have not been performing their election theatre in Iraq is that they still do not have in place the necessary apparatus of henchmen.

The one and only way to democracy in Iraq is the complete withdrawal of all US and other imperialist troops. This cannot be achieved by elections, even if they are supervised by the United Nations, behind which the Imperialist powers hide themselves – to impose a new constitution of a new regime upon the Iraqi people. According to the inalienable right to self-determination, it is exclusively upon the Iraqi people themselves to decide their own fate.

Before any elections can be held in Iraq, a constituent assembly must take place, in which the popular masses decide the content and form of government they wish to install, including the modus of election. The only force able to carry out such a constituent assembly is the resistance based on the popular masses!

Democracy and resistance is the same, they are synonyms! ■

HOW TO HACK AN ELECTION!

*From NEW YORK TIMES-
EDITORIAL*

US concerned citizens have been warning the US government that the new electronic voting technology being rolled out nation-wide can be used to steal elections. Now, there is proof. When the US State of Maryland hired a computer security firm to test its new machines, these paid hackers had little trouble casting multiple votes and taking over all of the machines' vote-recording mechanism. The Maryland study shows convincingly that more security is needed for electronic voting, starting with voter-verified paper trails.

When Maryland decided to buy 16,000 AccuVote voting machines, there was considerable opposition. Critics charged that the new touch-

screen machines, which do not create a paper record of votes cast, were vulnerable to vote theft. The State commissioned a staged attack on the machines, in which computer-security experts would try to foil the safeguards and interfere with the election.

They were very disturbingly successful. It was an “*easy matter*”, they reported, to reprogram the access cards used by voters and vote multiple times. They were able to attach a keyboard to a voting terminal and change its vote count. And by exploiting the software flaw, and using a modem, they were able to change votes from a remote location.

The Maryland study confirms concerns about electronic voting being promoted by Government officials. In Boone county - Indiana, in 2003 fall months, a particular colourful example of unreliability, an electronic system initially recorded more than **144,000 votes** in an election, but there were fewer than **19,000 registered voters!** Given the growing body of evidence, it is clear that electronic voting machines cannot be trusted.

We couldn't have said it better ourselves! We wonder if President Bush's company manufactures these machines? ■

72 COLOMBIAN TRADE UNIONISTS MURDERED

The CUT Trade Union Federation in Colombia reported that at least 72 trade union activists and organizers, were assassinated by state-linked agents in 2003.

The CUT also condemned the fact that not one of the 12 human rights recommendations made by the United Nations to the Colombian government has yet been implemented.

Please write to the list below, condemning these actions.

Alvaro Uribe Velez, President of Colombia
Palacio de Narin, Carrera 8 No. 7-26
Bogota, Colombia
auribe@presidencia.gov.co

NSC and International Council has sent protests already. ■

AS I SEE IT...

JERRY MORSE



MOSCOW: Russia's oil tycoons are trying to cover their humanitarian profit deeds, by promising to feed the cultural needs of the Russian people. Viktor Vekselberg of oil tycoon fame, (a *duel citizen of Russia and Israel*), had just purchased from Sotheby's (which will sell your Mother if she is antic enough) a collection of nine world famous Faberge Eggs, and 180 masterpieces of the famous Royal Russian Faberge firm for an amount harboring around \$100 million US.

This "artful" Viktor, has promised to make this collection available for Russian viewing, perhaps in the Kremlin or at the State Hermitage Museum (of course for an admission price), but first he wants to show it in New York City.

To calculate the price of these eggs, scarcer than hen's teeth, we have asked mathematicians to figure the costs. As of this printing, they are still working on the problem.

By the way, these Faberge Eggs



were the property of the Czars of Russia, paid for by the Russian people, and in fact, they were stolen out of Russia during the reign of the last Czar.

THE KREMLIN: Is USA / NATO conducting a covert audit? Many of Putin's servants believe so. With Afghanistan opium production rising to nine times what it produced under the Taliban, while NATO is turning a blind eye, one must recall the Iran-Contra drug scandal and its success.

However, USA demands loyalty of all the Afghan warlords who produce the opium, so "bring them on" follows. US and NATO, in order to cut their expenses in Afghanistan, are asking Putin's Entourage to help them in getting their cut of the drug profits in Afghanistan. US and Britain are benefiting from this drug trade in the name of "democracy and freedom". Why are the Russian diplomats in Afghanistan involved, is the question?

BRUSSELS: European Commission is worried that Russia might withdraw from the "Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty". The capitalist EU soothsayers are lamenting that the main cornerstone of security in Europe will be destroyed if Russia pulls out.

During the Great Patriotic War, the Soviet Union, having destroyed Nazism, is now expected to fully agree to the cost of 10 nations joining the EU this May. Russia is also expected to agree to NATO's dance scenario, in order to help US oversee the 138 countries that are now tied to or under pressure to agree to fully cooperate with the New World Order.

US and NATO will run out of oil, no doubt about it, and this conquest by covert and overt actions by US imperialism is the result of the hunger and demand for oil and other resources.

Wake up people of Russia and other ex-republics of the Soviet Union! You must learn how to play this economic chess game, but get rid of Putin, because his game via US imperialism is fixed.

MOSCOW-

The Russian State Duma appointed the heads of its 29 committees and these posts were all given to the pro-Putin party "United Russia" a winner in last December's elections.

The Duma voted 343 to 7, with seven abstentions, to approve these nominations. The "United Russia" holds 300 seats in the 450-seat chamber.

The question is this: since the so-called communist party of Zyuganov having over 40 seats in the Duma, that obviously shows that a majority of the CPRF "communist" deputies voted for the pro-Putin slate of posts!

I'm certain that Putin was happy as a pig in shit and, maybe even caled Zyuganov to have a drink in the Kremlin with him!

NATIONAL BOLSHEVIK PARTY was attacked by several busloads of police and they had to barricade themselves in their offices, near Fruntzevskaya Metro Station last month. Police demanded to be let in, but the members refused and the stand off continues.

VIENNA - This beautiful city had a beautiful liar visiting it on January 24, 2004, US Attorney General Ashcroft. He polluted the air with comments about Iraq and this puppet of Imperialism - said to the Austrian officials and journalists that: "WMD including chemical and biological are matters of great concern not only to the US but to the world and Saddam Hussein continued to pose a threat to the world."

The Austrians then asked questions of Ashcroft, since he likes to be called General - "Is the threat because you have Saddam Hussein as a prisoner of war, who by the way was on your payroll, or is it because you are not sure if, among the huge supply of documents that you seized, there are other documents which might incriminate you, since you were meeting Hussein since December of 1983?"

"Is it also not true that General Powell made the same statement of accusation as did the US Vice President Cheney, that there is a possibility that these WMD do not exist?"

Is it not true that your President Bush insists on sending weapons inspectors to Iran, Syria, Sudan and 82 member countries of the UN?

WURSBURG, GERMANY -

US Wolfowitz who is in the Bush cabinet, has admitted last month that there were no WMD in Iraq. This key member of President Bush's think-tank of 40 war hawks, visited the US

1st Infantry Division in Wurzburg then went on to Iraq.

It's obvious that these cesspool military oriented Americans, who have their hands on the controls of USA's destiny, are steering towards targets, but not the ultimate profit targets that the Transnational Corporate Power wants. They are heading up the creek to the docks as War Criminals. They entertain themselves now, while having their soldiers die for their plans and killing thousands of innocent people.

They are now taking former Nazi Germany's Goring dance lessons. Their new dance steps include: Circles of Lies, Killing women and children by Fast Steps, Milking the Treasury Tango, Ballistic Waltz of Classified Briefings, Wall flower Sit-outs to avoid the Flak Jacket Square Dances.

This to be tried war criminal Wolfowitz said to the reporters traveling with him: "On one hand, we will be killing and capturing terrorists and all the foreign fighters - while simultaneously we got our work cut out with respect to stability and support operations, to set the conditions for Iraq civil-military self-reliance."

This double talk means only that the US will stay in Iraq for a long time and using it as a stepping-stone towards the soft underbelly of Russia and the oil and gas riches found therein.

WASHINGTON, DC

Never in world wide media has there been such condemnation of US government officials even by the US capitalist press as appeared last February 1, 2004. Articles about capitalism's greed, robbery schemes to fill the pockets of the shareholders, illegal privileges, tax-shelters, cooking the books with a \$2.4 trillion budget. This is on top of the already existing deficit of \$360 trillion dollars. The US government is cutting back on all Agriculture and Environmental expenditures. This should be enough to give the US voters a jolt as to who not to vote for.

Even US Democratic Senator Kennedy condemned the Bush Budget...it is the most anti-family, anti-worker, anti-healthcare and anti-education budget in all of US history. ■

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SOLIDARITY WITH US MINERS

Twenty political prisoners at the Hudson County Correctional Center in Kearny, N.J. USA signed and sent a message of solidarity to the coal miners on strike against the CW Mining near Huntington, Utah. They also sent their letter to the publication Militant, asking it to be published. Excerpts from the letter we publish below.

"We want to send our heartfelt support to the coal miners in Utah. They are engaged in a just strike, and are courageously claiming their right to return to their jobs and demanding recognition as unionists, organized inside the United Mine Workers of America, with the right to be treated with respect on the job. The treatment the miners get is abusive as they were thrown unto the street to join thousands of unemployed; in our eyes the action of the Co-Op owners are undemocratic and antiquated.

These exploiters are not allowing the miners to form a union, when this right was won many years ago and is accepted and recognized all over the world.

To be able to defend the rights it is necessary to organize against this feudalistic company, which is backed by the city's Sheriff and backed by the imperialist administration in Washington.

Go forward with courage!"

Signed by:

Farouk Abdel—Muhti – Palestine
Abdul Hamid Wady – Colombia
Pantaleo Remigo – Dominican Rep.
Traore Aboubacar – Guinea
Francisco Espinoza – Cuba
Sory Soeun – Cambodia
Nuo Li, People's Rep. Of China
Ricardo Ventura – Brazil
Junoc Vosye – Ukraine
Pedro Rodriguez – Cuba
Nic Vong – Laos
Marcelino Pons – Cuba
Ronaldo Izquierdo – Cuba
Noor Mohammed – India
Antonio Martin – Cape Verde

Edward Morgan – Jamaica
Luis Pardo – Colombia
Glen Salcedo - Ecuador

FROM
RED BANK, NJ
USA

Once again, we are being bombarded here in the USA by hysterical stories about a supposed nuclear threat from the embattled socialist country of North Korea.

Faced with US threats to wage economic and military war against them, the North Koreans would be foolish not to stiffen their defenses. After all, Korea is being confronted by an aggressive United States that virtually destroyed that country over 50 years ago, but still has troops and warships all over the globe, including Korea, while maintaining a huge nuclear arsenal (not one or two nuclear weapons that North Korea might have.)

We Americans who know the score and who hate the terrible destruction of human life and resources that imperialist wars cause, must be ready to resist the Bush administration's call, for war against North Korea.

Allen Strasburger ■

FROM THE POLITICAL PRISONERS IN SPAIN

Dear friends of Northstar Compass;

As you already know, we continue to follow with great attention everything taking place in the former socialist countries. By the logic of class interest, as well as for the tradition and revolutionary potential that these countries represent, we harbor well-founded hopes in the revolutionary process that is developing there. From this follows our interest in everything that occurs there.

Recently elections were held to the Duma, the Russian Parliament. It is not that we are interested in what

that Parliament decides, because we are not in an epoch nor under circumstances in which proletarian positions can be defended by the bourgeois parliamentary road. These types of institutions only serve to disguise the Russian capitalist, imperialist and fascist regime. However, certain aspects that are reflected in these elections have awakened our interest.

First of these is the broad boycott of this electoral farce by the masses and the peoples who make up the Russian Federation. Second is the calamity that the institutional revisionism of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation headed by Zyuganov has suffered. This is an enormous weakening of the "left leg" of the regime's support for the control of the working masses. This demonstrates the weakness of the social base which supports this regime and leaves the field more open for the revolutionary forces to organize the working class and the popular masses.

It is clear that none of this will be possible if first there does not emerge, among all the parties that call themselves communist, the genuine proletarian vanguard. This is the **principal aspect, the most pressing task**, in the process taking place for the restoration of Socialism in Russia and of the Soviet Union under the principles of Marxism-Leninism.

Teachings of Lenin and Stalin in this respect tell us (as they themselves and the Bolsheviks did in their struggle against the Mensheviks, Kautsky, Trotsky and other opportunists) that the ideological struggle against revisionism and opportunism in the left is an inseparable question from the struggle against capitalism, fascism and imperialism. They teach us that without this irreconcilable struggle, without this **radical rupture** with revisionism, opportunism and reformism, **the union** of the communists and the organization of the working class on a firm basis is **not possible**. And this despite the fact that the most eminent organized forces, the genuine communists, would be a small minority for a long time. When did this worry Lenin?

Moreover, in the present conditions of growing fascistization, when the reactionary forces have

launched an unbridled repression against the working class and the peoples of the whole world, this could not be otherwise. What is important is that the fight against the regime, the organization of the working masses and the process of the reconstruction of the Party take place under the **universal principles of Marxism-Leninism**, leading to a Program, a Political Line and methods of Organization and of struggle in accord with the objective reality of the revolutionary process which is developing in Russia and the other former Soviet republics.

This important task which our comrades, the Russian communists, have before them, has the most enthusiastic support of all of us, in the hope that the revolutionary east wind will blow with renewed vigor together with the proletarian and international communist movement and end up becoming a force of hurricane proportions which will destroy the hated capitalist system.

We make use of this occasion to send our dear friends and comrades of NSC an internationalist greeting, encouraging them to persevere in the important work of support for the process of restoration of Socialism and the Soviet Union.

Jaime Simón Quintela and Enrique Cuadra Etxeandia
Political Prisoners of the Communist Party of Spain (reconstructed)
Seville Prison II P.8
41007 Seville
Spain

FROM
BUDAPEST
HUNGARY

Dear comrades:

I have received your New Year's greetings for which I thank you and send you my best wishes. I would like to congratulate you for the brave attitude you show in editing and publishing the NSC. I read it regularly and it gives me very great pleasure.

A god friend of mine, Zandmily Vega Taveril Vasnope wrote to me not long ago the following: "*Reacting to the articles in the world press that glorify democracy and freedom... A head of state or a minister that drags his people into a war of aggression*

and conquest – whatever the causes might be – is a war criminal. A murderer of millions, cannot speak of democracy in a country as the USA, that attacks and destroys the riches created by the people, even if they are ruled by a dictator. Dictators should be fought with political measures and not wars that punish the inhabitants."

He wrote as well that: "*there is no democracy in countries that have unemployment or where a minority rules in its own selfish interests, this is economic dictatorship but not a democracy.*"

Despite the professed democratic system, one can't talk of democracy if a minority manages to get into parliament or congress with false promises and then passes laws in order to keep the means of production (*land, mines, factories, etc.*) created by a long succession of inhabitants, and this lands in the hands of a few.

By exploiting and keeping the majority of the population under an economic dictatorship, the minority takes away most of the profits and pays only small wages to those who produce all this wealth. The profits should belong to all those who produced it and not be allowed to be stolen from society itself!

My best wishes to the NSC and to you Michael personally.

Yours
Andras Zalka

FROM
SARATOV
RUSSIA

Dear comrades of NSC:

One of my friends in the youth movement here gave me a copy of NSC and I could not believe my eyes! Such friends as we have in you comrades something that our Soviet people should cherish!

My friends and I did some checking and we found out that in Canada there was organized an organization in 1918 called "*Hands Off Russia Committee*" as was done in other countries. In Russia as in our own Saratov, the communist movement is unfortunately split and unity seems to be slowly coming around. We, the young generation will overcome this slowness, **never fear!**

Yevgeny Morozov

US SOLDIERS FORCE IRAQI TEEN AGER TO DROWN

By JUSTIM HUGGLER in SAMARRA

Zeidun Fadhli and the cousin Marwan Fadjiil were taken to a remote spot on the shore of the Tigris river at gun point to the river after their truck was stopped by the American soldiers. Zeidun, had just become engaged three weeks before his death and was saving up and working to have enough money for the wedding. This incident took place near Samarra, a Sunni city and one of the main centers of resistance to the American occupation and is now seething with anger over this forced drowning.

The incident took place last January 3, 2004, when the two cousins were returning to their homes from Baghdad with goods to sell to the town Samarra. It was a trip that they made many times before and had no problems through the US checkpoints.

They arrived close to the curfew hour and were stopped by an American patrol at night. After searching the contents of the truck, they let the cousins go. But then, one of the US armored vehicles followed them again and stopped the truck. Then the five US soldiers drove them to a deserted spot on the bank of the Tigris River, near a dam outside Samarra, and ordered both of them into the river.

There was at that time a powerful current because water was being let out of the dam and at first the two young men refused to go into the river. The US soldiers then pointed their guns at them and pushed both of them into the river. Marwan was able to swim and reached a tree trunk in the middle of the river. Zeidun did not get that far. His family did not find his body until 12 days later.

When the parents and friends found the truck, it was crushed as if a tank went right over it.

Marwan, the cousin, reported that the American soldiers were laughing as they pushed them into the river. It seems that this was caused by the American soldiers who are worn

PEACE

NEVER HURT ANYBODY - EXCEPT THE PROFITEERS!

HEY FOREIGNERS!

BANNED FROM BIDDING ON CONTRACTS IN IRAQ, BECAUSE YOUR NATION REFUSED TO SUPPORT THE U.S. WAR? DON'T MAKE THAT MISTAKE AGAIN: MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NOW FOR OUR NEXT WAR!



down, angry, who wanted to teach two Iraqi teenagers a lesson. If this was so, it was a lesson that went disastrously wrong.

Zeidun's mother, in her letter to President Bush and Mr. Blair said: "We found our son's jacket in the river. We shall keep it as a souvenir of the justice my son got from the American soldiers. You came into Iraq with the slogan of democracy and human rights, but in cold blood you wedded my son to death, even as he was preparing for his wedding."

The US authorities would not comment on this case. ■

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