

# MIM Notes



October 15, 2002, Nº 268 The Official Newsletter of the Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM) Free

## Tide turning against Uncle \$cam

9/11:  
One year  
later

The global public opinion battle over whether the United States should step up its already simmering war in Iraq is a sign of the global change of opinion since September 11th 2001. While the u.s. imperialists hoped to ride sympathy to greater hegemony, global opinion has finally shown that the possibility exists for new divisions. The only question is whether any of the major imperialists are prepared to manipulate public opinion in a way so as to form decisive new trade blocs to the exclusion of the united States.

George Bush has called for war based on the "gathering danger" of Iraq. He and his administration officials say that Iraq is getting better biological weapons, improving its nuclear capacity and hiding its long-range missiles successfully.(1)

Thus, the whole conflict that English and Amerikkkan rulers see revolves around weapons proliferation. In a capitalist world where it is profitable to



Unkle \$cam proves once again he can't learn from his mistakes.

have wars and sell weapons, there is nothing that can stop the proliferation of weapons anymore than the proliferation of drugs. The same rulers who cannot end the drug problem now bring us their equally backward ideas about war and weapons. Even if they bomb Iraq back into the Stone Age, the system guarantees

that sooner or later U.s. troops and people will be nuked and this much is already admitted by the rulers themselves.

The rulers may catch this or that weapon or assassinate this or that leader just as they catch this or that drug dealer, but they have no chance of maintaining a

*Continued on page 6...*

## SAUDI RULERS CAPITULATE, SERVE AS GOOD LACKEYS

On September 15th, the ruling class of Saudi Arabia blinked in public. The Foreign Minister said it would allow the united States to use Saudi bases to attack Iraq, with the justification that Iraq should allow weapons inspectors onto its territory.

Iraq claims that it has passed all the previous weapons inspections and still the United Nations did not eliminate economic sanctions on Iraq that are killing the people there. Iraq also has not received a guarantee that the united States would not attack if it did allow weapons inspections.

We agree with Iraq that the murderous sanctions must end and that they should have ended by the UN's own logic long ago. The sanctions remain in place thanks to genocidal rulers in the United States, England and France.

Because of the secrecy of diplomacy, MIM does not know if the Saudi rulers had promised cooperation with the united States long ago. It appears likely that that is the pattern in relations with the united States.

The Saudi decision removes the possibility of any immediate crystallization of new trade blocs excluding the united States. Until the day when the Saudis or other Arabs demonstrate the presence of powerful non-U.s. militaries on their soil, we can expect that the Saudis will continue to capitulate to U.s. imperialism.

If we suddenly saw Russian troops on Iraqi soil or French, Chinese or Russian weapons inspectors unilaterally visit Iraq and give Iraq a passing grade, we might expect some major changes in business patterns soon. We cannot expect to see diplomacy bring forward the crystallization of trade blocs by itself. There likely has to be a military threat involved in disrupting the status quo.

As of September 11th, with France backing war for inspections and the Saudis allowing use of their military bases, Uncle \$am has some momentum on his side.

## East-West Raids in Nepal People's War

From: Revolutionary Worker  
#1167, September 22, 2002  
<http://www.rwor.org>

"The surviving police personnel from the incident at Area Police Office at Bhiman, Sindhuli district last Saturday night are undergoing immense mental trauma..."

— Kathmandu Post,  
September 10, 2002

Krishna Prasad Parajuli, Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police, survived the raid and told the Kathmandu Post that he escaped by jumping over a narrow gorge near the post and climbing a tree in the nearby jungle.

Another survivor, a police constable, said he hid by covering himself with earth

with only his head peeping out in a paddy field.

A district member of the ruling Nepali Congress Party said, "I saved myself by hiding underneath the bed."

Trying not to break down in sobs, Krishna Kumar Parajuli, assistant sub-inspector in Bhiman, Sindhuli told the Kathmandu Post from his hospital bed, "Bullets flew on either side of us. We hid in a trench. But, we couldn't stay there... So we worked our way up to the commanding post. After a lot of firing there was a pause. Our Inspector, who was in command, thought we had won. 'Nepal prahari jindabadh!' (long live Nepal Police) he shouted." But then the firing began again.

### Saturday Night: Bhimad

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The People's Liberation Army launched a daring raid late Saturday night, September 7, on a police post in Bhimad in the eastern Sindhuli

district, about 100 miles southeast of the capital city of Kathmandu.

There were 74 police in the station at the time and 49 were killed and 21 wounded. The few who were able to survive had fled into the dense jungle surrounding the town.

This is the first major rebel offensive since the 10-month-long State of Emergency was lifted on August 28.

Police officials said around 1,000 to 1,500 rebels were involved in the five-hour operation.

It has become common practice at government outposts for the police to leave the barracks at night. Fearing attacks, they routinely sleep in trenches in the surrounding forest. When the attack began, the police came out from the trenches in a panic—only to face a volley of bullets.

Eyewitnesses said the guerrillas came in three batches and encircled the police station. Local people told reporters that the rebels rained bullets and socket bombs like hailstones.

The guerrillas set almost all government facilities on fire except the district hospital. The police post was completely destroyed,

*Continued on page 4...*

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# Letters

## What about mental illness?

Dear MIM:

I wanted to write and let you know that I have read a lot of your last two newsletters and a little of what's on your webiste. I am particularly concerned with the issue of prisoners. I am glad that they feel they can write to you and get support. I, too, have sent books to prisoners without including contraband.

On your website I checked out movie reviews of "The Matrix," "Patch Adams," and "Welcome to the Dollhouse." I have a policy of not going to movies. After I saw "Girl, Interrupted," I got mad as I'm mentally ill and I feel it exploited my experience. I also read some of the articles on Mao and the idea that he's misunderstood.

I appreciate when you write "persyn." I am not very sophisticated in my understanding of political concepts. I get exposed to a lot of information in your

newsletter that I don't know from elsewhere, such as that there's an anti-nuclear museum in Hiroshima and that Bush signed a farm bill. Even though I read the local alternative newspaper and the other local paper when I can get it free, I am always lagging behind.

Where does Maoism find a place for the mentally ill? I am actually pretty well recovered from 30 years of schizophrenia and want to get up to speed on political and economic thought. I also need to educate myself as far as nature and science and medicine, etc. etc. I know something of the issue of wanting to get an education paid for by the state, as one of the prisoners wrote. My personal experience of hospitals and jail has been easy enough and I will keep thinking of prisoners.

—Massachusetts reader,

September 2002

**bosmim@mim.org replies for MIM:** It's great to hear from someone with actual experience being censored by writing to prisoners.

Comrades, MIM covers the mental illness issue mostly in MIM Theory #9, titled "Psychology and Imperialism." Please

send \$6 to MIM, PO Box 400559, Cambridge, MA 02140 within the united States.

We encourage you to study what happened with the mentally ill under Mao in China and we thank you for your letter.



## Photos as propaganda

Dear comrade, Why is it necessary to print pictures that give a false impression? In the #258 issue (May 15) on the cover you have a soldier pointing a gun at what looks like the child in the photo. But in fact an analysis shows that it's actually pointing several feet in front of the child to the left of the photo. In #257 (May 1) you do the same with the soldier and older woman. Analysis of the gun shows it clearly pointing to something or someone behind the woman. I find it hard to believe that these false impressions are needed to pursue your beliefs. Lies are lies and if a photo says 1,000 words than you are guilty of trying to say 1,000 lies X 2. Please for everything you believe in, please try to avoid false propaganda in the future.

Sincerely,

—A Texas Prisoner, August 2002

**MIM responds:** Thank you for your letter. We take very seriously the content of the photos and artwork we use in MIM Notes and other publications, and welcome the chance to struggle over it. For MIM, art is a tool for revolutionary education, just like the printed word. The photos you

describe show members of the Palestinian nation living under the guns of Israeli soldiers in their daily lives.

Those soldiers, at that time, may not have been shooting at those civilians. However, Israeli soldiers do shoot at Palestinian civilians very often, whether enforcing curfews in Palestinian cities or in the supposed pursuit of Palestinian "terrorists." We don't need to exaggerate these facts, because they are obvious, well documented, and appalling to most of the world. Being forced to live under the armed military occupation of Israel would be an egregious violation of the lives of the Palestinians shown in these pictures, even if that soldier never even fired that gun.

What if we showed a picture of a prisoner in a cell with the door closed, but it turned out the prisoner actually chose to be in the cell at that time, instead of in the library or the yard? Would that picture be misleading? He is still a prisoner, living in captivity, even if there are times when he exercises some minimal choice over his actions. Likewise, living under the gun is living under the gun. If the soldier did shoot some other civilian, right in front of the child, would that be better?

MIM uses these photos to illustrate the reality of life in Palestine, not to identify the individual soldiers in the photos as taking an individual action that is wrong (i.e. shooting the child in the picture). There are plenty of real photos of real Israeli military personnel shooting children and older women. These pictures used in MIM Notes do not mislead or misinform. They accurately convey a political point about what is happening in Palestine. Similarly MIM prints collages showing Bush holding puppet strings over Sharon. Bush doesn't actually have strings tied to Sharon, but the political point we illustrate is correct.

Editor, MC206; Production, MC12

## MIM Notes

The Official Newsletter of The Maoist Internationalist Movement

ISSN 1540-8817

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## 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.

## 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.

# What is behind the war in Chechnya?

## Russian Maoist Party analyzes Russian conditions

**MIM interviewer:** We would like to congratulate you on the publication of your article on the Chechens' Kavkaz.org. It was the first time they published a communist. We hope it will be the first of many inter-ethnic cooperations.

We have a number of questions about Chechnya.

The questions are answered by Dar Zhutayev, Chairpersyn of the Russian Maoist Party, and Denis Seliverstov, member of the RMP Central Committee.

**1. Do you think it is the will of the Chechen people to be independent? Have you seen Chechen people who feel otherwise?**

**Dar:** The answer to the first part of

the question is a strong yes. Of course, in the present situation of military occupation and guerrilla warfare, it is impossible to hold any sort of a meaningful referendum in Chechnya, but the very persistence of this guerrilla warfare and the total inability of the Russian authorities to quell it or to find any credible Chechen personalities to occupy posts in their puppet "indigenous" administrative bodies speak for themselves. The Russian military—both in media interviews and in numerous conversations I've had with soldiers and officers—complain that they are unable to distinguish between "peaceful" civilian Chechens and militants. In an overwhelming majority of cases, the

situation is such that a given person is a peaceful civilian by day and a guerrilla fighter by night. The Russian Army carries out its "cleansing operation" (anti-"terrorist" crackdown) in a given Chechen town or village, smokes out all the insurgents, takes away all their weapons—and then has to repeat the operation for a second, third, seventh time. The "terrorists" just pop out from nowhere. The Chechen people vote for independence with their arms—with their weapons.

I'd like to stress that the Russian campaigns in Chechnya and their inhumane brutality have contributed a lot to this: for instance, indiscriminate bombings have veritably bombed much of Chechnya,

including its capital city of Dzhokhar (Grozny) that had considerable industry and scientific research institutions of all-Union importance in the Soviet times, into stone age. All this has embittered and radicalized the people. Before, or even during, the First Chechen War (1994-1996), the Dzhokhar Dudayev regime was not all that popular with the masses. There was a pronounced political opposition. People in general used to complain of Dudayev's inability to curb crime or to create a working state apparatus. But the Russian military operations have resulted in a consolidation of a quasi-totality of the Chechen people around Dudayev and his successors and,

*Continued on page 8...*

## Child abductions fill the u.s. headlines

### SICK COUNTRY NEEDS SOME STERN BUT NEW LEARNING

This summer saw the u.s. media focus on kidnapping of children. Police shot and killed an abductor to recover Tamara Brooks and Jacqueline Marris who disappeared August 1; kidnapers killed Cassandra Williamson, 6, on July 26; Erica Pratt, 7, disappeared on July 22 but freed herself from duct tape and crawled out a window; and August 13th someone caught on videotape snatched a baby in a Wal-Mart parking lot in Texas but the next day the baby returned to her parents.

In the month of May alone, 1,602 additional children were missing, not just lost and quickly found, but missing. Their names are now part of a larger database.

There are three main categories for the 1,602 new cases in May. One is kidnapping, which is probably the smallest part but still much larger proportionately speaking than in other countries. Two is custody battles over children by divorced parents. Three is runaway children.

From MIM's point of view, the issue of missing children is near the top of the feminist agenda in the united States. We hear often about glass ceilings and sexual harassment at work and school, but we almost never hear from the pseudo-

feminists about the property dispute going on when two parents finish a custody dispute with one of the parents abducting a child. Yet, more than two-thirds of abductions involve female children, and there can be nothing that compares with the sexual exploitation and murder of children.

Amerikkans have a very ideological idea of private property and its importance, and even the pseudo-feminists dare not touch it. Divorce is OK by Amerikkans and that's one reason there are so many custody battles. Yet the intensity of those battles is worse than in other countries because Amerikkans don't give up their property without a gun battle, as at the edge of a farm demarcated by a wooden fence.

Children are not property. Fucked-up Amerikkkan parents are making it hard to distinguish child abductors from the red-white-and-blue. Right now the parents think they have the "right" to take their children and disappear without regard for how that creates a decoy situation for real kidnapers, like pulling a false fire alarm.

When it comes to any social problem, Amerikkans think the solution is up to each individual. As long as they continue with these backward ideas, the Amerikkans will have the highest crime rate in the world, the most people in prison per capita and more innocent people's lives being ruined by everything from abduction-murders to false imprisonment by a system overwhelmed by Amerikkkan crime.

Amerikkans have hardened and inaccurate ideas harmful to their own people and their relations with the rest of the world. For this reason, the solution to the crime and prison craze will not come from within the Amerikkkan population. At best, we can convince some Amerikkans to be more objective about the rest of the world and learn from it more why the united States leads the world in crime and false imprisonment.

Note: USA Today 15Aug2002, p. 3a.

## Belgian Green outdoes countless 'communists'

A Flemish Green Agalev party member and Health and Environment Minister in the Belgian government resigned over the shipment of 5500 machine guns to the landlord-backed regime in Nepal. The Belgian government decided to send the weapons on August 23rd.

Germany had refused to send weapons and the Belgian constitution prohibits shipment of weapons to countries in the midst of civil war. Magda Aelvoet quit as a matter of conscience.(1)

Nepal may be the second poorest country in the world, but the imperialists cannot leave it alone. Rather imperialism raises a hoopla about "terrorists" and uses tax money to enrich arms manufacturers.

Another positive development in the resistance to imperialist militarism is that the U.S.-based Workers World Party did some exposure of U.S. aid to the regime in Nepal and started to distance itself from the "Communist Party of Nepal(United Marxist-Leninist) CPN(UML), which has yet to denounce imperialist military aid to the landlord-backed regime in Nepal as MIM reported in previous issues, including #258, May 15th, 2002.(2) The CPN(UML) is Nepal's second largest party, a real contender in the parliamentary government.

The supposed "Communist Party of the USA" has yet to mention the issue of U.S. military aid going to Nepal. It's not surprising because it's sister party the "CPN(UML) (that the "CP-USA" links to on its web page) has not opposed U.S. military aid to Nepal either. In fact, the only mention of Nepal on the "CP-USA" website is the link to the "CPN(UML)." Thus we can see more opposition to imperialism in some Greens than amongst the phony communists.

Notes: 1. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/2220116.stm>. 2. <http://www.workers.org/ww/2002/briefs0523.php>. 3. [www.pww.org](http://www.pww.org); [www.cpusa.org](http://www.cpusa.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!

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# East-West Raids in Nepal People's War

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and the rebels captured whatever arms were at the post.

The guerrillas had blocked approaches to the town with huge boulders and felled trees—preventing the arrival of reinforcements until the morning. The battle site is only an hour's drive from the district headquarters, but newly deployed security forces arrived six hours later—and by this time, the guerrillas had already completed their operation and left the area.

News reports said two security personnel on their way to the battle site were injured in a landmine detonated by the rebels. And according to a Captain of the Royal Nepal Army, his men had to fight the rebels for about an hour before they were able to get to the destroyed police post.

## Sunday Night: Sandhikharka

*"It was around 3 p.m. on Sunday night. A silent small valley in the hills of Arghakhanchi in west Nepal suddenly went berserk when the Maoists, numbering in the thousands, attacked the district headquarters of Sandhikharka.*

*"Bharat Pyakurel, an Armed Police Force personnel, speaking from the hospital bed, told The Kathmandu Post, "The reinforcements sent in by the helicopters were not allowed to land on time and we were soon overwhelmed by the Maoists."*

— Kathmandu Post, September 10, 2002

Only 24 hours after the raid on Bhimad, the People's Liberation Army launched another daring raid on a police post—this time 185 miles west of Kathmandu, in the remote town of Sandhikharka, the district headquarters of Argakachi.

About 200 police and soldiers were posted in the town. And according to news reports, 85 security personnel were killed and 22 were wounded. All the government buildings and a prison were set on fire and destroyed.

Eyewitnesses said the attack began about 10 p.m. when thousands of rebels (some reports say 4,000) entered the town chanting Maoist slogans. The guerrillas attacked an army barrack, the office of the armed police, and the civilian district post of the civilian police. One police official said that a large number of young guerrillas set government buildings on fire while other groups of rebels attacked the security bases with sophisticated weapons. The attack continued until Monday morning.

Officials said the Maoists seized cash from local banks and exploded bombs at government installations including the district police office, army barracks, the district administration office.

Nepal television quoted one policeman saying the Maoist guerrillas attacked from all sides with very sophisticated automatic weapons. Bal Jung Tamang, an official



rebels fled the scene at about 6 in the morning after the joint reinforcements of Royal Nepal Army and police arrived at the scene. But by that time, most of our men were killed and weapons were taken."

Eyewitnesses told reporters that, after the rebels took over the town, they held an impromptu victory parade, delivered a short speech, and then left with the weapons taken from the military and the police.

Afterwards, local people told reporters that Maoist guerrillas had been building their positions around the neighboring villages of the district headquarters two to three days ahead of the attack. News reports said that in preparation, the Maoists also built health camps at nine places. And like with the raid in Bhimad, guerrillas set up blockades on the trails and roads leading into the district headquarters.

## Government Emergency

The reactionary Nepalese regime, reeling from these two successful attacks by the People's Liberation Army, is considering reimposing the State of Emergency.

A State of Emergency had been in effect for nine months and was only lifted on August 28. It gave security forces sweeping search and detention powers, and all kinds of constitutional rights were suspended. Under the State of Emergency, the Royal Nepalese Army and police have carried out murder, rape and torture against the civilian population in the countryside, and carried out "search and destroy" campaigns against the guerrillas. A huge disinformation campaign has censored the press, allowing them only to report information released by the government. Some 130 journalists have been detained, pro-Maoist newspapers have been shut down and Krishna Sen, who was the editor of the Maoist newspaper Janadesh, was murdered while in custody.

Prime Minister Deuba's aides have said that all the security chiefs are now recommending that the State of Emergency be reimposed. And Nepal's minister of state for home affairs told

of the Reuters news that "Emergency rule has now become inevitable. We must reimpose it."

of the

Reuters news that "Emergency rule has now become inevitable. We must reimpose it."

As we go to press, the Maoists are getting ready for a nationwide bandh on Monday, September 16. The "general shutdown" has been called for by the United Revolutionary People's Council, under the slogan: "Mount Unified Resistance against Royal Military Dictatorship!" Things are sure to intensify even further as the People's War in Nepal advances.

International Minister comments for MIM: The article above is by a petty-bourgeois organization seeking to use the Third World People's Wars for the economic demands of the labor aristocracy, just as the "rebels" in Paris, 1968 used the image of Vietnam. However, since the article focuses on Nepal, we find it useful and accurate to the extent that MIM can determine from this great distance: it appears that

September, 2002 is seeing a powerful Maoist offensive supported by the people of Nepal.

Among some other sources people may check are [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south\\_asia/2243838.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/2243838.stm) and [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south\\_asia/2245607.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/2245607.stm), which spells one location in question as "Sandikharka." More than one spelling is common.

Some will ask as always why we publish an article from a petty-bourgeois organization: it's a matter of fighting sectarianism. The truth is the truth no matter who says it. This article is true, makes no mention of labor aristocracy demands, and sticks to reporting facts which we could rewrite only at the expense of time. If we had already done the article ourselves on the same topic, we would not have published it.

# MIMTheory

## MIM Theory 2 and 3: Gender and Revolutionary Feminism

MIM seeks to explain how it sees gender oppression, especially in the First World.(\$5)

## MIM Theory 4: The Failure and Success of Communist Development

The collapse of state-capitalist governments in the Soviet Union and its bloc of allies in Eastern Europe left many people with the conclusion that communism is a failure and capitalism a success.(\$6)

## MIM Theory 5: Diet for a Small Red Planet

If the genuine communist forces are to amount to anything, we must understand the dialectical stages through which the struggle passes.(\$6)

## MIM Theory 6: The Stalin Issue

Anti-communist propagandists around the world opened up new offensives against Josef Stalin when the Soviet Union fell apart.(\$6)

## MIM Theory 7: Proletarian Feminist Revolutionary Nationalist on the Communist Road

Maoism holds that the principal contradiction in the world today is between imperialism and oppressed nations. MIM applies our line on the national question to the specific conditions of the oppressed internal nations in North America.(\$6)

## MIM Theory 8:

### The Anarchist Ideal and Communist Revolution

We offer our present and past critiques of anarchist theory and practice, specific anarchist groups, and great

moments in anarchist history.(\$6)

## MIM Theory 9: Psychology and Imperialism

Looking at the Chinese practice, our own developing experience, and learning from various critiques of mainstream psychology, we begin to find the answers to get people up and active in the revolutionary struggle, and to develop the theory we need to deal with psychology and mental health.(\$6)

## MIM Theory 10: Labor Aristocracy

"At the expense of the plundered colonial peoples capital corrupted its wage slaves, created a community of interest between the exploited and the exploiters as against the oppressed colonies ... and chained the European and American working class to the imperialist 'fatherland.'" —Comintern, 1919(\$6)

## MIM Theory 11: Amerikkkan Prisons on Trial

Revolutionary analysis of Amerikan injustice leads to the only reasonable verdict. For the crime of oppression and genocide, the people find this imperialist system... GUILTY!(\$6)

## MIM Theory 12:

### Environment, Society, Revolution

Read MIM's call for a revolutionary environmentalism: Taking on both the imperialists and the pseudo-environmentalists who cover for them. No green revolutionary should be without it.(\$6)

## MIM Theory 13: Culture in Revolution

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# Logging contracts make no money for Uncle \$am

It costs more money to set up logging sales than the logging companies pay for the rights to take the mature trees from federal lands for timber. This has not stopped President George W. Bush from naming loggers the solution to the brush-fires that swept western regions of North America in recent months.

Bush says a former logging industry official now heading the U.S. Forest Service should be in charge of requiring the logging companies to remove brush in zones hazardous to humyn habitation in exchange for logging. That's his "Healthy Forests" plan.

Economist Paul Krugman has pointed out these facts and also the fact that 82% of logging campaign donations go to the Republican Party that George W. Bush heads. That's one way that under capitalism business interests bribe the

government. Another way is by giving people high-paying private sector jobs after doing business favors while in government.

There is nothing illegal about Bush's seeking votes and campaign contributions in exchange for corporate welfare. That's why MIM condemns dumbocracy on basic issues of survival rights such as the environment. Even though logging workers are "productive sector" workers, we do not hesitate to condemn their specific interests when they come in conflict with the environment—especially in the united States where such jobs are NOT necessary for survival. Even in very poor countries, under socialism all able-bodied adults will have a job and there won't be a shortage of jobs causing people to look for the nearest environment-destroying occupation they

can find. What may be sustainable for some "workers" at one moment may not be sustainable to the species as a whole.

What the Libertarians and anarcho-capitalists do not understand is that the power of wealth inequalities are never just created by the state, so selling off public forests and cutting back the government is not a solution. Air for example is a public good and has to remain so, because of our species-needs; trees replenish the vital characteristics of the air by removing carbon. There is no way to chop up the environment into bits and sell it off to private stewards who will supposedly guard it. MIM says that no one has a "right" (usually called "private property") to destroy the air, water and land more than the minimal amount for humyn development. People who believe they do have such a "right"

need to be repressed by dictatorship and any other stance at this time involves complicity in mass murder—murder by pollution, which kills far more people each year by itself than Stalin and Mao ever executed.

More than 1% of the public is already hired as private security guards in addition to the huge employment of the government. Whatever government does not do, the wealthy can hire Pinkerton thugs to do, and there is little difference between a private security force and a government. The government just usually has more clients. The only solution is where people do not have economic or government power over each other—communism.

Note: Paul Krugman, "Bush on fire," New York Times, 27Aug02, p. a17.

## U.S. NBA stars lose basketball championships



*Don't believe the hype: Jermaine O'Neal (left) made 42% of his free throws, and Baron Davis made just 40%, as the USA was trounced.*

From time to time, as in close games in the Olympics, one had to wonder how much of the NBA (National Basketball Association) is hype and how much is talent and teamwork. After losing to Spain, Yugoslavia and Argentina in the World Championship games, the U.S. team showed us the answer.

Basketball is nowhere in the world a multi-billion dollar industry other than the United States. With that industry comes endless television, radio and newspaper hype about its stars—a fact that we communists believe contributes to couch potato spectator life and an epidemic of obesity. We blame capitalism's effect for ruining pure sports.

Athletically, there is nowhere in the world that full-time trainers, medical doctors and gymnasias are set up as well for a sport. Yet, the team representing the United States lost to a team representing a country less than a tenth its size.

Although the handful of very top U.S. players did not play, the U.S. team was full of All-Star multi-millionaires and it lost in the 2002 championships. In the past, any criticism of the stars in the NBA bordered on sacrilege, and even "racism."

Now the U.S. team has lost to three countries. "The money and greed of the NBA, does that have an effect on our competitive nature?" asked the coach of the NBA's Milwaukee Bucks. "Yeah, you can write that."(1)

For those saying that money has not ruined the sport, we point to one fact: the U.S. team played nine games in which it averaged 63% from the foul line. The U.S. players can say the "refs" were out to get them or whatever they want, but that kind of record from the foul line is so bad that one can only hope the players were betting on their own losses on the side. (Betting also ruins sports.)

In the future, the united States will spend more time preparing the team play of its national team, says the head of the NBA, David Stern. It will be interesting to see if the NBA manages to require the players' union to commit to free preparations for the Olympics and World Championship games. Otherwise, Stern can call for more preparation by players, but he may not get it.

Notes:

1. Globe and Mail, 9 Sep 2002, p. s4.
2. National Post, 9 Sep 2002, p. b4.

## Beijing buys Nauru for \$203 million

Money makes the national question. The Pacific Island of Nauru with a population of 10,000 has stopped visits by Taiwanese officials in exchange for a \$203 million package from Beijing. Taiwan tries to act like a separate country from the People's Republic of China. Both sides bribe various countries to recognize themselves as legitimate countries. Taiwan extends "foreign aid" and the People's Republic of China "does business."

Recently Taiwan claims to be more "democratic" than the People's Republic of China and attempts to shame "democracies" into supporting Taiwan instead of or in addition to the People's Republic of China as a legitimate country. Only 27 countries recognize Taiwan as the "Republic of China" that it claims to be.

When Mao Zedong liberated China in

1949 from Japanese, U.S. and other imperialisms, the reactionary upper classes headed by Chiang Kai-shek headed off to Taiwan where they claimed to be the official China. Recently, with the older generation dying off, many Taiwanese thinking they are more like the 51st U.S. state want to be thought of as a separate country from the People's Republic of China. The United States defended Taiwan and raises the costs to the People's Republic of China of an attack that would reintegrate Taiwan with the rest of China.

MIM takes the line that there is no value to a Taiwanese independence movement. Both countries have capitalist systems. We also believe that exploited and super-exploited people should not fight amongst themselves to the benefit of imperialism. That goes for Tibet too.

Note: Globe and Mail, 9 Sep 2002, p. a9.

## Nikkei hits 19-year low; Japanese bourgeoisie suffers

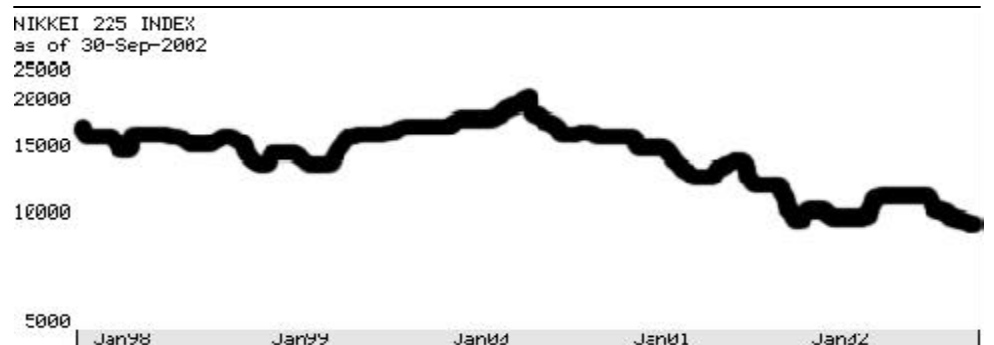
An investment in the Japanese stock market has returned 0% since 1983 in Japan—thanks to a 19-year low in stocks on the Nikkei index. Averaged over the last ten years, the Japanese and Austrian stock markets are the only ones out of 23 developed countries measured that show losses.

Since Japan has the world's second largest economy, weakness there is important to the overall health of the global capitalist system. Either new capitalist countries will have to develop and grow

to offset Japan or the possibility exists that the whole capitalist system could careen into depression everywhere, not just the Third World. Another series of military events such as September 11th could ruin the civilian golden goose of the imperialist countries.

The results in Japan also underscore how investors there need to go abroad for profits—the basic impulse of imperialism.

Note: Eric Kirzner, "Markets react to events real and imagined" Financial Post 9Sept2002



The last five years of the Nikkei index (MIM artist's rendition).

# Labor aristocracy in charge: no flying while Arab

On September 12th, a charter jet company based in Manchester, England called My Travel threw four British citizens off a flight for racial reasons when 24 other people said they would not fly with them out of fear of terrorism. This was not an act of the imperialist government. It was the decision of a pilot to throw off the four instead of the 24 who refused to fly with the four men of Indian ethnicity. Since the men were not even Arab, MIM refers to this case as “racism,” a typical and purely visual mistake.

Police had searched the four passengers for weapons and the baggage

check went through twice, but still they did not fly. In other words, there were no grounds for fear and yet even oppressive searches could not calm the racists. My Travel found alternative arrangements for the men, but they were 10 hours late as a result.(1)

MIM previously reported at the end of December, 2001 that even Bush’s own Secret Service agents are not immune to labor aristocracy action. One pilot threw one of Bush’s protectors off a flight for his Arab origins. Obviously, this was not imperialist-sanctioned racism. It was the labor aristocracy demonstrating its own

class’s relative independence.(2)

While they probably cannot admit that they are racists, the 24 passengers and pilot of the My Travel flight should at least notice that they live in an awful situation where this happens. Yet, instead, the oppressor nation petty-bourgeoisie supports no movement for change that could actually solve the problems and fears caused by the problems.

MIM attacks racism and national chauvinism and in no way excuses such “wildcat” expressions by the oppressor nation petty-bourgeoisie often mistaken as a proletariat. There are so many such

incidents and support for war by the Amerikkkan and English populations is so strong, that these populations will not be able to proceed straight to building socialism after revolution brings down imperialism. Our party calls for a whole stage of history in which the Amerikkkan and English people prepare themselves for internationalist brotherhood under the tutelage of the international proletariat.

Note:

1. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/ukresponse/story/0,11017,792057,00.html>
2. <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/mn/sept112001/text.php?mimfile=hatecrimes2.TXT>

# Tide turning against Uncle \$cam

*Continued from page 1...*

monopoly on nuclear weapons or biological weapons of mass destruction. There is no choice but to go another route—to cut off the motivations for having such weapons by pushing forward with the communist movement as quickly as possible. That is the only sensible route for the humyn species.

Despite Bush’s clarion call for war in front of the United Nations on September 12th, Germany has held firm in public saying it will not participate in the war, even if the Security Council votes for one. We cannot help thinking that this means the Germans see their interests as slightly out-of-step with Amerikan oil company interests. Polls show that 80% of Germans oppose any military attack on Iraq.(2)

China for its part did not even speak of passing new UN resolutions, but spoke of enforcing old ones. The meaning for Iraq and the United States was that no new statements were necessary, just action on old UN resolutions. China met with EU (European Union) leaders to state publicly that it would like to see a return of weapons inspectors to Iraq, which have not been there since 1998.(3)

On September 8th, the deputy prime minister of Canada John Manley said, “We haven’t been in the camp with Tony Blair and others who say there should be a pre-emptive attack.”(4)

More importantly, the Russians said on September 11th that military action against Iraq would be “absolutely unacceptable.”(5) The Russians have little to gain from a new U.\$ lackey being in charge of Iraq, since such a lackey may cut off various Russian business deals in motion with Iraq. Meanwhile, an English newspaper, the Guardian, speculated that Putin may exchange allowing a war on Iraq for allowing a Russian war on Georgia. MIM speculates that various countries may decide to send weapons inspectors to Iraq and give Iraq a clean bill of health.

The warmongering leaders of the world live in the United States with 60% of the population giving “Secretary of Defense” Donald Rumsfeld a positive rating in

August, with only 29% giving a negative rating.(6) This is despite the fact that amongst government officials it is Rumsfeld most often talking about attacking more than 60 countries at once. Amerikkkan militarism has polluted the atmosphere so long, that MIM holds that the Amerikkkan population is not ready to build socialism right away and must go through a separate stage of development to prepare for harmony with the other peoples of the world, especially the Third World.

Polls also show that Amerikkkans are fair-weather friends of liberty. When life is simple, they want the choice between Coke and Pepsi. A year after September 11th, Amerikkkans are less in support of repression than they were. Support for government monitoring of the Internet fell to 42% (off by 21 percentage points) since September 11th. Only 32% now favor more monitoring of email and cellphones, down 22 points since last year.(7)

Obviously, when the united States comes under attack, all talk of liberty goes out the window in the united States. If there should be more spectacular events, public support for liberty will erode further.

In New York, 44% of the public still says it is more suspicious of Arab New Yorkers.(8) That compares with 11% of Kanadians who said they were now more suspicious of Arabs or other minorities.(9)

As far as we know, Kanadians as a population are most supportive of U.\$ war plans. 61% support Bush’s actions since September 11th in a poll of 1008, compared with 51% in Spain, 45% in Britain and 41% in Italy.(10)

Even in England, 52% as against 42% oppose a U.\$ land invasion of Iraq and 59% oppose helping such an invasion with British troops. Kanada is the only country where a bare majority (52%) supports a war with Iraq other than the United States and presumably I\$rael.(10)

July comments from the Prime Minister of Canada Chretien broadcast on September 11th started a controversy in Kanada. “You cannot exercise your powers to the point of humiliation for the

others,’ he said. ‘That is what the Western world — not only the Americans, the Western world — has to realize.’”(11) The Prime Minister even pointed to the expanding gap between the North and South (of the world) for the source of problems. President of France J. Chirac made similar comments.

Meanwhile, a front page story in the Montreal Gazette September 7th reveals that students ranging from middle school age to college believe that President Bush arranged the attacks of September 11th for reasons ranging from the economy to increasing his powers of repression to solidifying his support vis-a-vis Al Gore. “‘I think it was the U.S. that did it—they wanted to go to war,’ said Kyle Choma, 13, who’s in Grade 8 at FACE, a downtown Montreal high school across the street from McGill University.”(12)

In fact, the poll showing majority Kanadian support for war against Iraq faced criticism for being done by Amerikkkans of Gallup. A Kanadian poll by another company showed that a 54% majority of Kanadians did not agree with Bush’s justifications for war as of August 20th to 25th.(13) However, the dates of the polls were separate and there is nothing to prevent Kanadians from saying the justifications are wrong while still supporting the war, so it may not be the case that the polls are in contradiction. The Leger poll also showed that 57% of Kanadians fear a reprisal against Kanada if it supports a U.\$ war against Iraq.(13)

MIM cannot say at this point how far various capitalist governments are willing

to go in finding themselves in contradiction with the united States. In the most advanced form of imperialist re-division of the world, we see the possibility of a German-Russian-Chinese-Saudi alliance to the exclusion of U.\$ and British oil companies. On the other hand, it may be unlikely to see such a redivision created so quickly with any firmness, especially given all the business ties linking Germans, Russians, Chinese and Saudis with the United States.

Notes:

1. See for example USA Today 9Sept2002, p. 1a.
2. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/germany/article/0,2763,791994,00.html>
3. [http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/200209/13/eng20020913\\_103149.shtml](http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/200209/13/eng20020913_103149.shtml)
4. Globe and Mail 9Sept2002, p. a13.
5. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/Iraq/Story/0,2763,790535,00.html>
6. Wall Street Journal 22Aug2002.
7. Wall Street Journal 9Sept2002.
8. [http://www.732-2m2m.com/tt/2002March\\_articles.htm](http://www.732-2m2m.com/tt/2002March_articles.htm)
9. Globe and Mail 9Sept2002, p. a6.
10. The Gazette, Montreal, 9Sept2002, p. a7.
11. [www.nationalpost.com/national/story.html?id={B9C54637-A0A5-4114-9A53-3BFFFEF05CC9}](http://www.nationalpost.com/national/story.html?id={B9C54637-A0A5-4114-9A53-3BFFFEF05CC9})
12. Jeff Heinrich, “Rumors are out there,” 7Sept2002, <http://www.canada.com/search/site/story.asp?id=1A9178B2-28FA-4348-91D9-289C7E887286>
13. <http://www.canada.com/search/site/story.asp?id=69D415F5-A6D8-4EC5-B31F-D3CB46E8B508>



<http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/rail/impkills.html>

# U.\$ home wealth, settler surplus-value

Ever since the Amerikkans killed the indigenous people by the millions for their land, real estate has had a hallowed status in the law and economy of the united States. In the first eight months of 2002, U.\$ home values increased \$620 billion. By comparison, the 10th largest economy in the world, Spain, had a Gross National Product (GNP) of \$552 billion in 1999.

Despite this overwhelming fact of parasitism where the 68% of Amerikkans owning homes saw their wealth increase by more than all the labor of Spain (and its share of imperialist loot if any) put together in a year, out of the

countless parties calling themselves “Marxist” in the United States, only a handful have correctly concluded that the white population is parasitic, not proletarian. Out of the parties calling themselves “Maoist” only MIM’s fraternal parties like the Russian Maoist Party and the Ghetto Liberation Political Party have managed to state even the most obvious facts of life. Globally our communist movement is so backward and unprepared for the tasks ahead of it that almost all of the parties calling themselves “Marxist” and even “Maoist” cannot fathom this.

The increase in Amerikkkan wealth is not a result of a sudden output of labor by Amerikkans on their homes that dwarfs the Spanish economy. No, it is part of a spasmodic but huge growth of wealth accomplished by exploiting most of the world’s people, the Third World.

True, since the end of 1999 the stock market crash has wiped out \$5.5 trillion in investors’ wealth. However, in the past 100 years, all such crashes have been temporary. Averaged out over more years, the U.\$ stock market has always managed to demonstrate its great parasitic prowess.

MIM has concluded that the Amerikkkan people have gotten something for nothing (other people’s labor in return for merely owning things) so long, that it will take a whole stage of society called the “re-civilization” stage before the Amerikkkan people will be prepared to build socialism. The other “Marxist” parties are avoiding the simple economic facts of life.

Note:

Patrick Barta, “Rising U.S. home prices ease stock market losses,” Wall Street Journal 9 Sep 2002.

## Kanada knows it is Amerikkkan

80% of Canadians believe their culture is no different than Amerikkkan culture according to a poll of 1048 Canadians run by a Canadian newspaper, the National Post on August 8th and August 15th.

According to the definition laid down by Lenin and Stalin, a nation has a contiguous territory, a connected economy, a common language and a common culture. Thus, it’s not surprising that Canadians think they have the same culture as Amerikkans. The largest obstacle to being one nation is the tariffs at the borders, but even so, the economies are largely intertwined, probably more than many island nations’ economies. The material facts of life point to there being one united oppressor nation of North Amerika.

In contrast, the people of Aztlan are often super-exploited or exploited, speak Spanish and traverse territories south of the U.\$ borders. We do not deny that the U.\$ empire tries to form a multi-national petty-bourgeoisie of sorts, but

there is much more reality to an Aztlan nation than a Canadian nation. Canadians mostly live within a few miles of the U.\$ border. The First Nations surrounded by Kanada and some immigrants are the exceptions.

The vast majority of “Marxist” parties do not account for this fact. They speak of separate Italian, English, French and Canadian “working classes,” but they see a multi-national “proletariat” within U.\$ borders. They are slaves of the imperialist borders and not the sentiments and economic realities of the peoples. There is much more justification for lumping an Amerikan and Canadian population together than a multi-national “proletariat” within U.\$ borders.

What connects Canadians together as Canadians is the health-care system (cited by 19%), Canada’s history (16%), hockey (13%) and geography (12.6%). In other words, there is very little reason for Kanada to be apart from the United States.

A co-sponsor of the poll bemoaned the loss of British identity: “This poll confirms the complete and utter extinction of a Canadian identity based upon British traditions and a British connection.” MIM would add that there is not much separating England from the United States either.

Readers should make no mistake. MIM does not advocate unifying the imperialist populations of Kanada and Amerikkka and we take advantage of whatever differences can be mustered between Kanada and the United States just as we would between Texas and New York. We only acknowledge the scientific reality of their unity and we address the people of Kanada and Amerikkka both as parasitic populations in the main. At the same time, we excoriate our alleged comrades calling themselves “Maoist” globally who are so far out of step with the times as not to recognize the basic facts of imperialist country economic and cultural life.

Note: National Post 9Sept2002, p. a1.

## Eddie Joe Lloyd released from prison after 17 innocent years

Tortured into signing a confession by lying cops and lawyers, Eddie Joe Lloyd found himself freed thanks to DNA evidence. He was in prison for a rape-murder conviction.

“Barry Scheck, an attorney with the Innocence Project, and Saul Green, former U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan, will ask federal officials to investigate Detroit police in the Lloyd case.”

Until cops and prosecutors start getting murder and attempted murder convictions for falsely convicting people we are going to continue to see unnecessary life lost in prison. Too many cops and prosecutors go on to become mayors and governors, and it should be illegal. Bill Clinton was a

prosecutor early in his career. Both Bill Clinton and George Bush are former governors who won popularity with their “get tough” images for the death penalty among other things. To them, it did not matter who they punished as long as they found someone to punish, and some help from lying cops and prosecutors also trying to appear effective.

Eddie Joe Lloyd is the 110th prisoner freed on DNA evidence. MIM is also wondering in his case, what took so long to do the DNA.

Note:

<http://www.cnn.com/2002/LAW/08/26/dna.evidence.ap/index.html>

### MIM Theory calls for articles, 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.

## What is militarism?

Militarism is war-mongering or the advocacy of war or actual carrying out of war or its preparations.

While true pacifists condemn all violence as equally repugnant, we Maoists do not consider self-defense or the violence of oppressed nations against imperialism to be militarism. Militarism is mostly caused by imperialism at this time. Imperialism is the highest stage of capitalism—seen in countries like the United States, England and France.

Under capitalism, capitalists often profit from war or its preparations. Yet, it is the proletariat that does the dying in the wars. The proletariat wants a system in which people do not have self-interest on the side of war-profiteering or war for imperialism.

Militarism is one of the most important reasons to overthrow capitalism. It even infects oppressed nations and causes them to fight each other.

It is important not to let capitalists risk our lives in their ideas about war and peace or the environment. They have already had two world wars admitted by themselves in the last 100 years and they are conducting a third right now against the Third World.

Even a one percent annual chance of nuclear war destruction caused by capitalist aggressiveness or “greed” as the people call it should not be tolerated by the proletariat. After playing Russian Roulette (in which the bullet chamber is different each time and not related at all to the one that came up in previous spins) with 100 chambers and one bullet, the chance of survival is only 60.5% after 50 turns. In other words, a seemingly small one percent annual chance of world war means eventual doom. After 100 years or turns of Russian Roulette, the chances of survival are only 36.6%. After 200 years, survival has only a 13.4% chance.

# What is behind the war in Chechnya?

## Russian Maoist Party analyzes Russian conditions

Continued from page 3...

of course, around the cause of independence. During the first war, there was even an entire Cossack stanitsa (village)—and you must bear in mind the ages-old bitter hostility between Cossacks and Chechens (see, e. g., stories by Leo Tolstoy)—that rose up in arms on the Chechen side.

Yes, we've met Chechens who are anti-independence. I would classify the ones we've met into two categories: (a) Chechen businesspeople in Moscow and other large cities who are concerned with the atrocities committed in their homeland and want the war stopped, but feel that Chechens (first of all, bourgeois like themselves doing business in Russia) would be better off without breaking the connection with Russia; and (b) Russified, assimilated Chechens brought up in the (fake) late Soviet tradition of "friendship between the peoples." There must be others, but I don't know what they are like and especially how many of them there are in Chechnya proper.

Den: I'd like to make a remark on the side here. Currently Chechnya is being used by the Russian bourgeoisie for pressuring the sovereign and independent state of Georgia under the pretext of there being large numbers (hundreds) of Chechen militants present in Pankissi Gorge on the territory of Georgia. The Russian General Staff understands that it has lost the information war against Chechnya and it is trying to gain revenge by using the Pankissi Gorge issue as its consolation prize.

**2. What is the economic root of this war going on in Chechnya. In the West we have heard that politicians wax and wane on Chechnya, but what is really economically at stake?**

**Dar, Den:** The main natural wealth of Chechnya lies in its oil, which is of comparatively good quality. Oil drilling in Chechnya peaked in the early 1970s, when it reached ca. 20 mil. tons per year. After that it was steadily decreasing due to the exhaustion of the oil wells and amounted to 7 mil. tons per year in the late eighties. As of now, the known oil wells have been exhausted by 90% and more. At present, independent Russian experts estimate illegal oil drilling in Chechnya at 1 mil. tons yearly (financially, the yearly turnover of illegal oil trade in Chechnya is estimated at \$100,000,000) plus 0.5 mil. tons per year is extracted by the "state"-owned (i. e. controlled by pro-Moscow quislings) company Grozneftegaz (formed in April 2001, i.e. a year and a half after the beginning of the second Chechen war). Compare this to the ca. 300 mil. tons extracted yearly in the whole of Russia and, e. g., the 20 mil. tons drilled in the republic of Tatarstan alone. The prospected oil reserves in Chechnya are estimated at 50 mil. tons. Therefore oil production in Chechnya is

on the scale of that of a small-sized Russian oil company.

The oil processing industry in Chechnya has been almost totally destroyed by the war. There is not much sense for anyone in restoring it now, since the neighboring regions of mainland Russia (Stavropol Territory, Daghestan etc.) have oil processing plants that are in full working order and whose facilities are not loaded 100%.

We believe that oil did play a part in the unleashing of the first Chechen campaign. Even before Russian troops entered Chechnya in December 1994, there was an abortive coup attempt in October 1994 on behalf of the pro-Moscow Chechen opposition (Bislan Gantamirov, Ruslan Khasbulatov, etc.) that, in our opinion, was really about the re-distribution of oil revenues between different clans of the Chechen national bourgeoisie. This attempt was actively supported by Moscow. The scenario played out in 1994 was really similar to that of Afghanistan in the late 1970s, with the difference that the coup attempt failed in Chechnya. However, the Kremlin chose to ignore the lessons of history and pulled in troops anyway. As can be seen from the above, there was even no real pressing economic need for the Russian oligarchy to do so. Just like in the case of Afghanistan, the Russian authorities underestimated the Chechen people's will for independence, which resulted in their shameful defeat in the first Chechen campaign in 1996.

As to the second campaign, we regard its motives as purely political. It was part of the massive PR campaign to get Vladimir Putin elected President and thus to preserve in power the old oligarchy in the Kremlin—with a different program and resorting to open dictatorial methods instead of the "democratic" facade of the Yeltsin era. Resorting to tactics similar to those of Hitler in the beginning of WWII, the Russian authorities provoked an invasion of Daghestan by Chechen Wahhabi volunteer forces in 1999 and used it as a pretext to invade Chechnya themselves. In contrast both to the first Chechen campaign and to the present-day situation, there were no serious attempts in 1999-2000 on the part of the Russian bourgeoisie to play on the differences within the Chechen national bourgeoisie and on the differing vested interests of its various sectors.

The current situation with oil in Chechnya is one of an ongoing re-division of the oil market. Although, we repeat, the sums concerned are comparatively insignificant for Russia as a whole, they are not so by the standards of Chechnya. The Russian occupying forces extract heavy profits from illegal oil drilling, in escorting oil caravans to processing facilities outside Chechnya and also in carrying out the above-mentioned "cleansing operations," a major part of

which is believed to be concerned with settling scores among Chechens involved in the black oil market. Grozneftegaz head Baudin Khamidov said the Russian army pockets as much as 10% of the profits from illegal trade (we believe that in reality this share can be several times larger, the major roads in Chechnya being totally controlled by the Russian military). Therefore the occupying army has a very real economic interest in the continuation of that trade. For the guerrilla leaders and those sections of the national bourgeoisie standing behind them, illegally drilled oil is also a major source of revenue. The creation of the "state"-owned company Grozneftegaz can be seen as a compromise solution, attempting both to cut the economic ground from under the separatists and to elevate a certain section of the Chechen bourgeoisie that could be, relatively speaking, called "pro-Moscow" (or not openly separatist). All this, by the way, explains the tension existing between the Russian military command and the puppet pro-Russian administration of Ahmad Kadyrov.

In this connection, the allegations by pro-government Russian media about the guerrillas being exclusively financed from Arab sources seem laughable, given the tens of millions of dollars involved in the domestic Chechen illegal oil trade.

**3. How do you evaluate the u.\$ imperialist role in Chechnya?**

**Dar, Den:** We don't know all the facts, but our feeling is it is negligible. True, there is an Amerikan committee for Chechnya consisting of all kinds of reactionary creeps, such as P.J. O'Rourke and Zbigniew Brzezinski, and, true, some state officials of the Chechen Republic were given official receptions in Washington. But that's pretty much it. We regard these things as an attempt to put a slight pressure on Putin, to show him his place, so to speak—nothing more.

There are no weapon deliveries from the u.\$ to the Chechen separatists, it being much, much easier for the latter to lay their hands on weapons arsenals left behind by the Soviet Army or to "clandestinely" buy arms'n'ammo from the present-day Russian troops (a situation ubiquitous in Chechnya). You can actually buy arms in broad daylight in the bazaar of the capital city of Grozny. The guerrillas have no financial assistance and virtually no diplomatic support from the united States. There are no Amerikkkan vested interests in Chechnya and it is easier for the united States to realize its geopolitical interests in the region through Georgia and other independent states of the Transcaucasia. This is in contradistinction to some European states, primarily England and to some extent Germany, that do have some geopolitical stakes in Chechnya proper. The theory of the neo-Trotskyite

International Leninist Current (ILC) which they used to propound before September 11—that the Kosova Liberation Army, the Chechen movement and the Taliban were three wedges being driven by the united States into the body of Russia to undermine its geostrategic stability—is a perfect example of wishful thinking.

Also, the recent propaganda of the Chechens themselves, especially with the beginning of the Intifadah and after September 11, has been vehemently anti-Western, anti-Amerikan and pro-Arab.

**4. In the West, we have heard that Chechens are rather wealthy. Is it true, that they run a large portion of the black market within Russia? Is it possible to characterize Russian political forces based on whether they demonize Jews or Chechens first? How do the so-called communists fare in Russia on these questions? Are there any alleged followers of Stalin taking what you deem to be an internationalist stance?**

**Dar:** Some Chechens, especially Chechen expats in Russia, are quite rich. There are Chechen billionaires, such as the notorious Umar Dzhabrailov who ran for Russian president in 2000. People from the Chechen diaspora do play a significant part in the Russian black market: thus it is alleged that a large portion of the Moscow gambling business is controlled by Chechens. Media stories and rumors about the "Chechen mafia" were especially rampant in the early 90s. We cannot really say how significant that part is and whether it has decreased since the early 90s or not. I'd like to stress, however, that the people we're talking about here are really more part of the Russian than of the Chechnya scene; the relation between them and Chechens in Chechnya is like that between Chicanos and Mexicans.

Within Chechnya itself, given the turmoil of the war situation, there is, of course, a lot of war profiteering, arms trade, drugs trade and similar phenomena. However, Chechnya as a whole is overwhelmingly a peasant society. The industry developed during the Soviet times has been largely destroyed by the war (and it was disproportionately serviced by Russians and Russian-speaking people—Jews, Armenians, etc.—when it existed). The war has ravaged the entire Chechen infrastructure; every village is being systematically subjected to "anti-terrorist cleansings," so the average Chechen is not a very rich, but a very poor and miserable persyn. There are streams of refugees from Chechnya in the neighboring regions of Russia and Georgia.

Anti-Chechen (and generally anti-Caucasian) hysteria is a newer and more widely accepted, more "mainstream" phenomenon than anti-Semitism.



Continued from previous page...

Whereas it would be impossible to preach open anti-Semitism on TV here, you can see “reputable” TV shows that are rampantly racist and represent the guerrillas and Chechens in general as subhuman savages (Mikhail Leontyev in his “Odnako” show that existed for a long time on the principal Russian state-owned TV channel ORT; a TV serial called “Muzhskaya Rabota” [“Men’s Work”] extolling the delights of “cleansing operations” etc.). The prominent post-Marxist thinker Alexander Tarasov correctly points out that, in contrast to anti-Semitism, the current anti-Caucasian sentiments, slogans and actual pogroms (which have intensified lately, just as the skinhead movement has grown in size and virulence) have tangible economic roots in the Russian middle and small bourgeoisie. In sum, both Russian fascism and the more “acceptable” right-wing forces can be primarily defined through their demonizing the Chechens (as “terrorists”) and all the other nations of the Caucasus (as “rootless” “aliens” in Russia, imposing “their own rules” here and that have to be pushed out or “shown their place” by violence, if necessary), not through their anti-Semitism.

The so-called “Communists” in Russia have been steadily degenerating with respect to their positions on Chechnya. During the first war, even Zyuganov’s CPRF exhibited something faintly resembling an antiwar stance and the left-of-Zyuganov “Communists” (such as Tyulkin or Nina Andreyeva, especially the latter) held pretty much internationalist positions. It has been downhill for them ever since. Now Zyuganov criticizes Putin for not being harsh enough in the Caucasus, while the unified RCWP-RPC and the new right-wing leadership of the RYCL(b) call for the speediest liquidation of the “bandit formations” in Chechnya and for Russian victory there—and so on, down the whole pseudo-Communist spectrum.

The anti-Stalinist left—Trotskyists, Bordighians, “back-to-Lenin” Khrushchevites in the tradition of the 20th Congress—presents a brighter picture on this particular issue, especially the Trotskyite Revolutionary Workers’ Party (RWP, or RRP in Russian). But with all of them the emphasis is more on “stop the war” than on supporting the Chechens’ struggle for national liberation. This logically follows from the Trotskyite line that, basically, all nationalism is reactionary.

As of now, the only exception (besides our own party) among the organizations upholding Stalin that takes an internationalist stance on Chechnya is the Hoxhaite group from Leningrad (St. Petersburg) called the “Proletarskaya Gazeta” (“Proletarian Newspaper”). It is not a party or pre-party; just a collective gathered together round a paper. Still, they hold a number of rather impressive and advanced views: e. g. they are quite hip to the theory of Soviet social-imperialism. But, of course, they have all the limitations

of dogmatic Stalinism, that is Hoxhaism.

**5. Since the people of Russia have seen the Russian Revolution, they are not completely ignorant of the theory of imperialism. Do they regard Russia as imperialist? How widespread is the attitude that since Gorbachev, Russian leaders have amounted to an extension of the Pentagon, a line item within the Pentagon’s/State Department’s budget?**

**Dar:** The perception of Russia as imperialist is not very widespread here. In leftist circles, it is mostly ultraleft groups, such as Left Communists (Bordighians) or some (but not all) Trotskyists, that would call the present-day Russia imperialist. From a different angle, there is a lot of diffused sentiment among the Russian petit-bourgeois “democratic” intelligentsia (a not inconsiderable stratum of the population) that the “imperial traditions” are being revived now, that the brief period of “democratic reform” and relative freedom has ended and that the Russian Empire is again coming into its own. Such people might even call Putin’s Russia imperialist. But these are, of course, pre-scientific sentiments that have nothing to do with the Leninist theory of imperialism.

Whereas the term “imperialism” is not very current here, the term “Empire” is. Again, very many people, of the most varying political persuasions, believe that Russia used to be, and/or should be, an empire, but very few would agree that it is one now.

Another facet of the problem, the word “imperialism” has very bad connotations here, inherited from the Soviet times. Yet the traditions of the last two centuries, both reactionary (the czarist Empire, the late USSR) and revolutionary (the USSR of Lenin and Stalin), have strongly encouraged in our population a sense of identifying with the state, of considering it “our” state, of wishing it well. Therefore few people would be so hostile to the state as to call it “imperialist.”

The second attitude that you mention—that Russia is/was being run by the States—is quite widespread, and this situation is seen as a bad thing. Gorbachev, whom you mention, is widely regarded a traitor—not of socialism, of course, but of the country. Putin, quite a pro-Western, globalist politician at heart, has cleverly exploited these feelings, posing himself as an alleged alternative to the shamelessly, openly pro-Western regime of Yeltsin. He is seen as somebody pursuing an independent course, strengthening the State, “imposing order” (a favorite Russian expression)—and to some extent resisting Amerikan pressure. It is not only the man in the street, but also some quite prominent thinkers, such as philosopher Alexander Zinoviev, who have swallowed this bait.

**6. Can you characterize to what extent you believe the present government in Russia is actually run/bribed by u.s. imperialism as opposed to a Russian bourgeoisie?**

**Den:** The Russian government is an

independent (in the sense of distinct, separate, not in the sense of genuine independence) actor in international relations. Certain individual personages on the Russian political scene may be well lobbying the interests of Amerikkka (Europe and so on), but on the whole, the Russian bourgeoisie is very much conscious of itself as a self-sufficient entity. In contrast to the situation in the early 90s, when one could speak (with very many reservations) of the government having been bought (e. g. such ministers of that era as Yegor Gaidar or Andrei Kozyrev), now the situation has stabilized. The bourgeoisie is busy looking for a “national idea,” an “idea unifying the whole nation”; the media are actively pushing forward the idea of what a cool thing it is to be Russian, a Russian citizen, etc. An image of the Enemy is actively being constructed. The candidates to this post proposed by the media are NATO, the united States, the IMF, the Jewish-Masonic conspiracy, terrorists (including Chechens).

At the very same time, the ruling Russian bourgeoisie is fully aware of its own economic weakness. An example would be the fact of the united States having recently unilaterally quit the 1972 ABM Treaty. The Russian press was shouting from the housetops about giving an asymmetrical answer to this Amerikkkan measure: in response to the creation of an ABM system on the u.s. territory, there were threats of a comeback of multiple-warhead nuclear missiles and of the development of technically advanced ways for these to break through ABM systems. The actual result was zero: the Russian Federation is as of now simply incapable of economically supporting more than 1,000 to 1,500 nuclear warheads (in Amerikkka, the corresponding figure is 6 to 8 thousand). The situation is the same everywhere—from the sports (soccer, hockey) to the problem of Kaliningrad (former Königsberg; a Russian enclave in Eastern Europe) to the imports of chicken meat from Amerikkka.

The inevitability of competing with the West (for the markets of Russia, the CIS, the former Soviet bloc countries) versus the impossibility of living without it (the main revenues the Russian Federation gets come from raw materials exports) is one of the principal contradictions faced by the local bourgeoisie. Yes, the Russian

bourgeoisie may take money from the West, but it doesn’t mean it becomes bought: if I borrow money from someone, this doesn’t mean that I sell myself.

Russia, as sub-imperialist power, is conducting a policy of its own, heavily limited by its economic capabilities.

**7. As Leninist scientists, how would you characterize Russia’s export or lack of export of capital? Does Russia retain its own financial capitalist abilities?**

**Den:** Russian imperialism is not a fiction. It does exist. It is obviously much weaker than its Amerikkkan or European counterparts but it no different from them in its nature

According to official Russian sources, the total volume of investments by the Russian bourgeoisie abroad amounted to \$3.7 billion in the first half of 2002. However, the larger part of this sum is represented by short-term investments, related to financial and other speculations. The overall volume of Russian long-term investments abroad is estimated (I would like to stress it once again: by official sources) at \$4 billion.

The sum is comparatively small, but it doesn’t take into account other forms of export of capital, besides investments proper. For example, debts of Asian and African countries to the USSR (the Russian Federation is the assignee of the Soviet Union) may be written off in exchange for Russian companies’ participating in the development of oil and gas fields and ore deposits in these countries. Thus, Iraq’s debt to Russia totals \$7 billion, whereas the sum total for which contracts have already been signed for the development of Iraqi oil by Russian companies (such as Lukoil and others) reaches as high as \$20 billion. The long-term cooperation between Russia represented by the Nuclear Power Engineering Ministry (one of the state ministries!) on the one hand, and, e. g., India and Iran on the other, in the field of nuclear power engineering can in some cases be regarded as capital export as well.

The main spheres of interest of the Russian capital abroad are the extraction and primary processing of oil and gas, the metal mining industry, as well as the nuclear and military industries.

The countries looked upon by the Russian bourgeoisie as their spheres of influence include the CIS states, the countries of the former “Socialist” bloc and the Third World countries that used to have a pro-Moscow orientation in the ’70s-80s.

As of now, we at the RMP have specific data at our disposal about Russia’s export of capital (the sums total are in the billions of dollars) to Vietnam, Angola, Mongolia, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Kazakhstan.

We do realize that this list is far from being complete. Collecting exact and more or less exhaustive data on the export of capital by Russia’s bourgeoisie is a matter of the near future. We are working on that.



## Georgia prisoner spreads word of MIM

This is to inform you that I just received my MIM Notes from January, February, March and April, so now the only ones I don't have are May and June. I had to file an administrative grievance and three days later [the prison administration] released the Notes. Then the following week I was shipped to another prison. . . Now that I'm at another prison not in segregation at the present time I will begin to get active. . . I will stay busy as always being a voice and encouraging study groups, petitions and anything to help MIM in this cause. . . Since being involved with MIM this is my second transfer but it's all good because the message is spreading!

—a prisoner in Georgia, June 2002

**MIM responds:** While we do not support prisoners being transferred all over the place because it is often used as further punishment, we are pleased to hear that this comrade is using the opportunity to educate others about MIM. Also, please be patient with the MIM Notes delivery—we are using a new system and your issues will take longer to get to you.

## Rhode Island prisoner can't get Notes in segregation

Dear MIM,

I was in Maximum Security Segregation where newspapers were permitted. Upon coming back to High Security Segregation, I learned all newspapers, including religious ones, were prohibited, for reasons like fire, flooding & trashing. Yet we all know it's done out of spite. I've tried coming at them from a religious point of view to no avail. . . Newspapers are not allowed and any other papers with this characteristic and texture are not likely to become part of our right to receive while in Segregation. However, if there are any willing persons who would xerox these MIM Notes they'd be permitted and I'd have no problems receiving at all. . .

I want to contribute to a struggle of truth at all cost. Because I feel it's a necessity in which all of humanity should have the chance to knowingly decide what side to be on. . . Since coming to jail in 1999 I earned my GED by 2001 outside of my trips back and forth to segregation. . . I hope to earn credits for college in the future; right now they will not allow segregation inmates any educational opportunities. This again goes to show that jail is made to keep us all ignorant—shouldn't proper education be totally encouraged at all cost?

—A prisoner in Rhode Island, August 2002

## Washington steps up censorship

I am a Washington convict who recently finished a 19 month trip through IMU. I feel it is necessary to inform you and other convicts in Washington of a rule imposed in WCC-IMU that most are not aware of:

# Under Lock & Key

## News from Prisons & Prisoners

we can not receive books from “the movement” or any other solidarity front any longer. The only place the Empire of Pigs will allow books to be sent from is Barne\$ and Noble\$.

I filed a grievance against Carol Porter (the warden) regarding this Decision and pursued it all the way to headquarters, all the way to no avail. I received my first issues of MIM Notes this evening, so I am informing you of the call to arms I've initiated to end the regime of censorship that is currently in effect at WCC, and apparently CBCC. I was and will continue to research Imperial Law to find another venue of opposition, but in the mean time requests/complaints regarding Frau Porter's actions should be filed by MIM and its subsidiaries as well as all other concerned comrades out there.

Direct complaints to:

Carol Porter, Superintendent  
Washington Corrections Center  
PO Box 900  
Shelton, WA 98584

— a prisoner in Washington, August 2002

## DOC rules bypassed at WCC

Whether you're in or out of American dungeons, due process can be an illusive ideal unless your wealth and privilege make that possible. At the correction center in Shelton, Washington prisoners in the intensive management unit (IMU) understand that reality all too well. Despite prison rules that require a notice, charge, hearing and a right to present evidence in order to prove innocence prison lackeys have devised a means of enforcing their rule without resorting to these procedures.

Known as an observation report, prisoners who receive one are automatically guilty of any accusation made by staff in the report. No one else has any say as far as this goes and prisoners have no right to review even when there's no evidence of any guilt and the person can produce proof which exonerates him by showing there was a false allegation made.

Prisoners have been victimized in this way and complained to prison administrators about it when their rights or privileges were arbitrarily taken. Unit supervisors have allowed these minions to carry out their dirty work without regard for right or wrong, even if this is a violation of prisoners rights under DOC policy.

In a society which proclaims justice for all, oppressed people can expect even less once they're locked away and unable to pay for those rights guaranteed by our country and the constitution.

—a prisoner in Washington state, August 2002

## Washington IMU violates policy

During an emergency incident in IMU, procedure dictates that appropriate steps be taken to minimize the potential for other offenders to become involved in the incident. Magnetic covers are routinely placed over cell windows to prevent those offenders from acting out and becoming further involved in a specific incident involving someone else, and are only left in place for the period of time that it is necessary for staff to resolve the incident. This is authorized and effective, and there are no plans to change this practice at this time.

I appealed that madness to the next level, I was thus interviewed by the unit sergeant. He tried to explain that inmates need not witness incidents because the whole incident was being videotaped. I have been working to get the procedure changed. I have done a little research with the limited resources I have (i.e. law library). I have reviewed WDOC policy directive DOC 320.255 under IMU/Seg unit operation VIII. Visit by staff: (A) Staff assigned to an IMU/Seg unit shall conduct a cell check on an irregular schedule that is no longer than 30 minutes apart to personally observe offender. Bam! Violating their own policy.

The following incident happened approximately 12:15am 8/18/02. A serious situation occurred: seven inmates covered their windows and broke up their cells. I was asked to ride or participate but did not feel reasons were justified enough to lose all my stuff, and the things I have to do with USW [United Struggle from Within], just because a guy did not get linen exchange, but there were other underlying issues that made that the catalyst. By 5:30am they had sprayed four guys so far with O.C. gas and cell extraction (actually guys cuffed up before they came in.) Our cell windows had been covered all that time, plus water was turned off too.

Our water was off for over 12 hours, and windows covered more than 10 hours, we had not been feed for over 16 hours. The administration compromised on the rest of the group, they had never done that many extractions in one incident. We had headquarters attention. The Superintendent, Associate Superintendent, and Unit Supervisor, with extra staff, had to come in on a weekend. So we had a chance to have our issues heard.

Then on 8/19/02 at approximately 10pm one of the guys that had participated but did not get gassed destroyed his cell. They gassed him for four hours straight using a cattle prod to shock him through the door port. He finally gave up and cuffed up. He's back in the pod now, he's ok, but that shock took the fight out of him. Windows were covered 6 hours, water turned off,

but not long this time, two hours.

I have written to the ACLU, they said they would document my complaint on file. We need support and protest letters, demanding that this practice be stopped immediately. Here are some names and addresses of head officials to be contacted:

Deputy of Corrections of DOC  
Eldon Vail  
PO Box 41118  
Olympia, WA 98584-1118

Regional Administrator of DOC  
Thomas Mackintyre  
Office of Correctional Operations South West Region  
4318 6th Ave S.E.  
Olympia, WA 98504-1120

Superintendent Douglas Waddington  
SCCC  
191 Constantine Way  
Aberdeen, WA 98502

—a prisoner in Washington, August 2002

## 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.

## Illinois prison slave labor

What brings me to write this letter is to ask for your assistance on a very important matter. I and the rest of the kitchen workers here are not familiar with Illinois labor laws for prisoners, but our minds tell us that they cannot work us seven days a week with double shifts at their discretion, which they refer to as “mandating.”

We are paid \$1 per day and are told that if we miss any days of work we can be fired or written a disciplinary ticket which could send us to segregation. Even Jewish and Hebrew-Israelite prisoners are forced to work on their religious sabbath day.

I understand that the penalty for me writing this letter may be termination from my kitchen assignment, but I felt that I must uncover one of the many contradictions of a country that prides itself in speaking out against sweatshops and slave labor in underdeveloped countries. As long as America’s prisons support slave labor and this practice is backed by the 13th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, this country will never be “the land of the free,” but the “home of the slave.”

We ask that all true freedom loving people support us in our efforts to stop this inhumane treatment of prisoners. Join us in solidarity as we fight for our rights. To protest these slave labor conditions, please contact:

Warden Kenneth Briley, Stateville Correctional Center  
P.O. Box 112  
Joliet, IL 60434  
phone (815) 727-3607

Director of the Illinois Department of Corrections  
Donald N. Snyder  
1301 Concordia Court  
Springfield, IL 62794-9277  
phone (217) 522-2666.

In closing I would also like to add that every other prison assignment down here works only five days a week with two days off. The kitchen assignment is the only detail that is forced to work seven days without any days off. Dare to struggle! Dare to win!

—an Illinois prisoner, August 2002

## California prison denies persynal property

To add insult to our collective injury, they’ve now brought in CD players and Sony PlayStations to a maximum security prison! Yet they’ve taken away (1) day of law library time, free weights and musical instruments. And now they’ve gone through this particular gulag (unsure about the others) and ransacked, stolen and destroyed prisoners’ personal property. All this is under the guise of us having an overabundance of property (i.e., political and educational materials). I am unsure of the specifics as I’m confined within the bowels of the SHU, but I know that for us in SHU the new rule denies us any newspapers, magazines and personal literature. They just bring around a cart-full of magazines or fictional excrement every week to further deaden our minds.

—a Federal prisoner in California, August 2002

## New Jersey prison system defines gangs

*A comrade sent us the following handout given to prisoners in New Jersey.*

THE ADDICTIVE PERSONALITY—  
GANG AWARENESS

[...]

b. Prison gangs - (1.) Any ongoing formal or informal organization, association or group of the three (3) or more persons, which has a common name or identifying sign or symbol whose members and/or associates engage or have engaged on behalf of that organization; association or group, in two or more activities which include planning, organizing, threatening, financing, soliciting, or committing unlawful acts of misconduct classified as serious. (2.) Gangs that originate that within the prison system. (3.) “Disruptive groups” refer to gangs which originate outside of prison, such as street gangs, white supremacists groups, right or left wing revolutionary groups and gangs. Prison gangs have within their own policy a mandatory ruling that members must participate in gang behavior, where the disruptive groups do not have that mandatory ruling.

Description

I. Prison gangs also attempt to control the criminal enterprises of the prison system and attempt to exercise unlawful

influence over the inmates to participate in their behavior.

II. Gang affiliated prisoners are the “most disruptive” to the day-to-day management of a prisons system.

**MIM comments:** Gang labeling is used in prisons across the country as a means of further repressing those who aren’t going along with the program. In prisons the definition of gangs is very broad, as the prison population as a whole has a strong potential to oppose the state. The third category, “disruptive groups,” is most notable in that it includes all those pesky groups that don’t actually plan or engage in “unlawful acts.” This category is there to include those who work with organizations such as MIM in this policy of increased repression.

The definitions given above by the New Jersey Prison officials expose the true nature of prisons. They exist to repress those groups that threaten opposition to the state.

## Labor crisis for Texas prisoncrats

In August 7 and 8 unit operations at this prison in Texas were suspended because of lack of guards. The prison system is continuously showing it’s at a weak state and prisoners statewide would hurt things by laying it down. Even now we are not getting our daily recreations; we only get rec once a week and the law library only delivers and picks up legal material once or twice a week. Prisoners are being denied these and other programs because the administration is using staff where they can do the most good for the benefit of [creating] the oppressive conditions we are in. For example, in the last two weeks on both shifts a minimum of 12 cells were searched on my wing alone, reason given is a random search for contraband and/or weapons, but they way it is done is harassment. More importantly, the field slave force continues to go to work, even the prisoners housed in this control unit — but the claim is made always, “we’re short of staff.”

The prisoncrats along with the capitalist masters/backers are so greedy they continue to refuse guards more benefits. Good for them! They feel they can afford to allow some to go down to the proletariat. My question is, why do they refuse to increase benefits for the guards? Are the bureaucrats afraid of giving in to the guard

union and giving it leeway to becoming as powerful as California’s prison guard union? Whatever the reason, TDCJ is campaigning in Oklahoma, New Mexico and Louisiana for more guards. While officers are being fired, some are quitting instead of working 12-hour shifts and then having to do some overtime. This is the only thing that would make this class even think about becoming revolutionary - and when they’re given a few more bucks and benefits it’s back to the same old ways.

—A Texas Prisoner, August 2002

**MIM responds:** In general we think it’s better for the prison guards to be poorly paid (relative to other labor aristocrats). The more they get paid, the more they get invested in the growth of the prison system, and — as in California — they become big advocates for more repressive laws to lock more people up, so they can have more jobs and job security. And even poorly paid, these prison guards will not become part of the proletariat. The proletariat is a class of workers who receive less than the value of their labor. As MIM has demonstrated in its theory journals (see MIM Theory 1 and MIM Theory 10), the vast majority of Amerikan citizens are petty bourgeois, not proletariat.

Texas prisons trying to make a few more bucks by paying guards less may lead to guards seeking work elsewhere, but will not result in revolutionary class consciousness from them. This is a good example of how, even when the labor aristocrats aren’t getting the money they want, they still can see clearly their stake in the system. After all, who’s in prison? For this reason, it will take more than low prison guard pay to turn these folks against imperialism.

## What is internationalism?

*From the MIM “Frequently Asked Questions” page, <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/faq>.*

Internationalism is the ethical belief or scientific approach in which peoples of different nations are held to be or assumed to be equal. Internationalism is opposed to racism and national chauvinism.

We Maoists believe the nationalism of nations experiencing oppression of imperialism is “applied internationalism.” We oppose nationalism of oppressed nations directed at other oppressed nations, because the economic content of such nationalism is intra-proletarian conflict. We seek a united front of oppressed nations led by the international proletariat against imperialism.

“I must argue, not from the point of view of ‘my’ country (for that is the argument of a wretched, stupid, petty-bourgeois nationalist who does not realize that he is only a plaything in the hands of the imperialist bourgeoisie), but from the point of view of my share in the preparation, in the propaganda, and in the acceleration of the world proletarian revolution. That is what internationalism means, and that is the duty of the internationalist, of the revolutionary worker, of the genuine Socialist.”

V. I. Lenin, “What Is Internationalism?” *The Proletarian Revolution and the Renegade Kautsky* (Peking: Foreign Language Press, 1965), p. 80.

## 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 Plan Colombia y la propaganda: la manipulación de la imagen de la guerra yanqui contra el terrorismo

Para detallar el papel de EE.UU. en Colombia y para explicar porqué Bush decidió cazar organizaciones colombianas como parte de la “guerra contra el terrorismo” El MIM ha decidido imprimir el siguiente artículo. El MIM piensa que el pueblo colombiano debería tomar el camino preparado por el Camarada Gonzalo y el PCP. Y aunque tenemos diferencias con las FARC-EP también tenemos el deber de desenmascarar los propósitos del Tío Sam, sin importar en contra de quién los dirija.

**Por Doug Stokes**

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

*.. viene de la edición previa.*

Al igual que Milford, el director de la DEA reitera que al contrario de las FARC, los grupos paramilitares derechistas “generan ingresos por medio de la extorsión o protección de operaciones en los laboratorios del norte y centro del país. La organización de Carlos Castaño y quizás otros grupos paramilitares parecen estar directamente involucrados en la producción de cocaína. Por lo menos uno de estos grupos parece estar involucrado en la exportación de cocaína desde Colombia.”

El Senador Joseph Biden envió un informe parecido al Comité de Relaciones Extranjeras del Senado estadounidense el cual decía que “la organización de Castaño y quizás otros grupos paramilitares parecen estar directamente involucrados en la producción y exportación de cocaína en Colombia.”

Klaus Nyholm, el director de la agencia para el control de drogas de las Naciones Unidas en Colombia, la UNDCP, dijo que “los guerrilleros se distinguen de los narcotraficantes. Los frentes regionales son autónomos. Pero en algunas regiones no se involucran para nada. En otras regiones les dicen a los campesinos que no siembren coca.” En cuanto a la ex-zona no-militarizada (DMZ), Nyholm dijo que “la producción de droga no ha bajado pero tampoco ha aumentado” desde que “las FARC tomaron el poder.” De hecho, Nyholm argumentó que antes de que llegaran las fuerzas armadas colombianas y antes de la campaña paramilitar en contra de la DMZ, las FARC cooperaban con un proyecto estimado en 6 millones de dólares iniciado por las Naciones Unidas para sustituir la siembra de coca con otro tipo de desarrollo no prohibido.

Queda bien claro que los rebeldes no son los narcotraficantes internacionales y que el mito de los narco-guerrilleros es

una propaganda y un pretexto útil para la intervención norteamericana en el conflicto colombiano.

Un distinguido especialista en contrainsurgencia norteamericano John Waghelstein explicó la importancia de la idea de los “narcoguerrilleros” que sirve para “hacer una conexión en la mente del público norteamericano y el congreso que resulte en apoyo esencial para combatir a los narco-terroristas y guerrilleros del hemisferio. Sería difícil para el congreso tener que bloquearles a nuestros aliados el entrenamiento, los consejeros y la seguridad esencial para lograr el objetivo. Dentro del debate ético se encontrarían del lado equivocado aquellos grupos religiosos y académicos que vergonzosamente han apoyado a la insurgencia en América Latina. Y sobre todo tendríamos una intocable posición moral para lanzar un ataque determinado empleando los recursos del Departamento de la Defensa y otros medios.”

Pero aun más importante es el hecho de que EE.UU. confunde el lugar que ocupan los paramilitares patrocinados por la droga en su guerra sucia contra la sociedad civil de Colombia por medio de la asociación de los rebeldes con el narcotráfico. El papel de EE.UU. en el terror paramilitar contra la población civil de Colombia resalta aún más si uno toma en cuenta el hecho de que los asesores militares norteamericanos viajaron a Colombia en 1991 para renovar las redes de inteligencia del país. Se supone que la renovación debería ayudar a las fuerzas armadas de Colombia en sus esfuerzos contra el narcotráfico.

Una de las ONGs que investigan los derechos humanos, Human Rights Watch, consiguió una copia de las instrucciones. El narcotráfico no se menciona ni una sola vez. La renovación secreta solamente trataba de combatir lo que se llamaba “la intensificación del terrorismo por la subversión armada.”

Con la renovación se concretó la relación entre las fuerzas armadas colombianas y las redes narcoparamilitares, las cuales en realidad consisten “una red secreta que confía en los paramilitares no únicamente para conseguir inteligencia pero también para llevar a cabo asesinatos”. Las instrucciones indicaban que al terminar la renovación todo el “material escrito deberá ser eliminado” y además los paramilitares deberían “evitar contacto e interacción con grupos militares.”

Stan Goff, un ex-entrenador de las fuerzas especiales estadounidenses de Colombia ha dicho que cuando él

entrenaba a las fuerzas especiales de Colombia en Tolemaide en el '92 su equipo “estaba ahí supuestamente para contribuir al esfuerzo contra el narcotráfico.” Él “enseñaba a las fuerzas armadas la ciencia de la infantería contrainsurgente” y “reconocía muy bien, igual que los comandantes colombianos que el narcotráfico no era más que un pretexto para fortalecer la potencia de las fuerzas armadas que al cabo de años de excesos perdieron la confianza popular.”

No cabe duda que EE.UU. ha fortalecido el enlace entre los terroristas principales de Colombia, las fuerzas armadas colombianas y sus aliados paramilitares, estos últimos siendo responsables de más del 80% de los abusos de derechos humanos en el país.

Como ya hemos explicado, las mismas agencias norteamericanas han dicho que los paramilitares son unos de los narcotraficantes más grandes que existen hoy en Colombia. En realidad, el apoyo militar norteamericano llega directo a las principales redes terroristas de Colombia las cuales exportan cocaína a EE.UU. para juntar fondos para su operación y para quienes EE.UU. han sido el eje para perfeccionar la creación de lo que Human Rights Watch ha nombrado un “aparato sofisticado que permite que las fuerzas armadas colombianas realicen una guerra sucia al mismo tiempo que los oficiales la niegan.”

Como parte de la lucha mundial en contra de la Unión Soviética, EE.UU. lanzaron sus campañas contrainsurgentes en contra de los socialdemócratas, los socialistas, los nacionalistas independientes y incluso la Iglesia Católica durante la guerra fría. Para poder vender su política imperialista durante la época después de la guerra fría, EE.UU. han tenido que adaptar una nueva línea de relaciones públicas. Los narcoguerrilleros y el contraterrorismo sirven como salidas útiles para la operación de relaciones públicas la cual permite que EE.UU. confunda al “enemigo oficial” con el terrorismo y el narcotráfico.

Al fondo de estos mitos se encuentra el hecho de que la combinación del estado colombiano, su extensión particular (los paramilitares) y el apoyo norteamericano resulta en la muerte y desaparición de miles de ciudadanos colombianos. La guerra terrorista de Norteamérica contra la sociedad civil de Colombia encaja en el marco de la política estadounidense en toda América Latina que ha causado la muerte de cientos de miles de civiles.

¿Porqué hace EE.UU. estas cosas?

Entre otros elementos al fondo de la política norteamericana está la importancia del petróleo colombiano y venezolano para la energía norteamericana. Una delicada situación en la región que acompañaría la victoria de los rebeldes podría desnivelar el balance de las potencias y poner en peligro los intereses de grandes compañías petroleras internacionales norteamericanas. Todo esto se pone bien claro si se considera que la administración de Bush ha pedido \$98 millones de dólares para proteger las 500 millas de la tubería petrolera Cano Limón que pertenece a la compañía Occidental Petroleum con un equipo militar colombiano especializado. El senador republicano Paul D. Coverdell explicó que “un desequilibrio en Colombia tendrá consecuencias en Venezuela que ahora se considera nuestro proveedor principal del petróleo. De hecho, hoy el panorama en América Latina es parecido al del Medio Oriente con la única excepción de que ahora Colombia nos da más petróleo que el que conseguíamos en Kuwait.

“Esta crisis, igual a la de Kuwait, amenaza con extenderse a otros países que son nuestros aliados.” Entonces resulta que la guerra en contra de los rebeldes es parte de la estrategia clásica de contrainsurgencia la cual destruye a las fuerzas nacionalistas que amenazan al monopolio estadounidense e intereses privilegiados en toda América Latina.

El apoyo militar fortalece y justifica el aparato represivo del estado colombiano y su extensión clandestina, los paramilitares. De esta manera el estado colombiano puede silenciar y asesinar a los que critican el status quo que condena a la mayor parte de la población a la pobreza y al 25% de todos los colombianos a la miseria.

EE.UU. destruyen la posibilidad de un plan de organización social y económica alternativo y aumenta el precio de organizaciones laborales y críticas a favor de opciones de desarrollo alternativas. La élite colombiana y norteamericana se vale de cohesión y consenso para llevar a cabo la guerra.

Para el público estadounidense e internacional existen amplias campañas de relaciones públicas y propaganda para la manipulación de la opinión popular. Pero el caso es muy distinto en Colombia donde el ponerse de pie es un acto algo peligroso que muchas veces termina con una bala hecha en EE.UU.