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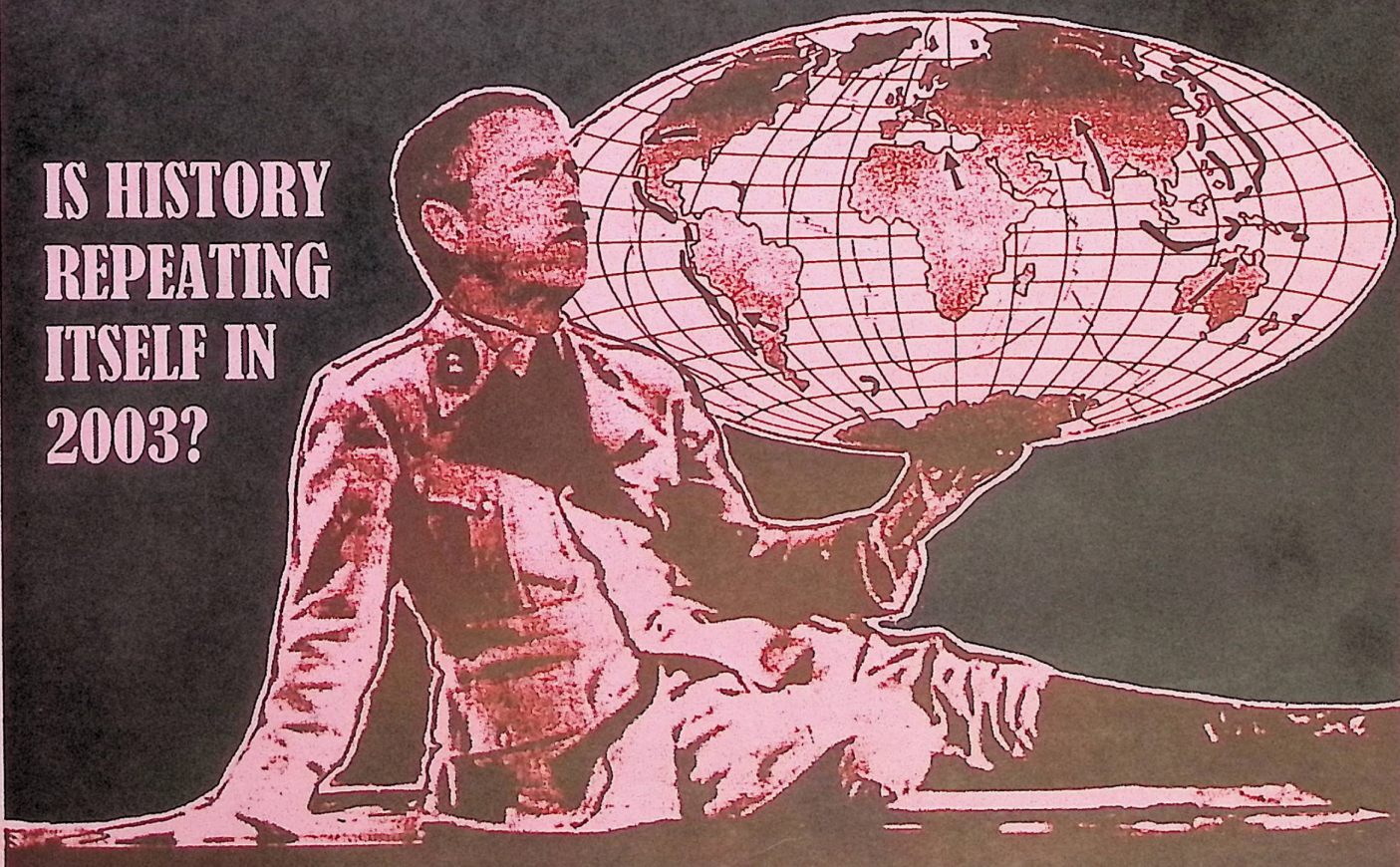
# northstar compass

ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH SOVIET PEOPLE - VOL. 11 #10, JUNE 2003

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## IN 1941 GERMAN FASCISM- IMPERIALISM WANTED A NEW WORLD ORDER!

IS HISTORY  
REPEATING  
ITSELF IN  
2003?



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## **CREDO OF NORTHSTAR COMPASS**

Northstar Compass is the publication of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People, who are struggling to rebuild socialism in the countries that have for more than 70 years constituted the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Northstar Compass carries on the traditions of the "Hands Off Russia Committee", that were established internationally in 1918 to help protect the young Soviet Republic from foreign intervention. Today, after the Soviet Union was dissolved against the wishes of the majority of its people, the Soviet people are again looking to their supporters abroad for assistance in rebuilding the once great Soviet State.

The International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People unites – on an independent and non-partisan basis – all those organizations and individuals who support the above objective. In this spirit, Northstar Compass publishes articles of interest in this struggle, covering news and information on the contemporary situation inside the former USSR, as well as related world news about the struggles against neo-liberal globalization and imperialism, now rampant in the world.

Additionally, Northstar Compass covers events and issues concerning the friendship organizations associated with the International Council.

Northstar Compass thus acts as a unifying force to consolidate and coordinate the anti-imperialist forces of the world with the struggle for socialism and the restoration of the Soviet Union. In this manner we act as a united front, but are not a forum for ideological debates. Soviet people themselves will choose the path they will follow towards socialism.

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ABOUT NSC? WRITE!**

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**MICHAEL  
LUCAS**  
Editor



# U.S. IMPERIALISM- DANGER FOR ALL OF MANKIND

Since September 11, 2001, the rich and the powerful countries of the world became enraged with the poor half of the world. Their very extreme measures to ensure security and profits for themselves have really given growth to the anger of the oppressed people of the world and wars are started by the imperialist powers, thinking that this will solve all of their problems.

Wars today as waged by US and other imperialist powers are more primitive than the stone-age wars. The targets are not the fighters, the combatants. The targets are the ordinary civilians, the women, the children and elderly people. Whether it is terror tactics or military action, these are the victims.

In primitive wars, the carnage was witnessed by all of the warriors. While suicide patriots die with each attack, the present "great warriors" who press the buttons up high in warplanes, see nothing of their mangled bodies, the blood, the gore, the suffering, the taking away lives of the innocent people who just a few minutes ago were living beings like these present warriors. But, because they do not see the gore, the blood, the dismembered bodies, the button pressing warriors and the people who command them, go back to enjoy a hearty meal, watch their favorite TV shows or moral boosting troop entertainers that the Pentagon sends, and then retire to their beds for a good sleep, while their victims wretch in agony in their dying moments!

Tomorrow these imperialist warriors will make other bombing sorties, carpet bombing children, women and old people or, they might press more buttons and send missiles to dismember more bodies,

destroy the infrastructure, cultural monuments and poison the water supply, the air and make existing for those that still might survive, hell on earth...all in the holy name of "democracy" and to "defend" their country thousands of miles away, across the ocean.

After all, Bush said that God is with them. He is not neutral, and the US soldiers were ordered to pray every day for Bush as was commanded by their commanders! After each bombing mission or missile attack or tank cannon fire, the troops go to portable churches and all is forgiven. How can you question their God? After all, Pope John II prayed for the killers and for the victims alike.

Imperialist war is about killing people. Newer and more brutal weapons are being invented to kill

more people efficiently. Believe it or not, there is now talk by the US imperialist Pentagon circles that the use of nuclear weapons is justified!

The plans of US imperialism as was written about in NSC last month and in this issue, is a plan to dominate and rule the whole world, its natural resources, its work force and its economy.

The people of the world must demand the United Nations must be united against imperialist ambitions and that they should stand up to this monster of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

The demand must be, that all of these war criminals be tried by an International Court and sentenced for their crimes against humanity.

Humanity cannot allow the UN to meet the fate of the League of Nations! We cannot allow history to repeat itself!



**Don't get confused!  
The real face  
of Bush  
is on the  
Left!**

**KYRGHIZIA-** A new Communist Party of Kyrgyzia newspaper has appeared on the streets. Here you see Communists marching down the main street of Bishkek.

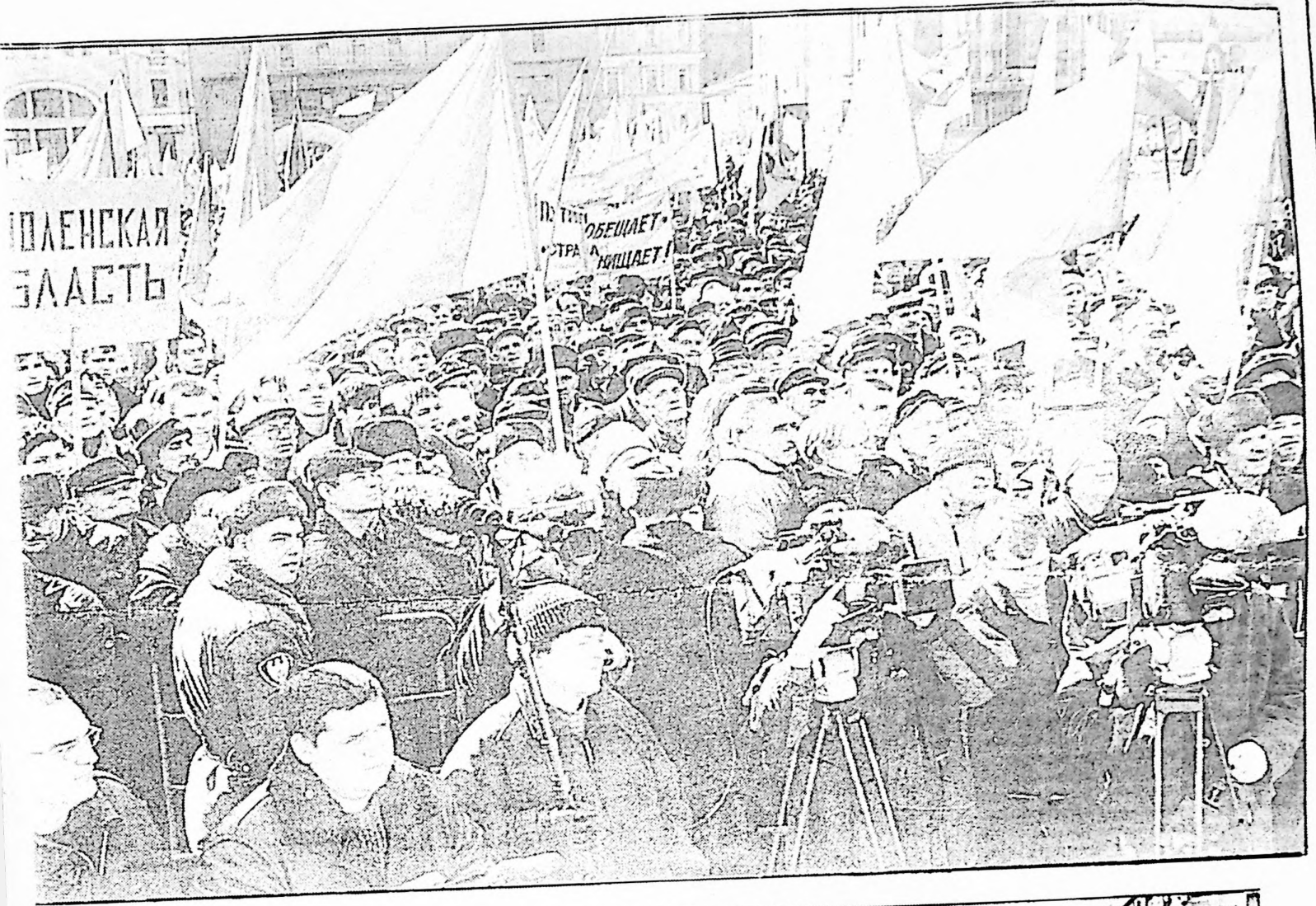


We publish these photographs to show the ongoing demonstrations that are taking place in major cities all over Russia. Unfortunately the photographs just arrived, and these demonstrations took place on March 28<sup>th</sup> as a day of protest. Young people were in large and leading numbers during all of these demonstrations, demanding the resignation of Putin-Kasianov regime!

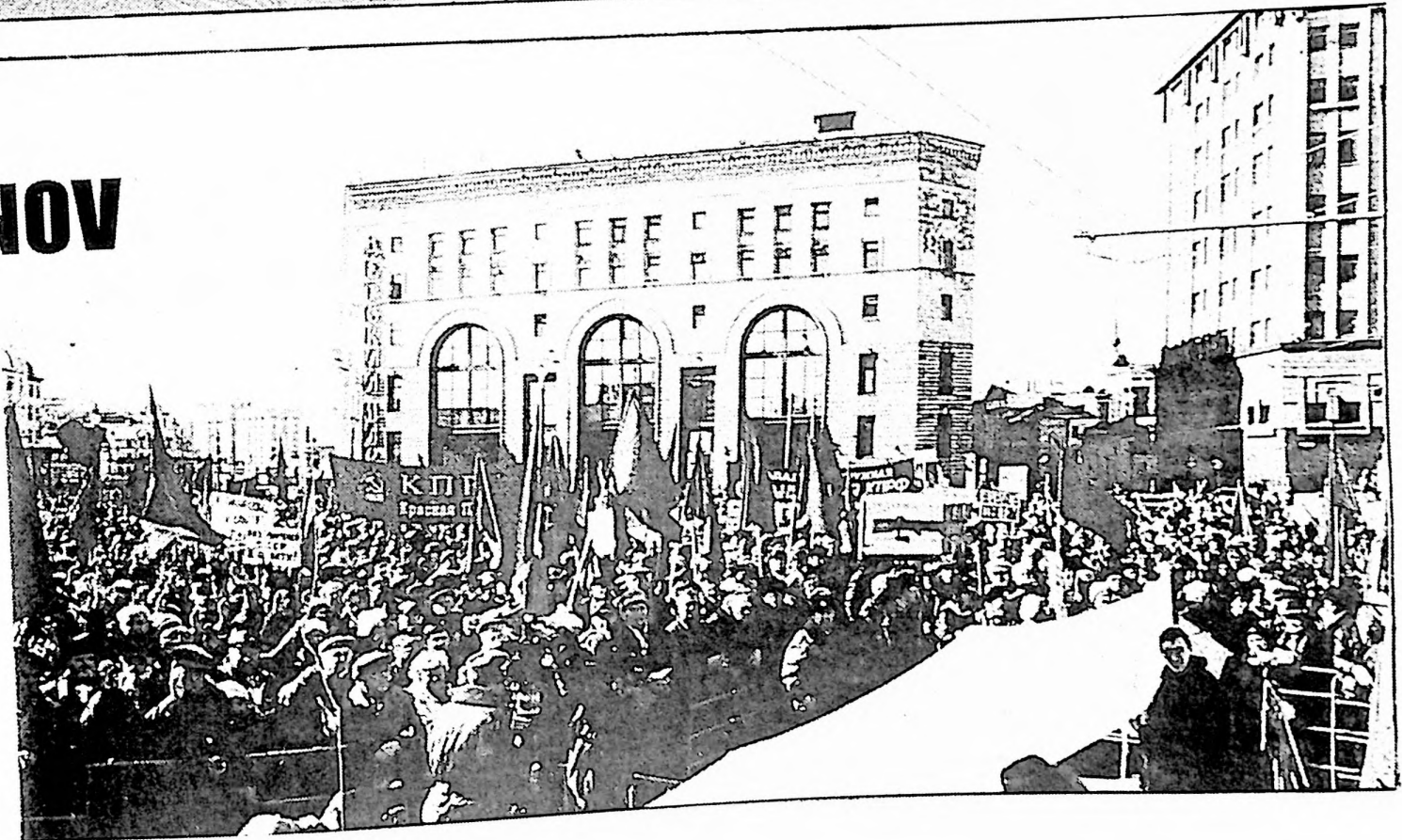


## **MOSCOW DEMONSTRATORS DEMAND RESIGNATION OF PUTIN-KASIANOV**





ЮВ



## GUEST EDITORIAL

# NO WONDER THE WHOLE WORLD HATES THE U.S.

Dear reader – under this heading, one of NSC readers in USA wrote a letter to the Editor in a local newspaper in Eden, MD and it brought upon him 4 weeks of hate mail and two threatening vicious telephone calls, one of them said: "You should be killed! We know where you live!"

So much for freedom and democracy in "God-Loves-America!"

Betty Whitmore has as much right to express her opposition to the draft dodger Bush's illegal war for oil and empire, as do the mindless flag wavers to express their support for it.

Blind patriotism is a terrible disease, or excuse to use in support of this illegal war.

The flag wavers have no thought-out opinions of their own, just bits of

misinformation that is fed them by the corporate-controlled media. And they repeat this misinformation over and over, like polly parrots, as if it were fact. It reminds one of J. Goebbels of Nazi Germany.

Where were all the blind flag waving patriots when Saddam was on the CIA payroll? It didn't matter how many thousands he killed then to make investment safe for the USA investors and the US oil companies. The silence was deafening.

And those mindless youth who've joyously gone off to fight this war for oil and the expansion of the US Empire deserve shame, not honour. The complete absence of free speech in the military prevents any GI from asking as to where the money is coming from for this illegal pre-emptive war of aggression.

It's diabolic as to how peace, is now a very dirty word in the capitalist lexicon. I think that we're living in truly prophetic times. And it is no wonder that the world hates the United States.

Thanks, Betty. You are a true patriot. Save America! Impeach Bush now!

Tony Topolski

JEF BOSSUYT



72 communist and workers parties and organizations, coming from 45 countries took part in the 12<sup>th</sup> International Communist Seminar. Sixty-one other parties and organizations have sent messages of solidarity to the ICS. The ICS discussed the topic: "The Marxist-Leninist Party and the anti-imperialist front facing the war", during the five sessions:

- (1) Analysis of the US war policy after September 11, 2001
- (2) The role of Stalin and of the CPSU(b) in the anti-fascist war –

## TWELFTH INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST SEMINAR

BRUSSELS, May 2-4, 2003  
COMMUNIQUE

Lessons for today

- (3) The political and tactical tasks of the communists facing the issue of war
- (4) The work experiences of the party in the anti-imperialist and anti-war fronts
- (5) Perspectives for 2003-2004

Each session began with the presentation of a few main reports, followed by several complimentary reports and by a discussion of the reports. The discussions on the general resolution of the ICS 2003 constituted the main part of the 5<sup>th</sup>

session.

"This general war is still in its initial stage and the victims of the American aggression are countries, which are among the smallest and the weakest. But it is obvious that, by increasing the scale of their aggression, the United States will threaten more and more the interests of the main capitalist competitors. They target in particular the Chinese Republic. They already threaten the openly and militarily the independence of socialist countries, like Cuba and North Korea. In collusion with Israel, they directly threaten the independence of Syria and Iran and the survival of the Palestinian people.

In the face of the grave threats menacing the world in 2003, our decisive task is to unify all communist forces in each country and to reinforce them continuously. History has proven that without the leading role of a genuine communist party, without a unified communist party, without a party closely linked to the broad popular masses, victory against imperialism is impossible."

It was then decided to establish a European Coordination of the anti-imperialist forces inside the anti-war movement. A conference of this coordination committee will take place during the weekend of October 4-5 in Brussels. The texts of the ICS 2003 are available on the website [www.wpb.be/icm.htm](http://www.wpb.be/icm.htm) now.

## THE PENTAGON AND HALIBURTON OIL CO.

By JASON LEOPOL

Months before the US and British bombers showered Iraq with bombs and missiles, the US Department of Defense was secretly working with Vice President Dick Cheney's old company, Halliburton Corporation on a deal that will give the world's second largest oil services company total control over Iraq's oil fields, according to recent interviews with the most senior Halliburton's executives.

The deal with the Pentagon and Halliburton subsidiary- Kellogg, Brown & Root, according to the documents is worth more than \$7 billion.

## IS PUTIN ASLEEP?

*In a story by Marcus Warren in Moscow, titled "Stalingrad statue hit by vandalism", she writes:*

On of Russia's (Soviet) most distinctive war memorial, the huge female figure towering over the site of the Battle of Stalingrad, due to neglect of the authorities is riven with dangerous cracks and is being plagued by thieves and vandals. This statue of Mother Russia, is more than 230 feet tall and is set amid mass graves containing tens of thousands of Red Army soldiers, is in need of urgent repairs to stop its reinforced concrete from braking open.

Other statues and complex of buildings in this vast memorial complex are also falling apart. *"It's a disgrace that such a monument is so devastated",* said Valentina Klyushina, its deputy director, told the Moscow Times. Besides all this, with a blind eye of the authorities, thieves have been stealing copper cable and manhole covers for scrap metal from this complex, while vandals have smashed lights. Its sewage pipes are rusting away while Mother Russia statue herself is cracking because of disrepair and upkeep.

The Soviet Union's defeat of Nazi Germany is still celebrated each May 9th and the complex on the Mamayev Hill, overlooking the river Volga, attracts thousands of visitors. The 1942-3 Battle of Stalingrad (now Volgograd), in which up to 800,000 Soviet and German soldiers died, halted Hitler's advance to the East and was one of the Second World War's great turning points.

Russia's central bank has for the first time circulated coins bearing Stalin's face, but, it appeared with depictions of Winston Churchill and President Truman.

### COMMENT:

*Is this part of the Russian Orthodox Church's campaign to let this complex fall apart because they want to build an Orthodox Cathedral*



*on this spot? Is this part of Putin's scheme to erase and leave no trace of this world-renowned complex? Is this done by the present Russian bourgeoisie in order to obliterate the colossal cost of human life defending the world from Nazism? Is the issue of a coin that has Stalin together with the biggest warmongers of the world, meant to soften the blow of their crimes? Even while the Soviet and Allied soldiers were dying during the last months of the war, Churchill and Truman were already planning to use the remnants of the German army,*

*together with US and Britain's forces to attack the Soviet Union!*

*Is not Putin aware of all this, since he was in the KGB supposedly? So, is he sleeping?*

*Where is the CPRF in Volgograd, which has the majority of its members in the City Council? Do they not care?*

Editor

## Russia drives US nuclear Submarine out of its waters

By RICK ROZOFF -KOMINFORM

After detecting the US spy submarine near Kamchatka, Russian naval ships and aircraft forced it from the Russian territorial waters. The headquarters of the Russian Northeastern Forces told Interfax last month that the US Los Angeles class submarine had been following the Russian exercises when it was detected in the Avanchinsky Bay. After detecting the US sub, Russian naval ships and planes forced it into international waters.

The Russian exercises of the Northeastern Forces involved 15 surface ships and submarines, 10 support ships, 20 aircraft, over 10,000 servicemen and some 5,000 civilian specialists. Admiral Fyodrov was in charge of these exercises.

## US TO INCREASE ITS MILITARY AID TO KAZAKHSTAN

By INTERFAX-RUSSIA

ASTANA- The United States will increase its military aid to Kazakhstan by over 20% next year, a senior Kazakh Defense Ministry source said last month.

*"The Pentagon will use nearly \$4.5 millions just for the purchase of ammunition, equipment for the army and training for our military personnel. US military aid is playing an important role for Kazakhstan."*

The Defense Ministry spokesman said: *" Since 2001, the budget of the*

Kazakh Defense Ministry has practically doubled and this year alone it amounts to \$270 million dollars. Mobile forces and four military districts have been set up and are functioning successfully as planned. As perceived by USA, there is a move towards a systematic transition of the armed forces to the contractual principle of enrollment, and by 2010, Kazakh servicemen will make up over 50% of its personnel."

The present strength of this US trained Kazakh armed forces stands at 60,000.

## MY OBSERVATIONS FROM EX-USSR!

By V. PRONIN – Ukraine

Regarding the role of Russia and China in the conflict in Iraq, I do not see anything surprising in the actions of China or Ukraine at all, because in Ukraine, with the marionettes of quasi-colonial type, are scraping the ground before American imperialism, while the Chinese communists since the reign of Den Xiaopin have distanced themselves purposely from the whole international communist movement. They just surrounded their position by diplomatic niceties and are now quiet. They were not prepared to or not wanting to argue with Uncle Sam about some country called Iraq. But it is interesting that they have doubled their defense expenditures

It is evident to me that China and US imperialism and NATO will cooperate until their future plans to liquidate all of the strategic rocket missile defenses of Russia is a fact. And it is understandable why: It is the American policy to slowly make certain that US is the only country in the world with the might and the availability of strategic missiles reaching anyplace in the world. And if it would come to pass that they reach this goal, with the help of a "friend" then the fate of Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Iraq is waiting all of mankind, even those last so-called resemblance of socialism, China, North Korea, Cuba, Vietnam and Byelorussia... here we do not speak of Russia or Ukraine now, they are in

love with Uncle Sam. Only then will all of mankind understand what imperialism is about, since people forgot after 58 years of the defeat of fascism, what imperialism really is.

Regarding Russia at this moment and the conflict in Iraq the Putin government and the peoples anger, the demonstrations, debates and uneasiness has caused quiet a stir in the upper echelons of Russia's government. Regarding Putin, I feel that he does not run the country, it is Kasianov who holds the reigns. Putin is willingly being used and agrees to be the representative and the face on daily TV, at official functions in order to present a sober face as opposed to the previous drunkard Yeltsin. Behind this mask, the black forces of Russia are pushing their program to dissolve and obliterate any last bits of what was Soviet. The financial oligarchs use Putin as a front and behind him is Anatoli Sobchak, former mayor of Leningrad and Putin was his favourite pupil. Sobchak is the most unscrupulous black character, an ardent follower of Gorbachev. Sobchak forced the renaming of Leningrad, without any plebiscite into St. Petersburg, which has the ill reputation as the most criminal city in all of Russia.

Regarding the question of the disunity in the present communist movements in both Russia and Ukraine, is like pouring salt on my wounds. At the beginning of 1990s we were not fully aware realistically as to how deep and how far the crisis in the communist movement was engrained. It's taking time to set things right and to set it on a correct path of Marxism-Leninism.

But, this is for another in-depth analytical article for NSC.

## RUSSIAN CENSUS MIREN IN CONTROVERSY

From THE HINDU

The first post-Soviet national census that began in Russia last year ran into a host of political and social controversies that threatened to undermine its results. The present Russian government needs the information about the demographic,

social and ethnic situation, since the last census. It is believed realistically that the population of Russia has shrunk from 151 million to 146 million... because of the falling birth rate, economic hardships for the elderly and unbelievable immigration in order to find work all over the world.

In capitalist Russia the census taking runs into problems with the local governors inflating their population figures in order to pursue local interests and win bigger social funds from the Federal Budget.

Another danger is that the angry residents threatened to boycott the census takers since they're afraid that this information will get into the hands of organized criminals that have contacts and cooperate with some government agencies. Their fears are very justified, since the government sells this information on the open market.

Academics worry that even a ten percent flawed census could make the census useless.

It seems that everything is for sale in Putin's Russia!

## NATO IN GEORGIA AND ARMENIA – WHY?

From KOMINFORM

The individual partnership with NATO was discussed and agreed upon when the NATO General Secretary George Robertson met in Tbilisi, Georgia and Yerevan, Armenia, with the heads of state last month. Robertson told Georgians that this pact and co-operation, will fully protect Georgia from attacks by its close neighbors! He also said that economic integration is the order of the day for Georgia. Georgia must meet all of NATO's 29 clauses as requested by USA and NATO.

While he was in Armenia, George Robertson said that: "Until recently many people did not realize the importance of the Caucasus region for world security. This region is of extremely strategic importance for NATO."

Meanwhile, NATO and the Armenian Government have agreed that Armenia is a very important part of NATO's strategy in the Caucasus and that NATO war games will be held this month of June in Armenia. ■



# GLOBALIZATION AND SEX TRADE

This article is an overview of a fast growing sex trade through "mail-order-brides" in the Philippines and other Third World Countries, and the "Foreign Job Opportunities" schemes as is being done now in Russia, Ukraine and other former Soviet republics.

This is mainly the result of the economic consequences caused by globalization for the developing countries and the proliferation of websites that "traffic women". As the economic situation deteriorates in these countries so does the trafficking in women to Greece, Italy, Canada, Australia, USA, North Africa, Japan, Middle East... all these women hoping that their life will be easier and that they will be able to support their families back home.

In the Philippines, a significant number of women leaving, leave as "mail-order-brides" marrying men from various industrialized countries. There are over 600,000 Filipino women that are being trafficked globally - 1 out of every 4 are youngsters.

Under globalization, women have become commodities to be bought and sold for profit on the international market. According to the United Nations Organization, the trafficking of women is the third most profitable after trafficking in arms and drugs.

In Australia alone, as an example, 20,000 Filipino women come as mail-order-brides...22 have already been murdered since 1980. In Japan over 7,240 Filipino women were enticed to be housekeepers, but were forced to become prostitutes or bar dancers.

This will increase since American soldiers are to be stationed in the Philippines, as the US continues its "war on terrorism".

In former Soviet Union there are over 50,000 young women that are ensnared each year to become prostitutes in actual fact, although they were promised that they will be waitresses or dancers.

Here is just one example. Let us call this 17 years Luda, who in year 2000 went to see a company in Moscow which was sending Russian girls to Greece to work as waitresses and dancers.

This firm, registered by the authorities in Moscow, told her that she will be working in a villa on a beach, earning good money, visiting expensive restaurants and receiving presents. They also assured her that



Prostitutes ply their trade on Moscow's busy Leningradskoye Shosse in Putin's bourgeois state

she would not have to do anything she did not want to.

Shortly after she and others girls arrived in Greece, her illusions were shattered. She and other girls were locked up in an apartment, not allowed to go out, they took their passports away and they had to serve clients from 9 am to midnight each day. Weeks later, they were taken out of the filthy apartment, taken to the airport and shipped back to Russia, while another batch of girls was on their way to Greece.

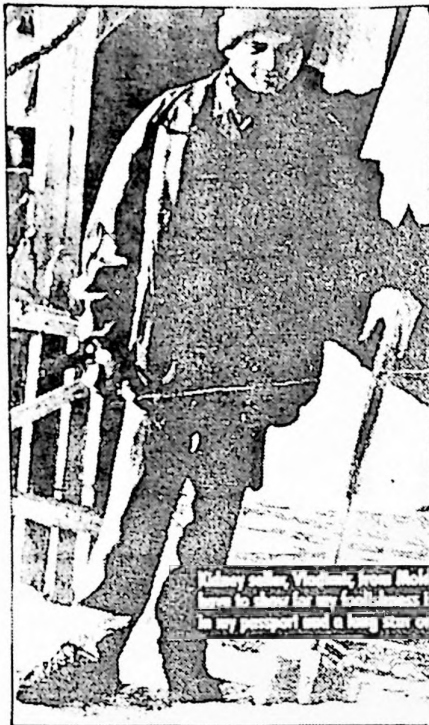
Every year, there are over 5,000 young Russian women ensnared by these very slick Mafia-run firms, promising high-paying jobs. They are very often traded from one pimp to another pimp, shuffled from city to city, their passports taken away and they forfeit their lives if they try to run away.

Multiply this by thousands upon thousands of economically trapped women from these countries and you get the picture of this sex trade. This globalization, this ruthless capitalist exploitation by these governments and their legalized "businessmen" is allowed by these capitalist states, although they are very aware of this sex trade, but so far have not taken steps to close this human slavery... after all they say, this is "private enterprise".

## RESULT OF POVERTY IN MOLDOVA

While kidney selling in Moldova is a deeply stigmatized act, it has become a routine event in capitalist Moldova (former *Moldavia in USSR*). After the demise of the Soviet Union, Moldavia with its great agricultural economy, it has now become the victim of globalization, which has seen over 40% of the population of Moldova having to leave and go abroad in search for work. Today, Moldova is one of the poorest countries in Europe, while before it was considered the flower of the Soviet socialist economy.

Here you see Vladimir, a skinny young man who had never been outside Moldova, but he was lured by private business people, to go to Turkey and work in a dry cleaning factory. Nina, a local Mafiosi



organized kidney hunter arranged for his passport, visa and bus ticket to Istanbul. Once there, Vladimir was housed in a filthy basement. He shared the space with other Moldovan teenagers, both girls and boys.

One by one the girls were told that their jobs at the dry cleaning factory was terminated, they have to work in bars as waitresses and prostitutes. Their passports were taken away.

Vladimir and other boys were told that their jobs were over and they would need to sell their blood to earn money and then sell their kidney, once a match was found. He would get \$3,000 US less the cost of room and board and transportation. When Vladimir refused, Nina and her Mafiosi boyfriends came in and threatened to kill him.

Vladimir agreed, because he said later that he would probably lose both kidneys and be murdered. Now, he is as cripple, sent back to Moldova to beg on the streets, since he cannot work after the kidney removal.

IN HONOUR OF  
**NSC 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**  
GET ANOTHER  
SUBSCRIBER!

HELEN BLAU



## REPLY TO FALSIFICATION OF GROMYKO

Writing reminiscences is a marked tendency among statesmen, public and political figures.

I would like to state here that reminiscences, whoever the author is, or printed interviews, whoever the interviewer is or the interviewee is, cannot be altogether a very reliable source for making an impartial assessment of historical events, because either deliberately or not, reminiscences can be permeated with secret subjectivity, and interviews also with double subjectivity. I am now absolutely convinced that it is only the original (not falsified) State Archives and originals (not falsified) tape-recordings that can be the only basis for making any well-grounded political conclusions.

The State of Israel was proclaimed on May 14, 1948 on the basis of the decision made by the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization on November 29, 1947. The Diplomatic relations between USSR and Israel were established in 1948. In that period Andrei Andreevich Gromyko\* was (since 1946) a permanent representative of the USSR in the Security Council of the UN and at the same time he was the Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR.

Hari Kumar, formerly associated with the Editorial Board of NSC in Canada wrote: "As for Israel, the recognition at the UN by Gromyko was performed with a strange and sudden turn that shocked even the imperialist nations, and enabled the foundation of Israel. Gromyko of course was a hidden revisionist."

I think that I should mention here that the USSR was one of the initiators of establishing an independent Jewish state and it probably had very good reasons for that. It is the original State Archives that can produce positive proof. Here I can present my own views on this subject touched upon by Mr. Kumar.

It must be emphasized that actions of a representative of any state to an international organization is authorized by the leadership of that state that he or she represents, especially if such an important political matter as establishing and recognition of a new state is on the agenda at such a high level as that of the United Nations Organization. There's no doubt that no individual person could act on this on their very own. Andrej Gromyko of course had preliminary discussions with Joseph Stalin, Viaschlav Molotov who was the People's Commissar of the USSR, plus the Politburo and CC of the CPSU of the USSR. So I am absolutely convinced that it is erroneous to call, A. A. Gromyko a revisionist.

There is another thing to consider here. A new Jewish State was established on one part of Palestine's territory (*about 56% of it*) with a mixed population. The other part was an Arab State. I want to underline the fact that Palestine had been under the mandate of England before it was proclaimed independent in 1947. If the USSR had insisted on Israel to be a Socialist state, most probably it would have been strongly opposed by England, first of all, followed by USA and other capitalist countries. It could have come even into a serious military confrontation and that would have been certainly not in favor of the Soviet Union in the very difficult post Second World War period, when Soviet people were exhausted after the protracted World War II and the devastation and loss of over 20 million people. And, besides there is no successful diplomacy in the world without making reasonable compromise, I think.

A ring of regret or resentment as well can be felt in Hari Kumar's statement, that Israel was not socialist from its earliest history.

Why lose heart? The working people throughout the world do not applaud oppressive bourgeois regimes in their countries (*and Israel is no exception- Editor*) and struggle against them by every possible means. "*Leben ist Kampf*" (*Life is Struggle*) said Karl Marx.

Harry Kumar writes also that: "*I believe that the diplomatic history of the USSR can only be explained by the hidden war of the revisionists within the USSR*"

True, there were revisionists among the leaders of the USSR, but until 1953 they were not able to be open with their plans, as history now has confirmed. It is a regrettable fact. But on the whole, the history of

Soviet diplomacy is marked by brilliant successes, I think. It would take too much space to innumerate here all of the great services that the Soviet diplomats performed for our socialist homeland.

**\*ANDREI A. GROMYKO-**

*A Soviet statesman and political figure, Hero of Socialist Labour (1969) Doctor of Economic Sciences (1958), author of scientific works on international relations, member of the Central Committee of the CPSU, deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. Gromyko was awarded with 5 Lenin Ordens, plus two other highest medais that USSR could give and many citations.* ■

## STALIN ON ART AND CULTURE

*From REVOLUTIONARY DEMOCRACY – India*

*In 1946 Stalin met with Soviet intellectuals to discuss and analyze the trends developing in Soviet art, music, literature and theatre - after the Second World War. Here we give a shortened version of his replies to questions posed by the intellectuals.*

"Recently, a dangerous tendency seems to be seen in some of the literary works emanating under the pernicious influence of the West and brought about by the subversive activities of the foreign intelligence. Frequently in the pages of Soviet literary journals works are found where Soviet people, builders of communism are shown in pathetic and ludicrous forms. The positive Soviet hero is derided and inferior before all things foreign and cosmopolitanism that we all fought against from the time of Lenin, characteristic of the political leftovers, is many times applauded. In the theater it seems that Soviet plays are pushed aside by plays from foreign bourgeois authors. The same thing is staring to happen in Soviet films.

We should ask ourselves a question as to how dangerous are the "*avantgarde*" tendencies in music and the abstract school of art and sculpture that is being imported from the West?

Today, under the guise of innovation, formalism, we see it being induced into Soviet music and



abstraction in painting. Once in a while a question can be heard "*Is it necessary for such great people as Bolsheviks and Leninists to be engaged in such petty things and spend their time criticizing abstract painting and formalism? Let the psychiatrists deal with it!*"

In these types of questions you can sense the misunderstanding of the role of ideological sabotage against our country and especially against our youth, which is

discernable. It is with their help that attempts are being made against socialist realism in art and literature. This is being done openly. In these so-called abstract paintings there is no real face of those people, whom people would like to imitate in the fight for their peoples' happiness, for communism and for the path on which they want progress. This portrayal is substituted by the abstract mysticism clouding the issue of socialist struggle against capitalism. During the Great Patriotic War, how many people in Moscow came down to the monument of Minin and Pozharsky in the Red Square in order to instill in themselves the feeling of victory? To what can a bust of twisted iron sculpture, representing "innovation" as an art inspire us? To what can an abstract painting inspire?

This is the reason why modern American financial magnates are propagating modernism, paying for this type of work huge royalties, which the great masters of realism may not ever see.

There is an underlying idea of class struggle in the so-called Western popular music, in the so-called formalist tendencies. This music is created from the sect of "shakers" - dance that induces people to ecstasy, trance and makes them into like some kind of wild animal ready for any action. This type of music is created with the help of psychiatrists so as to influence the brain and psychology of the people. This is one type of musical narcotics under whose influence a person cannot think of fresh ideas and is turned into a herd. It is useless to invite such people to the revolution. As you see, music can also fight.

*(Stalin was a genius - since this was written over 50 years ago and his description in many respects describes the modern dance that we see being promoted and shown over the TV media in the West - Editor).*

In 1944 I had the opportunity to read instructions written by an officer of British intelligence, with the title: "How to use formalist music for corrupting the enemy army."

While talking about the future development of Soviet art, literature and music, it must be taken into consideration that it is developing in a condition of unprecedented secret war, a war that has been unleashed

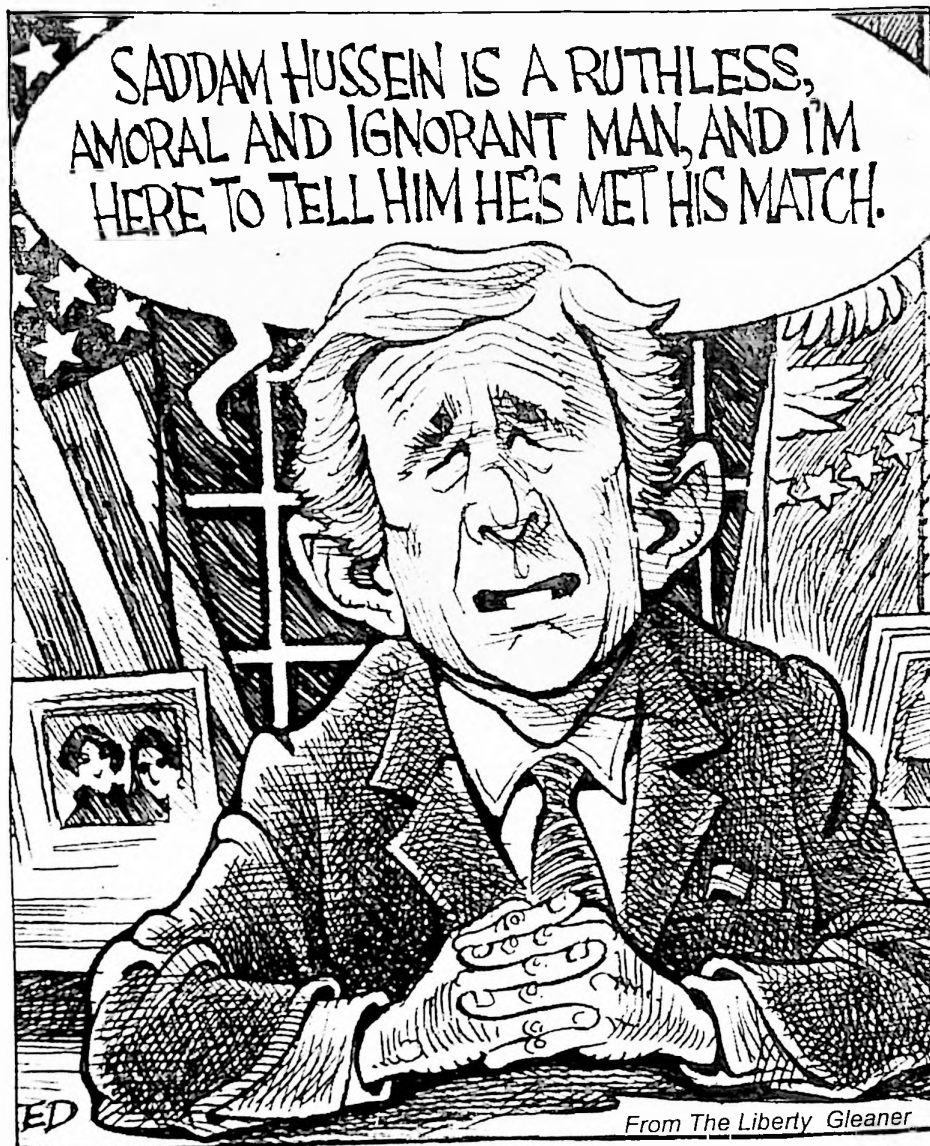
upon us and our art, literature and music by the worlds imperialist circles. The job of our own foreign agents in our country is to penetrate Soviet organizations dealing with culture, to capture the editorships of major newspapers and journals, to influence decisively the repertoire of theatres and movies and in the publication stop or hamper by any means possible the publication of revolutionary works that awaken patriotism and lead the Soviet people towards creating communism. They support and publish works where some failures of socialist ideals and communism are preached. They are ecstatic in their of fiction and poetry. Their aim is to support and propagate the capitalist method of capitalist production and the bourgeois life style.

At the same time these agents are asked to popularize in art and

literature the feelings of pessimism, decadence and demoralization.

One popular US Senator said: "If we were able to show Bolshevik Russia our horror films, it would probably be able to destroy communist construction." Not for nothing Lev Tolstoi said that art and literature is a strong form of indoctrination.

We must seriously ponder over who and what is inspiring us today, with the help of literature and art, so that we can put an end to this ideological Western subversion. We must understand and accept that Culture is one of the integral parts of social ideology, of class, and it is used in safeguarding the interests of the ruling class. For us it is to safeguard the interests of the working class, of the dictatorship of the proletariat. ■



There is no art for art's sake. There are no, and cannot be "free" artists, writers, poets, dramatists, directors or journalists, standing above the society. Nobody needs them.

For those who do not want to serve the Soviet people as the result of old traditions or the counter-revolutionary bourgeoisie, or are antagonistic towards the power of the working class that is dedicated to serve the Soviet people, we give them permission to leave the country and stay abroad. Let them be convinced of the meaning of "free creativity" in the notorious bourgeois society, where everything can be bought and sold, and the creative intelligentsia is without doubt completely dependent on the monetary support of the financial magnates for all their creative endeavors.

In conclusion I must say that the Soviet people showed their heroism and the world was saved by the simple honest Soviet people, who without fuss and under the most difficult of conditions achieved industrialization and collectivization. They fortified the defense system at the cost of their own lives, under the leadership of the highly dedicated Communists, they destroyed the enemy. Only in the first six months of the Great Patriotic War, more than 500,000 Communists died on the front lines leading the fight against Nazism, and overall more than 3,000,000 Communists died as the leading cadres in the war. They were the best of all of us - noble, pure, dedicated and selfless fighters for socialism, for the happiness of Soviet people. We miss them. If they were alive now, a lot of our problems would have been eliminated. The task of the Soviet creative people must reflect this, to show the future generations the best traits of a Soviet person. This must be the general line and aspiration for the development of literature, theatre, movies, music and art.

**2<sup>ND</sup> WORLD CONGRESS WILL BE HELD IN EUROPE, SEPTEMBER 2004!**

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**ACCORDING TO MISHKA**

## **IS IRAQ LIBERATED?**

The jubilation of the "liberation" of Iraq is over, but certain questions should be asked by the capitalist daily media of the world.

*"Where are the Weapons of Mass Destruction that Bush based his invasion of Iraq upon?"*

*"Why is there a growth of terrorism, not only in Iraq, but in other countries and the US is stuck in Iraq?"*

*"What is the thinking of those in the media that demanded a "regime change" in Iraq? Remember that they all screamed that once Saddam Hussein is deposed, peace and equality will soon return to Iraq!"*

*"Why was the United Nations circumvented and why is the UN not condemning US? Is there a United Nations as such, or should it be renamed US Nations?"*

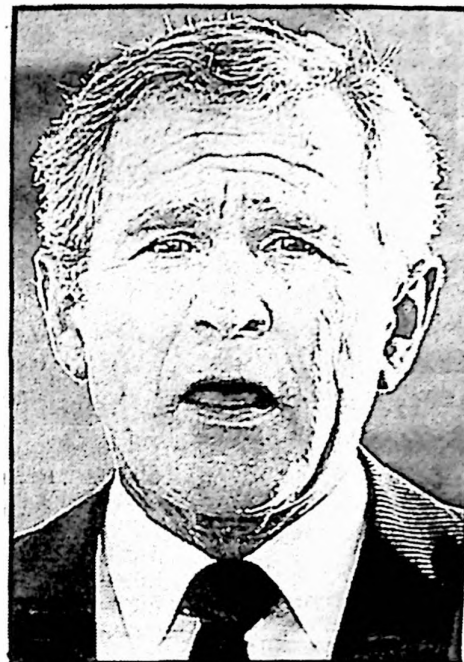
We don't hear much about this now, either about bin Laden or Saddam Hussein, largely because they were bogus in the first place. Regarding al Qaeda, it was never based in Iraq, they are active in the heart of countries that are allies to US imperialism.

Now the Pentagon promotes its justification about America's "noble" mission of freedom for the Iraqi people.

The excuse was to get rid of a "tyrant" in Iraq. If that was the justification used by Bush, then other tyrants in the world should also be removed, starting with Bush himself.

Besides, Hussein, a tyrant in his own right to be sure, was a product

of US and of the CIA, he was not threatening USA. But this was not important to the ideologues for US imperialism. Other than Britain, Australia and Israel, no other country bought this argument. The result was that there is a worldwide collapse of goodwill towards the United States.



*The warmonger! Is God with him?*

US already had to replace its top appointed administrator in Iraq, General Garner with Bremer, a Rumsfeld ally. The Iraqis more and more demand "Yankees Go Home!"

It seems that nothing has gone as planned by Bush and US war hawks. But, there are still over 200,000 US troops in Iraq, with another 15,000 on the way. It looks as if US is there to stay in order to realize its plans for more regime changes in this region.

Far from making the region safe for multinational corporations in the Middle East, this has started a vicious circle of bombings and the wrath of the Arab people.

Only now the Wall Street Journal reported as to who will be in charge of the Iraqi oil wells - the top executive of US oil monopolies. The tragedy is that President Bush instead of being condemned for his attack on Iraq, he is profiting from it in popularity. Such is the level of understanding and the state of public opinion in the United States. The brainwashing of the US public is such that unfortunately the majority of Americans are on this chauvinistic reactionary imperialist mentality.

# ISRAELI SPYING

By Wayne Madsen - Counterpunch

When it comes to the fascist term "homeland security" in the USA, everyone has heard of Tom Ridge and his deputy, Asa Hutchinson. But everyone should know Police Chief Gene Green. Recently, this Chief stopped a U-Haul van in Cloudcroft, New Mexico, near the Los Alamos National Laboratory in Alamogordo. According to the Alamogordo Daily News, the two truck drivers had Israeli driver's licenses and claimed that they were hauling furniture from Austin to Chicago. Yet the rental agreement had expired two days earlier and New Mexico was way off track from the Austin to Chicago route. The Israelis then changed their story - they claimed that they were dropping off furniture in Deming, New Mexico. But they could not provide the delivery address in the town. Also, their van rental agreement was only for the interstate use in Illinois. Inside the truck, Chief Green found junk furniture not worth moving anywhere and 50 boxes that the Israelis claimed were a "private delivery". The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) took the Israelis into custody and if history proves consistent, we will never hear anymore about the Israelis, why the truck was near a major US nuclear laboratory, and what was in these boxes!

Since well over a year before the September 11 attacks and ever since, there had been repeated stories about Israelis being picked up in the US driving trucks near critical infrastructure sites, taking pictures of sensitive and classified facilities, and even videotaping and celebrating the collapse of the World Trade Center Towers. The FBI, US Marshals Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the US Coast Guard, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, the US Air Force of Special Investigations, and numerous local police have investigated the Israelis, many of them claimed to be "art students", probing security of the offices and homes of US law enforcement and military personnel.

Israelis sticking to dubious explanations have been caught sneaking around Texaco oil

terminals in Corpus Christi, Texas; the AWACS base at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma; Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington; The Interstate 40 Hernando de Soto Bridge in Memphis; the Pennsylvania Turnpike near Philadelphia; and Federal buildings in Miami, San Diego and New Orleans. Every ongoing investigation was soon taken out of the law enforcement hands and shut down. Some US brave media reporters have tried to expose what appears to a number of US seasoned law enforcement and intelligence personnel, a major intelligence gathering operation. Carl Cameron of Fox New reported this Israeli espionage activity in December of 2001, only to see his story suddenly pulled from the Fox News web site. Washington DC's ABC Channel 7 news anchor Dale Solly also reported on the Israeli activity in March of 2002. After expressing an interest in pursuing the story further, Solly suddenly died of a heart attack at the age of 53, shortly before driving to the TV station to anchor the evening news. His story was similarly removed from the Channel 7 web site.

US Senator Bob Graham, the former Chairman of the US Senate Intelligence Committee and presidential candidate, claims that the Bush administration is covering up of what it knew about the 9/11 beforehand! **What else is new?**

Bush and company lied about Iraqi weapons of mass destruction. The US State Department used faked and plagiarized documents to push its flimsy case at the United Nations. The anthrax perpetrators have not been caught and probably will never be, given the lethargy of the FBI on the case.

These and other outrages barely result in a whimper from the American people. The Dubyatizing process continues in the United States. ■

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## AS I SEE IT !

The US Republican Party politics resemble recycled bubble gum. When Powell, at a press conference warns France that France is overstepping its international rights (*meaning that it refused to support USA's illegal war in Iraq*) and threatened to use its veto in Security Council on any bubbles blown up by the US. Powell also warned that this applies to any other nation.

This threat against the 180 nations in the UN (*60 of which are Coalition of the willing who were threatened with economic sanctions*) is being blown about by the 30-odd bubble gum blowers in Bush's think-tank.

Hopefully Russia can still find the courage to help stop this madness by US imperialism!

Even the vicious cold warrior like Kissinger is being taken out of the moth balls to do his stuff on behalf of the transnational corporations, now banging on the door of Bush to get contracts to rebuild Iraq in the image of Wall Street. These are the same multinationals that made money in producing weapons of mass destruction used against Iraq, now they are double-ending the profit

margin. Boy, is US democracy great!!

There is now a deep cleavage between the State Department and the Defense departments, some wanting the whole 30-odd think tank experts out, because they have gone mad. They are fighting amongst themselves, but this is not the end of bubble blowing. The US is in deep economic crisis that the Bush administration is trying to hide from the people with the war in Iraq and nationalistic patriotism.

## PLAYING CARD DECK

The Trade Regulation Organization in the USA has issued playing cards with the US governing regimes "55 most wanted" warmongers, headed by President Bush. The TRO, estimating that the US governing regime is no longer consistent with world peace and prosperity, hopes that these playing cards will show the way to a US regime change and, eventually, large-scale war crimes proceedings.

According to the TRO, the victims

of the unprovoked US war fall into three categories:

### PEOPLE:

In the 1991 Gulf War, up to 200,000 civilians and up to 150,000 soldiers were killed by ordinary US bombs or their effects on infrastructure.

In addition, poisoning from US depleted uranium (DU) weapons – banned by the Geneva Convention – has led to hundreds o thousands more Iraqi cancers and deaths; the 80,000 cases of the 'Gulf War Syndrome', amongst US veterans are most likely due to DU exposure.

In the 2003 Iraqi war, the US once again used massive amounts of DU in its weapons. Iraqi deaths are of course not publicized.

### CULTURE:

Because of US policy giving *carte blanche* to looters and foreign interests to get historical-invaluable artifacts –only the Iraqi Oil Ministry and the Interior Ministry were protected – the Middle East's leading

archeological museum lost all of its unique ancient artifacts, and two libraries that were full of irreplaceable manuscripts were destroyed.

### LONG-TERM PROSPECTS:

The US is now considered the primary world criminal by the vast majority of the world's citizens. The implications for the USA's long-term prospects are grim.

Many of those featured on the "55 most wanted" cards are in the US government, and removing these people from power would go a long way towards making this world a safer place.

Other cards of the 55 include corporate CEOs; in those cases the corporation themselves must be dissolved or otherwise rendered incapable of further harm.

*"If one day the people on these cards are indeed brought to justice, "just following orders" or "supporting our troops" will be no excuse for the rest of us"* said the TRO spokeswoman Hedwig Ixtabal-Mono.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTIONS- THE CONTACTORS

By JANE MAYER of THE NEW YORKER

Back when Americans were still debating whether there was a just cause for a preemptive strike against Iraq, few arguments were being scrutinized more closely than the Bush Administration's contention that there were covert links between Al Qaeda and Iraq, as the CIA, analysts pored over aerial satellite photographs. At the Treasury Department, experts sifted through financial records. At the National Security Agency, Arab-speaking linguists eavesdropped on telephone conversations. But, even after Secretary of State Colin Powell put his credibility on the line, on a

damning, dot-connecting speech before the United Nations last February, questions persisted about the solidity of the alleged links between Saadam and Osama bin Laden.

Now there is a new and a very demonstrable connection, but it is not the kind that Bush Administration had in mind. In fact, it is more likely to fuel the speculations of conspiracy theorists than it is to put their fears to rest. It turns out that the money trail runs - albeit circuitously - from the lucrative business of rebuilding Iraq to the fortune behind Osama bin Laden. Bin Laden's estranged family, a sprawling, extraordinarily wealthy Saudi Arabian dynasty, is a very substantial investor in a private equity firm founded by the Bechtel Group of San Francisco, Bechtel is also a huge global construction and engineering company to which the US government recently awarded the first multimillion-dollar contract to reconstruct the war-ravaged Iraq. In a closed competitive bidding process, the United States Agency

for International Development chose Bechtel to rebuild major elements of Iraq's infrastructure, including its roads, railroads, airports, hospitals and schools, and its water and electrical systems. In the first phase of the contract, the US government will pay Bechtel nearly thirty-five million dollars, but the experts says that the cost will be over \$680,000 million or over \$1 billion during just the next year and a half.

When the contract was awarded in April, the US administration did not even mention that bin Laden family has an ongoing relationship with Bechtel. The bin Laden family have over \$10 million stake in the Fremont Group, a San Francisco based company that is the Bechtels investment firm, which is just a book keeping separation. The list of directors of Bechtel and of Fremont overlaps to such an extent that the ploy is very noticeable. One of the directors of the so-called "separate firm of Fremont" is Riley Bechtel, who is also the chairman and chief executive officer of the

Bechtel Group, and is also a member of President Bush's Administration. Bush appointed him this year as head of the President's Export Council. In addition, George Schultz, the former Secretary of State in the Reagan Administration, serves as a Director in both Bechtel and Fremont Group...where he was president and is still listed as senior advisor.

Rick Kopf, the general counsel for Fremont Group, which managed and manages some \$11 billion dollars in one of Fremont's private funds before September 11, 2001. He noted that the bin Laden family is still an investor, but declined to give any other information about the ongoing connections. He also chose not to discuss the ongoing relationship or the nature of the relationship between the bin Laden and Bechtel families, both of which made great fortunes in huge construction projects in the Arab world. The Fremont Group does not go in for connecting all the dots in the relations and inter-relationship. As the lawyer Kopf said: "Ownership is private and not disclosed."

No need for further comment! ■

## WHAT ARE THE REAL PLANS OF US AFTER IRAQ

By ERIC MARGOLIS  
Contributing Editor - London

Tony Blair's popularity has risen with the end of the war in Iraq. Britons, like Americans, enjoy jolly little wars in which large numbers of heathen savages are mowed down by Western military technology at minimal cost to the Imperial troops. Add Britain's most recent invasion of Iraq to her list of 19<sup>th</sup> Century colonial "little wars", like the Zulu, Ashanti, Afridi wars and, of course the more famous campaign against Sudan's Dervishes, and their "fiendish" leader, the Khalifa, a 19<sup>th</sup> century version of Osama bin Laden.

In spite of Blair's modestly resurgent popularity, a thunderstorm of questions is coming from parliament, and media and public

over Bush/Blair claims that Iraq had to be urgently invaded because it posed, in Bush's words: "an imminent threat to the US and the world", and, as Blair claimed, "Iraq possesses huge quantities of weapons of mass destruction." British intelligence claimed that Iraq contained thousands of tons of biological weapons and poison gas, thousands more tons of precursor materials, nuclear weapons fabrication equipment, medium-ranged missiles, 500-km ranged drones equipped to spray germs, etc. etc.

Embarrassed by their failure to so far find a shred of evidence, never mind a "smoking gun", to justify an entirely illegal invasion of a sovereign Iraq nation, violating international law and the UN Charter, London and Washington still insist evidence will be found. "We sold it to them; it's got to be there," some London wags are saying.

If it is, it had better be a mammoth underground trove worthy of a James Bond super-villain, not just a few rusty old cans of chemicals left over from the 1980s Iran-Iraq war, when the US and Britain were among Saddam Hussein's principal suppliers of germ and gas weapons.

Don't for a minute believe Pentagon leak about an "unnamed Iraqi scientist" who says that he knows where all the nasties are buried and, what's more, ties Saddam to Al-Qaida. American fans of Rush Limbaugh may swallow this pap; most Britons are too cynical and worldly to accept such crude propaganda; many Brits and also Europeans believe the US/UK will eventually plant the evidence in Iraq.

What's one more fabrication in a war of lies

### JUNK INTELLIGENCE?

Calls are daily growing for parliamentary investigations of Blair's war rational and of British intelligence. Critics ask if Her Majesty's spooks simply were lying and concocting fake evidence to please their political masters, or were they producing junk intelligence at a cost of one billion pounds sterling annually? Every single weapon of mass destruction site listed in the MI-6s notorious dossier presented at the

UN, and cited by US Secretary Colin Powell as proof positive, turned out to be bogus. The more trusting Americans have yet to raise similar questions about the \$40 billion per annum intelligence agencies - the ones that failed to predict the 9/11.

Last month, another uproar occurred in Britain after the New York Times newspaper leaked the Pentagon plans to establish four permanent air bases in Iraq, adding to its already existing 184 bases around the globe.

Imperial Britain ruled Iraq from 1920s until 1958 by relying on the Royal Air Force to bomb and strafe rebellious tribesmen.

The US now appears set to follow the British Empire by keeping order in its new colony (Iraq) through the use of air power rather than ground troops.

But the new US base in Iraq, has a far more important role than mere colonialism. They will form the last spans of a gigantic air bridge, linking US with Central Asia. America's new imperial lifeline goes from the US east coast to bases in England and Spain, then to America's newest client states in East Europe: Poland, Romania and Bulgaria. These bases link directly to the US Mid-East bases in Turkey, the Gulf, Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

The new Iraqi bases will give the US control of the region's second largest oil producer, and allow a lower American profile in Saudi Arabia. They will be the stepping stones to US Central Asian bases - in Pakistan, Tadjikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan - created in 1991-92 in order to completely dominate the Caspian Oil Basin.

These aforementioned bases are all permanent bases that will give the US Air Force the resources to speed warplanes, men and war materials across three-quarters of the width of the globe. (In the other one quarter US has signed pacts of cooperation with these countries - Editor). Just as the Suez Canal was the key to Britain's imperial naval lifeline, so Iraq is as other Mid-East bases will be, for America's mighty air force, the Dreadnaught of our modern day, and US then will rule over all of the world's richest reserves of oil and gas, extending from Morocco to



China's western border.

Increasing numbers of unhappy Brits are asking if they were not euchered into an imperial war as American auxiliaries rather than having saved civilization from the so-called "imminent danger" allegedly presented by Paper Camel Saddam Hussein. Other, more hardheaded Brits are preparing to grab their share of the spoils of war to "liberate" Iraq's oil.

#### COMMENT

*It's refreshing to read such analyses from a writer who is not progressive at all, but an anti-communist. It would be great if some of the left-wing publications would take note and be as analytical as Eric Margolis.* ■

## NEW MILITARY REALITY

By DR. GEORGE FRIEDMAN –  
The Stratfor Weekly

The United States announced last month that it will be shifting its forces out of Saudi Arabia to the other parts of this region. This should not be viewed in isolation, but in the broader context of the redeployment of US forces throughout the Eastern Hemisphere. The force structure and deployment of the Cold War era no longer has institutional or strategic coherence and will therefore evolve rapidly – not only in Saudi Arabia, but in Germany and South Korea and elsewhere.

Washington saw the post-Cold War world in which military power was secondary to economic power, and in which Cold War institutions would continue to play a critical function in international affairs, despite that their founding mission had been overcome. The period between the fall of the Soviet Union and September 11 attacks had been a period of some inertia in the US military planning; the basic assumption by the Pentagon was that no basic institutional or structural changes were necessary.

The US was embedded in an alliance structure that was designed to contain the Soviet Union. In this alliance, the line from the North Cape

of Norway to the Caucasus represented the primary line of defense. Another line ran through the Asian archipelago – Japan, Taiwan, the Philippines, Indonesia and South Korea. After the Iranian revolution, the primary defensive positions in Southeast Asia were intermittent bases and naval presence.

The main body of forces was maintained in the reserve in the US itself. Since the US was in a strategic defensive mode, it could not predict where the attack might come from...and it was not easy to move forces from one point of the line to another – reinforcements would have to come from the US itself. Thus military forces deployed in Europe or South Korea, was backed up by forces that would come from the US itself, through waters controlled by the US navy.

US banked itself on nuclear weapons as a great guarantee containment of any aggressor. The US forces are based from Germany all the way to Korea but they did not face any significant frontier. They certainly did not face any major power operating on interior lines and seeking to break out of encirclement.

Given that there was no threat to the US – but Washington had strategic and political reasons of maintaining land-based presence in Eastern Hemisphere – retaining their Cold War structure made sense. The structure did not have an immediate military purpose, but it was useful in the event of unexpected minor operations, such as Kosovo.

After the demise of the USSR, neither NATO or US forces in Europe were needed to contain the Soviets or repel an attack.

After 9/11 the change took place and US troops no longer served as a symbolic force as they did during 1990s. The countries in Europe no longer are perceived as a threat, so that US leaves to NATO the role in Europe, while it spreads its tentacles in other parts of the world. The idea of influencing these countries cannot be done by using the policies of the Cold War.

The US basing structure, therefore, has three requirements:

1. It must be close enough to various potential theatres of operations to be valuable.
2. If troops are based in an Islamic

country, it must have specific reasons why it cannot reverse its policy.

3. Bases in non-Islamic countries – or cooperation near Islamic world – is very critical.

During the war in Iraq, Turkey's somewhat reluctance regarding bases, made Bulgaria and Romania particularly valuable to the United States, for a range of logistical purposes. Operation in the Horn of Africa makes Kenya an important potential ally. Above all, the danger that the political evolution in Pakistan will create severe problems for the US makes a close relationship with India important.

There are issues outside of the Islamic world. In Europe the future evolution of Russia is not clear, and many outcomes are possible. Poland and the Baltic states therefore represent the forward line of interest for the United States there. In this scenario – Hungary – is able to support operations throughout central Europe – becomes very important. In Asia, the uncertain evolution of China requires a redefinition of forces that might anticipate problems without precipitating them.

Within a year we shall see substantial American forces in southeastern Europe and very few in Germany, be the back up. With this geographical change comes an institutional change. Bulgaria and Romania are not yet in NATO, but will be admitted – thus they are now more important to USA's ambitions than are Belgium or Denmark.

NATO was created in case of a Soviet attack, but now that so-called threat is gone, US is geared to implement its hegemony through pacts, threats or other means as a new method to control the economic and political policies of these new allies.

The decision of leaving Saudi Arabia, therefore, should be viewed in the broadest possible context. It does not represent a shift in US-Saudi relations at all, nor does it represent merely a shift in the Persian Gulf. We are now seeing a very fundamental restructuring of American forces on a global scale. The consequences of all of this US globalization and rule, will last a full generation. ■

# NEPAL TODAY: MAOISTS VISIT THE US EMBASSY

By GARY LEUPP

May 17, 2003

<http://www.counterpunch.org/leupp05172003.html>

Recent events in Nepal, while drawing little notice from the U.S. press, are worth some attention. The Himalayan nation of 24 million people has been rocked by a Maoist insurgency since 1996, but now, for the second time in two years, the government and the Maoists are sitting down for peace talks. The Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) negotiates from a position of considerable strength. It may control about half the country, and can paralyze seemingly at will even the capital, Kathmandu, when it calls for a general strike. The government is in disarray. Last October King Gyanendra dismissed the prime minister and sidelined the parliament, infuriating the electoral parties (over half of which see themselves as "communist" in some sense, although they oppose the Maoists' violent strategy for effecting radical social change). Since then the king has exercised power through a puppet prime minister and cabinet commanding little popular support.

The Maoists' guerrilla war (which they call a People's War) now engages not just the paramilitary police but also the Royal Nepalese Army (newly supplied with Belgian Minimi machine guns and British MI-17 helicopters, among other western military equipment), answerable directly to the king. But negotiations between the crown and the rebels, following a ceasefire that began January 29, have led to some extraordinary developments. Talks had occurred earlier (in late 2001) between the Nepali government and the Maoists, but they broke down over the issue of a key CPN(M)

demand: a constitutional convention to produce a republican form of government. The government of the prime minister at the time had refused, saying the existence of the monarchy was not negotiable. The Maoists relented on that point, but still demanded a constitutional assembly to involve all parties. When the government refused, the Maoists resumed the armed struggle, wreaking some severe and embarrassing damage on the RNA. In that context, the highly unpopular Gyanendra made his power grab. Now the king's circle is once again negotiating with the Maoists, while the sidelined legal political parties fume that they're being left out and protest vigorously against the king. (Various political parties held a demonstration against the king May 8, 50,000 strong in Kathmandu.)

The Maoists, earlier this year, demanded as a precondition for talks that the government stop referring to them as "terrorists," something the government had started to do from January 2002, apparently at the instigation of the U.S. Colin Powell had that month made the first-ever visit of a U.S. secretary of state to Nepal and referred to the war against the rebels as part of the international "war on terrorism." (Thus he conflated al-Qaeda with Maoism, which doesn't make any logical sense, but you know how freely and creatively the Bushites use that term.) Now the king of Nepal has indeed officially removed that designation, conceding to the rebels' demand as a precondition for peace talks.

So now the number two man in the CPN(M), Dr. Baburam Bhattarai, is in Kathmandu circulating openly as head of the Maoists' negotiating team. The party has openly set up an office in the capital, phone number to be announced soon. Preliminary talks have been cordial, even as some aspects of the armed struggle, and political mobilization, continue. But into this relatively congenial atmosphere of negotiations, the U.S. State Department for some reason saw fit to contribute a new element. Whereas it had not in the past placed the CPN(M) on its official list of international terrorist

organizations, it elected, on April 30, to suddenly do so.

The apparent reason for the designation is that two Nepali security guards around the U.S. embassy were killed in 2002, and another embassy attack occurred on January 26, just before the ceasefire was announced. These actions have been linked to the CPN(M). The timing of the designation is interesting. (It may be influenced by Indian worries about the negotiations underway; India has its own Maoist insurgencies linked to the Nepalese, and India becomes increasingly allied to Washington. See the Weekly Telegraph, May 7) Just as the Nepali government itself was saying, "We agree that you're not really terrorists," Washington decided to announce, "We've now decided you definitely do fall under our 'global terrorism' category." It may be a signal to the Nepali political establishment that it must not allow the Maoists to negotiate their way into power.

In response, Bhattarai and an aide headed to the U.S. embassy May 5, and had a meeting with a first secretary, saying, apparently: "We're a liberation movement. We're not terrorists, and would appreciate it if you'd stop calling us that." Then Ambassador Malinowski, who has for quite a while been calling the rebels terrorists, started sounding almost conciliatory: "We really wish that the Maoists will have their name out from the list as soon as possible." He urged them to renounce violence as a means to effect change. (Rather ironic, given that the neocons in charge in Washington advocate violence on a colossal scale to produce their kind of change, which they don't see as terrorist but rather anti-terrorist. But I digress.)

So they are, or they aren't, on the list, these Nepali Maoists who fully intend to plant the red flag on Mount Everest crowning their People's War, their political power growing out of the barrels of their guns, but also resulting from painstaking political work. If they are "terrorist," and if they gain power, those describing them as such may have to put up or shut up, attack them or reach some

accommodation. If they aren't terrorists (and can be depicted as merely bad, but not really a major problem to U.S. interests, which are actually very few in Nepal), maybe Washington will, if they come to power (perhaps as the key element in a multi-party system, to which the Maoists indeed seem committed), just leave Nepal alone. Or they might apply sanctions, or forbid American citizens from mountain-climbing in the country and financing badness through hiring Sherpas. Or maybe they'll assign the handling of this particular problem to newfound ally, New Delhi. But that would irritate Beijing, not for ideological but geopolitical strategic reasons.

Could the Maoists in Nepal acquire power soon, in this setting where the U.S. juggernaut probably can't intervene effectively? One recent column in the Kathmandu press (which has been under severe censorship since November 2001, when a "state of emergency" was declared and many journalists arrested) pooh-poo'h'd the idea, saying that the strengthening of the RNA and the opposition from India and the U.S. precludes a Maoist victory. On the other hand, the Kathmandu newspaper Janadesh (which was banned in November 2001, and its editor arrested and tortured to death, but which has now resumed publication) supplies evidence to the contrary.

Seems that on February 28 of this year members of the Maoists' guerrilla force (the People's Liberation Army) held a program to celebrate the inception of the People's War in 1996 in the village of Dullu, in western Nepal. This took place in the context of the ceasefire. After the festivities the guerrillas withdrew from the site. RNA forces moved in and began to loot and burn and beat up local people, apparently to punish them for supporting the rebels.

"The Maoists wanted to talk with them," according to the Janadesh report, "and get them to leave the village. The president of a revolutionary student organization, Kaman Singh Basnet, went to speak to them. The RNA grabbed him and began to beat him. They demanded to know who he was. Basnet

answered that he was a student leader and that he wanted to talk to them." The government soldiers rejected this overture, saying that talks between the Maoists and the government were being held at higher levels and that soldiers had orders not to talk to Maoists. The student informed them that if they were there to fight, they should know that "you are surrounded by the PLA and none of you will go back alive." Suddenly the soldiers bothering this student activist became enlightened, and the student was taken to talk with an RNA major, who then learning that PLA Company Commander Comrade Jokhim was nearby, sent a team of soldiers to negotiate with him. Jokhim suggested that the RNA return looted goods to the villagers and request their forgiveness. This the soldiers did, according to the report.

The Janadesh account concludes: "For whatever reasons, the RNA team began to say Lal salam! (red salute!) to the PLA fighters and shake hands with them. The RNA major was furious at having seen his men asking questions and listening to explanations about the People's War and People's Liberation Army. He shouted, 'Oh, boys! If you stay and talk with them for 20-25 minutes, you will also become communists! We must leave now.' Then they went away. But the RNA soldiers waved goodbye until they disappeared in the distance."

That Bhattarai can saunter into the U.S. embassy in the capital city of a country torn by war, representing the highest level of the communist insurgency, and get the U.S. ambassador to state that he himself wishes (for whatever reasons he adduces) to remove the insurgents from the terror list "as soon as possible," suggests that both the Maoist leader and the ambassador are thinking realistically. It also suggests that the Nepali revolutionary movement is strong and confident, and that even being tagged by that "terrorist" designation (which considering the source, can be mistaken, libelous, and merely used to intimidate and vilify) won't cramp the comrades' style.

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"For USSR"

## RELIGION? NO, IT'S POLITICS!

Anti socialism campaign by religious fundamental groups in USA is not religion at all!

It is a tool promoted by US ruling class to struggle against Socialism all over the world.

## UE denies CPP founder access to assets

From Inquirer News Service

LUXEMBOURG: A European Court has refused to unfreeze the assets of Jose Sison, the founder of the Communist Party of the Philippines who was wrongly included in the European Union terrorist list. The judge in the Court of First Instance, the second highest court in the EU, ruled that Sison did not urgently need his assets to be unfrozen.

Sison, who has two months to appeal the court judgment, accused the European Union of violating his human rights under pressure from Washington and Manila. Reached by the Inquirer, Sison said that the United Nations decisions were actually in his favor.

"The latest decision of the high and mighty, such as the UN Security Council Resolution 1452 of December 20 2002 and the European Council resolution 562 of March 27, 2003, are in my favor. They prohibit the freezing of money for food, clothing, medicine, medical care, health insurance, rent, professional fees, etc."

Sison added that: "The Dutch government might still try some stonewalling tricks to deprive me of my basic rights and necessities, while preventing me of getting a job in violation of the protection provided by Article 3, the right to family union (Article 7) all of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms."

Sison's lawyers have been pursuing the restoration of benefits and complaining against the violation of his rights in The Netherlands. But this new judgment simply rejected his application to release his assets.

Under a 2001 EU ruling, any person named on the list of suspected terrorists, must have their assets frozen. In December of 2002, Sison's name was added to the list, along with the New People's Army. Dutch authorities immediately froze Sison's assets and suspended welfare payments to him.

At the start of 2003, Sison, who had won refugee status in the Netherlands in 1992, applied to the Luxembourg court to have his name removed from the list.

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## U.S. BECOMING A POLICE STATE

By PATRICK MARTIN

While claiming democracy and freedom as the goal of its invasion and occupation of Iraq, the Bush administration is moving step by step to restrict freedom, and undermine democracy at home, by building up the infrastructure of a police state, with essentially unlimited powers to spy on, interrogate and arrest American citizens.

These drastic measures have received repeatedly enthusiastic support from the Democratic and Republican politicians in the US Congress and also from the US Federal Courts: all these branches of the government are joining in a concerted assault on the democratic rights of the American people.

The latest action took place on May 1 of this year when the Senate Select Committee approved a huge increase in the funding for spying

activities by the agencies of the US government. They created a government "watchdog list" which is so broad that anyone from the Middle East countries or any leftwing individuals or organizations could fall under suspicion and be wiretapped and spied upon. The money allotted is over \$40 billion per year for all the government's agencies. This is the largest expenditure, greater than any domestic social program.

Another part of this new spying program includes an \$8 million program to recruit future CIA agents at all the college campuses in order to spy.

The spokesman for the American Civil Liberties Union said that all of these adopted measures went way beyond even those that operated during the McCarthy era during 1950s.

On the same day the US Administration adopted the new Terrorist Threat Integration Center. This Integration Center is charged with preparing a Daily Threat Matrix to be used by White House and the Department of Homeland Security for deciding when to issue security alerts.

In this respect the FBI launched a \$600 million computer system called Trilogy to help create a massive database on American citizens. This database will be able to have over 100 million megabytes. Now, the government has exempted this database from the Privacy Act of 1974. This then opens the way for gossip, innuendoes, accusations that

could be unfounded and they will be stored in this database and this leads to detention, arrest and also indefinite detention without the possibility to any lawyer.

Attorney General John Ashcroft gave card-blanc permission to thousands of wiretaps to be installed, physical searches, inside USA and outside the USA. There are now stringent measures adopted to muzzle the media reporting. In this regard the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers were denied access to protest these new laws and they are not allowed to defend those held, arrested or detained.

Last March 25 President Bush issued an order halting for the next three years the declassification of most of the US government documents as was pushed through by the former Clinton administration.

On March 31 the FBI announced plans to open another 10 additional overseas field offices, all of them in capitals of countries which are either Muslim or are located in the oil rich regions of Central Asia and the Persian Gulf, plus countries that were former Soviet republics, plus Yugoslavia and others.

The question has to be asked as to why? Would the US government allow other spy agencies to open their offices in the USA?

COMMENT:

*Is this not the beginning of a police state, akin to what happened in Nazi Germany?*

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## LOOTING OF IRAQI MUSEUM WAS LONG PLANNED

By JOHN CLANCY – Workers World News Service

More information has come to light, indicating that the looting of Iraq's archeological museum was long planned by those aware of its great historical treasures and was carried out with the complicity of the US-Pentagon.

Some 7,000 years ago, the earliest Western civilization began in the fertile area between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. It was here that the people invented the wheel,

writing, law and agriculture. Today, most of this area is Iraq, which had carefully preserved, for humanity and particularly for scholars of antiquity, thousands of irreplaceable artifacts of the ancient world in its museums.

In the very first days of the US occupation of Baghdad, all the fabulous artifacts in the museum were stolen. It was a crime engineered on behalf of "foreign art collectors" and was "planned well in

advance of the American-led invasion." -(Sunday Telegraph, April 20, 2003)

The impression is given by the US media was that of utter and spontaneous chaos. But other accounts contradict that. "Witnesses have spoken of seeing well-dressed men with walkie-talkies at the scene, and of artifacts being transported away in orderly convoys of vans rather than over the heads of the crowd. We already have reports of exhibits being offered for sale in Switzerland and Japan," said Karl-Heinz Kind, Interpol's specialist officer for art and antiquity trafficking. (Sunday Telegraph, April 20, 2003)

US troops were completely in control of the area around the museum. "We begged the US authorities to watch out for this...all it would have taken is to park a tank at the gate", said Jane Waldbaum, president of the Archaeological Institute of America. (USA Today, April 14, 2003)

The tanks were there, but not to protect the building. "US forces told the people to commence looting", said Khaled Bayomi, a Swede who had gone to Iraq to be a human shield. (US forces encourage looting, Dagens Nyheter, April 14, 2003.)

In fact, US soldiers have been flaunting stolen artwork. "One of the US Abrams tanks in Baghdad street was carrying a large granite statue from a government residence and will serve as a souvenir", wrote the Financial Times, April 14, 2003.

The destruction and looting of the culture of Iraq on April 11-12 was premeditated by international criminals and sanctioned by the USA. US officials, angry that Iraq's "retentionist" laws protected its antiquities, a newly formed group of art dealers, The American Council for Cultural Policy, had met with the US defense and state department officials in January yet, before the start of the war. Their pressure to make it easier for Iraqi art to enter the US market, this then helped pave the way for the "crime of the century".

Since the 1991 Gulf War, when over 5,000 artifacts were stolen from the Iraqi museums, the Iraqi provincial museums have moved their most valuable pieces into the National Museum in Baghdad for

safekeeping. (Sunday Telegraph, April 20, 2003). This made the thieves' job easier.

"The vaults in the Museum had been opened with keys," reported the Toronto Globe and Mail (Canada) on April 18. Valuable objects were selected and replicas rejected. Academics who gathered in Paris at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization concluded that the pillaging was the work of an international conspiracy.

This was so obviously a crime perpetrated by the US military and capitalist art collectors around the world, that several officials in the Bush administration reigned over this, including Martin Sullivan, chair of the president's advisory committee on cultural property, and Gary Vikan, a committee member.

Aghast at the theft of 80,000 cuneiform tablets, Vikan, director of Baltimore's Walters Art Gallery, said: "If we understood the value of Sumerian cuneiform tablets to our past, as we do with oil getting us somewhere in our cars, I don't think that this would have happened." (Guardian, April 11, 2003)

Once everything was stolen, the US government swung into action. It called for Interpol and the FBI to try and recover and "block any sale of the looted goods." But a week after the massive theft, nothing had been done to identify what was missing. "Iraqi museum officials indicated they have had no contact with the US investigators." (Melbourne Herald, April 19, 2003)

US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld wasn't upset. He criticized the world media for exaggerating the looting. "Stuff happens", he said, alluding to a crude slang expression. (CNN, April 12, 2003)

"If a country's civilization is looted, then that country is ended," said Raif Abdul Ridha, Iraqi archeologist. That was the idea. This was not about democracy. As the Iraqi Airlines pilot Mohammed Nasser said: "Democracy cannot come through guns and looting." (Daily Telegraph, April 14, 2003)

**The plunder of Iraq was not only for oil but an act of war designed to rob the Iraqis of their history and satisfy the greed of the bourgeoisie.** ■

## JIM CROW REVIVED IN CYBERSPACE

By Martin Luther King III

In USA in 1963, Martin Luther King's determined and courageous band faced water hoses and police attack dogs to call attention to the thicket of Jim Crow laws-including poll taxes and so-called "literary tests" - that stood in the way of Black American's right to have their ballots cast and counted.

Today, there is a new and real threat to minority voters, this time from cyberspace: computerized purges of voter rolls.

This menace first appeared in Florida in the November 2000 presidential election. While the media chased butterfly ballots and hanging chads, a much more sinister and devastating attack on voting rights went almost undetected.

In the two years before the elections, the Florida secretary of state's office quietly ordered the removal of 94,000 voters from the registries. Supposedly, these were said to be convicted felons who may not vote in Florida. Instead, the overwhelming majority of them were innocent of any crime, though just over half were black or Hispanic.

At the center of the ethnic purge of voting rights was the creation of a central voting file for Florida, which was placed in the hands of an elected, and therefore partisan, official. Computerized and a 1998 "reform" law, meant to prevent voter fraud, allowed for a politically and racially biased purge of thousands of registered voters on the flimsiest of grounds.

Voters whose name, birth and gender loosely matched that of a felon anywhere in America were targeted for removal. There was one (just one example) Thomas Butler, of Florida, where there are numerous Butlers living in Florida and all over the USA, was tagged because there was a Butler Jr. in Ohio who was convicted of a minor offense. The legacy of slavery - commonality of Black names - aided the racial bias of the "scrub list".

Florida was the first state to create, computerize and purge lists of alleged "ineligible" voters. You'd think that the US Congress and President Bush would run from

imitating Florida's disastrous system. Astonishingly, the US Congress adopted the absurdly named "Help America Vote Act", which requires every state to replicate Florida's system before the 2004 presidential elections. Why? (*If it worked in Florida then Bush will have no problems in repeating the same all over the USA- Editor*). Control over 50 U.S. State Secretaries are few – and the temptation to purge other party lists of the opponents is enormous.

African-Americans, whose vote concentrates mainly in only one party (*Democrats*) are a very easy and an obvious target.

So, last month we marched again in Birmingham as our fathers and mothers did 40 years ago, this time demanding security against the

dangerous "Floridation" of our nation's voting methods through computerization of voter rolls.

Four decades ago, the opposition to the civil right to vote was easy to identify: white night riders wearing white sheets and burning crosses. Today, the threat comes from partisan politicians wearing pinstripe suits and clutching laptops.

Jim Crow has moved into cyberspace – harder to detect, craftier in operation, shifting shape into electronic guardian of a new electoral segregation.

*Martin Luther King III is president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Greg Palast is the author of "The Best Democracy Money Can Buy" and his investigation of computer purges of black voters exposed in Harper's Magazine.*

## **WILL THE WHITE HOUSE BLOCK A TERROR PANEL'S ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS?**

*By Michael Isikoff and Mark Hosenball of Newsweek*

An imminent and potentially a very nasty confrontation over an independent commission's authority to investigate the White House's handling of the September 11 terror attacks was narrowly averted last month – just before President Bush landed a jet aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln in a carefully crafted ceremony touting the toppling of Saadam Hussein as a major victory in the war on terrorism.

But the battle over the issue is far from over. In fact, NEWSWEEK has learned, that President Bush's chief lawyer has privately signaled that the White House may seek to invoke an executive privilege over key documents relating to the attacks in order to keep them out of the hands of the investigators for the National Commission on Terror Attacks upon the United States – the independent panel created by US Congress itself to probe all aspects of the 9-11.

Some of the US Commission appointed members now fear a showdown over the issue-particularly over extreme sensitive National Security Council minutes and presidential briefing papers-could be coming in the next few weeks. "We do think it's important to engage this issue early –i.e. now!" says Philip Zelikow, the executive director of the commission, who has lawyers to inspect documents and interview senior officers. "We expect to get what we need. We're not going to go quietly into the night" he said.

Just last month, one of the Commission members, Tim Roemer, a former Democratic congressman from Indiana, had sought to read the transcripts of three days of closed hearings that had been held last fall by the House of US Senate Intelligence Committee – hearings that Roemer, as a member of the US White House panel, had actually participated in all of those Panel discussions.

But when Roemer went down to a carefully guarded room on Capital Hill to read the transcripts – he said to refresh his memory – he was stunned to learn that he couldn't have access to them. The reason given was that Zelikow had acceded to a request by the administration official to permit the government lawyers to first review them to determine if the transcripts contained testimony about

"privileged" material.

Roemer called the deal "outrageous" and the 9-11 family members victims bombarded the panel with angry calls. Later, the White House lawyers relented averting a very embarrassing public escalation of the dispute – and of course, charges of a White House cover up.

Executive privilege is a doctrine traditionally invoked by the White House in order to keep confidential briefings or advice given to the president. But the precise boundaries of the doctrine are hardly settled. It is far from clear how a White House attempt to withhold material from a US Congressional authorized national commission of 9-11 will play out.

The remarks of Vice President Cheney and of Gonzales are passionate about not revealing all the details. "Those are like the crown jewels – we'll never give those up", one White House lawyer told NEWSWEEK recently when asked about the presidential briefing papers that were likely to be sought by the commission.

Some commission members say that it might prove very difficult for the White House to maintain and sustain that position – especially given the panel's broad legal mandate to unearth all pertinent facts pertaining to 9-11. The invocation of executive privilege might fuel suspicions that the White House is stonewalling the panel in order to cover up politically embarrassing mistakes. "I think that they are very worried about this. This is a bipartisan commission, and we've got the power and law on our side", said one member of the commission.

Among some of the most sensitive documents the commission is known to be interested in reviewing are the internal National Security Council minutes from the spring and summer of 2001 when the CIA and other intelligence agencies were warning about imminent attacks. The panel is going ask to interview key principals – such as the national-security advisor Condoleezza Rice and her chief deputy, Stephen J. Hadley – to question them both about the advice they gave the president and what actions they took to deal with the rising concerns of intelligence-

community officials about the Qaeda threat.

An equally dicey subject, is the commission's expected request to review debriefings of key al Qaeda suspects who had been arrested – such as Khalid Shaikh Mohammed and Ramzi bib al Shibb – who were supposed to play a key role in the 9-11 plot. The intelligence community has treated these debriefings as the most highly classified material in the government, and the Justice Department is stoutly resisting a ruling by the US appointed federal judge overseeing the Zacarias Moussoui case to make bin al-Shibh available to the defense.

The Bush appointed Commission say that they can't possibly do their job in writing an authoritative history of 9-11 if they can't discover what the US federal government has learned from al Qaeda operatives who are supposed to know the most about the plot was put together.

At the moment, sources told NEWSWEEK the issue is at a standstill and who knows when this Commission will be able to do the work it was elected to do! ■

## US Eyes Permanent Military Bases in North Africa

From KOMINFORM

The United States is probing Arab States and other allies in North Africa for the stationing of permanent military bases.

US officials said that the Defense Department is discussing this prospect with countries like Algeria, Djibouti, Morocco and Egypt in order to get airfields, naval bases and stationing of troops. US Pentagon feels that North Africa, the southern Mediterranean and the Horn of Africa will be the scene of major tensions in the next decade. This is now a plan to reduce US military presence in Western Europe, particularly in Germany.

" We need more presence in the southern rim of the Mediterranean, where there are a number of countries that can be destabilized in the near future, large ungoverned

areas across Africa that are clearly the new routes for terrorist training and hotbeds of instability," said General Jim Jones, NATO's supreme commander of forces in Europe. "Our aircraft carriers will have to spend more time along the African coast than near Europe. Our carriers in the near future and the expeditionary strike groups may not now spend six months in the Mediterranean, but I bet that they will spend half the time going up and down the West Coast of Africa."

The US has now stationed 1,300 troops in Djibouti. They are there, according to the Pentagon to stop any insurgency activities in the Red Sea and the Horn of Africa.

### COMMENT:

We wonder whether Bush conferred with God again on this new imperialist venture and asked him whether "Are you still with us?" ■

## OPEN LETTER BY SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC TO THE YUGOSLAV AND INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC

My struggle here is about the truth and freedom. The whole planet knows that.

This illegal court undergoes its every day fiasco. And it happens in their own half time. In the half-time when their false prosecution and false witnesses appear. This trial is lasting already a second year. They are afraid even to think how my half time will look like, when I will speak and my witnesses will speak.

Against me they have applied all the means of the political, media, psychological and also physical pressure... **but with no success!**

Now they have started their brutal persecution using vicious lies. That persecution is also physical and is followed by a media campaign.

The whole public sees that the perpetrators of the crimes whom they have arrested are the very same ones who were praised by the actual regime for their contribution to the October 5th coup. They are the very same ones who were, with covered faces, jumping into my home yard, the ones who arrested and kidnapped me for their own purpose.

They have launched a brutal persecution of my wife and my son only because of me. But they know that they cannot break me, because I am a moral winner in any case, because the truth is on my side.

Due to this persecution, I haven't seen my son for three years and recently, I cannot even see my wife. It is the goal of this illegal court to block all of my contacts. Nobody should be deprived of that right. That is exactly why they are depriving me of that right in such a dishonest way.

I demand a stop of this persecution of my wife and of my son, since it is surely politically motivated against my struggle in



favor of justification of the crimes against Yugoslavia and its citizens.

Slobodan Milosevic

### COMMENT:

Where is the outcry, the demand and diplomatic pressure for his release from either the Russian or Chinese leaders? It is known that the Russian and the Chinese governments do not recognize this illegal court in The Hague. Are the two governments (not the Russian or Chinese people) really in the pocket of Uncle Sam? Obviously Milosevic has not changed his stripes as did the present Russian and Chinese leaders. ■

# PROGNOSIS FROM SLOVAKIA

By OLEG KOSEVOY

I hope that I am absolutely wrong in this prognosis, but reading different press in Europe I come to the conclusion that US imperialism is planning to have a confrontation with Russia in the very near future.

All the pawns are already in place. Iraq was just a diversion in the plans of the Pentagon. Look at these facts: the US Frankfurt base in Germany is closing, all the US logistics are now east of Warsaw. Germany is selling its Leopard tanks to Poland and US is going to build a huge military hospital of 20,000 beds in South Eastern Poland. This complex is starting this year! Tell me, why does US/NATO need this capacity?

Advance units of NATO members are now in Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and in all the states of former Yugoslavia. Iraq was needed for the oil fields but also to move the AVACS system to Turkey, together with the patriot missiles.

This fact is not publicized too much, but the European press reported that the IMF, WB had cancelled all loans and financial grants to Russia two months ago. Now, with a dramatic drop in crude oil prices, as a result of the Iraq war, and after full production capacity in Iraq will be reached, the stage will be set.

Police forces, tax officers, army personnel from these countries are being trained in Canada now, while from Poland they are being trained in Germany, while for Russia and others they are being trained in the US. There is news that from the Baltic States these forces are to be trained either in Sweden or Norway.

In former socialist countries, fifty years of building the best school system in the world, now due to massive cutbacks in school budgets, they are closing many existing schools, there is declining enrolment in all of the High Schools and Universities...this is degradation of education.

Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty have free rein and financial help by the present regimes –they will educate the Slovak and Czech Ghurkas plus other cannon fodder in accordance to the plans of the new rulers that is to be fulfilled--- **March to the East** – what Hitler was not able to accomplish in 1940s, US imperialism and their lackeys will try to do this in 2008 or later!

There are plans for fragmentation of Russia itself (*as was published in NSC not too long ago*) and the ongoing fragmentation of former socialist states like Slovakia, Poland, Yugoslavia that is going on right now, with these countries being divided into new counties, and the present districts are being dismantled and heads of these new territorial units will have a governor appointed by - who do you think?

**PATENTS:** Who does the food really belong to?

**RICE:**

WTO allows big corporations to patent or own agricultural varieties and genetic sequences of animals – thereby, permitting huge companies to gain control over poor countries' crops.

In India, basmani-rice exports were valued at \$425 million in 1998-99. But in September 1997 RiceTee Inc., a Texas-US based corporation, won a US patent on basmani rice. Such examples endanger the livelihoods of farmers in India.

**UNNECESSARY TRADE:** The great food swap.

**MEAT:**

In 1998 Britain imported 61,000 tones of poultry meat from The Netherlands. It also exported 33,100 tones of poultry meat to The Netherlands.

Global corporations searching for lowest commodity prices, fuel this kind of unnecessary trading. Local producers are often undercut by cheap meat flooding into the country.

This also has consequences for animal welfare, encouraging intensively reared livestock and the export of live animals under very cruel conditions. Under the WTO rules a country cannot refuse to export a product – a ban on live exports could contravene such rules.

Aviation fuel is not taxed. This is a hidden subsidy to the global foods trade. While much of the food goes by sea, air freighted food – such as chickens from Brazil and Thailand, mainly for use in processed foods – make a major contribution to the global warming.

**LIBERALIZATION:** Poor countries open up their markets.

**DAIRY:**

Before 1992 Jamaican dairy farmers produced over 24% of the milk consumed in the country. But in 1992, the World Trade Organization liberalization policies required Jamaican tariffs (*import taxes*) on dairy imports and subsidies to local dairy farmers to be eliminated.

The subsidized powder milk from the European Union (EU) (*which is part of the WTO*) poured in. In 1993

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# GLOBALIZATION

## TRICKS OF THE TRADE

From THE BEACON-Australia

The global trade system is dominated by the very rich world corporations that keep the poor countries poor. The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the international body that makes the rules. These rules require poor countries to cut support to their farmers and thus open their markets to the rich countries – which are powerful enough to protect their own

markets. In the words of the very well known US campaigner Ralph Nader: *"The world doesn't have free trade, it has corporate managed trade."* WTO rules also favor food and agricultural corporations over consumer and environmental concerns. Here are just some examples of the injustices in the system, using some common food items as examples.



after only one year of this liberalization, millions of dollars worth of local milk had to be dumped and many Jamaican dairy farmers closed down. Nestle, the major buyer of Jamaican milk, now buys over a third less than three years ago.

While Southern governments have to open their markets to the North, in line with the World Bank loan "conditionalities" and the WTO rules, the rich countries continue to subsidize their own agriculture. EU milk subsidies do not help any farmers anywhere in the world: the benefits and profits go directly to the processors and exporters.

**SUBSIDIES:** Protection for the rich.

#### **SUGAR:**

Subsidized foods from the rich countries do undercut domestic markets and push down world commodity prices.

Under the WTO rules, developed countries are supposed to reduce export subsidies by 36%. But the USA and EU and also Japan, have all along continued to subsidize their corporations and traders.

EU sugar processors receive a guaranteed prices three times that on the world market. The EU is the world's largest exporter of white sugar – export prices are only a quarter of the production costs. A World Bank study estimated that world prices fell by 17 % as a result of the EU sugar regime. In 2001 Europe exported 770,000 tons of white sugar to Algeria and 150,000 tons to Nigeria – both natural export markets for African producers like Mozambique. But, sugar farmers in Mozambique – one of the poorest countries of the world – can't compete with subsidized EU sugar. Meanwhile, small farmers in Europe don't benefit either – large processors, traders and retailers are the main beneficiaries of the subsidies.

**DUMPING:** Getting rid of surplus food.

#### **WHEAT:**

Dumping (*exporting at a price below the cost of production*) by the rich countries creates unfair competition for local producers. Giving food away as food aid is one way of dumping.

World Food Program figures show that food aid peaks in years when world cereal prices are low and stocks are high. Ironically this means that food aid is most readily available in overproduction years – when it is least needed. Between 1996 and year 2000, the price of wheat dropped while the food-aid shipments increased by more than 50%. The US and EU account for half of all wheat exports, with prices respectively 46% and 34% below the cost of production. WTO rules, which say that they outlaw dumping, make exceptions for aid. The US is unique in giving its aid in kind rather than in cash, helping to undercut local economies.

The International Food Policy Research Institute estimates that in year 2000 US food aid – coupled with imports from EU and Turkey–depressed local wheat prices in Bangladesh by 20%: an additional 100,000 tons of food aid, reduced local wheat production by as much as 91,000 tons.

USAID's website reads: "*The principal beneficiary of America's foreign-assistance programs have always been the US. Close to 89% of USAID contracts and grants go directly to American firms. Foreign assistance programs have helped create major markets for our agricultural goods.*"

**COMMODITY PRICES:** Overproduction pushes down prices.

#### **COFFEE:**

Countries that have developed their capacity to produce and export cash crops are confronted with falling prices due to chronic world overproduction.

Overproduction has caused prices of coffee to crash by almost 50% in the past three years to a 30-year low. Twenty Five million coffee farmers face complete ruin. Families are unable to buy medicines, enough food, or send their children to school. The four big coffee corporations – all US corporations like – Nestle, Sara Lee, Kraft, Procter and Gamble make the profits, while farmers receive a smaller and smaller share of the market value. Ungandan farmers get 2.5% of the retail price of the coffee. Cheaper prices are not being passed on to the consumers.

All this has gotten the big monopolies very cheap raw-material prices for the giant coffee companies. There has been a massive increase in coffee production in Vietnam and Brazil. Coffee farmers, mostly poor smallholders, now sell their coffee beans for much less than they cost to produce – only 60% of production costs in Vietnam's Dak Lak Province.

**LABELLING:** Informing consumers about their food.

#### **GM SOYA AND MAIZE:**

In the US, manufacturers of the genetically modified foods (GM) are not required to label their products. Almost all food produced there contains some GM soya or maize. But European consumers have consistently shown that they want their food labeled GM or non-GM. So the European Commission has launched a limited labeling scheme covering GM soya and maize. However, soya and maize derivatives – which are used in most processed food in Europe – including soya oil, lecithin and corn (maize) syrup were excluded from the labeling scheme, to the dismay of the European pressure groups.

In any case such labeling is being challenged by the US, under the WTO rules, arguing that their GM foods are equivalent to conventional foods and so, to label them as different is to discriminate against all the US producers! When Sri Lanka tried to ban the GM - produced crops in 2001, the US exerted such pressure on the WTO they got the ban overturned, after threatening sanctions on Sri Lanka.

Jilian Edwards, Director General of the Consumers International, representing 235 consumer organizations in 109 countries, stated: "*One of the ironies of this issue is the contrast between the enthusiasm of the US food producers and their partners to claim that their biologically engineered food products are different and unique when they seek to patent them – and their similar enthusiasm, for claiming that they are just the same as other natural foods when they are asked to label them!*"

# WHERE CIA IS IN CONTROL, NARCOTICS FLOURISH

From KOMINFORM

After Afghanistan, Baghdad is now flooded with heroin. The city, which had never seen heroin, a deadly addictive drug, until March 2003, is flooded with narcotics, including heroin, thanks to the CIA and US occupation troops.

According to the report published by the London's newspaper "The Independent", the citizens of Baghdad are complaining that heroine, cocaine are now being peddled openly on the streets of the Iraqi metropolis.

It's not unusual where the Americans do go, that narcotics flourish. Taliban had successfully eliminated drugs from Afghanistan, but since the US forces took over control, Afghanistan has become the largest producer of heroin. Some reports suggest that the drug and the arms trafficking is being patronized by the CIA, in order to finance its covert operations worldwide.

The killing of a few US soldiers in Baghdad alone within one 24-hour period last month shows how far the US and Britain still have to go to end the chaos gripping the Iraqi capital. Anger is growing among Iraqis at the failure of the occupiers to restore order in a city awash with gangs, arms and narcotics. Heroin, which was banned by Hussein, under the pain of hanging – is now being traded on the back streets by the gangs, which include some Allied troops – according to "The Independent" newspaper. These new "cultures" are offensive to the Shia Muslim population.

"In Iraq there were no drugs until March 2003. You would be hanged for trafficking. But now you can get cocaine, heroin, anything", said Salah Sha'amikh a Baghdad pharmacist.

"We are an Islamic society and we don't like or tolerate drugs. You tell Tony Blair and President Bush to stop these criminals!"

# SCOTTISH SOCIALISTS MOVING UP

From OREADAILY

The New Scottish Parliament members (MSPs) from the Scottish Socialist Party (SSP) protested as they took their required religious oath or secular affirmation pledging "faithful and true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth" at the opening of the Scottish Parliament last month. The SSP leader Tommy Sheridan took the oath with a clenched fist, as he famously did four years ago and said: "I and my party colleagues were elected on a clear, honest commitment of the Scottish Socialist Republic of citizens, not subjects and will continue to fight for such a cause." SSPs Glasgow member Rosie Kane said: "Like my comrades before me and in ever increasing numbers I take this oath under extreme protest. A government that asks firefighters to modernize themselves, should think about modernizing itself." Halfway through the affirmation, Kane held up her right hand to reveal a message written in black ink that read: "My oath is to the people."

In the rebel, radical and working class Scotland, the elections in May saw the SSP gaining six seats to the Scottish Parliament. They raised the cry for an independent Socialist Scotland, as opposed to the Labor Party and bourgeois Scottish Nationalist Party. The leader of the SSP, Tommy Sheridan said to the cheering voters: "What happened tonight is our emergence across Scotland as a new political force. One that is willing to challenge poverty, inequality and low pay!"

The strength of the SSP showed in the opposition to Labor in a country subjected to a yoke of British imperialism, increasing looking at London with resentment. The election slogan of opposition to the war on Iraq, defense of the firefighters and the growing support

of the trade unions helped to gain the 6 seats.

The Scottish Socialist Party is Scotland's youngest and fastest growing political party. The SSP stands for an independent Socialist Scotland as part of a worldwide fight-back against global capitalism. The SSP stands for a clear socialist transformation of society – to replace capitalism with an economic system based on collective ownership of the key sectors of the economy. A system based on social need and environmental protection rather than that of private profit and ecological destruction.

The Greens who shared the anti-war stance if not the radical passions of the SSP activists, won seven seats. The ruling Labor Party and the Scottish Nationalist Party both lost seats

# NEW ZEALAND WARNS OF "LAW OF THE JUNGLE"

From DeWaarheid

One of Tony Blair's closest political allies has warned Britain and America that they may live to regret unleashing the "law of the jungle" in international relations when China becomes the dominant power in this century.

The labor Prime Minister of New Zealand, Helen Clark, told the Guardian newspaper that Washington and its allies created a dangerous precedent by going to war without a UN resolution.

"This is a century which is going to see China emerge as the largest economy, and usually with economic power comes a military clout", she said.

"In the world we are constructing, we want to know (that the system will work whoever is the biggest and the most powerful, It would be very easy for a country like New Zealand to make excuses and think of justifications for what its friends are doing, but we would have to be mindful that we are creating precedents for others also to exit from multilateral decision making", she said.

"I don't want any precedents set, regardless of who is the biggest kid

**AUGUST IS OUR 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!**

**Send in your greetings and donations soon.**

on the block!"

Ms Clark said that the damage to the United Nations had to be repaired to prevent the world from returning to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century style anarchy in international affairs, which could leave countries like New

Zealand as the mercy of the great powers.

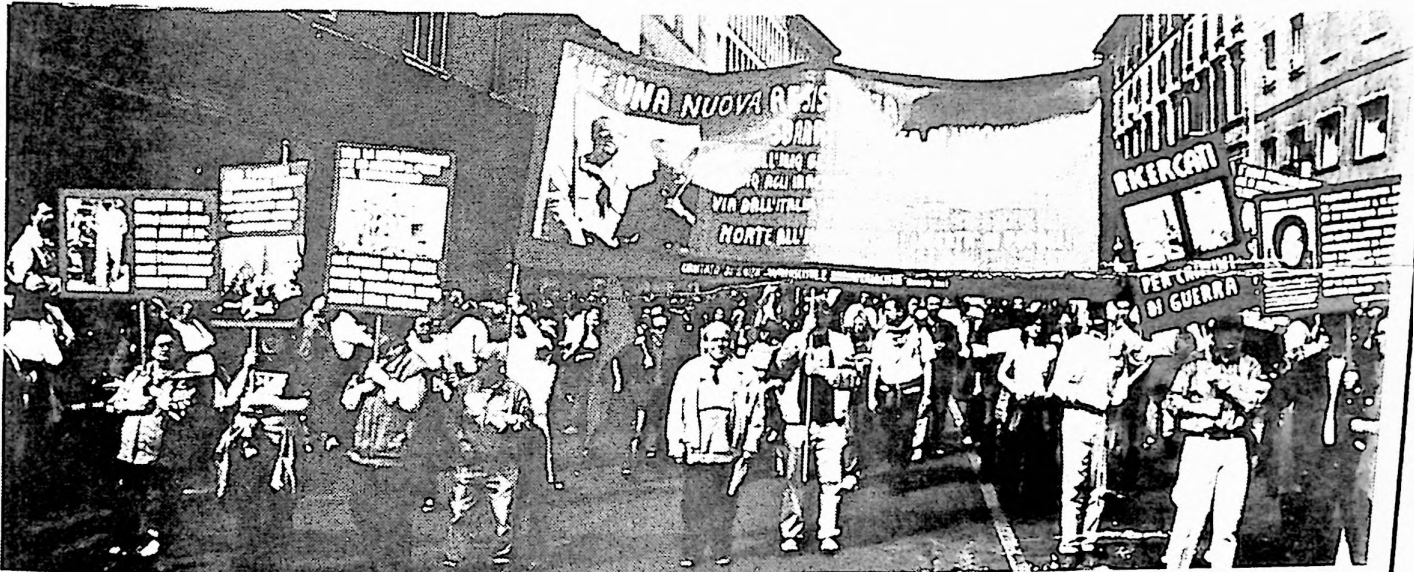
"New Zealand has always argued for the rights of small states," she said – one of her predecessors, the war-time Labour prime minister Peter Fraser, helped to write the UN's

founding Charter.

"We saw the UN as a fresh start for a world trying to work out its problems together, rather than a return to a 19<sup>th</sup> century world where the great powers carved it up.. Who wants to get back to the jungle?"

## ANTI IMPERIALIST DEMONSTRATIONS IN ITALY

We publish just two photographs of the huge demonstration in Italy organized by the Comitato Nazionale di Reconstruzione del Partito Comunista D'Italia (Marxista-Leninista) last April 25<sup>th</sup> against the imperialist war on Iraq and to celebrate the 58<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the popular uprising of the resistance and partisan war that freed Italy from fascism. All of these movements have a great anti-imperialist connotation.



# WORKERS STATE??

FROM OREAD DAILY #366

Where oh where has the party of the working class in China gone? Two labor activists who helped organize some of China's biggest recent worker protests have been sentenced to jail and charged of trying to subvert the political system. Yao Fuxin and Xiao Yunliang were sentenced to seven years' jail, for organizing the protests in North-Eastern Liayang city last spring. Lawyers for the two were not allowed to attend the sentencing at the Liaoyang Court, supposedly due to SARS scare but the court judges, police and Chinese officials were present...so the SARS scare was just an excuse. This court itself was ringed all around by heavily armed riot police and several hundred supporters of the two men waited silently outside. Yao's daughter, Yao Dan, said: "The verdicts are totally wrong and unfair. Both men were not harming the state or wished to harm the Chinese state, but to speak out for the workers and secure their back pay."

The men were first detained in March of 2002 after a succession of worker demonstrations in Liaoyang, a rusting, one time state owned powerhouse. On some days tens of thousands of workers from the ailing or bankrupt state factories massed in the city center, charging the company and city managers with corruption and demanding long over due unpaid wages and improved living conditions. The protests were unusual due to their size and involvement of workers from dozens of different factories, both private, state and foreign owned.

It seems that China is determined to make an example of people who attain even local prominence on sensitive issues such as labor. Many foreign observers saw this

developing for a long time. The workers were just demanding unemployment benefits, back wages that were already promised them by the state.

Alarm over these growing protests led Beijing corruption investigators to focus on these charges and some officials were found guilty of smuggling, the city's police chief was fired and a top Communist party official was demoted...obviously there was truth in the charges and these steps had to be taken in order to placate the growing unrest in the China's labor force in industries that are more and more being privatized and foreign owned industries, bent on cheap labor, high profits and exports to capitalist countries.

The Chinese Labor Monitor wrote that: "Faced with growing unrest of China's labor force, the Chinese government is continuing to use heavy handed repression. The authorities should listen to the legitimate expressions and demands of fundamental issues such as corruption and wage arrears." ■

## BUSH FAMILY FUNDED HITLER

By ASTRID BARNET

Special for Granma International

Have you ever wondered how Adolph Hitler -a mediocre painter of Austrian origin-transformed himself into Germany's Fuhrer during the 1930s and 1940s?

The Nazi phenomenon was no historical coincidence, and far less a philosophical whim made by just one man. Nazism had its followers, many of them exceptionally wealthy, veritable alchemists of the financial world back then.

According to research carried out over the last few years, US Wall Street Bankers (amongst many others) - financed Hitler's rise to power whilst making huge profits at the same time. What is yet still more deplorable is the fact that relatives of the current US President George W. Bush were amongst this group of individuals.

US authors Webster G. Tarpley and Anton Cheitkin reveal in a

recently published George Bush: "The Unauthorized Biography" that Prescott Bush (George W. Bush's grandfather) and other directors of the Union Banking Company (UBC) were Nazi collaborators.

This book relates how in 1933-when National Socialism was emerging - railroad impresario W. Averell Harriman traveled to Berlin and interviewed the Thyssen family with a view to founding a German-US Bank. The Thyssens were already behind-the-scenes owners of several financial institutions that allowed them to transfer their money from Germany to the Netherlands and from there to the United States.

The banks in question were the August Thyssen Bank whose headquarters were located in Berlin; the Bank voor Handel (Netherlands) and the Union Banking Corporation (New York). The beginning of the 1920s, one of the members of this company, Fritz Thyssen - author of "I paid Hitler"- contributed some \$25,000 USD to the recently formed German Nationalist Socialist Workers' Party, becoming the prime and the most important financier of the Fuhrer in his ascent to power.

According to the book's authors, Thyssen was very fascinated by Hitler, citing his talent as a public speaker and, his ability to always lead the masses. However, what impressed him most was the order that prevailed at his rallies and the almost military discipline of his followers. And so in 1931 Thyssen joined the Nazi party, becoming one of the most powerful members of the Nazi war machine.

At that time, this magnate presided over the German Steel Trust, a steel industry consortium, founded by Clarence Dillon, one of the USAs millionaires and one of Wall Street's most influential men. One of Dillon's most trustworthy collaborators was Samuel Bush: Prescott's father, George Senior grandfather and great-grandfather of the current US president George W. Bush.

In 1923, Harriman and Thyssens decided to set up a bank and appointed George Herbert Walker - Prescott's father-in-law as president. Later, in 1926, they established the Union Banking Corporation (UBC) with Prescott Bush at the helm. That



You will see this logo in NSC more often: International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People!

same year, he was also named vice-president and partner of Brown Brothers Harriman. Both firms allowed the Thyssens to send money to the United States from Germany, via the Netherlands.

US economist Victor Thorn has noted that although a large number of other corporations aided the Nazis (such as *Standard Oil and Rockefeller's Chase Bank*) as well as US automobile manufacturers like Henry Ford, Prescott Bush's interests were much more profound and sinister.

Thorn adds that the UBC became the secret channel to protect Nazi capital leaving Germany for the United States via the Netherlands. When the Nazis needed to retrieve their funds, Brown Brothers Harriman sent them directly to Germany.

In this way, UBC received money from the Netherlands and Brown Brothers Harriman sent it back. And who was on the executive of both of these companies? Prescott Bush himself, the Nazi's first money launderer.

In their book, Tarpley and Cheitkin explained that in this way a very significant part of the Bush's financial base was related to supporting and aiding Adolph Hitler. Therefore, the current US president, just like his father (*former CIA director, vice president and president*) reached the peak in the US political hierarchy thanks to his great-grandfather and grandfather and generally his entire family, who financially aided and encouraged the Nazis.

Some time late, in October of 1942, the US governmental authorities confiscated all of the Nazi bank funds from the New York UBC, whose then president was Prescott. This UBC company was condemned by US President Roosevelt as a financial and as a commercial collaborator with the enemy and all of its assets were seized.

Later on, the US government ordered the seizure of the assets of a further two leading financial agencies directed by Prescott through the accounts of the Harriman banking institution: the Holland-America Trading Corp. (which was US-Dutch commercial

firm) and the Seamless Steel Equipment Corporation.

Then on November 11, 1942 an embargo was imposed on the Silesian-American Corporation – another firm headed by Bush and Walker – under the same Trading with the Enemy Act.

However, in 1951 (*during the McCarthy era- Editor*) the embargo was lifted and the enterprising businessman recovered some \$1.5 millions USD, earmarked for new investments largely to swell the Bush family's patrimony.

To all of this should be added the resume of files belonging to Dutch and US intelligence information services confirming the direct links between Prescott Bush, the German Thyssen family and the blood money of the group of rich US families from the Second World War.

During the depression days,

Prescott Bush became even more diligent, still more desirous of doing everything that was necessary to safeguard his place in the world. It was during this economic crisis in the world that members of the Anglo-US wealthy class supported the installation of Hitler's regime in Germany. This included the British Royal Family Duke of Windsor.

The authors conclude with facts that the Bush's family fortune arose as a result of its unconditional support of Adolph Hitler's political project.

The Bush family's habit of dominating territories and wealth is nothing new. Their fascist genes were generated during the 1930s. Therefore during the occupation of Afghanistan and Iraq and the threats to other countries as a continuance of blitzkrieg offensives as fascist is no blunder. Neither is convening an anti-fascist front as a rhetorical exercise. ■

## **CLOGGED SEWER PIPES?**

From OREAD DAILY

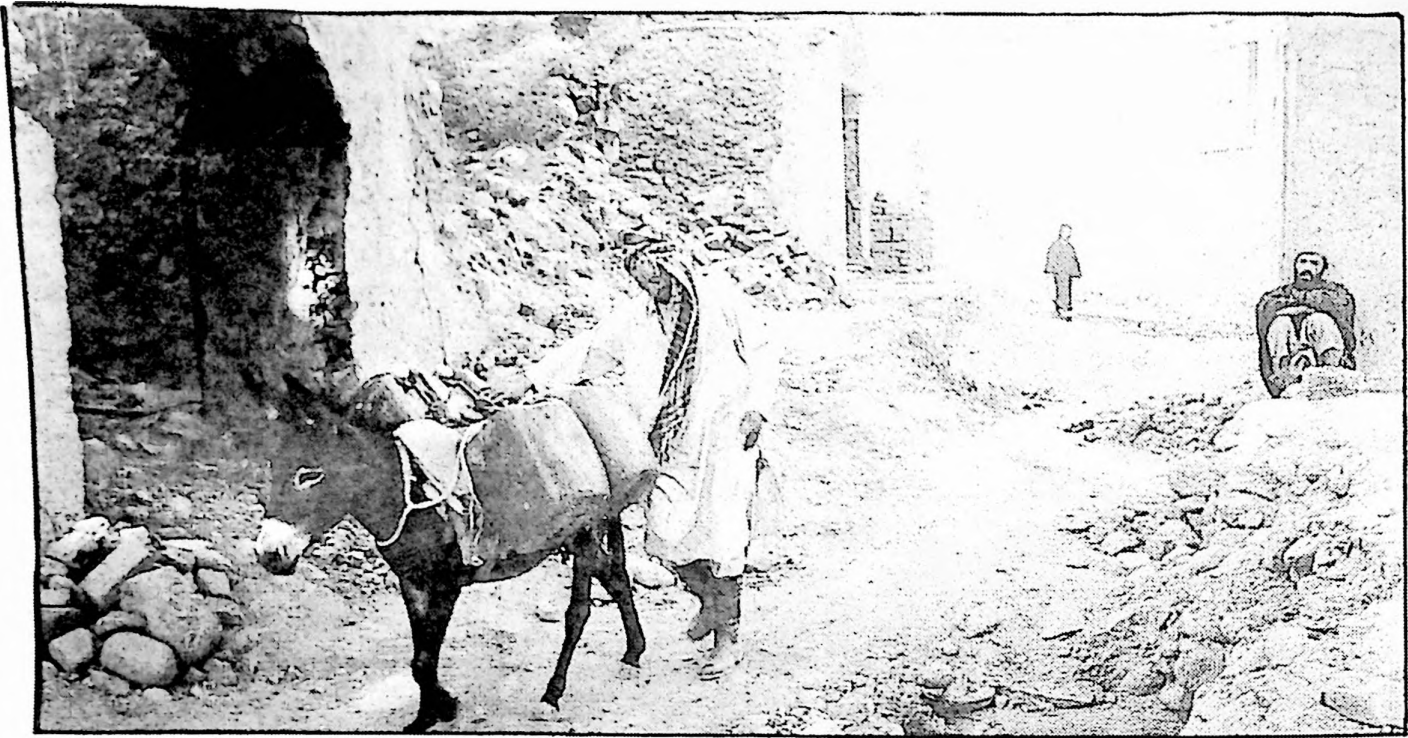
President Bush's recent pick to the board of the US Institute of Peace, Daniel Pipes, was the target of hecklers and angry shouts during a speech last month in Glendale Wisconsin near Milwaukee. Angry protestors repeatedly interrupted a community talk on militant Islamic terrorism by Pipes in the Nicolet High School auditorium. Police arrested a 32-year old man, when during "verbal jarring" there was an insinuation by police that he had a bomb. Though the man pulled up his shirt to show that the charge by the police is outrageous, police dragged him out of the auditorium and charged him with disorderly conduct. The protestors were from the Islamic Society of Milwaukee. Each time some one in the audience interrupted Pipes, he refused to speak until the police dragged the protestors out.

Mr. Pipes is known as "the premier Muslim basher". It's basically his job as an appointee by Bush, to smear an entire Muslim community and to create fear and apprehension and also suspicion towards a religious minority in the USA.

Here are some examples of Pipe's speeches:

- \* "African-American Muslims are a threat to the country and the African Blacks convert to Islam in order to attack America."
- \* "I advocate racial profiling."
- \* "We have to watch any Muslim in this country and their connections to terrorism."
- \* Last year he created Campus Watch whose purpose is to "expose professors across America who justify terrorism, denigrate Israel and also support radical Islam."
- \* He promoted and I "demand that US pursue swift actions against Syria."
- \* "Western Europe is not prepared for the massive migration of brown-skinned people, cooking strange foods and having different standards of hygiene."
- \* In Canada he warned Canadians that "Following Marxism, Leninism and Fascism, comes Islamism."
- \* "Palestinians are very miserable people...and they deserve to be."

So, this is the brilliant appointee by President Bush to head the US Institute of Peace? It's not that God is with Bush – it's God help Bush! ■



LYNNE SLADKY, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A man leads his donkey bearing water jugs down the main street in Khawaja Hasan, a village about 40 kilometres north of Kabul. Like the residents of the destitute rubble-strewn slum of Kabul known simply as 'two roads by the airport.

## AFGHANISTAN ONE YEAR LATER

Many things have changed in Afghanistan since US Imperialism was raining bombs on the people, trying to bring democracy, trying to capture the "holy terror bin Laden" and fooling the American people that they are protecting America from terrorism...and oh yes, promising democracy, freedom, economic rebuilding and heaven on earth.

Well, the above photo symbolizes the actual facts, and no wonder that

there is fighting even now, with partisan movements of the Afghan people struggling against this Yankee imperialism. The homes and industries are still in ruins, the big homes for the rich who were the same exploiters of course got built first. The women are still treated as slaves, forced to wear Burkas as before.

The CARE organization says that,

those Afghans who are lucky to get work, earn less than 30 cents per day. Foreign appointed firms by US government are exploiting the labour force as it was done during the Middle Ages.

The Afghan people in their majority are very angry that they were bombed into the middle ages but promised help if the government is changed...now they say openly that: **"Nothing has changed at all!"**

## Thousands of Iraqis Rally to Demand US Forces Pullout

From KOMINFORM

On May 23 thousands of Iraqis rallied in the streets of Baghdad to demand an Iraqi government and the withdrawal of all US forces. The demonstration by mainly Shiite Muslims underscored the rising discontent with Iraq's Western administration and dissatisfaction with the speed at which power is being handed back to the Iraqis since the toppling of Saddam

Hussein.

"No, No, No USA" read placards of the demonstrators. They called for a unity amongst the Muslims and for an honest Iraqi government. "We will not sell this country! We want honest men for Iraq, not thieves." Iraq's Shiite majority faced persecution under Saddam's Sunni-dominated administration. Although many are relieved that he is gone, they are horrified at the looting allowed and promoted by the US occupation forces, the lawlessness and the breakdown of the essential services.

The black market in stolen goods is flourishing under the noses of the US troops, from computers and stereos to furniture and weapons. US troops

are the biggest buyers of stolen watches with Hussein's picture on them. Blank Iraqi passports sell for \$25 that were looted from the Iraqi Foreign Office. A Heckler and Koch submachine-gun costs \$250- while a basic rifle goes for less than \$25.

People complain bitterly that the Americans encourage people to steal and loot so that they can get these goods cheap at the black markets. There is no order in the city or country.

AFTER READING NSC, WHY NOT PASS IT ON TO A FRIEND!

# ALIENS IN OUR OWN LAND-USA

By BEV CONOVER

Online Journal Editor & Publisher

Most of our fellow US citizens, who continue to mouth platitudes to freedom and democracy, have not yet been bitten by the police state that grows more powerful by the day with the blessings of both the Republicans and the Democrats alike.

We no longer have a country that operates on the consent of the governed, if, indeed, we ever did. But we did have the illusion, perhaps foolishly so, in the face of reality that has come to pass. We, the people, are now superfluous to the decisions that are made by the ruling elite in Washington in the State Houses and the City Halls.

We are now their servants, instead of they being ours. Our only purpose is to do their dirty work at the least possible cost to them, buy their products with any money that we have left over.

Dare to voice a different thought, or read a different book, journal or magazine that isn't "approved" or engage in any public protest or picket or march, you will be dealt with harshly - to losing your job, to being beset by the good "patriots" - interrogated by the authorities, or stripped of your citizenship and even disappearing into prisons. And those born in the US, as well as naturalized citizens, will be subject in losing their citizenship.

The American people have only themselves to blame for this nightmare that descended upon us. We shrugged at the increasing power of the corporations (*after all, bigger is better, right?*) that gained "personhood" when the notes of a US Supreme Court reporter misinterpreted in an 1887 railroad tax case. They cheered the so-called post-Watergate campaign finance reforms that paved the way for the corporations to buy the politicians. They paid no attention to the machinations of the private foundations that were spending their

tax-free dollars on schemes to enslave the people. They turned a blind eye to the consolidation of the media - newspapers, radio, television, books, magazines, films, music, cable and satellite systems - in the hands of an ever shrinking number of corporations. They eagerly accepted corporate "gifts" and foundation "grants" to their schools and universities, for scientific research and environmental projects, for the arts and even sports stadiums, never asking at what price these "gifts" and "grants" come.

Welcome to America Inc., where just about everyone and everything is emblazoned with a corporate logo and where tomorrow it may become "unpatriotic" not to do so.

There is Japanese proverb that says: "The nail that sticks up will be hammered down". That proverb also applies now to America, where people have allowed themselves to be hammered into conformity - conformity to fit the corporate mold, conformity to fit the educational mold. Americans even allow their children who show a spark of individuality and creativity to be drugged at the demand of the education industry or risk having them snatched away by the state. Non-conformists, free thinkers, intellectuals, whatever you wish to



call them, are anathema to the corporate police state, which only wants heads programmed to obey, serve and shop.

Worse. The people sealed their faith by not demanding a full and public investigation into what really happened on September 11, 2001, and instead of opting for the Bush

administration's tale that 19 Arabs, armed with only box cutters and financed by Osama bin Laden, were responsible for the carnage and destruction that occurred on that day, because they hated our freedoms and our lifestyles, which is why they had to be taken away to make us more secure.

And to make us even more "secure", Afghanistan had to be blown to smithereens, followed by Iraq, because Saddam might still have some of the weapons of mass destruction that the US supplied him with, even though no one can find them now, Osama and Saddam vanished too, but the Afghans and Iraqis are grooving in the rubble over them being "liberated".

So here we are, aliens in our own land that becomes more alien to us day by day. Where can we flee in order to find some sanity? What other countries even want us?

Of even more concern is that the rise of fascism here in the USA is sparking fascist ideas in countries that have already been there, done that and should know better. In particular Spain, following some of the biggest anti-wart demonstrations in Europe, is considering a law to "severely punish people who take part in such protests. Even those who 'circulate' information or reports with the aim of weakening the morale of the population or provoking disloyalty or an absence of fighting spirit among the Spanish military" would face the same punishment: up to six years in prison.

If the government of Spain is considering such a law, Franco and Mussolini and Hitler notwithstanding, can Italy, under Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi be far behind? The right-wing Berlusconi, Italy's richest man, sits at the top of a media empire.

Bear in mind that these world Corporations know no national boundaries at all and Letizia Moratti, Berlusconi's Italian minister of education was and is the chairman and executive director of Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation Europe and she also sits on the Advisory Board of the Carlyle Group-Europe.

Assuming that the hands of these corporations also are in the European Union, to paraphrase an old joke, where does an alien go? ■

## WAR CRIMES PROBED

By Patrick Sawyer - Evening Standard

A senior British officer, Lieutenant Colonel Tim Collins who is celebrated as a hero in the Iraq war, stands accused of very "serious breaches" of the Geneva Convention. The allegations are being looked at by the British Army's Special Investigations Branch. He is accused of:

- \* Pistol-whipping an Iraqi civil leader, gashing his head
- \* Shooting the tires of vehicles when there was no threat to British or American life and knowing and seeing that there were no weapons
- \* Firing at the ground near the feet of Iraqi civilians in order to intimidate them
- \* Threatening local townspeople and children to force them to obey all of his demands.

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

**A famous Catholic Bishop of the Americas said:**

"When I gave food to the poor, they said that I was a saint, but when I asked why haven't the poor got food, they called me a communist".

*With thanks to the Beacon, Australia*

FROM THE OBSERVER

## SCANDAL-HIT US FIRM WINS KEY CONTRACT FOR IRAQ

A US military contractor accused of human rights violations has won a multi-million US contract to police post-Saddam Iraq.

DynCorp, which has donated more than 100,000 pounds to the Republican Party, began recruiting for a private police force in Iraq, on behalf of the US State Department.

The awarding of such a sensitive

contract to DynCorp has caused consternation in some circles over the company's previous policing efforts. A British employment tribunal has recently forced DynCorp to pay 110,000 pounds in compensation to a UN police officer it unfairly fired in Bosnia for whistle-blowing on DynCorp colleagues involved in an illegal sex ring.

The recruits are promised a salary of "80,000 plus hazard bonuses" and they do not have to speak Arabic. They have to be a US citizen.

With DynCorp now in charge of a private police force in Iraq, it has been involved in a series of high profile scandals involving personnel in sensitive missions overseas. In Bosnia, DynCorp officers were actually buying and selling prostitutes, including a girl as young

as 12 years. They were accused and charged also with videotaping the rape of women.

DynCorp has also been accused of involvement in Plan Colombia, instigated by former President Bill Clinton, which involves spraying vast quantities of herbicides over Colombia in order to kill the foliage and crops.

DynCorp has its headquarters in Reston, Virginia, employs 25,000 staff, most of them former US military personnel

### QUESTION:

*Will US imperialism force the UN organization to pay the bill for this US private force to police Iraq? If the US is successful, then the question has to be asked, is it United Nations or is it only US Nations?*

## REVOLUTION BETRAYED

The 1978 Afghan Revolution was a genuine seizure of power by the oppressed from the exploiters. With few exceptions, the Left in the imperialist countries slandered the revolution as a coup d'état. Recently Clare Fermont of the SWP went as far as to say revolution in Afghanistan was impossible: "the lack of economic development meant there was no social basis for a "social democratic" movement, let alone a socialist one." (*Socialist Review*, October 2001).

### Afghan society

Prior to 1978, the economy was based on poor and landless peasants and

nomadic herders supplementing farming or herding with handicrafts. The Khans (tribal chiefs) held power based on land and water ownership. Mullahs influenced secular and religious matters and controlled considerable wealth. Women and subjugated peoples faced brutal oppression.

In 1975, average per capita income of the population of 17 million was \$150. Of 35 million acres of potential arable land, only five million were irrigated for farming. 50% of this land was owned by 5% of the population. 72% of the people were landless peasants, poor peasants and herders, 14% were urban.

Capitalists had little significance.

Afghan women defend their revolution with Soviet AK47s





In the countryside the Pashtun royalty, the Khans, some Mullahs and some non-Pashtun landowners dominated. There were 250,000 Mullahs in Afghanistan! In towns, merchants and high-level government officials formed an elite linked to the land-owners.

The social forces for revolution were evident. 70% of the population needed land and water. The national minorities, 55% of the population, needed freedom and equality; half the population, women, needed emancipation.

Even the comparatively minute working class announced its political existence with over 20 strikes in April-June 1968. The first week of June saw a general strike. This wave of strikes continued into the 1970s.

Fermont's statement is a reflection of the Western chauvinism of her organisation. Far from being impossible, a successful revolution had been accomplished north of Afghanistan, with a similar society in 1917: the Tashkent Soviet. The SWP claims to be Leninist. Lenin said 'We are in a position to inspire in the masses an urge for independent political thinking and independent political action, even where a proletariat is practically non-existent.' (*Collected Works* vol 31 pp242-243).

No country, not even Afghanistan, is too backward for communists to provide revolutionary leadership.

### **From Amanullah to Daud: 1919-1978**

In 1919, inspired by the Russian Revolution, the young Afghan national movement came to power under the leadership of King Amanullah, winning partial independence from Britain and establishing friendly relations with the Soviet Union.

Amanullah reformed the education and legal system and tried to improve the status of women. His reforms were too radical for the Khans and the Mullahs, but not revolutionary enough to rouse the masses. He was ousted in 1929.

After World War Two, Iran and Pakistan became protegés of the US. Afghanistan went to the Soviet Union for aid and trade. The US thought it could count on the reactionary Khans, a little aid and the reticence of the Soviet leadership to keep Afghanistan neutral.

During the 1960s and early 1970s the urban middle class and working class became hostile to the king, Zahir Shah. In the countryside, modest capitalist development deepened poverty. The last straw was the corrupt handling of aid to famine victims that killed half a million people between 1969 and 1972. Zahir refused to open the granaries and silos

and watched people starve. The present leader of the interim government, Hamid Karzai, admires this corrupt gangster.

In 1972, Zahir's cousin Daud, representing capitalists and would-be capitalists led a coup and overthrew the monarchy. His primary role was to prevent a revolutionary explosion so he promised reforms.

The coup was supported by a section of the Afghani Left. The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) split into two factions in 1967, partly over coalitions with figures like Daud. The radical Khalq (the people or masses)-faction, led by Nur Mohammed Taraki and Hafizullah Amin, rejected such coalitions. The Parcham (Flag) faction, led by Babrak Karmal, favoured such coalitions. Parcham entered Daud's government. Daud did not implement reforms and dumped Parcham. He turned towards US imperialism via the Shah of Iran:

### **The PDPA takes power**

In 1977 Khalq and Parcham factions reunited, except for in the army. Since 1967, Amin had been organising revolutionary military cadres. Under cover of military exercises Khalq practised for insurrection.

On 17 April 1978, trade union leader Ahbar Haybar was assassinated by government agents. His funeral was a mass demonstration led by workers and students. On 26 April, Daud arrested Taraki, Amin and Karmal after militant graveside speeches. Amin got word to his soldiers via one of his children. The army split and after ten hours fighting the PDPA took power the following day. The masses celebrated in the streets.

This wasn't a coup: a coup is an action that leaves a small clique in power and doesn't involve the masses.

The PDPA government abolished peasant debts and proclaimed women's equality. It redistributed land and adopted a policy of friendliness towards the Soviet Union.

Afghanistan took a giant leap forward. Before the revolution, there were five kindergartens in Kabul, none elsewhere. The PDPA built 400! One thousand male and female doctors graduated annually - the same number as in the entire 50 years of Zahir and Daud! They built health centres and hospitals. They opened schools, enabling little girls to go to school for the first time.

The PDPA freed women to remove the veil, to work and go to university. It lowered the bride price to £3 enraging the Mullahs and Khans, who saw this threatening their power and wealth, and who led a counter-revolutionary war in the countryside.

Counter-revolutionaries (Mullahs and Khans) attacked the symbols of the revolution and women's emancipation: kindergartens, schools, health centres and hospitals. Over 360 kindergartens and health clinics were damaged or destroyed.

In December 1979, the Soviet army came to assist the PDPA with 80,000 troops from Muslim areas in the Soviet Union. These troops were welcomed by the revolutionary masses.

The CIA, using bases in Pakistan, armed and trained the Mujahedin, supplying them with over \$10 billion of arms.

Almost every Left organisation in the imperialist countries sided with the misogynist reactionaries and imperialism. At a November 2001 meeting at the LSE, Tony Benn boasted how he had led a 1980 delegation of 39 Labour MPs to the Soviet Embassy in London protesting against the intervention. Benn, having lost his seat in Parliament, was touting for a safe Labour constituency. Leading SWP member journalist, Paul Foot, attacked Margaret Thatcher, from the right, in the *Daily Mirror*, for allowing British beef to be exported to the Soviet army: 'We are putting beef into Russia's invasion'. This created an anti-communist backlash and a parliamentary frenzy, calling for a total blockade of the Soviet Union.

Prior to taking sides in a conflict, revolutionaries look at who is fighting and why - not who fired the first shot. Lenin quoted Clausewitz that war is a continuation of policy by another means. PDPA policy, backed by the Soviets, was women's liberation and education. The Mujahedin policy, backed by imperialism, was the hideous oppression of women.

Benn, Foot and most of the Left have the enslavement of Afghani women and the blood of revolutionaries, doctors and teachers and Soviet soldiers on their hands.

The war continued and in 1988/89 the Soviet army withdrew. The PDPA held on for another three years. It ended in a gory bloodbath, with PDPA members hung from lamp posts after being sexually mutilated, women, including pregnant women, having their throats slit for being unveiled. Kabul, virtually untouched by the war, was later reduced to rubble. 25,000 citizens killed by rival Mujahedin factions.

If it had developed, the Afghan revolution would have been a step forward for humanity and inspiration to the oppressed in Iran and Pakistan. It was the duty of the Left to show solidarity with it. Instead, they betrayed it.

Jimmy German

VIC  
RATSMAN



## THE BOSS

If you have ever been employed as a worker by a company, private or public, you are undoubtedly well aware of the limitation of your power.

You will either have worked under the direction of a foreman, under a supervisor, superintendent, manager, director or perhaps all of those and you would have followed their orders as to what is to be done, how it is to be done, where it is to be done and when it is to be done.

At least in capitalist relations of production, this is more or less the norm.

So long as your boss is happy with your performance and you carry out instructions as ordered, you will likely be kept on board as long as they need you. Should your boss at some time be unhappy with your work, you might hear the following:

*"I told you what we expect, so there are no illusions as to what we are looking for. We will be watching, and we will measure performance over time to see whether you are prepared to move in a new direction in light of these changed circumstances."*

Well, your capitalist boss may have the right to give you this message and you may have to shape up and comply if you want to keep your job. However, according to an Associated Press article from Washington, published in the Chronicle Herald (Halifax, Canada) May 5, 2003, these are the exact words used by US Secretary of State Colin Powell to Syrian President

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Bashar Assad to: "tell him what he must do to bring his country in line with the American plans for the Middle East."

A week or two before, the same newspaper published a cartoon in which the United Nations president Koffe Annan walked next to president George W. Bush and Annan asking Bush about the "New World Order". Bush's reply: "I run the World. You take the orders!"

These days it seems that on all fronts the United States thinks it owns the world and that it can tell anybody what it must do in order to avoid the wrath of Washington. Like the employee who can be fired, any country not following US orders can be fired at. ■

## SOLIDARITY WITH SOCIALIST KOREA

The second conference of the European Communist and Workers Parties in solidarity with Socialist Korea was held in Brussels on May 5, 2003 with 26 delegations, coming from 21 European countries, while 7 other delegations, coming from other continents, participated in it as observers.

The Conference was organized by the Workers Party of Belgium and the collaboration with the Workers Party of Korea. It was declared that: "Socialist Korea, like other countries which have embarked on the path of socialism, defends the ideals for which communists and anti-capitalists throughout the world are fighting. We thus consider it to be our internationalist duty to defend socialist Korea in the face of the threat of a criminal imperialist attack.

*The refusal of the Democratic Popular Republic of Korea to submit to the US hegemonism is an encouragement to all the peoples of the world to resist the US plans for world domination."*

The Conference has established an inter-European Office, which will provide information and coordinate joint actions of solidarity with socialist Korea. All of the participants have committed themselves to oppose the lies of the media about the DPRK. Particular attention will be given to have youth involved in the defense of Socialist Korea. ■

## CHUCKLE CORNER

**THREE BROTHERS** ages, 93, 94 and 96 lived in a house together. One night the 96 year old draws a bath. He put his foot in and pauses. He yells to his brothers, "Was I getting in or out of the bath?"

The 94 year old yells back, "I don't know. I'll come up and see." He starts up the stairs and pauses. "Was I going up the stairs or down?"

The 92 year old sitting in the kitchen table having his tea listening to his brothers. He shakes his head and says: "I sure hope that I never get that forgetful." He knocks on wood for good measure. He then yells up to his brothers: "I'll come up and help both of you as soon as I see who's knocking at the door!"

## SHADES OF NAZISM!

From KOMINFORM

NABLUS – Israeli soldiers have written numbers in ink on all Palestinians that have to go daily to work through the Israeli checkpoints on the West Bank. Palestinians with three digit numbers on their hands protested that this is degrading, but the Israeli command gave them a choice of either to accept it or go back. Similar incidents had happened in March of this year, when the Israeli soldiers marked numbers on all of the Palestinians foreheads or upper arms.

This practice drew an onslaught of protests from all over the world and from lawyers in Israel itself. Leading this protest was a Jewish lawyer, a survivor of the Nazi concentration camp, who had numbers tattooed on his forearm.

Most Palestinians turned back and did not go to work, because of this Nazi practice by the Israeli government.

*Did you read this item in your daily press or saw it on TV? Who are we kidding?* ■

# LETTERS

FROM  
**BRUSSELS**  
BELGIUM

Dear friends:

We would like to thank you for publishing the Statement of the Brussels Communist Conference in NSC. Besides many other countries and their other delegations present, there were delegates from Russia, Ukraine, Latvia, Lithuania and Moldavia. We had intensive talks with all of the Soviet comrades.

NSC that you sent (75 copies)- were received very well. They were displayed and distributed amongst the delegations and they proved to be very interesting.

We announced at the Conference that Viktor Bourenkov, member of NSC Editorial Board and of the International Council now living in Moscow was arrested, together with others for demonstrating against the present regime.

Yours truly  
Jef Bossuyt  
Member of Belgian Workers Party,  
Member of NSC and International  
Council

FROM  
**DETROIT**  
USA

Dear friends:

Received the document "Lies Concerning the Soviet Union". Even though years 1934 to 1953 were not shown, one could say that if the USSR published the data openly, the liars would have had a difficult time to exaggerate. But, liars will be liars- they would still claim that the USSR was concealing "true facts".

Furthermore, in the face of imperialist-fascist aggression, who knew what the future would hold?

George Shenkar

FROM  
**ROSTOV-ON-DON**  
RUSSIA

Rot Front Comrades!

After receiving NSC we are very happy that you were able to use some of our graphics. It is very joyful to read and see that the international proletariat is solidly with us in the

anti-imperialist struggle, despite the deviations in the former socialist world. I hope that our cooperation will continue onwards.

Alexander Voronkov  
Russian Revolutionary Movement

FROM  
**MOSCOW**  
RUSSIA

May Day greetings to all comrades of NSC and International Council. We are informing you that we are members of the new Russian Society of Friendship with Foreign Countries.

Irma Kovaleva  
Lenin and Motherland Society

FROM  
**NOVA SCOTIA**  
CANADA

The picture below was taken in 1918 at the unveiling of a monument to Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels in Moscow by its foremost follower, Vladimir Lenin.

Today, 85 years later, their word is still the guiding light towards the liberation of all mankind from oppression and deprivation. And as sure as the sun will rise tomorrow, so the day will come that the working



people the world over will take control of their future and celebrate their ultimate victory over capital.

Long Live May Day! Victory to the Working Class!

Vic Ratsma,  
Chairman of the Canadian Friends of Soviet People, NSC Editorial Board member and of International Council

FROM  
**PETRODVORETS**  
RUSSIA

Dear comrades:

Cordial congratulations on the International Day of Solidarity – May Day. We want to thank you for NSC and constant informative materials, which we use regularly. Greetings to all of the Editorial Board of NSC and its excellent results.

Nina A. Andreeva  
General Secretary  
All Union Communist Party of  
Bolsheviks

From  
**LENINGRAD**  
RUSSIA

Dear comrades:

From the Editorial Board of the Proletarskaya Gazeta, I congratulate NSC collective and send greetings on this May Day – the Day of International Solidarity and on May 9<sup>th</sup> the Great Victory over fascism. Please be certain that our trade unions will participate in the Second World Congress in Europe in September of 2004

Dmitry Pirozhkov

FROM  
**WROCLAW**  
POLAND

Dear comrades:

Sincere and comradely greetings from Polish Communists on this May Day, and in our common struggle against imperialism. Keep up the great work in Northstar Compass, information that we use often.

Zbigniew Wiktor  
Member of the NDC Editorial Board  
and International Council

## IS THIS THE PRICE OF SO-CALLED PROGRESS?

According to a Reuters news item, traffic in the world kills as many people as wars and far more people commit suicide than are murdered, according to the World Health Organization statement made in the month of May.

In two reports by the WHO, both accidental, and deliberate, the death toll in 2000 was five million, one tenth of the global death toll. Nearly 90% of these injury-related deaths took place in poorer countries due to exploitation and unsafe conditions. Road deaths totaled 1.26 million, claimed the highest number of victims, this was followed by suicide at 815,000, and interpersonal violence at 525,000. War and conflict ranked sixth – between poisoning and falls – with 310,000 deaths.

## DID YOU KNOW?

USA through covert and overt actions has intervened 215 times in countries around the globe since 1945! Add to this the interventional wars since 1900 and you get the picture as to who is a terrorist state!  
Was God with them in all of this?

*From the book 'Another Century of War' by Professor Gabriel Kolko of York University, Toronto, Canada.*

**DID YOU DONATE TO SUSTAINING FUND?**

## SOVIET TREASURES

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

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## THE LIE OF THE

**"LENIN TESTAMENT"**



This excellent and timely book, debunking the lies is available now for only...  
**\$10.80**

## "O ISRAEL, YOUR FRONTIERS ARE FROM THE EUPHRATES TO THE NILE"

The above inscription in Hebrew, appears on the front wall of the Knesset, the Israeli Parliament. All Zionists stand for this principle, which is laid down in the Jewish Torah. Some Zionists of course, are more tactful than others.

What worries the more "progressive" Zionists is not that Ariel Sharon is a criminal, but that he may turn out to be an unsuccessful criminal.

**God forbid!**

*With thanks to Finsbury Communist*

**HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUB?**