

MIM Notes



May 1, 2002, N° 257

The Official Newsletter of the Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM)

Free

Thousands protest Amerikan militarism, Israeli aggression

SAN FRANCISCO

April 21

Well over 20,000 people marched from the Mission District to City Hall yesterday to protest U.S. militarism and imperialism. The crowds vociferously denounced the recent Amerikan-supported Israeli aggression in the West bank. Any call of "Free free Palestine!" during a lull in the chanting received a loud response from dozens to hundreds.

The contingent of Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM) and Revolutionary Anti-Imperialist League (RAIL) activists was very visible and well-received, in large part to a half-dozen very artistic posters designed by RAIL comrades. One poster showed U.S. President Bush pulling the strings on his puppet, Israeli Prime Minister Sharon; another juxtaposed a starving African infant with an Amerikan SUV under the slogan, "The majority of the world's people can't live with imperialism, can you live without it?" All of these posters received favorable comments from other marchers.

Some MIM and RAIL comrades also participated in a feeder march organized by BAYAN-International USA, a national democratic organization of Filipino sojourners. This march was quite boistrous; the chant leaders did a good job pumping up the crowd and writing hip, original chants (a nice break from the "One two three four..." and "Hey hey ho ho..." standards). The chants were on target politically as well. They included "Stop the U.S. war machine, from Afghanistan to the Philippines" and "Bush, you fascist, don't think you can outlast us!"



Activists from RAIL and BAYAN contingents meet up in the mission district.

The march organizers also did a good job promoting internationalism. They had chants and flags supporting the Palestian struggle for self-determination. The march began in the heart of the immigrant Latino Mission district, and speakers referred to the area as "occupied Aztlan" while proclaiming their solidarity with the struggles of Latinos. A RAIL placard at the rally read: "Abolish all illegitimate borders."

An 89-year-old veteran of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade marched in the larger rally. The Communist-organized Abraham Lincoln Brigade fought in the Spanish Civil War against the Nazi-backed nationalists. "I am proud to fight against fascism and oppression, whether it's in Spain, Nazi-Germany, or Israel," he said.

MIM is happy too see hear such

comments and see so many marching against Amerikan imperialism and expanding fascism from an internationalist perspective. We are well aware, however, that such sentiments remain in the minority in the United States (see articles on protests in Santa Cruz and at San Francisco State University on this page and pages four, five and eight).

While at the rally MIM and RAIL comrades distributed MIM Notes and collected signatures on petitions opposing restrictions on prisoner visitation rights (see page three) and demanding the attorney general release information on the over 1000 people detained since September 11, allegedly on suspicion of terrorism.

Notes:

San Francisco Chronicle, 21 Apr 2002.

Santa Cruz cultural event succeeds

SANTA CRUZ, CAL.

April 6

Participants had an enthusiastic response to a proletarian-led event in Santa Cruz titled "Culture against War," opposing the U.S. intervention in the Philippines. The day's speeches and cultural activity stood in stark contrast to the "war on terrorism" rhetoric from Washington, DC.

Three hundred people attended a sunny afternoon picnic on a lawn overlooking the Pacific Ocean. They saw bands, dancing, political theater and speakers. Most people took a copy of the April 1st MIM Notes and a Santa Cruz committee working on Mumia Abu-Jamal's case helped pass out some older MIM Notes on U.S. military action in the Philippines at their table.

MIM interviewed several people as they exited the event to see what their reaction was. The speakers had condemned U.S. interference in other countries' affairs across the globe. The speakers condemned the chauvinism against northern Korea, Iraq and Iran stirred up by President Bush and others recently. The audience learned the details of the renewed U.S. military presence and activities in the Philippines.

Terry Valen asked "what does U.S. militarism mean for the . . . native peoples. [It means] stolen land. . . [It means] displacing indigenous peoples in Mindanao."

The organizers of the event obviously put in great effort and succeeded in bringing out people new to politics. Some teenage activists not only attended but also set up tables to explain various causes. At one table, MIM interviewed the Cesar E. Chavez National Holiday Campaign participants. Cesar Chavez was a union leader who organized truly super-exploited farmworkers, mostly from Mexico.

MIM asked the Cesar Chavez National Holiday Campaign activists what is the connection between their issue and the issues addressed in speeches that day. The three wimmin agreed, "there is no connection." Then MIM asked, "how come you're here then?" One activist replied, "I'm the Sargent of Arms." Then MIM asked, "how did you decide to come here today?" and still there was a reply "I don't think there is any connection."

The "Asian & Pacific Islander
Continued on page 8...

MIM Notes: Most CENSORED Newspaper in Amerikkka

As we report on page six, prisons in at least 38 states censored MIM Notes over the last 18 months — and the count may be more, as some states we have no information on may have completely cut off communication between MIM Notes and prisoners. We temporarily stopped sending MIM Notes to at least one prison because they have refused every paper we sent there over the last year. At

the same time, MIM's work and the work of its allies — especially many dedicated prisoners — lifted bans in prisons across the continent.

Prisoncrats censor MIM Notes because of its political content — hypocritically, since if they applied the same standards to Amerikkka's "founding fathers," Abraham Lincoln, and the bible, they would have to censor them as well. This is one of

the reasons MIM scoffs at the claim that Amerikkka is a "free country" (the fact that Amerikkka has the world's highest imprisonment rate is another).

Please turn to page seven to see how you can get involved in the struggle to end this censorship and provide prisoners access to an important educational tool and vehicle for vibrant debate.

PIRAO campaigns move forward

New PIRAO campaigns on several fronts are in motion. MIM Notes circulation and web readership are still up since September 11th. Current experiments are aimed at figuring out how much money and in what places it is best to spend money to increase MIM readership on a regular basis.

MIM studies what works and does not work without sacrificing radicalism. However, MIM would like to stress to those who think they are more "moderate" that it benefits all progressive causes to have a large MIM presence. A movement can only seem "moderate" next to something that is not.

One thing for sure: MIM is more effective than most organizations. Ross Perot proved that if you want to change public opinion in Amerikkka, you have to pay for it, but the question is how

much. The environmental movement spends \$9 billion a year with little result because of its apolitical and cross-cancelling nature. MIM is much more directed and if you manage to send \$9 billion to MIM, you can be sure a whole lot of earth-shaking and change is on the way.

If you or anyone you know would like to fund a MIM advertisement in your favorite place, contact, mim3@mim.org, the Web Minister. Instructions on how to send secret messages appear at: <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/faq/security.html>

If you have an ad in mind send it along, or if you just want to send money, and let MIM spend it, send anonymous money orders to MIM, PO Box 290670, Los Angeles, CA 90029. Keep the money order stub for yourself.

Editor, MC206; Production, MC12

MIM Notes

The Official Newsletter of The Maoist Internationalist Movement

MIM Notes is the bi-weekly newsletter of the Maoist Internationalist Movement. MIM grants explicit permission to copy all or part of this newspaper for any reason. Please credit MIM Notes where appropriate. The paper is free to all prisoners. Overseas airmail is \$2 per issue. MIM Notes is the official Party voice. Material in the paper is the Party's position unless noted to the contrary. MIM Notes accepts submissions and critiques from anyone. The editors reserve the right to edit copy unless permission is specifically denied by the author. Back issues of MIM Notes are available for \$1 per issue. A bound volume of the original MIM Notes 1-34 and MIM Theory 1-13 (old numbering) is available for \$15, post-paid. MIM has a complete literature list of progressive books and pamphlets. Send \$2 for a copy. MIM's ten point program is available to anyone who sends in a SASE. MIM is an underground party that does not publish the names of its comrades in order to avoid the state surveillance and repression that have historically been directed at communist parties and anti-imperialist movements. MCs, MIM comrades, are members of the Party. RCs are RAIL Comrades. The Revolutionary Anti-Imperialist League (RAIL) is an anti-imperialist mass organization led by MIM. MIM runs a books for prisoners program which provides Maoist and general political material to prisoners for free. Make checks or money orders payable to "Books for Prisoners, Inc." Federal EIN: 04-3475938. Send to: Books for Prisoners, Inc. c/o the address below. Donations and books can be sent to the address below. Send cash or check payable to "MIM Distributors".

MIM
P.O. Box 29670
Los Angeles, CA 90029-0670

eMail: [<mim@mim.org>](mailto:mim@mim.org)
WWW: [<http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM>](http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM)

A call for MIM Notes sponsors and distributors!

MIM is looking for distributors and sponsors to step forward. Sponsors pay for papers; distributors get them onto the streets and officers do both distribution and financial support:

Distribute	Cost per year
12 (Priority Mail)	\$120
25 (Priority Mail)	\$150
50 (Priority Mail)	\$280
100	\$380
200	\$750
900 (Express Mail!)	\$3,840
900 (8-10 days)	\$2,200

If you know you have some good places to distribute, we suggest starting at 200 and working your way up. If you are not willing to distribute, just send money. If you are not willing to pay, then request papers after somehow proving to the party that you are serious (words won't count). You who will cough up/raise the money to distribute 900 papers each issue and then do the distribution -- you are what drives this party forward.

Make anonymous money orders payable to "MIM." Send to MIM, attn: Camb. branch, PO Box 400559, Cambridge, MA 02140. Or write mim3@mim.org.

We constantly update MIM's coverage of the U.S. war on our web site, with news and opinion, agitation materials, articles in English, Spanish, French, Chinese and Russian!
Read and distribute the newspaper -- and get the latest: www.etext.org/Politics/MIM

MIM THEORY

MIM Theory calls for articles and testimonials

MIM's theory magazine is preparing for future issues. We are looking for well-researched articles on Nazi Germany and eastern Germany, especially in the 1945 to 1953 period. Please follow some footnote format.

Another area we are working on is research on psychics. If you stopped paying psychics, please send us a letter telling us how you did so and give us your permission to use your statement as a testimonial. We also would appreciate any statistical research or articles on the subject of the effectiveness of psychics.

Did you know? There are more than 200 back issues of MIM Notes available on the MIM website? Not only can you browse more than 15 years of the newspaper, you can also keep up with the very latest on MIM agitation campaigns, prisoner news, all the latest on the U\$ war, and much more. MIM's website is an indispensable tool for the revolutionary movement. *Get involved!*
www.etext.org/Politics/MIM

What's New @ MIM's Homepage

Attention subscribers

MIM now sends MIM Notes subscriptions to individuals in monthly mailings, third class mail. If you have a subscription and would like a refund for the remaining months, please write to MIM, PO Box 29670, Los Angeles, CA 90029-0670.

What is MIM?

The Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM) is the collection of existing or emerging Maoist internationalist parties in the English-speaking imperialist countries and their English-speaking internal semi-colonies, as well as the existing or emerging Maoist Internationalist parties in Belgium, France and Quebec and the existing or emerging Spanish-speaking Maoist Internationalist parties of Aztlan, Puerto Rico and other territories of the U.S. Empire. MIM Notes is the newspaper of MIM. Notas Rojas is the newspaper of the Spanish-speaking parties or emerging parties of MIM. MIM upholds the revolutionary communist ideology of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism and is an internationalist organization that works from the vantage point of the Third World proletariat. MIM struggles to end the oppression of all groups over other groups: classes, genders, nations. MIM knows this is only possibly by building public opinion to seize power through armed struggle. Revolution is a reality for North America as the military becomes over-extended in the government's attempts to maintain world hegemony. MIM differs from other communist parties on three main questions: (1) MIM holds that after the proletariat seizes power in socialist revolution, the potential exists for capitalist restoration under the leadership of a new bourgeoisie within the communist party itself. In the case of the USSR, the bourgeoisie seized power after the death of Stalin in 1953; in China, it was after Mao's death and the overthrow of the "Gang of Four" in 1976. (2) MIM upholds the Chinese Cultural Revolution as the farthest advance of communism in humyn history. (3) As Marx, Engels and Lenin formulated and MIM has reiterated through materialist analysis, imperialism extracts super-profits from the Third World and in part uses this wealth to buy off whole populations of oppressor nation so-called workers. These so-called workers bought off by imperialism form a new petty-bourgeoisie called the labor aristocracy. These classes are not the principal vehicles to advance Maoism within those countries because their standards of living depend on imperialism. At this time, imperialist super-profits create this situation in the Canada, Quebec, the United States, England, France, Belgium, Germany, Japan, Italy, Switzerland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Israel, Sweden and Denmark. MIM accepts people as members who agree on these basic principles and accept democratic centralism, the system of majority rule, on other questions of party line.

"The theory of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin is universally applicable. We should regard it not as dogma, but as a guide to action. Studying it is not merely a matter of learning terms and phrases, but of learning Marxism-Leninism as the science of revolution."

- Mao Zedong, Selected Works, Vol. II, p. 208.

Defend California prisoners visitation rights

The Department of Corrections is proposing changes to the visiting rules in California. These changes will make it very difficult for people to visit their relatives and friends in prison, and restricting expression of comfort or emotion, and cutting off visitation entirely for inmates with more severe sentences. Among the changes being proposed:

* All inmate visitors, including minors, shall provide a completed CDC Form 106 and obtain institution/facility approval before they may be permitted to visit with an inmate.

* All minors over the age of 7 shall present picture proof of identity before being permitted to visit (only legal Id's, as with adult visitors)

* Family visits shall not be permitted

for higher custody and life sentence inmates, those in segregation or secure housing units, or who have been found guilty of violating certain regulations.

These restrictions are counter to any notion of rehabilitation as studies have shown that regular visits reduce recidivism among prisoners. These rules will only help expand what is already a huge growth industry across the country: the criminal injustice system. In fact the changes to the regulation make clear the new position towards visitation. While the old regulation opens with the sentence: "The value of visiting as a means to establish and maintain meaningful family and community relationship is recognized and encouraged." The new regulation starts with: "Visiting is a privilege." This is a

dangerous shift to a focus on using visitation rights for punishment. The rules for prisoners in restrictive custody will specifically punish the politically active behind bars because they are the ones who get locked up in SHU and segregation as punishment for demanding their legal rights.

Prisons in this country are used as a tool of social control. MIM and RAIL fight for reforms to the conditions in prisons while working to dismantle the criminal injustice system and replace it with a system of real justice run by and for the people.

Protest these changes to the visitation rules, Write, fax, or e-mail the Department of Corrections at: Department of Corrections Regulation and Policy Management

Branch
P.O. Box 942883
Sacramento, CA 94283-0001
fax: (916)322-3842
e-mail: pmchenry@executive.corr.ca.gov

And Join the MIM and RAIL contingent at a demonstration against the repressive practices in California state prisons (this demonstration is sponsored by the All People's Coalition against U.S. Terror and Occupation):

**Friday, May 3, 2002, Noon
San Quentin and Soledad Prisons**

Contact the Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM) or the Revolutionary Anti-Imperialist League (RAIL) for more information at PO Box 40799, San Francisco, CA 94140 or mim124@mim.org.

U.S. Navy resumes bombing Vieques in Puerto Rico

The U.S. Navy resumed bombing exercises on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques on April 1. By April sixth 14 protesters had been arrested for attempting to enter the Navy's restricted zone to disrupt the bombing exercises. Five of those arrested refused to ask for bail because they do not recognize the authority of the US federal court in Puerto Rico. The arrests came with increasing violence against the demonstrators including firing of tear gas canisters as peaceful demonstrators and journalists, pepper spraying of protesters after arrest,

and firing rubber bullets into crowds of demonstrators.

Even the Puerto Rican police are protesting the U.S. Navy's violence, debunking the Navy's claims that they are only firing tear gas in response to rock throwing. "They are provoking the situation," Puerto Rican police auxiliary superintendent Col. Cesar Garcia said of the Navy security personnel. "I witnessed the incident, and there was no rock throwing. Right now, my superiors are on the phone to complain to the Navy about the situation."

MIM stands with the Puerto Rican people in demanding that the united states end all military operations on the island, pay for clean up of Vieques, and grant the people of Puerto Rico the right to control their own land. This is just the first step in the fight for independence and self-determination for the Puerto Rican people.

Notes:

Weekly News Update on the Americas, Issue #636, April 7, 2002. wnu@igc.org.



A call for MIM Notes sponsors and distributors!

MIM Notes has seen a big spike in circulation since the "war on terrorism" began. It's not surprising: MIM Notes is a free and independent newspaper. Yes, there are especially now knee-jerk patriots who believe everything Bush says and pass by a chance to read MIM Notes. There are other patriots and internationalists who realize that at this time papers like MIM Notes can undo the huge spectacle that Uncle Sam is creating for its own benefit.

Sure, you have seen MIM Notes around, but MIM Notes needs people to do two simple things: 1) Pay for it (postage and printing), 2) Distribute it!

MIM is looking for sponsors, distributors and officers. Sponsors pay for papers; distributors get them onto the streets and officers do both distribution and financial support.

Make anonymous money orders payable to "MIM." Send to MIM, attn: Camb. branch, PO Box 400559, Cambridge, MA 02140. Contact MIM in regards to this campaign by writing mim3@mim.org

Distribute #	Cost per year
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If you know you have some good places to do distribution, we suggest starting at 200 and working your way up higher. If you are not willing to do distribution, just send money. If you are not willing to pay, then request papers after somehow proving to the party that you are serious (words won't count). You who will cough up/raise the money to distribute 900 papers each issue and then do the distribution, you are what drives this party forward.

Detentions and harassment of Arabs and Muslims continue

In March MIM and RAIL hosted a forum on detentions and the criminal injustice system which featured the organizer of the Iman Network, a Bay Area organization devoted to fighting hate crimes and discrimination against Muslims and Arabs. The speaker began by pointing out that there have always been groups in the united states that are discriminated against: From First Nations whose land was stolen and who were massacred en mass to African slaves to Japanese in internment camps.

The September 11 attacks on the U.S. have led to a dramatic rise in attacks on and discrimination against Muslims and Arabs, but this is not something new to the united states. A report by the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) showed 240 reported cases of discrimination against Muslims in 1997. This increased 15% to 322 in 2000. Since September 11 Muslims and Arabs have faced verbal abuse on the streets, physical assault, FBI harassment, police brutality, arrest and even murder.

The speaker converted to Islam two years ago and remarked on the difference in the way she is treated now that she

covers her head. People in stores assume she can't speak english, people on the streets look at her differently. She noted that this country is made up of immigrants [though MIM points out that the First Nations were not immigrants] but yet it is not tolerant of differences.

After September 11 Muslims and Arabs have been afraid to go out to protest. They don't want to experience the attacks. Some students stopped going to classes or dropped out entirely. To help the community break the silence the Iman Network established the Hate Crime Hotline on September 13, 2001. The organizer has put her life on hold, living off savings, to staff the hotline full time. She considers this a matter of principle saying "until I can walk on the street and feel safe and the community accepts us the way we are I have to do this."

The hotline has taken calls ranging from verbal abuse to police harassment to physical assault. To date they have logged 133 calls seeking help. 29 of these were cases of FBI and INS harassment. They also include police harassment, job discrimination, verbal and written harassment, assault and attempted

Continued on page 6...

Worldwide protests denounce Israeli aggression

Throughout April, as Israel continued its massacre of the Palestinian people, protests around the world grew. It is no wonder that the people of the world are standing up to oppose the blatant and violent oppression of the Palestinian people. In Jenin, Israeli bulldozers destroyed houses in the refugee camp under the cover of live ammunition from tanks and helicopters. The Israeli army also prevented ambulances and medical personnel from reaching the sick and injured.(5) There is no possible purpose to the destruction of these houses other than the complete annihilation of the Palestinian people. This is a goal that Prime Minister Sharon shares with the 46% of Israelis who favor "transfer" — that is, ethnic cleansing or genocide — as a final solution to the "Palestinian problem."

Protests in the first week of April throughout Latin America expressed solidarity with the Palestinian people and denounced the Israeli attacks. On April 4 over 1,000 Brazilians marched to the US consulate in Sao Paulo to condemn the Israeli attacks on Palestine. The same day 500 people took part in a similar demonstration in Rio de Janeiro and in Brasilia a group of people marched to the US embassy after an overnight vigil at the Israeli embassy. On April 5 more than 1,000 people marched through Uruguay. The next day 1,000 Chileans protested the Israeli assault. In Ecuador 100 people protested in front of the Israeli embassy. And in Nicaragua 2,000 people marched to the UN office to demand withdrawal of the Israeli army from Palestinian territories.(1)

In Morocco a crowd of more than one million people gathered in Rabat to

denounce Israel's crimes against the Palestinian people. Recognizing the role of Amerikan imperialism in supporting Israel, people burned American flags. This march culminated two weeks of independently organized protests and strikes by high school students across the country.(2)

In Cairo people protested outside the emergency meeting of Arab foreign ministers. In Lebanon there were seven consecutive days of rallies, the largest of which turned out more than 15,000 people. And in Indonesia four days of protests ended with thousands clashing with police in Jakarta after throwing rotten vegetables at a heavily fortified US embassy. (3)

In Rome, 50,000 people marched through the center of the city. Italy's three main unions decided at the last minute not to participate in the march.(4) This position by the unions does not surprise MIM. We have long seen that unions in imperialist countries line up on the side of the imperialists when it comes to issues of war and plunder of wealth. This is because they are protecting their material interests: They are benefiting from the exploitation of the Third World peoples. But even the relative wealth of Italy did not stop the people of that country from coming down on the right side of the battle in Palestine.

In Bahrain police killed a protestor during a demonstration outside the U.S. embassy. In Switzerland more than 9,000 people demonstrated in Bern. And in Australia more than 5,000 activists marched to the Israeli and US consulates.(3)

Throughout France demonstrators showed strong support for the Palestinian



people. In Paris more than 20,000 people marched, ripping up Israeli and Amerikan flags and chanting slogans. And thousands demonstrated in the cities of Nantes, Rennes, Rouen, Lille, Strasbourg, Metz, Genoble and Marseilles.(3)

Rallies across the country in Germany drew more than 5,000 people.(3) On April 9 Germany announced that it had suspended arms sales to Israel to protest its incursions in the West Bank(6) This action by the German government demonstrates the potential power of protests by the people. If sufficient pressure from within is put on imperialist governments, we can sometimes win battles like this. Stopping military aid to Israel, or any other government that is fighting a war against the people, is a significant help to the people. MIM encourages people to participate in such a campaign — see for example the flyer and petition on page five demanding that

the University of California divest from Israel. MIM joins the many other progressive groups across the globe in calling on the people to fight the Israeli attacks on Palestine and in demanding the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people.

Notes:

1. WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE ON THE AMERICAS, ISSUE #636, APRIL 7, 2002, NICARAGUA SOLIDARITY NETWORK OF GREATER NEW YORK, <wnu@igc.org>
2. http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/world/middle_east/newsid_1915000/1915813.stm
3. http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/world/middle_east/newsid_1915000/1915507.stm
4. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A7497-2002Apr6.html>
5. The Palestine Monitor, A PNGO Information Clearinghouse, April 6th, 2001, www.palestinemonitor.org
6. Washington Post, April 9, 2002.

National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) condemns Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people

The National Democratic Front of the Philippines condemns the Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people and its flagrant refusal to follow the UN Security Council resolution ordering it to withdraw its military forces from Ramallah and other Palestinian cities and towns. By arrogantly flaunting this decision of the UN Security Council and rejecting the peace proposal of Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince that was approved by the Arab League Summit, the Sharon government unmasks itself as a big obstacle to peace in the Middle East.

True to its record of supporting Israel in its aggression against the Palestinian people and other Arab nations, the US has in effect taken the side of the Sharon government by concentrating its attacks against Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Authority. Despite the US representative's signing of the UN Security Council Resolution 1402 [demanding an immediate Israeli

withdrawal from Palestinian cities] yesterday, US President George W. Bush has not taken a firm stand against the Israeli occupation of Palestinian cities and towns and current acts of Israeli aggression.

The Sharon government bears the responsibility for the death of more than 400 Palestinian children and close to one thousand other Palestinians, since the start of the second Intifida 18 months ago, which Sharon himself provoked with his visit to the Al Aqsa Mosque with 2,000 Israeli troops. This is the same Sharon who is accused of causing the Sabra and Shatila massacres of thousands of Palestinian civilians in Beirut in 1982. His militarist action, now set to expand to the entire West Bank and Gaza Strip, has ignited a spiral of violence that has claimed many civilian lives on both sides. It threatens to cause a conflagration of conflict throughout the whole region.

The Palestinian people have the inalienable right to their homeland and to national self-determination. These inalienable rights have been recognized and upheld by numerous United Nations resolutions, which the Israeli government has repeatedly refused to implement with impunity, relying always on the support of the US.

The denial of these inalienable rights of the Palestinian people through the continued military occupation of Palestine and the continuing exploitation and oppression of the Palestinian people by the Israeli government lie at the root of the violent conflict between the Palestinian people and the Israeli government.

The National Democratic Front of the Philippines, representing the revolutionary forces who are fighting for national and social liberation against U.S. imperialism and the local reactionaries, expresses its firm solidarity with the

heroic Palestinian people. It supports all progressive efforts to seek a just solution to this violent conflict in the Middle East, a just solution that must include respect for the Palestinian people's inalienable rights to their homeland and to national self-determination.

On behalf of the NDFP National Council:

Luis Jalandoni
Member, NDFP National Executive Committee
31 March 2002

The National Democratic Front is an underground alliance of revolutionary organizations waging protracted people's war for the liberation of the Philippines from imperialism, feudalism, and crony capitalism. It is led by the Communist Party of the Philippines.

Opposition to occupation builds in Israel

On April 4, 2002 a signer of the Courage to Refuse statement, Tamir Sorek, spoke in San Francisco. Courage to Refuse is a movement of reserve soldiers in the Israeli military who have signed the statement refusing to fight in the Occupied Territories where Israel is currently waging a brutal invasion. There are now over four hundred signatories, and Sorek claimed there are more than ten times as many reservists who support the movement but have not stood up due to social and familial pressures. He reports that some local officials are refusing to hire anyone who signs.

On the date of the event, 21 reservists were in prison for refusing to serve in the Occupied Territories. Many more have done time for refusing to serve, as refuseniks are usually released after 7-10 days.

While representing the Israeli petty bourgeoisie, Sorek made statements that were relatively revolutionary given the current situation in Israel calling the state racist and recognizing that the "occupation is to perpetuate our control over the Palestinian people."

Sorek was a willing combatant for years who began to question his participation in 1996 when Israel broke the Oslo accords, making it clear [to him] a transition to peace would not happen. But it was not until recently, when he was presented with the threat of being called to serve in the occupied territories, that he took the stand he is taking.

Clearly the peace movement in Israel is not just based on moral indignation, but it is a struggle in the self-interest of those whose lives are threatened in battle as well as in their day-to-day lives as civilians. The Israeli war machine is able to use this fear to build support for the invasions of Palestine, but some will be more rational. Despite his belief in a just war against "extreme Arabs" [he gave no concrete examples], Sorek recognizes that there is no way to combat the attacks on Israel militarily because these attacks are in fact caused by the occupation,

oppression and humiliation of the Palestinians.

The current war situation in the Middle East has put moderate elements such as the Courage to Refuse movement on the

progressive side of fighting for peace. The importance of this movement is indicated by reports of efforts by Israel to sabotage their organizing efforts in the United States. MIM continues to voice

our support for the Courage to Refuse for as long as they remain on the side of the proletariat anti-imperialist camp.

University of California: Divest from Israel!

Students at the University of California have the opportunity to re-claim a proud legacy — that of student activists demanding that their administrators financially account for the investment of university money in companies doing business with oppressiveregimes. In the 1960s and 70s, it was the University's investment in the U.S. war machine in Vietnam. In the 1980s, the white apartheid government in South Africa. In the 1990s, Third World sweatshops. UCLA students should now take up the cause of divestment from the state of Israel.



With its declaration of "all-out war" against the people of Palestine, Israel's recent military invasions into all the major cities in the already occupied West Bank – including Ramallah, Bethlehem, Nablus and Hebron — has meant mass dislocation, unwarranted search, seizure, thousands of arrests and detentions, and the deaths of hundreds, many of whom died as ambulances were prevented from reaching them, or literally were left to rot in the streets.

With such actions, Israel takes its place alongside apartheid-era South Africa and the others, and should be subject to the same financial sanctions. In an escalating cycle of military repression and civilian counter-attack – the death toll rises every day. For the sake and future of humanity, economic sanctions should be employed against Israel to help break that cycle.

The University of California invests hundreds of millions of dollars in companies like General Dynamics Corp., General Electric Capital Corp., Honeywell Corp., Lockheed Martin, Raytheon and United Tech Corp., each of which invest heavily in Israel and provide it with helicopters, jet engines, F-16 fighters, M1-A2 tanks, avionics control systems, rocket launchers, aircraft missiles, launch systems, other missiles and more.

The University of California should investigate the companies it invests in and does business with for ties to the Israeli apartheid state. It should divest from those companies with large investments in Israel – especially those involved with the Israeli military. This divestment should continue at least as long as Israel refuses to withdraw from the territory it occupied in 1967.

Sign and circulate the petition with these demands!

Contact slala12@mim.org or go to www.etext.org/Politics/MIM.

Flyer produced by the Maoist Internationalist Movement, PO Box 29670 Los Angeles CA, 900290670

University of California: Divest from Israel!

We call on the University of California to investigate the companies it invests in and does business with for ties to the Israeli apartheid state. It should divest from those companies with large investments in Israel - especially those involved with the Israeli military. This divestment should continue at least as long as Israel refuses to withdraw from the territory it occupied in 1967.

Name City State/Country

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Mail completed petition to MIM, PO Box 29670, Los Angeles CA, 90029-0670

Anti-censorship campaign: Illinois

The Tamms C-Max (Control-Maximum Security) in Illinois is censoring the newspaper MIM Notes, books sent in as part of MIM's Free Books for Prisoners program, and correspondence from individual prisoners. The prison has generally not disclosed why it stopped certain materials.

We fear that the mailroom staff is capriciously discarding mail, especially mail to and from MIM and Men Against Control Segregation (MACS). MACS organizes against the abuses of control-unit facilities.

Control units like Tamms are prisons under permanent lock down. Prisoners typically spend 23 hours of every day alone in a 6' by 8' cell. Beatings by guards are common. Control units are designed to isolate prisoners — stopping contact with the outside in one way this happens.

Illinois prisons have a history of censorship. Tamms, for example, banned the receipt of reading material from

friends and family members. Prisoners in Illinois are waging a class action lawsuit against this kind of censorship.

MIM is calling on all readers to protest the censorship by Tamms officials and throughout the IDOC. You can address complaints to:

Warden George C. Welborn
200 East Supermax Road
P.O. Box 400
Tamms, IL 62988

Director Donald Snyder, Jr.
Illinois Department of Corrections
1301 Concordia Court
Springfield, IL 62794

Governor George Ryan
Office of the Governor
207 Statehouse
Springfield, IL 62706

Please send MIM a copy of all protest letters you send.

Anti-censorship campaign: Pennsylvania

For almost the last year, the administration at SCI-Greene prison in Pennsylvania has kept MIM Notes from prisoners there.

SCI-Greene holds journalist Mumia Abu-Jamal and is infamous for restricting media access to prisoners. This is a clear attack on the ability of people like Mumia and the writers in MIM Notes to criticize the Amerikan prison system and express wider political views.

We are asking that readers send in letters or call to protest this censorship to:

Conner Blaine, Jr., Superintendent
169 Progress Drive
Waynesburg, PA 15370
(724) 852-2902

Anti-censorship campaign: Wisconsin

The Waupun Correctional Institution in Wisconsin censors MIM Notes on the grounds that it “teaches or advocates behavior which violates the laws of Wisconsin” or “teaches or advocates violence and presents a clear and present danger to institutional security.” Waupun does not justify these claims, nor does it argue why the writings of the “founding fathers” or Martin Luther King should not also be censored on the grounds they advocated breaking the law.

We ask readers of MIM Notes to send protest letters, faxes and phone calls to the addresses below. Also send a copy of your protest letters to MIM Notes.

Captain Muraski
Waupun Correctional Institution
PO Box 351 Waupun, WI 53963
and
Warden Gary McCaughtry
200 S. Madison St
PO Box 351 Waupun WI 53963-0351
Phone: 920-324-5571
Fax: 920-324-4478

U.S.A. seeks to bribe labor aristocracy: slaps tariffs on steel

by mousnonya@yahoo.com

The United States has decided to slap a 30 percent tariff on steel imports. [A tariff is a tax on imports. All tariffs make it more difficult for other countries to sell goods or services to the country placing the tariff.] That decision is however a violation of the U.S. treaty obligations under the World Trade Organization. It is also a complete rejection of capitalist economic theory exemplified by free

traders Smith and Ricardo. This represents a major split within the imperialist camp. This unilateral Amerikan decision will surely lead to retaliation by other imperialist powers.

[Japan (for example) denounced the tariff. The tariff will also hit south Korea hard, and the south Korean government also complained to the United States. The Korean steel industry depends on foreign markets to survive, as it produces more

than enough to meet domestic needs. In the past, the United States tolerated the Korean steel monopolies and even opened up its market to them for geopolitical reasons. Now, with the collapse of the Soviet Union and China clearly on the capitalist path and its own economy in a bit of a downturn, the United States does not want the competition.

This is one of the reasons the “Asian tigers” like south Korea and Taiwan are not development models for the rest of the Third World. As inflated as it is, the U.S. market is not big enough to suck up surplus product from more than a few select countries - and those that base their economies on serving the U.S. market are dependent on its whims.]

Domestically, it is obvious the president's objective is to bribe the Amerikan labor aristocracy with jobs at inflated wages funded by imperialist exploitation of the Third World.

We cannot look at the United States' decision and the inter-imperialist rivalry which it will encourage in isolation from the global imperialist war on the Third World. The United States is at present waging a war on several fronts. In the Philippines, Afghanistan, Colombia, and Iraq the U.S. arms, aids, “advises” and fights imperialist wars to guarantee access to cheap raw materials and even cheaper labor. The U.S. is also waging a proxy war against the Palestinians via its puppet I\$rael.

As Hitler learned, a war on many fronts

is a recipe for eventual defeat. Imperialist overstretch will eventually result in defeat. The imperialist labor aristocracy has something to lose [besides their cushy jobs], namely their children. Several U.S. soldiers already died recently when their helicopter was shot down. These dead shall not have died in vain: For each death of an Amerikan leads to a greater likelihood of opposition to the war. Sadly this is only the beginning of needless death provoked by imperialist greed and propped up with imperialist lies. The imperialists are already encircled by an impoverished desperate third world. And the imperialists even admit the third world international proletariat has “nothing to lose”.

The inter-imperialist rivalry which Bush is planning to unleash not only reflects theoretical incoherence on his part and the bankruptcy of capitalist economic theory by practical contradiction. It also presents the risk of a global trade war. A global trade war would however plunge the world into a recession again, just as it did in 1929, and might even lead to inter-imperialist war.

If you want to work for real peace and prosperity instead of buying the imperialists' greed induced lies you should work for MIM to tell the truth about greed and war and how one drives the other. Write, paint, sing, do whatever is necessary to build independent media to fight against imperialism.

Detentions and harassment of Arabs and Muslims continue

Continued from page 3...

where a Muslim man was detained, left for a night to sleep on the bare floor and given pork daily in spite of this being against his religion. In another case a judge ordered the release of a man who was then held for 9 days. When the prison was asked why they were still holding someone whose release had been ordered by a judge the prison official responded that because he was from Yemen it takes much longer to process the release since September 11.

MIM pointed out that harassment and torture is not unusual for Amerikan prisons and in fact the Arab and Muslim prisoners may not be receiving worse treatment than the average prisoners. The reality is that the Amerikan criminal injustice system is not fit for any people. It is inhumane. The difference with the Arab and Muslim detainees now is that the government is refusing to release any information about the people being held and they are not being released, even when there are no charges or when the only charge is a visa violation which should result in a relatively quick deportation.

Like everyone working against the detentions of Arabs and Muslims [by the federal government since September 11, allegedly on suspicion of “terrorism”], the speaker was frustrated to be unable to give any solid information about who is being held or where. She said that there are many people in detention, some known and some unknown. And they seem to be transferring the detainees to a variety of jails and prisons across the country. In the Bay Area the arrests are made in the city and the prisoners are then sent to Oakland for a night and then transferred all over the country.

Noting that the prisons are not prepared to deal with Muslims she cited one case

What questions do YOU have?

Wasn't Mao a butcher? Why do you spell it “Amerika”? Shouldn't you try non-violence first? What is internationalism? Isn't hating white people reverse racism? Why don't you leftists work together? Why don't you tone it down? What is a cardinal principle? What is your program? What is necessary to join MIM? What concrete actions can I take? How do I write articles for MIM? What is your copyright policy?

Go to <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/faq>
and get real answers to these and other questions.

Amerikkkan prisons censor MIM Notes

by the Prison Minister

This is the second of our regular reports on incidents where prisoncrats censor MIM Notes, correspondence between MIM and a prisoner, or revolutionary books MIM sends to prisoners. As before, the accuracy of this list is limited by the nature of state repression. For example, when a prison censors MIM Notes, that prison is not always required to send notification. In order to distinguish between conscious censorship and bureaucratic SNAFUs — prisoners are moved often, making it difficult to stay in touch, and some prisoners just stop writing — MIM sends letters to prisoners who may have been censored explaining the situation and letting them know how they can fight to get their MIM Notes. More and more frequently, even these letters are censored.

States which have censored MIM Notes or MIM Theory within the last six months to eighteen months are marked on the map on this page.

States which censored MIM Notes in the past six months: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin.

States not listed above which censored MIM Notes in the last eighteen months (we may have no evidence of censorship in these states over the last six months either because they cleaned up their acts or the managed to sever communications between prisoners and MIM): Kentucky, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia.

Of particular note, MIM recently stopped sending newspapers to the SCI Green prison in Pennsylvania because the administration there consistently censored them. Several prisoners, tired of receiving rejection notices and not getting any response to their grievances to the administration, asked us to stop sending MIM Notes to save money. One prisoner has started to work on a lawsuit to stop the prison's censorship.

Censorship is nothing new at SCI Green. The prison houses Mumia Abu Jamal and created new regulations to deny him access to media interviews.

SCI Green is one of the prisons that admits it censors MIM Notes because of its political view that armed struggle will be necessary to eradicate oppression — although it does not admit the hypocrisy in that position (see article at right).

A prison in Oregon rejected MIM's journal on anarchism and communism because of symbols on its cover. A Washington prison rejected an issue of MIM Notes because it contained

“propaganda re: anti-imperialist mass organization of prisoners.”

Of course, not every prison admits it censors for political reasons. Some hide behind asinine regulations.

For example, a prisoner wrote to us explaining how the “two book” rule at the Delaware Correctional Center is a form of “Cruel and Unusual Punishment”. First it turns out that for no reason the administration confiscated a reference book on criminal law that he ordered from a publisher for \$250.00. Upon complaining about this the administration cited a “two book” rule and proceeded to confiscate religious and political books in the name of this rule. He says: “I can't practice my religion because of this rule. I showed them cases where courts have deemed 25 books to be an adequate amount to have for religion and that as long as a prisoner's case is in court there should be no limit on law books but they didn't care.”

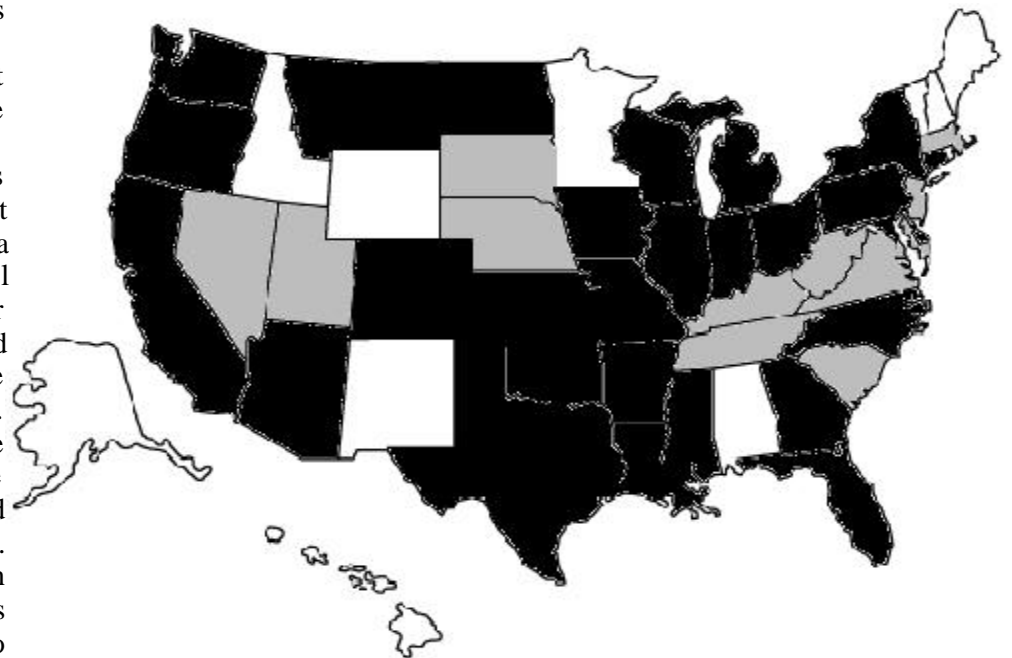
Oregon prisons deny materials from MIM, claiming they only allow books “from the publisher.” Prisoncrats recently denied MIM permission to send in books (although Amazon.com has permission, even though they are not a publisher). A United Struggle from Within prisoner is leading the battle to get materials besides MIM Notes into Oregon prison.

Some victories

Prisoners in some states have fought and won battles against the censorship of MIM Notes or MIM Theory — with the help of MIM and its allies. (This does NOT mean that censorship within the state has been stopped entirely.)

For example, an Oregon prisoner recently wrote, “On 10 October, a hick-town oinker that worked in my housing unit confiscated the 1 Sept & 15 Sept issues of MIM Notes because he thought that they were ‘gang-related’ and constituted a threat. I went the normal route, not expecting to get them returned, and what a surprise it was when I did receive them: in November! The only reason I'm telling you about this is because my accomplishment using the tools of the regime was an extreme rarity. (I can't emphasize the word ‘extreme’ enough.) A minor victory, but victory nonetheless.”

Sometimes prisoncrats do not relent, even in the face of strong public pressure. A member of the MIM Supporters Group writes, “We collected almost 1000 signatures to oppose the censorship within Michigan prisons. The response received only reiterated the statements on the rejection notices. The rejection notices typically stated that ‘MIM Notes is a threat to the security and good order of the facility.’ Receiving a reply which merely repeats this statement and ignores the request to justify how MIM Notes is a threat only underscores the MDOC's



States which censored MIM Notes in the last six months are in black. Those which censored MIM Notes over the last 18 months are in gray. We have no evidence that states in white censored MIM Notes.

position as weak. MIM Notes does not pose a threat to the MDOC in the way that the prisoncrats indicate — that it could cause violence among prisoners or towards staff — but it does pose a threat to the brainwashing practices within the MDOC. There is now a different director of Michigan's DOC and MSG intends on continuing the pressure to lift Michigan's ban on MIM Notes and stop the MDOC's frequent tampering of mail sent by political organizations.”

The work prisoners do to improve MIM Notes' circulation is not without costs. A prisoner in Maryland who had been receiving MIM Notes took it upon himself to begin circulating MIM Notes in the prison and get other prisoners tuned

into Under Lock and Key. In his own words he explains the backlash he experienced against his political activism by the prison officials and the censorship of MIM Notes: “They held my mail for anything from two weeks to a month and they told my family that they could not visit. But what really made me hot was when the C.O. used my MIM Notes as a mop to clean up some water. I didn't even get to read them.”

We've reprinted information on some of our ongoing anti-censorship struggles on the opposite page. For other information, visit <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/agitation/> or write to the address on page two.

Amerikan prisons censor MIM Notes, MIM correspondence

Exerpted from a resolution by the MIM 2001 Congress.

President George W. Bush is not being censored in prisons despite his philosophy of violence as demonstrated in his bombing of Iraq [and now Afghanistan]. [N]ewspapers quoting Bush or endorsing him or his opponent [Al Gore] who also favored the war in Iraq—these papers and television stations are not so often censored. Hence when prison wardens say we should be censored for threatening “security” through our “philosophy of violence,” they are attempting selectively to oppose violence of the oppressed and exploited.

In addition, prison wardens are contradicting the stated beliefs of the authors of the “Declaration of Independence” and Abraham Lincoln, who said explicitly in his first inaugural address that the people have a “revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow” the government.(1)

[Such hypocrisy] is inherent to the injustice system as the Mumia Abu-Jamal case proves. The prosecutor against Mumia pointed to Mumia's quoting from Mao Zedong that “political power grows out of a barrel of a gun” as evidence against Mumia in his court case. Meanwhile, MIM has yet to hear of anyone being accused by prosecutors of distributing the New York Times despite its backing of numerous wars and coups and quoting from people like George Bush Sr. and Jr. who bombed Iraq.

As a matter of compromise, MIM would agree not to send its present literature to a prison if a prison warden concerned with rehabilitation only allowed pacifist literature into prison. We would accept that as a principled compromise, but there is no prison warden proposing or implementing such a policy.

Notes:

1. www.bartleby.com/124/pres31.html.

Santa Cruz cultural event succeeds

Continued from page 1...

Coalition Against War” in contrast made a point of issuing a leaflet at the event “in solidarity with the people of Palestine.” The leaflet attacked “state-sponsored genocide by the U.S. supported Israeli government.”

A visiting faculty member had this to say about the whole event: “It’s brilliant. It’s the first teach-in here I’ve gone to.”

Another young white womyn said she didn’t know what to say, but when asked about the skit she just viewed she said, “I don’t know that I agree with any one of them [actors in a skit about September 11th], but it kind of opened my eyes to different perspectives.”

The audience had a good reaction to the content and diversity of the event’s speakers. One persyn leaving mentioned “positive vibe” and “really good information.” One male student said, “I thought it was really good, a basic introduction to the historical [situation]. I’m excited to see all these other people out here educating themselves.”

Some wimmin were passing through Santa Cruz from Los Angeles and one of the group said of the skit about U.S. troops in the Philippines, “It was great...funny...I really enjoyed it.”

Another womyn had come down from Berkeley to see the event and said, “I liked it. It was interesting, very informative.”

The attendance at the event featured strong representation by all nationalities, with whites only a tiny minority. One persyn leaving said, “it was amazing, really amazing. . . different ethnicities involved.” Only one persyn MIM interviewed was unwilling to comment on her reactions to the event, which we gathered might have been negative.

The band Diskarte Namin condemned “greedy white corporations” seeking to profit from the war and who seek “not to deal with our issues in the united States, a veteran’s equity, education, children.” However, none of the speakers separated themselves from Amerikkkan parasitism and none really addressed the reasons underlying the tremendous support the “War on Terrorism” has in the united States.

MIM would caution all participants that the Bay Area, Manhattan and parts of Los Angeles and occasionally tiny college towns like Cambridge may be capable of pulling together “integrated” events, and in some cases in California

it is possible that the proletariat leads these events. Nonetheless, we have to recognize that such situations are tiny pockets of resistance in the overall scheme of things in the united States. We have to balance these events against the white jury in Simi Valley who said Rodney King’s attackers were innocent and the Cincinatti jury who let off Vincent Chin’s attackers. Such people in those juries are much more numerous than the petty-bourgeois radical democrats of the Bay Area.

MIM has spoken to both international and U.S.-based comrades who adopt a provincial view of things within u.S. borders. In New York City, there is a welfare state within the welfare state and there is a “multi-racial” coalition defending that specific welfare state. This gives the New York comrades an illusion rooted in a special system of parasitism. As a result, “CP-USA” social-democracy retains a chokehold on much political activism in New York City.

Likewise, not every city in the united States is a petty-bourgeois radical democratic haven like the Bay Area where people actually do read a dozen different newspapers and keep any number of bookstores and cafes in business. The Bay Area is one of the few places where democracy is not “dumbocracy.” People who think the Bay Area is representative are missing the overall picture.

The credit for the “Culture Against War: Philippines on the Axis of Empire” event on April 6th goes to a number of organizations—“Filipino Coalition for Global Justice, Not War,” “Filipinos for Affirmative Action (FAA),” Stanford Community for Peace and Justice (SCPJ), Asian & Pacific Islander Coalition Against War (APICAW), American Muslims for Global Peace and Justice (AMGPI), Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines (CHRP), All People’s Coalition Against War (APCAW), Filipino Workers Association, Ad Hoc Faculty Committee on Current Events, Center for Cultural Studies, Filipino Students Association, Asia Pacific Islander Student Alliance, Graduate Student Alliance, Pacific Islands Research Cluster and the Criminals in Action (CIA).

Poll: 39% admit I\$raeli terrorism

A poll of Amerikkans shows that finally 39% have admitted that what I\$rael is doing is “also” terrorism—attacks on civilians; however, MIM cautions readers that at the same time, support for I\$rael is increasing amongst the Amerikkkan population—which is itself a settler population. Amerikkans are prepared to admit that what they are doing politically will increase the likelihood of “terrorism” and that what they support is also “terrorism.” It does not mean that Amerikkans have backed away from supporting U.S. or I\$raeli terrorism.

For Amerikkans to change their mind in a positive direction on the Mideast the equivalent of a Vietnam War would have to happen—and in fact it is already underway. As it stands now, Amerikkans act as if they would have to be nuked once or twice before they would pay attention to the rest of the world that Uncle Sam is waging war against. The notion that oppressed nationality peoples could retaliate violently against Amerikkkan violence has yet to sink in. The reason for that is the military preeminence of U.S. imperialism and the grip that parasitism has on the majority of the Amerikkkan population. Military power and the standard of living combine to create arrogance of the sort we see today on the Mideast.

Specifically it is none other than us Maoists who again have to lead a successful movement to shake the foundations of Amerikkka. The heroic Palestinian people are single-handedly throwing a wrench into the U.S./I\$raeli war machine.

While the “moderate” “Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee,” the Muslims and the like will have their say, a true shift in public opinion on this question requires that MIM Notes step up its distribution to establish a revolutionary proletarian pole. There is nothing within the existing parameters of Amerikkkan debate that can solve the problem of peace in the Middle East. What is lacking is not the “moderate” Arab or Muslim voice, but the determined and loud proletarian voice. We seek new supporters to step forward and try to alter Amerikkkan public opinion through MIM Notes by giving money to increase its distribution. While the Palestinians give their blood, it is the least that can be done in Amerikkka—support of an expanding MIM Notes circulation.

Note: <http://www.usatoday.com/usatonline/20020409/4009119s.htm>



This RAIL poster met with widespread approval at the march in San Francisco (see story page 1).

U.\$ expands terrorist war in Colombia

by MC17

Colombian president Andres Pastrana Arango stopped peace talks with the rebel group Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in late February and declared "all out war" on the FARC-held zones of the country. Taking advantage of America's so-called war on terrorism, the Colombian government branded the FARC "terrorist" and asked for expanded military aid from the United States. Charges of "terrorism" from the Colombian government are the height of hypocrisy, given the Colombian military's bloody record of intimidation and murder. But it is only taking cues from its American financiers who have killed more than 4000 innocent Afghans and terrorized hundreds of thousands more in their "war on terrorism."

By February 21 the Colombian air force was bombing FARC held territory. The military used U.\$-supplied airplanes (including Black Hawk helicopters) and Israeli supplied K-Fir planes, flying out of the base where U\$ troops are stationed.(1) Taking another lesson from their imperialist masters, along with the bombs the Colombian military dropped flyers urging the rebels to turn themselves in which read "welcome to freedom".(1)

Reports of civilians, including children, being killed by the Colombian military bombing are leaking out of the area, but media is banned from the region and the scale of the deaths is difficult to confirm. Claiming that the guerillas are dressing as civilians to fool the military, the armed forces chief justified the attacks on civilians.(1)

U\$ support for terrorism

On February 22 U.\$ Secretary of State Colin Powell announced that the U.\$ government will share satellite intelligence information with the Colombian Government. And the White House is seeking to get congress to lift restrictions that currently bar U\$ military

aid from being used in the war against the rebels. Aid currently has to be earmarked for fighting the drug war because the united states is afraid of embarrassment if they openly financed the right-wing paramilitary operations so well known for human rights violations in Colombia. In reality the distinction between the drug war and the war on the rebels is irrelevant as the Colombian government claims the rebels are the main source of drug cultivation. The attacks on February 21 which used U.\$ airplanes were clear demonstration of this.

In preparation for all out involvement in the Colombian war, the U\$ changed FARC's designation from an "insurgent" group to a "terrorist" organization.(1)

Demonstrating their stellar human rights record, rightwing paramilitary forces kidnapped Colombian union leader Gilberto Torrez Martinez on February 25. He is general secretary of the United Union of Workers which represents workers at the state-run oil company Ecopetrol. More than 5,000 Ecopetrol workers responded to the kidnapping by launching an open-ended general strike the next day.(2)

Last November 24, paramilitaries murdered seven indigenous leaders in central Colombia's Riosucio municipality. Paramilitaries attacked the Cubera-Chami reservation of Canamomo and Lomapricta, tying up several leaders then executing them. Community members were beaten and some of the leaders' daughters were kidnapped during the attack.(7)

President Andres Pastrana's has not only failed to put a stop to the assassinations of indigenous leaders, Pastrana's government has turned a cold shoulder on the cries for help, neither taking actions to stop the massacres and oppression, nor acknowledging the genocidal situation. The truth is, the paramilitaries have close ties to the

Colombian military and enjoy not only their silent complicity but also their support.

On the other hand, even the imperialist media admits that the rebels are attacking infrastructure rather than people. After peace talks were stopped by the government the rebels stepped up attacks on electrical towers, bridges, municipal waterworks and highways.(3) But still the imperialist mouthpieces complain about the terror imposed by cutting off electricity and phone service to cities and towns across the country while failing to mention the vicious torture and murder carried out by the government military and paramilitaries.

The rebels control nearly a third of the country in southern and central Colombia. This impoverished area is home to farmers who can no longer make a living producing food after imperialist economic involvement in the country destroyed the market for traditional domestic crops.(5) After ending peace talks the Colombian government declared this territory a war zone, granting the military authority to impose curfews, regulate the operation of businesses, register civilians, and prohibit weapons in the area.(3)

War for oil

The so-called war on terrorism in Colombia is a new face to the same war the U.\$ has been financing for years. Under Clinton the white house signed a \$1.3 billion aid package in 2000, Plan Colombia, aimed at fighting the so-called drug war. But in addition to supplying the vast majority of the cocaine in the united states (according to the CIA), Colombia, along with Venezuela and Ecuador, supplies the united states with more oil than all the Persian Gulf countries combined. According to Stan Goff, a former united states Special Forces intelligence sergeant who retired

in 1996 from the unit that trains Colombian anti-narcotics battalions, "Plan Colombia's purpose is defending the operations of Occidental, British Petroleum and Texas Petroleum and securing control of future Colombian fields. The main interest of the United States is oil."(4,6)

Only 20% of Colombia's potential oil reserves have been explored due to the war with the rebels. Exxon, Shell, Occidental Petroleum and other U.\$-based transnational oil corporations have big interests in Colombia and are joining the fight for U.\$ military aid to Colombia. In 1996, BP Amoco and Occidental joined Enron and other corporations to form the U.S.-Colombia Business Partnership. Joined by big oil-industry donations to political candidates, the partnership has lobbied hard for increased aid to Colombia.(4)

The situation has not changed since the Clinton administration: the top source of cash for Bush's presidential and Texas gubernatorial bids was Enron and its employees.(4)

MIM believes that Comrade Gonzalo of Peru has blazed the correct path forward for much of Latin America - that of protracted people's war for liberation from imperialism and the establishment of self-reliant socialism.

Notes:

1. WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE ON THE AMERICAS 630, 24 Feb 2002.
2. WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE ON THE AMERICAS 631, 3 Mar 2002.
3. New York Times, 4 Mar 2002.
4. www.americas.org, 1 Feb 2001.
5. MIM Notes 171, 1 Oct 1998.
6. See MIM Notes 212 for more detail on American interests in Colombia.
7. Weekly News Update on the Americas 618, 2 Dec 2001.

Swiss reject U.\$ pressure on "terrorist" label

Forwarded to MIM by Colombia Peace Association.

08.04.2002 (By Alfredo Castro, ANNCOL Colombia) The Swiss government has refused to label the FARC-EP guerrilla organisation in Colombia as terrorists thus further illustrating the divide between Washington and Europe over the civil war in Colombia.

According to Jacques de Watteville, chief of the Swiss foreign ministry's economic and financial affairs division, "We have ordered the freezing of 69 accounts of the Taliban or its accomplices, identified by the Sanctions Committee of the UN Security Council, but we don't subscribe to the recommendations of certain countries about supposedly terrorist organisations."

To explain the decision by his

government, de Watteville gave examples of the Lebanese Hezbollah party and the FARC, insisting that "we don't define them as terrorist organizations." According to Colombia's El Tiempo newspaper, "the US Justice Department had sent the Swiss government a list of terrorist organisations against which it asked for the freezing of their bank accounts." Switzerland — along with France, Norway, Spain and Cuba — is one of the 'Group of Friendly Countries' that has been attempting to work with the FARC-EP and the smaller ELN guerrilla organisation to build peace in Colombia through conversations with the Colombian government. However, in the case of the process with the FARC-EP at least, the Colombian government has broken off all contact and refused to continue in the search for a negotiated settlement.

[MIM adds: This demonstrates what Lenin called "inter-imperialist rivalry." If Switzerland always followed U.\$ dictates, it could only do as much business as the United States wanted. By

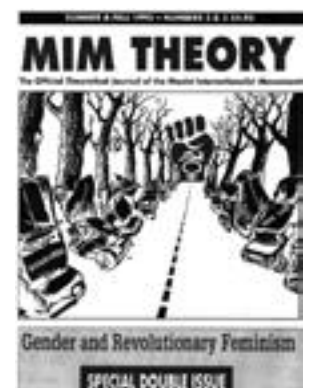
claiming to differ, Switzerland can cut itself in on a bigger piece of the business pie.

MIM believes that Comrade Gonzalo of Peru has blazed the correct path forward for much of Latin America.]

MIM Theory 2 and 3

Gender & Revolutionary Feminism

MIM's in-depth explanation of gender oppression, especially in the First World. A classic collection of articles that no revolutionary feminist should be without. 200 pages.



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Rhode Island increases censorship

Here at the Adult Correctional Institution of Rhode Island the Department of Corrections has just banned virtually all publications which are deemed to be anti-establishment. The new Assistant Director of Activities, Jake Gadsen, has put out a inter-department memo to all wardens, and mail room correctional officers. The said memo bans by name the following publications: The Five Percenter, Source, Vibe, Feds, XX-L, URB, Skin Art, Stuff, FHM, Maxim, Paradem, Spin, Arena. In general, any publication which speaks about demonstration, saying how to organize for such are banned.

Also, any publication which is deemed to be counter to the rehabilitative philosophy of the Department of Corrections. Also publications depicting nudity have been banned, in regards to any speaking of or having pictures which can be deemed to report sexual acts. Fox, Hustler, Cherry, Club, Penthouse, Swank, Genesis, Live Young Girls, etc.

The only publications which were deemed to be appropriate for admittance were, Time, Newsweek, People, and Playboy. Also all books must come from the publisher only and must be paid for by the prisoner out of his inmate account. No one is permitted to purchase subscriptions for prisoners to have them sent to them.

This new directive smacks dead against the first amendment. However the Department of corrections has little to fear from the courts. The Federal Court which has jurisdictions over the courts these matters in Rhode island has consistently given rulings in favor of the D.O.C. The law library is no longer a right but a privilege if convenient for the D.O.C. to provide the time and service.

The D.O.C. is engaged in a policy of racial profiling against Blacks and Latinos via the literature they read. Everything is considered gang material, even is its cultural. Also MIM books have been confiscated and not delivered, stated reason "used books not allowed." This does not appear on any policy as reason for non-deliverance. The real reason is the political viewpoint is not liked. A few of us here have now filed a class action lawsuit against this censorship. We need your support. Please send letters of protest and outrage against this censorship to [and send a copy to MIM]:

Director Ashbel T. Wall 40 Howard Ave. Cranston, RI 02920

Jake Gadsen 40 Howard Ave. Cranston, RI 02920

—A Rhode Island prisoner, March, 2002

Censorship in NV

Thanks for the literature. Unfortunately, I was only able to receive

Under Lock & Key

News from Prisons & Prisoners

the Mao and BPP pamphlet. The MT [MIM Theory 14] and the Karl Marx Selected Writings were denied me, the reasons: the MT being a back issue (again!) and Karl Marx being used. I grieved the issue all the way to the warden and once again a discretionary and loosely exercised policy was used as a roundabout way to censor my literature. The next day a comrade of mine received a used Bible from E-Bay! So you see this policy is exercised in a very discriminatory fashion. There is no policy regarding pamphlets, including prior approvals, so that's why I couldn't be denied that except by direct and overt censorship.

[...]

—A Nevada prisoner, 7 April 2002

GA prisoner collects 362 anti-censorship petition signatures

A prisoner in GA collected 362 names for a petition opposing censorship in MI prisons. This serves as an example of how prisoners can organize within prisons and also how a large number of prisoners are willing to support the struggle against criminal INjustice system policies.

The petition reads:

"We, the undersigned, request that the Michigan Department of Corrections stop unjustified censorship of mail to prisoners.

As outlined in the cover letter, MIM Notes, letters to prisoners from MIM, MIM Theory, RAIL Notes, and letters in Spanish from MIM as well as prisoners' family members have been censored unjustly. Your previous correspondence has indicated that these pieces of mail "advocate violence and/or could be considered a threat to facility security." No place within these rejected mailings will you find that they advocate that prisoners engage in violence, or violate facility policy or state and federal laws. They also do not advocate that prisoners jeopardize the security of prison facilities. In fact, MIM encourages prisoners to engage in study for self-education, improvement and the betterment of conditions. MIM encourages prisoners to steer clear of confrontations and discourages prisoners from participating in any violent activities.

We request that you lift the ban on MIM Notes and other above mailings. Furthermore, we have requested without receiving a response, that you show exactly what parts of the above publications "advocate violence and/or

could be considered a threat to facility security. We are still awaiting your response."

Fighting DNA collection in Oregon

Comrades in Oregon,

As most of you probably already know, the Oregon Department of Corrections has begun collecting DNA samples from all "convicted" prisoners within their custody. These ODOC actions are in response to recent legislation requiring this DNA collection. There has been well founded alarm and consternation as to what our "rights" are concerning these DNA collections.

Our so-called "legal" rights as permitted under the imperialist heel provide no authority for protection against these DNA collections. In 1995 in the case of *Rise v. Oregon*, 59 F3d 1556 (9th Cir. 1995) the federal courts permitted collection of DNA samples from prisoners for database storage, because it was/is not considered a "search" and because the DNA database storage was/is likened to fingerprint taking and storage. In *Landry v. Reilly*, 66 Crt 2125 (2000) the U.S. Supreme Court denied review of a Massachusetts case contesting the forcible compunction of DNA sample collecting for database purposes. In other words the law of the imperialist land is such that ODOC can take your DNA by force should they choose to do so.

We recognize rights other than so-called "legal" rights. However, I cannot recommend any inflammatory action on your part. Your personal decision as to how to handle your DNA situation is your own. The imperialist agents do not have any right to apply "unnecessary force" in any situation, courts will uphold obvious claims of "unnecessary force."

In the face of totalitarian assault know that you, the individual, are a ray of light in the wilderness and you are not alone.

Salutations,

USW Prisoner X, April 2002

Lockdown at Corcoran CSATF

I am on lockdown and have been since December (Crips since December and the rest of population since January 7th). They claim that we (Crips) were plotting something so they could place us on a lockdown. Then on January 7th they let us off, until they claimed that a large number of Black inmates assaulted several pigs. I don't know exactly what

happened because they never got around to releasing my building. But I do know that not a single shot was fired, and Corcoran is a trigger-happy facility. So to me this story simply doesn't add up.

—a prisoner in CA Substance Abuse Facility 14 April, 2002

Corcoran SHU: massive search and seizure

On February 14, 2002 there was a sweeping search of the prison. Almost all prisoner property was confiscated including important legal documents from some prisoners, myself included.

The purpose of this massive search was to "bring you prisoners up to code." The only personal property admitted in the SHU is one personal book, a magazine and six envelopes of legal property. In a

MIM on Prisons & Prisoners

MIM seeks to build public opinion against Amerika's criminal injustice system, and to eventually replace the bourgeois injustice system with proletarian justice. The bourgeois injustice system imprisons and executes a disproportionately large and growing number of oppressed people while letting the biggest mass murderers — the imperialists and their lackeys — roam free. Imperialism is not opposed to murder or theft, it only insists that these crimes be committed in the interests of the bourgeoisie.

"All U.S. citizens are criminals—accomplices and accessories to the crimes of U.S. oppression globally until the day U.S. imperialism is overcome. All U.S. citizens should start from the point of view that they are reforming criminals."

MIM does not advocate that all prisoners go free today; we have a more effective program for fighting crime as was demonstrated in China prior to the restoration of capitalism there in 1976. We say that all prisoners are political prisoners because under the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie, all imprisonment is substantively political. It is our responsibility to exert revolutionary leadership and conduct political agitation and organization among prisoners — whose material conditions make them an overwhelmingly revolutionary group. Some prisoners should and will work on self-criticism under a future dictatorship of the proletariat in those cases in which prisoners really did do something wrong by proletarian standards.

move to bring a bit of camp X-Ray to Corcoran prisoners are escorted to doctors' and other appointments in full restraint gear, including leg shackles!

There are signs that prisoners are at least willing to voice their discontent with this brutal form of open oppression and disrespect. In our particular section/building prisoners are refusing to perform the usual tasks, such as cleaning the showers and accepting canteen unless it is processed according to the rules. And prisoners are lending support to each other by filing group appeals. We are attempting to put together a multi-racial legal team to address the systematic abuses and other conditions we are all subjected to on a daily basis. Of course, there is much work to be done, especially so when most prisoners are conditioned to look at each other as the enemy!

However, as a class themselves, prisoners possess a wealth of power. Nothing that is being done to us today could be successful if we didn't in some way contribute to it. The rise of the "rat and the stoolie" demands that we double our efforts.

The Bush War on Terrorism only validates comrade George's piece on fascism: everyone oppressed anywhere in the world has the right to resist, by any means necessary. So get up, stand up. Stand up for your rights. Fascism won't relent even if you do. Keep pushin.

— a prisoner in Corcoran SHU, 14 April, 2002

MIM responds: The only answer to the problem of "the rat and the stoolie" is as Lenin said: comrades earn our trust and their own proletarian prestige by their practice. There is a lifetime of revolutionary activism to be done by anyone with the will, and we as leaders must know our priorities and be prepared to put younger (or greener) organizers directly to work.

George Jackson knew that study was key to advancing the national revolution and that without advanced theory the revolutionary army he envisioned would be led down a blind alley. "To seize power for the people and relegate fascism to the history books the vanguard must change the basic patterns of thought. We are going to have to study the principles of people's movements. We are going to have to study them where they took place and interpret them to fit our situation here. We have yet to discover the meaning of people's war, people's army."

What is freedom?

by Web Minister, January 11, 2002

If you are like most people of the industrialized countries of the "West," such as the United States, England, France, Germany, Canada, Switzerland etc. then you have bought into a twisted idea of "freedom." The present author is no exception in originally believing that the "democracies" were "free" countries and that communist countries did everything through absolute control known as "totalitarianism." To even contemplate another opinion is a fearful matter, so wretched and unsubstantiated is the brainwashing of the West.

Ask yourself these questions about your idea of "freedom." Then ask yourself whether you really have gone into this question deeply enough.

1. Were you aware that the United States is the leader in the world in imprisonment per capita? It means that the United States is the world's leading prison-state, with a higher percentage imprisoned than any other country.

2. Were you aware that our newspaper "MIM Notes" is censored across the country when we attempt to send it into prisons?

3. Are you aware that the United States does more to arm and train fascists in the Third World than any other country? How does giving "freedom" to the rich of the West tally

Still, this analysis could not be mistaken for a mindless acceptance of violence as a tactic: "It may serve our purpose to claim nonviolence, but we must never delude ourselves into thinking that we can seize power from a position of weakness, with half measures, polite programs, righteous indignation, loud entreaties."

MIM knows that for us in the First World, it is not our turn yet for revolutionary armed struggle. That task still falls to the people of the neo-colonies in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Imperialism remains too strong within these borders, and our subjective conditions with the overwhelming majority of U.S. citizens belonging to the exploiting and allied classes are very wrong for armed struggle. We must advance our struggle through building public opinion in opposition to imperialism, and through winnable battles like this prisoner describes. Readers can investigate and protest the situation at Corcoran SHU by writing or calling: Warden George M. Galaza, 4001 King Avenue, P.O. Box 8800, Corcoran, CA 93212-8309, (559) 992-8800

with support for death-squad military regimes across the globe? Does the relative freedom of the rich minority count more than the repression of the poor majority?

4. Do you generally believe what people say when they have their arms twisted behind their backs? Is a battered woman really "free" to say that she still "loves" her batterer? What does it mean? We communists do not put much stock in that statement of "love" except relative to previous times in history such as "feudal society," when human relations had an even more coercive nature generally speaking.

Do you believe what a country other than the United States says in an election when the choice is a pro-Yankee candidate and an anti-Yankee candidate? Do you still believe it after the United States invades the country, as in the Dominican Republic in 1965? Do you believe it after the United States funds murderous thugs such as the Contras in Nicaragua in the 1980s? We communists do not believe it. We do not believe things people say with guns to their heads. The twisted and predominant opinion in the West is exactly that—just on a large scale: believing what people say with guns to their heads and putting an emphasis on that instead of the coercive conditions.

5. Have you ever asked yourself about what communists have been saying about the relationship of freedom to exploitation? Were you aware that Stalin and Mao are both responsible for leading their societies into doubling the life expectancy of their peoples—yes including all their violent repression? Did you really believe China got to be a billion people with Mao shooting every other person the way the reactionaries make out? Do you believe any free people or person dies before his or her time by choice? How often? Sure, sometimes people take the chance to die in war, sometimes in heroic duty, sometimes even while driving a race car. These are chances a minority of the population likes to take.

How often do you think it happens, because if you think it happens often your idea of humans is more "altruistic" and "idealistic" than ours. However, widespread death occurs in countries that are supposedly "free." These "free" countries have historically done poorly with life expectancy from a lack of a decent environment, proper education, proper public healthcare, food, shelter and clothing. The only "free" countries that do relatively well in these areas are those that are robbing the rest of the world.

The rich touting their kind of "freedom" would tell us that the world's poor die because they are the equivalent of race-car drivers—taking risks from choice, a kind of "freedom."

They put a glorious spin on their exploitation leading to death, by telling us exploitation and freedom are separate issues.

We communists ain't buying it. People do not die ahead of their times voluntarily, but they do in the tens of millions each year. Hundreds of millions of people have died from the improper and coercive organization of society, something that Stalin and Mao did much to fix in their countries. The life expectancy statistic is an excellent measure of the coercion in a society—the freedom or lack thereof in that society. People are forced into dying from a lack of food. They do not starve to death in conditions of freedom. Of course there are drawbacks to the life expectancy statistic, but those excuses are not a reason to live without insistence on measurement of freedom and coercion.

It's funny that the leisured society such as the United States long ago accepted that sports have to have rules and final ways to measure who won or lost. Yes referees definitely make mistakes. How far should the home-run fence be in baseball? Should there be three points allowed for long-range shooting in basketball and where should the line be? All these questions exist and many more, but people are scientific enough that they agree how to measure something and decide who won or lost. What would be the equivalent in sports of having the highest imprisonment rate and then still claiming to be the "champion" of "freedom"? Would denouncing Stalin and Mao be like saying Michael Jordan did not deserve any of his six championships?

We should not make the perfect of our minds the enemy of the good. We suggest that at this time in history there is no better single statistic to measure the coercion level within society than the life expectancy statistic; although of course it should also be used with an understanding of history. The biggest drawback of the life expectancy statistic is not exclusion within a particular country; it's biggest drawback is that high life expectancy countries may do well themselves while being the main prop of repression in the rest of the world. The United States is the main political force behind all types of coercion in the world today.

When the history of the 20th century comes up for examination hundreds of years from now—if the human species survives capitalist militarism and environmental degradation—historians will record that Stalin and Mao did more than any other leaders in the 20th century to advance freedom. It will be horrible to recall how they had to repress and go to war with those who stood opposed to basic health care, food, clothing and shelter rights. Yet as inevitable as that horror will be for future citizens of a more civilized future to recall the 20th century, it will be inevitable that these citizens will be able to see that Stalin and Mao cleared the way through selective violence for a vast improvement of freedom, the opposite of coercion. We are confident that the boasting, rhetorical quibbles and subjectivism of the current bourgeois opinion will not last. The scientific-minded people of the future will insist on measurement of coercion. When civilized citizens of the future do look back, it is inevitable that those proclaiming "freedom" the most loudly now, and with the willing help of the spineless capitalist media regurgitating their every word, are those who will be seen as the most backward, hypocritical and lying leaders of the 20th century.

Facts on U\$ imprisonment

The facts about imprisonment in the United States are that the United States has been the world's leading prison-state per capita for the last 25 years, with a brief exception during Boris Yeltsin's declaration of a state of emergency.(1)

That means that while Reagan was talking about a Soviet "evil empire" he was the head of a state that imprisoned more people per capita. In supposedly "hard-line" Bulgaria of the Soviet bloc of the 1980s, the imprisonment rate was less than half that of the United States.(2,3)

To find a comparison with U.S. imprisonment of Black people, there is no statistic in any country that compares including apartheid South Africa of the era before Mandela was president. The last situation remotely comparable to the situation today was under Stalin during war time. The majority of prisoners are non-violent offenders(4) and the U.S. Government now holds about a half million more prisoners than China; even though China is four times our population.(5)

The rednecks tell MIM that we live in a "free country." They live in an Orwellian 1984 situation where freedom is imprisonment.

Notes: 1. Marc Mauer, "Americans Behind Bars: The International Use of Incarceration 1993," The Prison Sentencing Project, 918 F. St. NW, Suite 501, Washington, DC 20004 (202) 628-0871 Reference: SRI: R8965-2, 1994

2. Ibid., 1992 report.

3. United Nations Development Programme, "Human Development Report 1994,": Oxford University Press, p. 186.

4. Figure of 51.2 percent for state prisoners there for non-violent offenses. Abstract of the United States 1993, p. 211.

5. Atlantic Monthly December, 1998.



El foro californiano sobre las Filipinas moviliza al pueblo estadounidense bajo el lema “¡Fuera ahora!”

El 13 de febrero, la Liga Antiimperialista Revolucionara organizó un foro en la Universidad de Berkeley al que asistieron por lo menos 60 personas. El evento se inició con una impactante obra oral instigando a que la gente se incorporara a la lucha por la humanidad.

Los discursos presentados por el Movimiento Maoísta Internacionalista (MIM), el Comité de los Derechos Humanos de Filipinas (CDHF) y el BAYAN de la bahía de San Francisco fueron intercalados por presentaciones musicales de la banda activista filipina Diskarte Namin. Este foro importante desencadenó en la universidad un creciente movimiento de oposición al imperialismo estadounidense en las Filipinas. Los estudiantes expresaron su intención de movilizar a la gente de la Universidad de Berkeley mediante campañas educativas y una actividad política en solidaridad con la lucha del pueblo filipino por su autodeterminación. El orador del MIM inició el foro mencionando que las 600 tropas estadounidenses que habían sido mandadas a las Filipinas mas 100 millones de dólares en ayuda militar prometidos en enero, son las últimas pruebas del dominio de EE.UU sobre las Filipinas.

[La presencia de las tropas estadounidenses en el territorio filipino supuestamente se debe a la necesidad de entrenar a las fuerzas militares filipinas

en su lucha contra la pandilla Aby Sayaaf que, según EE.UU., tiene conexiones a Osama bin Laden. Sin embargo, según un orador del CFHF, el mismo gobierno filipino no piensa que los restantes 60 bandidos sean significantes. El periodista Nicholas Kristof del periódico yaqui New York Times que apenas podría considerarse un antiimperialista radical, sostiene que la presidenta filipina Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo “aprovechó el contexto del 11 de septiembre para hacer pasar a Abu Sayyaf por terroristas internacionales con fin de obtener más ayuda militar de EE.UU.” (1) La llamada “guerra contra el terrorismo” sirve de pretexto para la actual invasión; sin embargo, los mismos EE.UU. es una organización terrorista, sin mencionar a los gobiernos clientes de las Filipinas e Israel. Según el Departamento de Estado de EE.UU., la definición de terrorismo incluye “el uso de agentes biológicos, químicos o armas nucleares, armas de fuego o explosivos con la intención de poner en peligro, de una forma directa o indirecta, la seguridad de una o más personas o causar daño de carácter considerable a la propiedad”. (2)

Dentro de un contexto más global, el orador del MIM además abordó varias formas de participación de EE.UU en asuntos interiores de otros países, lo cual incluye tanto el colonialismo directo como indirecto o neocolonialismo. Los ejemplos dados variaban desde golpes de

estado contra gobiernos elegidos democráticamente hasta apoyos financieros y militares con fin de minar a gobiernos populares y llevar a cabo agresiones militares así como respaldar a gobiernos títeres. Esta participación militar y económica en asuntos interiores de otros países es lo que llamamos imperialismo- una etapa del capitalismo que se caracteriza por un colonialismo, un monopolio de corporaciones y una exportación del capital al extranjero con fines lucrativos. El ser una corporación capitalista ejemplar significa importar muchas ganancias mediante la fundación de maquiladoras en países con un fácil acceso a recursos naturales, donde las tasas de salario son mínimas, donde no existen leyes laborales ni tampoco regulaciones sobre medio ambiente. El orador del MIM señaló que el estándar de vida en EE.UU. sobrepasa el del tercer mundo de una forma significativa a causa de todas esas ganancias importadas. Sin embargo, el MIM cree que ninguna nación del mundo debería enriquecerse a costo de otras naciones. Eso es lo que se llama internacionalismo. El internacionalismo se opone al racismo y el chovinismo nacional. El internacionalismo implica que los ciudadanos de este país que se benefician de la explotación y opresión de los pueblos del mundo, tienen la responsabilidad de respaldar las luchas justas de los pueblos oprimidos por su autodeterminación. El orador del MIM rogó que el público pensara en cómo podría manifestar su internacionalismo mientras que escuchaba las presentaciones sobre la situación en las Filipinas. Los oradores del CDHF esbozaron las causas de la intervención yanqui en las Filipinas. Un orador habló sobre la riqueza de recursos naturales y la posición estratégica que convierten las Filipinas en un blanco deseable. [Las Filipinas están situadas en la parte sureste del Océano Pacífico. Las islas fueron utilizadas como un escenario estratégico durante la guerra en Vietnam, lo cual podría repetirse en el caso de que EE.UU. lancen una guerra en contra de Corea, China o el Sureste de Asia.] Además se abordó la larga historia de gobiernos lacayos que habían firmado tratados cediendo a EE.UU. el derecho de ocupar el territorio filipino con fin de promocionar los intereses estadounidenses, lo cual ha resultado en una tremenda pobreza del pueblo filipino. El orador del CDHF discutió el movimiento nacional democrático de las Filipinas que lucha por reformas agrarias, una industrialización nacional, una liberación del dominio extranjero así como cambios en el liderazgo del

gobierno. [El clandestino Partido Comunista de las Filipinas que encabeza esta lucha está llevando a cabo una guerra popular con fin de derrocar al gobierno reaccionario de la República de las Filipinas y establecer una base para la construcción del socialismo.]

Ha habido una respuesta fuerte a la reciente invasión de las tropas estadounidenses en las Filipinas. El 18 de enero, unos grupos democráticos nacionales organizaron en Manila un rally impresionante oponiéndose a la presencia de las tropas estadounidenses en el territorio filipino. [A finales de enero, el Partido Comunista de las Filipinas divulgó un comunicado condenando tanto “la descarada intervención de tropas americanas en las Filipinas como el carácter sinvergüenza del régimen servil Macapagal-Arroyo”. “El Partido entero está determinado por frustrar semejantes pasos y está listo para encabezar la resistencia popular a la intervención militar de EE.UU. en todas las direcciones y mediante cualquier recurso”, dice el comunicado. “Está listo para hacer que el régimen Macapagal-Arroyo pague caro por su transparente y absoluto papel de títere y su traición a la patria”.]

Todos los oradores señalaron que la presente situación en las Filipinas es una de emergencia. La gente muere por causa del imperialismo yanqui. Esta última invasión podría convertirse en una guerra de agresión- una guerra contra el pueblo filipino que está reclamando sus derechos a la paz, comida, vivienda, medicamentos, educación, cultura nacional, independencia territorial y autodeterminación. La gente debería tener un derecho a la lucha armada para la autodefensa, y eso es lo que han hecho muchos. El movimiento revolucionario de las Filipinas que representa los intereses de más de 90% de la población ha tenido éxito y sigue creciendo. La gente de EE.UU. tenemos la responsabilidad de exigir que EE.UU. aparte sus garras imperialistas de las Filipinas.

Traducido por Células de Estudio para la Liberación de Aztlán y América Latina

Bibliografía:

1. New York Times, 8 de febrero 2002.
2. www.state.gov/www/global/terrorism/fto_info_1999.html.

¿Que es el MIM?

El Movimiento Internacionalista Maoísta (MIM) es un partido revolucionario comunista que ejerce el Marxismo-Leninismo-Maoísmo. El MIM es una organización internacionalista que trabaja desde el punto de vista del proletariado del Tercer Mundo; es por esto que sus miembros no son americanos sino ciudadanos del mundo.

El MIM lucha para acabar con la opresión de todos los grupos sobre cualquier otro, naciones por naciones, clases por clases, y géneros por géneros. La revolución es una realidad para los Estados Unidos mientras su ejército continúa extendiéndose en su esfuerzo por asegurar la hegemonía mundial.

El MIM difiere de otros partidos en tres puntos basicos: (1) El MIM sostiene que después que el proletariado conquiste el poder estatal, existira aún el potencial para una restauración de tipo capitalista, bajo la dirección de una burguesía nueva dentro del mismo partido comunista. En el caso de la Unión Soviética, la burguesía se apoderó del gobierno después de la muerte de Stalin, en 1953; y en China después de la muerte de Mao y del derrocamiento de la llamada “banda de los cuatro” en 1976. (2) El MIM sostiene que la Revolución Cultural en China es la fase ms avanzada a la que llegó el comunismo en la historia. (3) El MIM afirma que la clase trabajadora blanca de los EE.UU. es primordialmente, una élite trabajadora no revolucionaria en el presente. Es por esto que no es el principal vehículo para avanzar el Maoísmo en este país.

El MIM acepta como miembro a cualquier individuo que esté de acuerdo con estos tres puntos basicos, y que acepte al centralismo democrático, el método de gobierno por la mayoría en lo que se refiere a cuestiones de línea del partido. El MIM es un partido clandestino que no publica los nombres de sus miembros para evitar la represión estatal dirigida históricamente contra los movimientos revolucionarios comunistas, y anti-imperialistas. Si Ud. desea una suscripción para cualquiera de nuestros periódicos o libros teóricos, en español o en inglés, por favor mandar dinero en efectivo o un cheque al nombre de MIM a esta dirección:

MIM • P.O. Box 29670 • Los Angeles CA 90029-0670