

# MIM Notes



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## Border vigilantism: fascism, not just race

### Neo-Nazis spoil May 9th VE day celebrations

#### The collective responsibility movement

3300 neo-Nazis demonstrated in Berlin against the celebration of Victory in Europe day, the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe. A crowd approximately double that size demonstrated to stop them from marching. The Nazi movement in Berlin is an urgent reminder that MIM's line for collective responsibility is the only correct road for countries like Germany and the united States.

The neo-Nazis said they should no longer hold the burden for "a cult of guilt." (1) To them, the Soviet invasion of Germany was not liberation, but "occupation" and VE celebrations are a product of "professional Jews." (1) It's the usual insane stuff, almost designed to disregard theory.

Because the Soviets did win World War II, and the Nazi movement is not in power, the real problem is the imperialist country so-called Left and how it clears the way for the Nazis, who otherwise would never get anywhere without the so-called Left's theoretical and agitational aid. Always the chauvinist Left plants the ideological seeds and the Nazis are the practice.

For example, in this VE day spoiling, several German imperialists criticized the neo-Nazis. Interior Minister Otto Schily called it a "disgrace." (1) President President Horst Koehler said Germans "look back with shame." (1) He also said, "We have the responsibility to keep alive the memory of all this suffering and of its causes, and we must ensure it never happens again. There can be no drawing the line." (1) Minister Juergen Trittin criticized "these Nazis who were trying to glorify the greatest genocide in history." (2)

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### Zhang Chunqiao, member of "Gang of Four" dies at 88

Zhang Chunqiao died of cancer at the age of 88 on 21 April 2005, according to official reports released on 10 May.

Zhang was a member of the so-called "Gang of Four" and key figure in the Cultural Revolution. Together with Mao and other members of the "Gang of Four" Zhang led the struggle to keep the bourgeoisie within the Communist Party from seizing power. The counterrevolutionary Hua Guofeng imprisoned Zhang and the other members of the "Gang of Four"—including Jiang Qing (1)—one month after the death of Mao, paving the way for the restoration of capitalism in China.

Subsequent events have borne out the predictions that Mao and the "Gang of Four" made of what would happen should

capitalist-roaders like Hua and Deng Xiaoping ever seize power: exploitation of the workers and peasants has returned; the oppression

of wimmin has increased; and the government of the Peoples Republic of China has turned into a fascist dictatorship, as witnessed by the June, 1989 Beijing Spring massacres. (2)

Zhang was the author of "On Exercising All-Round Dictatorship over the Bourgeoisie," which describes the class struggle that occurs under socialism against capitalist restoration. (3) Readers interested in learning more about the material basis for a new bourgeoisie under socialism and how that bourgeoisie overturned revolutionary socialism in China can read "The Political Economy of Counterrevolution in China." (4)

Notes:

1. Listen to obituary of Jiang Qing here: [www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/ma/radio/mimnotescomm.html](http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/ma/radio/mimnotescomm.html). A longer political biography of Jiang Qing can be found in MIM Notes 13.
2. <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/faq/tiananmen.html>
3. <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/classics/text.php?mimfile=allround.txt>
4. <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/countries/china/pecc88/index.html>

### ANDY RAMIREZ IS A FASCIST, NOT JUST A 'COCONUT'

By HC116 and mim3@mim.org, May 12, 2005

Friends of the Border Patrol chairpersyn and executive director Andy Ramirez was a guest on Monday's Lou Dobbs Tonight . Ramirez is the former executive director of the organization Save Our State (Ron Prince), which has recently opposed legislation in Kalifornia to allow undocumented persyns to have drivers' licenses, and supported legislation in Kalifornia, Proposition 187 (1994), that would have prohibited public services, including health services, for undocumented persyns. Andy Ramirez has encouraged the u.\$ Congress to pass legislation prohibiting drivers' licenses for undocumented persyns in all States. The organization that Andy Ramirez now directs, Friends of the Border Patrol, is in the middle of organizing to have a Minuteman-like project happen in San Diego in the summer, with training beginning in June. Ramirez has sought the support and help of Chris Simcox, leader of the Civil Homeland Defense Corps, recently renamed to the Minuteman Civil Defense Corps, Inc. In fact, Minuteman Project co-founders Chris Simcox and Jim Gilchrist have both endorsed the Friends of the Border Patrol according to Andy Ramirez on Fox and Friends , May 3. Ramirez has appeared on other TV shows and radio shows, local and country-wide.

On Lou Dobbs Tonight , Lou Dobbs said that the Friends of of the Border Patrol, like the Minuteman Project, was probably going to called vigilantes, and asked how Ramirez addresses that. Later, Dobbs said: "And the idea that the ACLU is concerned about human rights violations, the suggestion that there's potential, as they put it, for racism and for violence, how do you react to the ACLU?" (1) (Actually, ACLU of Arizona Executive Director Eleanor Eisenberg said: "The Minuteman project has created a powder-keg situation with the potential to go beyond harassment and false imprisonment to real violence. We hope that our observer project will continue to shed light on the activities of the

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# Letters

## About Dresden

MIM recently engaged the issue of the imperialist mass murder at Dresden, because of the anniversary of the bombing. See <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/mn/sept112001/wardchurchilldresden022205.html>. -- ed.

### Dear MIM:

MIM is concerned that the neo-Nazis will use Dresden for their advantage. MIM is wrong. Dresden presents an opportunity to split the imperialists and to point to the humanity of communism.

MIM should realize that harshly condemning the imperialist mass murder at Dresden serves the anti-imperialist cause. All MIM has to do is point out that the USSR did not bomb civilian targets at all. Do we see pictures of red air fleets bombing cities in Germany? No. This is a very strong argument in favor of Stalin!!

This fact definitely turned me to communism. I can tell any German "the Soviets did NOT abuse you!" And they know I am right, despite fascist rape legends. I can also say "The Imperialists DID abuse you!" When I think of the war I think of the actions of all sides. Only the Soviets are clearly humane.

MIM should not underestimate the imperialists' butchery. The correct line on Dresden (and Hamburg, Bremen, Stuttgart, Berlin, Duesseldorf, Essen, Köln - in short -every- major German city) is to blame the imperialists. The Soviets did not in any way shape or form engage in

mass murder of Germans and the Germans know it!

Further: it is wrong to compare the bombing of Dresden to the bombing of the WTC. The WTC was attacked by the oppressed (so we are told anyway). Dresden was attacked by oppressors. The WTC was a symbol of global financial domination by Amerika. Dresden was a place with some railroad yards and lots and lots of refugees, many if not most of whom were unregistered.

mim3@mim.org replies: We're not saying that ex-Soviet citizens should now be saying, "we should have bombed Germany like the Brits and Americans did." The question is more one of the history of American views. The majority of Americans held that the bombing of Dresden was right and the collective responsibility movement in Germany was right.

MIM is drawing attention to Dresden so saying we are not is factually wrong. We're quite happy to deal with it. If drawing attention to Dresden results in a revulsion that leads to a favorable impression of Stalin, then that's OK by MIM. So is anarchist-pacifism, another possibility from thinking about Dresden. Yet in a sense, these are both recruiting questions, not really handling public opinion as it exists in its own right. We are unlikely to win someone to anarchist-pacifism or communism strictly on the question of Dresden alone and that's what makes Dresden commemorations this year an agitation/public opinion question, not one of party-building. Dresden could be a last straw only for someone who is

already thinking about a host of issues concerning imperialism.

In building public opinion we want to cause a fermentation that may lead later down the road to other things. It is the electoral politicians and other assorted opportunists who simply cannot distinguish between public opinion work (best thought of as done anonymously with unseen consequences) and direct recruiting—and that inevitably worsens sectarianism. One of the reasons for MIM's public opinion effectiveness is that before MIM speaks, MIM always wades in and knows the relative proportions of opinion from surveys and also through confirmation talking to thousands of Americans in all walks of life.

Both the Japanese and German examples are relevant; although Dresden is the one where imperialists themselves are on record saying it was a civilian target worthy of "psychological warfare." Your comments are an example of some rethinking the imperialist country population has to do. Yet, the imperialists and the public generally have not come forward to call the bombing of Dresden wrong. We do not hear them say, "9/11 made me realize we were wrong about Dresden and we need to go back and re-evaluate our history." It's still a case where the vast majority co-exists with a double standard and knowing that is key to influencing public opinion as best we can. It is not appropriate to treat Western exploiters as if they were duped proletarians about to wake up. The most positive proof of this is public opinion in Japan and Germany.

In speaking with Zionists about Ward Churchill, Dresden is obviously relevant, but also for those who cannot get out of

territoriality concerning the German Holocaust, Japan is another checkpoint. We find no widespread view in the West that Japan's action in World War II was uniquely criminal the way Hitler's was. So to argue against Ward Churchill using Germany is one thing, but most Americans and Israelis would have no way to dodge the question of collective responsibility that the Japanese accepted after World War II.

As for neo-Nazis using Dresden, we are not wrong. They already do use it every year and it's not a question of theory. To the extent that the neo-Nazis' white brothers and sisters in the West do not uphold "collective responsibility" for themselves, fuel gets added to the flames. So the movement for collective responsibility has to be generalized to the majority-exploiter countries, partly to preserve and advance the gains in Germany and Japan that we see by oppressor nation people.

What resonates for neo-Nazis whether they know it or not is the economic position of their peers in the West. Likewise, the German and Japanese examples have powerful potential in spreading to Amerika, France, Belgium etc. The underlying economic conditions and nationalist pride are similar in these countries. It's not just that we ask people to join in solidarity with the peasants in Peru or India. There is a most advanced example in the oppressor nations themselves, "Spasibo."

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## MIM Notes

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MIM Notes is the bi-weekly newsletter of the Maoist Internationalist Movement. MIM Notes is the official Party voice; more complete statements are published in our journal, *MIM Theory*. Material in *MIM Notes* is the Party's position unless noted. *MIM Notes* accepts submissions and critiques from anyone. The editors reserve the right to edit submissions unless permission is specifically denied by the author; submissions are published anonymously unless authors insist on identification (prisoners are never identified by name). MIM is an underground party that does not publish the names of its comrades in order to avoid the state surveillance and repression that have historically been directed at communist parties and anti-imperialist movements. MCs, MIM comrades, are members of the Party. The Revolutionary Anti-Imperialist League (RAIL) is an anti-imperialist mass organization led by MIM (RCs are RAIL Comrades). MIM's ten-point program is available to anyone who sends in a SASE.

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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 human 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.

# More rats leaving sinking imperialist ship

450 Bulgarian troops and hundreds of Japanese troops are leaving the U.S.-bought coalition in Iraq. They will be gone by the end of the year.(1) As in the Vietnam War, the emphasis is now on training Iraqis to take on the job of fighting the insurgency themselves.

The Japanese contribution of troops was small relative to Japan's size and that is proof of the continuing legacy of the struggle of Chinese, Korean and Japanese people since Mao to reign in Japanese militarism. In fact, U.S. lackey southern Korea has 3600 troops in Iraq, more than Japan.(2)

No genuine socialist country would send troops to Iraq. However, even capitalist countries themselves have conflicting interests. An ordinary capitalist regime in Korea would have even less self-interest in sending troops than Japan does, and piquing Japanese militarism by making it look small cannot be in the ordinary interest of bourgeois Koreans looking at history. In the situation in Poland and southern Korea the story is one of extraordinary geopolitical debts of the lackey regimes to Uncle Sam.

The Japanese plan to end their intervention in December. That's not soon enough. Someone from Japan might die in the meantime. The Japanese people should continue to pressure their government—before another Japanese person dies in another stupid imperialist war to make the rich richer.

The longer the war in Iraq continues the more likely it is to result in bombs here in Amerika and the more Americans will come home in coffins, missing arms, legs, eyes, and faces. You MIM readers have a choice: the Iraqi people do not. You can

fight to end the killing or you can sit back and watch the show. Just don't be surprised if the show comes home.

Notes:

1. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/4523857.stm>

2. [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2005-05/05/content\\_2919361.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2005-05/05/content_2919361.htm)

**For more from MIM on the war against Iraq, go to:**  
<http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/agitation/iraq/>

## Neo-Nazis spoil May 9th VE day celebrations

From 1...

How the so-called Left fails on this is that these are imperialists. Yet these imperialists are more advanced than these Nazis marching. MIM will say that out of regard for the truth. Most so-called Left organizations will not. Lenin already told us that the labor aristocracy can be the most die-hard element, but the so-called Left based in the labor aristocracy can't say it.

There are two underlying chauvinist reasons. One is that the so-called Left is busy catering to the demands of the Nazi marchers, who the so-called Left sees as proletarian or wayward labor aristocracy about to return to the proletariat. For MIM, these neo-Nazi marchers are just labor aristocracy—petty-bourgeoisie—and we have nothing at stake in making excuses for them. Quite the contrary, we have everything at stake in making sure they do not confuse the exploited and oppressed just because the neo-Nazi youth with shaved heads are smaller exploiters than the imperialists.

Included in the Western so-called Left's demands is an increased share of global exploitation. The so-called Left is unable to give that up and hence out of solidarity with the neo-Nazis won't say that the imperialists are actually more advanced on this question.

Another factor is that when one pursues electoral reformism, one seeks to curry favor with voters. The reformists seek votes for Democrats in the united States and Social-Democrats in Germany and sometimes that leads to failure to criticize when criticism is necessary. Likewise cult leaders and gurus don't say anything that would cost recruits.

Some of these same organizations of the so-called Left are composed of individuals who would get bent out of shape if an inconsiderate litterbug dropped a chewing gum wrapper on the street. Yet, tell them that German workers carried out millions of genocidal actions in World War II, and the so-called Left makes excuses. It's "false consciousness" they say. They think of

German so-called workers as passive objects—even when those German workers are carrying out very systematic political action on behalf of raising their own exploiter status.

It's not false consciousness. It's action on behalf of an exploiter class. False consciousness is a border war that flares up. It is not a march through numerous countries with a plan for world domination. At some point, the actions of the Germans with alleged false consciousness would have to sink in and it could no longer be false consciousness. That did not happen in Germany.

The so-called Left tells a criminal fairy-tale in which the proletariat was a bunch of passive objects who did not bring down Hitler. What is forgotten is that the Germans fought with Hitler to the end. The exploiter attitude had to be beaten out of Germany, and still the beating did not go far enough.

Today we cannot say there are 3300 Germans with false consciousness. The world knows what happened in World War II. These are just recalcitrant exploiters who want a more militant parasitic posture for Germany along with the so-called Left oinking for things that make the Germans and Americans think about war for oil and racist repression for jobs—superprofits shared by fewer bandits.

The imperialists can expand into the Third World and buy off Western populations. The people who want fascism at home are the labor aristocracy. In Germany, they have already fire-bombed Turks and Kurds. In 1993 five Turks died in one incident.(3) Despite this "revolutionary" practice of their line, the German and other Western so-called Left continues oinking about oppressor nation so-called unemployment, many times when as social-democrats they uphold capitalism under which unemployment of real proletarians is inevitable anyway.

Throughout Europe there is a resentment by the labor aristocracy

against the migrant workers. The resentment is not by the imperialists hiring them and that needs to be said. If Germany goes to fascism internally with the social forces as they are now, it will be because the labor aristocracy drags the imperialists into attacking the Turks and other national minorities within German borders.

The correct attitude is much more common in Germany and Japan than in the rest of the West. "Spasibo" said thousands of demonstrators opposing the Nazis in Berlin.(2) That is "thank you" in Russian. There is no comparable expression in the history of the white so-called Left in Amerika. Thanks to the Red Army, "Spasibo" is still closer to German views than the Hitler salute.

The most criminal dynamic force in undermining the anti-Nazi consensus in Germany is the united States, which slowly and steadily spreads international political fallacies to reverse correct verdicts from World War II. It goes beyond the fact that the Republicans opposed World War II, because they were not sure who was worse, the Nazis or communists and it goes beyond the Black Book of Communism authored in France that says Nazism was a lesser evil. The old wounds in Latvia and other Baltic states reopened by Bu\$h in May 2005 are still with us and an incorrect understanding of the Cold War is whitewashing all the Nazi activities in eastern Europe. Yet that is in a sense all old news. The real problem occurs with the attitude toward 9/11, and in this we have to point out that the Zionists are no effective counterweight to Nazism. We have a whole new generation with a whole new set of issues.

Every year that the united States fails to take collective responsibility for 9/11 is another year of festering and bitter nationalism of the Nazi and similar kinds throughout the world. The united States is in no position to tell German Nazi youth to feel guilty about World War II, when

the united States cannot even own up to 9/11.

In the massively deluded Amerikan so-called Left, they dig in their heels against MIM's leadership for proposing the joint dictatorship of the proletariat of the oppressed nations, as happened in Germany after World War II. The Americans believe they are more sophisticated than that. Somehow Amerikan imperialism is better than German they think.

Even the so-called Marxists oppose the MIM line out of a love for their oppressor nation. They are in opposition to revolution unless it is of the exploiter kind following Hitler, Trotsky or some other guru to lead the Western objects out of their misery. Criticizing the fascists as labor aristocracy worse than the imperialists in any context might be tantamount to giving up the white worker uprising fantasy of many on the so-called Left. Protection of that utopian fantasy above all else many decades after its relevance leads to disgusting excuses for fascist action throughout the West.

The Western so-called Left needs to look hard at those Germans saying "Spasibo" and learn something instead of doing spade work for the next fascist movement from below. If we put up the good fight and it looks like we may not win inside imperialist country borders with proletarian demands, that is no reason to take up a nationalist view with labor aristocracy demands and oppose proletarian revolution.

Notes:

1. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/05/08/AR2005050800324.html>

2. <http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory?id=739443>; <http://news.ft.com/cms/s/2c92aab4-bfe2-11d7-81c6-0820abe49a01.html>

3. <http://edition.cnn.com/WORLD/europe/9810/15/germany.politics/>

# Border vigilantism: fascism, not just race

From 1...

Minutemen and will ensure that private citizens do not detain, harass or humiliate others in violation of the law.”)(2) Ramirez replied:

“Well, the ACLU, if they are really concerned about racism, violence, well, then, I think they should take a look at the number of recent e-mails I’ve gotten from people that are also of Mexican ancestry that have called me a coconut, as an example. If they are really concerned about human rights, then they should be stationed at the border...”(1)

The coconut metaphor means brown on the outside, white on the inside. There are similar metaphors for East Asian persyns and Black persyns: banana/twinkie (yellow/white) and oreo (black/white).

Lou Dobbs’ interview with Andy Ramirez was very short, so the above is actually a big chunk of that interview. It presents an opportunity to clarify the relationship between racism and this deeply reactionary movement to heighten the repression of undocumented migrants and the closely related and increasingly intertwined border vigilantism movement.(3)

There are several things going on in Andy Ramirez’s statement. One is the portrayal of Ramirez’s opponents as racist—specifically, racist against Euro-Americans, who are actually a nation and the dominant nation in the united States in addition to being the dominant race. Another thing is Ramirez’s putting white racism on the same footing as oppressed-nation “racism,” which may not even be racism as far as what Ramirez mentioned, the supposed “coconut” comments. Attacking Ramirez as a “coconut” is one just means of struggle. Racism is something that requires power to accomplish, and the migrants crossing the border and their friends do not have the state on their side. Whites have such vast power within the United States government that every other ethnic or racial group voted against Bu\$h, but he is in power today. It was a tiny distinction between Kerry and Bu\$h who were in the exact same fraternity club at Yale, but still it was the whites who decided on that fine distinction. So when MIM talks about whites having power and other ethnicities or races not having power, there is nothing hypothetical—or worse, semantic—about it.

If someone says something truly wrong about whites in the united States, Kanada, England etc., it could be ethno-centrism or maybe prejudice. It is not racism. Most verbal attacks on whites occur in the context of a struggle over power and they are righteous given the situation. Where such attacks are incorrect is where they do not really involve power: some attacks on white lumpen in prisons are wrong, though again, white lumpen can side with the state, so some attacks on white lumpen will be right. The vanguard party itself is also no place for identity attacks, because

the party does not have power. Yet even in the vanguard party, when the question of borders comes up, it is possible to perpetrate white nationalism and white racism by siding with the oppressors. That is a line question and there has to be an all-out battle over line questions. So it’s important to battle hard in those situations where power plus prejudice equal racism or where the economics of imperialism generate imperialist chauvinism. Even in a revolutionary vanguard party, if a Latino/Latina finds him/herself favoring closed borders, such a persyn is a coconut and it raises the question whether recruiting standards were too low or degeneration happened. The borders question has to be handled differently than the question of language too. Parties speaking in different languages should exist and those who do not speak the language of a people should not be claiming to lead those people. If English-speakers do not allow themselves to be misrepresented as leaders of Spanish-speakers, that does not make them for closed borders. That is just responsible accuracy. Mao said Wang Ming’s head was in the clouds above Moscow, not even China, but even Wang Ming spoke Chinese. That is another reason MIM is in favor of separate vanguard parties for the joint dictatorship of the proletariat of the oppressed nations. Aztlán is an overriding reason for that by itself.

Also, Dobbs and Ramirez both focus on whether the vigilantes are racist when that is a different question from whether the vigilantes are fascist. That is misleading. A movement can still be fascist or reactionary in another way without being racist. Fascism and racism are not the same thing; although, concretely, fascism and racism are bound up with each other in the united States. The Liberals who obsess with whether a movement is racist or not actually pave the way for fascism. They surrender the national question to the fascists by thinking only in terms of race. It is subjectivism, and the fascists take advantage of the larger population’s subjectivism by pointing to tokens like Andy Ramirez to disprove charges of racism. And the fascist-tolerating Liberals fall for that even though the vigilante groups are disproportionately white people.

“Coconut” has the potential to upset ideas about race as a biological entity (“white” takes on a social meaning in “coconut”) and could imply nation traitor the same way the term “labor aristocracy” refers to people who look like they’re historically of working-class origin but have been converted to exploiters and the same way MIM calls biology-female people “gender aristocracy” in the united States. “Coconut” is similar to “Uncle Tom” in this way, though “coconut” and “Uncle Tom” can emphasize different things.

For oppressed nations to oppose integration with the dominant nation is generally more progressive than not.

Oppressor nations should be supporting integration as best they can.

On the other hand, “coconut” has been used to attack Latinos who have integrated with whites even though the Latinos are revolutionary and have not integrated with Euro-Americans in an ideological way. Again, this has to do with not attacking people in a situation where no power beyond individual power is involved.

Culture formation and national consciousness is not all voluntary: if parents leave young children in front of “Leave it to Beaver” and the “Brady Bunch” on TV, there’s going to be some cultural impact and that is part of national formation. People should not spend all their time individually conflicted over things like that, where it’s partly “too late,” but instead should move forward with what is scientific in whatever context, with an eye to the future. The individual is nothing anyway: the question is not how people have been screwed up by the past but how the individual can contribute to larger solutions of the future.

“Nation traitor” is often a more correct term than “coconut,” which isn’t necessarily focused on ideology. Definitions of “nation” vary, but “nation traitor” has an unambiguously social meaning and generalizes to every nation. When it comes to the border with Mexico, the question is mostly national and the national question is what drives all the other questions including more purely racial ones.

Within a college inside u.\$ borders, the students are temporarily in the same place. It’s not a struggle over the borders, but a struggle occurs to integrate the college and that struggle has progressive thrust; even though its underlying premise is the u.\$ empire and the desirability of joining it. So in that context, an anti-racist struggle may occur and deserve support.

Nonetheless, there is a question of what really drives forward politics and we study that scientifically. The reason that national struggle is overall more correct than the anti-racist struggle while the two overlap more often than not is that there is no material basis for the successful conclusion of an anti-racist struggle, because there is no white proletariat. Just as the Germans (including Jews or Turks inside German borders for example) themselves could not take down Hitler, and thereby conclude a successful anti-racist struggle, so too, we cannot move forward against exploitation inside u.\$ borders with just the people who are inside those borders now. So for us, a “key link” in all struggles is opening the border. Get that really accomplished and all other struggles will be easier. Alternatively, do not orient oneself to the national struggle and end up making excuses for what happens next—60 million decisive votes for Bu\$h for example, not just staying at home and letting Bu\$h happen but going out and actively voting for Bu\$h like never before.

The reactionary side of the anti-racist struggle is that it often ends up being integration within the oppressor to oppress other nations and the bulk of the world’s people of color who happen to live outside u.\$ borders or the borders of Kanada, the UKKK etc. Anti-racist Amerikan nationalists say they are non-racist, because they simply do not care about anyone outside u.\$ borders, but they are wrong. First of all, not caring about people outside u.\$ borders again falls disproportionately on people of color, so there is no such thing as neutrality on that question. Secondly, whatever Amerika these alleged anti-racist integrationists set up behind closed borders is still going to be active in attacking people of color around the world, simply because that is where their short-term economic interests lie. Without more proletariat inside u.\$ borders and/or major support from outside, that is not going to change. And no, we cannot surmise that Martians will land and destroy the Pentagon or nukes will hit and that change things: we have to work with what we have now to come to our line and strategy or be guilty of criminal division of the oppressed and exploited based on fantasy.

“Lackey” and “running dog” are good terms and apply more to oppressed nations. It is often necessary to be more specific than just “nation traitor”: it is better to have white oppressors be nation traitors than have oppressed nationalities be nation traitors, and that often needs pointing out. It is only supremacists (from the National Alliance to the Libertarian National Socialist Green Party to David Yeagley) who pretend to believe that all nation traitors are equal and deserve contempt. The correct attitude in the oppressor nations was on display in Berlin May 9th, when demonstrators said “Spasibo” to the Red Army for bringing down Nazi injustice.

Andy Ramirez is from Chino. Regardless of his subjective attitude, we at MIM regard him to be standing on Aztlán territory. There is a theory connected to that from Stalin on the national question, but that theory takes more time than saying Ramirez is a “coconut.” In a quick skirmish, people often latch on to what is easiest—what they can see in skin color. Much more often than not, attacking coconuts in connection to Proposition 187 or the like will be a good thing. Linking the anti-racist struggle to the border question happens with the best anti-racist movements.

The fact of race consciousness is not something MIM can fiat against and make it go away for the immediate future. So we seek to identify those parts that are progressive. White racism has no economic solution to it, and is not progressive, because it tends consciously and unconsciously to support dominance of the financial system over the rest of the world. Anti-white race consciousness is correct both for those who believe in integrated empires and those who see the

national question as principal at this time including MIM.

Of course, the white nationalists and fascists are going to call people like Andy Ramirez and Lupe Moreno (spokesperson for the anti-migrant Latino-Americans for Immigration Reform) “Hispanics” even if Ramirez has usually minimized his Mexican ancestry; although, Ramirez has seemed eager to counter accusations of vigilantes’ being racist. They have even called Lupe Moreno a “Latina activist.” They use Moreno, Ramirez, and others, such as Terry Anderson and Ezola Foster, as proof that their movement isn’t racist. Since they are using Ramirez’s and Moreno’s “race” to disprove charges of racism, it does make some sense to call Ramirez and Moreno coconuts as a second-best way of saying that their apparent ancestry doesn’t matter, but racism isn’t everything that motivates the movement to heighten the repression of undocumented migrants. What is more, race is not about individuals, so a couple tokens like Ramirez and Moreno never invalidate an anti-racist struggle. People who cannot see that are as yet pre-scientific Liberals who simply cannot think at the group level yet.

The anti-migrant activists not only repel criticisms of racism but pretend to oppose racism. Andy Ramirez himself opposes racism in words. That’s true in two senses. Ramirez does nothing to oppose racism materially. And also, Ramirez encourages racists to refrain from using obviously racist language. “I guarantee the public that we will not accept any individual volunteering for the FBP Border Watch who makes such irresponsible statements. This has come from our own experience, and with the advice from a number of individuals including Jim Gilchrist (Minuteman), and Chris Simcox (Civil Homeland Defense).” (4) Ramirez, Gilchrist and Simcox hope nobody will realize fascist Mussolini also opposed racism in words and even criticized Hitler for being too racist. This did not stop the Italy under Mussolini from engaging in formal and informal racial policies against Blacks, Africans, miscegenation and eventually Jews.

There urgently needs to be clarity on this point: this is not just about racism, but also about white oppressor nation reactionary nationalism and fascism. Andy Ramirez supports intensifying the repression of undocumented migrants; the existing repression of Latinos, documented and undocumented, is already harsh and reactionary. This also means that Ramirez supports migration laws creating undocumented status in the first place. The idea that the white nationalists and fascists only oppose “illegal immigration,” but not Latino immigration in general, draws a very artificial distinction between illegal immigration and immigration, and also blurs drug smugglers with “illegal immigrants.” We can take Ramirez at his word that he would volunteer at the

Kanadian border the same way in all the thousands of miles of wilderness if the situation arose, but we’re quite sure that his followers would not and have no record of fighting for an even-handed immigration policy. We also cannot help wondering why drug-smuggling and terrorist infiltration is not Ramirez’s concern at the Kanadian border or in the ocean. Instead of obtaining an even-handed immigration policy first, the fascists selectively enforce the law even if we take the very best interpretation of what they are saying.

The concern with drug smuggling and u.\$ businesses’ taking advantage of undocumented migrants is also phony—if the vigilantes and other nationalists/fascists were really concerned with deaths and poverty related to drug smuggling and labor violations, they would oppose imperialism as well as support migration policies allowing more labor mobility. For Ramirez to support the repression of undocumented migrants, many of whom are proletarians, without opposing imperialism is objectively fascist. There are no good intentions here, no “well-meaning” vigilantes. They are chauvinist parasites, and even if they really think they are ending terrorism by sealing the border, they choose to be ignorant about what causes terrorism and absolve themselves of any collective responsibility for u.\$ militarism and genocide. The vigilantes and other oppressor nationalists can’t provide one bit of evidence that terrorists are more likely to cross the u.\$-Mexico border illegally—there is no such evidence, only scattered anecdotes about a handful of suspects, some of whom may not have even entered the united States and some of whom have since been discounted as suspects. (5) The oppressor nationalists are reactionary parasites who think that the united States is an oppressed country and believe that the united States is facing impending cultural and economic decline.

The movement to heighten the repression of undocumented migrants is fascist in character regardless of who advocates it. It is a reactionary movement with several different allies—as the coming “Unite to Fight” Against Illegal Immigration Summit in Las Vegas will show (3)—who have only tactical disagreements over how to repress migrants and would-be migrants and border-crossers.

The fascist-tolerating Liberals alleging there are many well-meaning vigilantes are oblivious to the reactionary chauvinist fears, militarist threats and virulent anti-communism characterizing the border pig “friends” and border pig wannabes.

“I’m here this week to bring a very simple, blue-collar message to our elected officials,” [Civil Homeland Defense Corps leader] Simcox said. “... the people are going to pick up the slack from this point on. We must take care of our own property. We must secure our borders. We must protect our neighbors and our

families and our way of life.” (8) Around 2003, “Simcox issued this warning as part of a ‘message to the world’: ‘Do not attempt to cross the border illegally; you will be considered an enemy of the state; if aggressors attempt to forcefully enter our country they will be repelled with force if necessary!’” (9)

Religious “humanitarian” Border Angels’ founder and president Enrique Morones has in the last month been key in inadvertently sowing confusion about the fascist nature of the border vigilantism movement. On Scarborough Country, April 5, Enrique, “opposing” the Minuteman Project, implied it was just people like the National Alliance and Aryan Resistance who were racist among the vigilantes. (10) Too quick to dispel any implication that the Minuteman Project itself was racist, Chris Simcox replied that the Minuteman Project had “Hispanics Americans, “African-Americans,” and that Simcox had a “biracial African-American son.” Enrique’s other objection was that Minuteman Project volunteers weren’t trained law enforcement.

Border Angels’ Enrique Morones is proof that some Liberals don’t even know fascism when they see it. On 760 KFMB’s Rick Roberts Show, in San Diego, April 21, Enrique also spoke with Andy Ramirez of the Kalifornia-based Friends of the Border Patrol. (11) (760 KFMB is home to such other rednecks as Bill O’Reilly, Sean Hannity, and Michael Savage. The Rick Roberts Show is now giving daily updates on the Kalifornia FBP Border Watch according to the Friends of the Border Patrol’s Web site.) Enrique said he is “all for the sovereignty of one’s nation,” by which Enrique includes the united States even though there are multiple nations within the u.\$ border. Enrique recognized the u.\$-Mexico border as a legitimate border. He agreed that there is an “issue” with “undocumented people” crossing the border and seemed to disagree on only how to police the border. Enrique portrayed the problem with the Minuteman Project as just “isolated cases” of unstable racists. Enrique feared an “international incident.”

Rick Roberts and Andy Ramirez both said it is only Vicente Fox in Mexico, not imperialism, that is the source of the economic conditions in Mexico. Enrique took a conciliatory position and put the united States on the same footing as Mexico, blaming both countries equally for the “failure” at the border, without mentioning the relationship between imperialism and the bureaucrat capitalists in Mexico.

Andy Ramirez believes that Mexico is a “hostile foreign government.” (12) Ramirez believes Border Patrol agents are “poorly paid” even though highly-paid Border Patrol agents have caused gentrification near the border ( putting the lie to the notion that Border Patrol agents aren’t making a living wage even at

\$50,000 a year. ). (13)

Typical crypto-fascist Andy Ramirez believes that the u.\$ government is lackey to the Mexico government, rather than the other way around. “Then Bush continues the butt kissing when he calls Mexico a democracy. Is Bush the U.S. President, or Fox’s Ambassador to the United States? The Mexican Government is clearly a hostile neighbor, and constantly meddles in U.S. lawmaking, policymaking, and the political process.” (14)

Andy Ramirez’s criticisms of u.\$ businesses’ paying low wages to undocumented persons are fake. Ramirez believes that the cost of living for documented persons is higher than for undocumented persons even if they live in the same place, a supposed explanation for Americans’ not taking the jobs undocumented migrants do. This is chauvinism.

Callous Andy Ramirez believes the so-called rights of “hardworking families, American families” trump the lives of undocumented migrants. (15)

Hysterical, whim-worshipping reactionary fear-monger Andy Ramirez:

- says that the united States is more vulnerable than it was on the day of the December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor raid;

- says that the u.\$ government should scrutinize migrants, rather than Amerikan citizens with the Patriot Act;

- proposes “call[ing] in the debts of nations that owe America money” in order to improve the exchange rate of the u.\$ dollar; and

- threatens sanctions against Mexico: “Let’s place sanctions on foreign governments and demand economic and social reforms and keep them in place until we see life improve for those nations, and things shall improve.” (16)

Andy Ramirez and other fascists don’t acknowledge that there is already a lackey government in Mexico. Minuteman Project founder Jim Gilchrist has even said that he’d support a revolution in Mexico. But Gilchrist does not mean bourgeois-democratic revolution or socialist revolution. Gilchrist’s “revolution” would be no revolution: it would just be another comprador government in Mexico, more servile to a different faction of u.\$ imperialists and more labor aristocrats. Andy Ramirez has said absolutely nothing to disagree with Gilchrist over this proposal for a fascist-backed coup in Mexico, even going as far as to threaten sanctions against Mexico. Instead, Ramirez looks to fellow fascist Gilchrist to give the Friends of the Border Patrol credibility and assistance.

Notes:

1. “Lou Dobbs Tonight,” <http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/050509/ldt.01.html>

- <http://www.americanpatrol.com/WMV/050509-Ramirez-Dobbs.wmv>

2. “ACLU Immigrants’ Rights Project Staff Travels to Arizona to Support

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# Minutemen's new name reflects changed tactics

By HC116, May 7, 2005

Toward the end of April, Minuteman Project founder Jim Gilchrist left Arizona before the completion of the Minuteman Project. The Minuteman Project's volunteers were placed under the "auspices" of Civil Homeland Defense Corps (CHDC), led by Chris Simcox, according to the Associated Press. CHDC volunteers themselves participated in the Minuteman Project as well led other Minuteman Project volunteers. Chris Simcox is a co-founder of the Minuteman Project.

According to the former CHDC's web site, the Civil Homeland Defense Corps' name has been changed to "Minuteman Civil Defense Corps, Inc." (MCDC). This apparent merger of the Minuteman Project and the CHDC is symbolic of the CHDC's strong leadership role within the Minuteman Project as well as the CHDC's long leadership role in border vigilantism in Arizona.

The CHDC tried to start similar campaigns to the Minuteman Project before Jim Gilchrist offered help, but they

were all "duds" according to Mayor Ray Borane of Douglas, Arizona, one of the towns where the Minutemen were present.(2) The Civil Homeland Defense Corps has played a pivotal role in recent fascist activism and action on the Arizona-Sonora border, and now the CHDC, under the new name of the Minuteman Civil Defense Corps, is spreading to other States in the united States and supporting other organizations, such as the Kalifornia Friends of the Border Patrol.

The MCDC is not the only border vigilante organization currently active in Arizona. There are also the American Patrol and Ranch Rescue, accused of assaulting suspected undocumented migrants. Ranchers outside these two organizations have detained and killed suspected undocumented migrants in the past. The American Border Patrol has been more transparent than the Civil Homeland Defense Corps and the Minuteman Project about its anti-Latino migrant sentiments, going further than attacking just Latino "illegal immigrants"

by attacking Latino migrants in general. But compared with American Border Patrol leader Glenn Spencer, Chris Simcox has been more willing to have volunteers carry firearms and use a militia.(3)

In 2000, vigilantes in Arizona distributed a brochure in Douglas, "Neighborhood Ranch Watch," inviting "volunteers to come to ranches along the border 'and help keep trespassers from destroying private property. Be a part of the American Way Team.' . . . The brochure invites volunteers to set up their RVs on border ranches and to bring CB or ham radios, halogen spotlights, signal flares, sirens, infrared scopes or glasses to watch for night movements and trip wire flare launchers"—technologies the Minuteman Project has used.(4) Ranchers weren't the only vigilantes before the Civil Homeland Defense Corps. Border vigilantism has been going on at the Arizona-Sonora border for decades. Fascism expressed its counterrevolutionary character in the form of Thomas Vincent Posey's Civilian Materiel Assistance (Civilian Military

Assistance), which fought with the Contras against the Sandinistas and then got involved in detaining alleged undocumented migrants—and "terrorizing" them according to one of the CMA's own members.(5) The CMA called itself a neighborhood watch program. Vigilantes still call themselves neighborhood watch programs up to this day. It's an old ploy. The "secure the border" movement's pretense of political neutrality and concern for combating terrorism is bogus, too. Ranch Rescue leader Jack Foote is known for "strong anti-government sentiments, claims of 'Socialist' media conspiracies."(6)

Civil Homeland Defense Corps leader Chris Simcox's recent emphasis on reporting sightings of suspected undocumented migrants and not "engaging" them is tactical only. Aside from its own "Standard Operating Procedures" leaving open the possibility of "tracking" and "containing" in future "missions," the CHDC has itself reportedly detained suspected

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## Fascism

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Monitoring Efforts by ACLU of Arizona," April 16, 2005, <http://www.aclu.org/ImmigrantsRights/ImmigrantsRights.cfm?ID=18029&c=22>

3. "Unite to Fight' Against Illegal Immigration SUMMIT," [http://www.wakeupamericafoundation.com/summit\\_index.html](http://www.wakeupamericafoundation.com/summit_index.html)

As of May 10, speakers and guests for the May 27-29 conference in Las Vegas include: Terry Anderson, Ezola Foster, Bob and Bonnie Eggle, Jan Herron, William Herron, Frosty Wooldridge, Tim Bueler, Jim Gilchrist, Chris Simcox, D. A. King (American Resistance Foundation), Glenn Spencer (American Border Patrol), Rick Oltman, Robert Vasquez, Barbara Coe (California Coalition for Immigration Reform), Jeffrey Bennett, Rob Luton, Chet Deraway (American Patriot Party), T. J. Bonner, John and Barbara March, William Gheen, Madeline Cosman, Joan Molinaro, Peter & Jan Gadiel, Lupe Moreno, Angie Morfin, Gil Cedillo, Garrett Chamberlain, Michael Corbin, Flash Sharrar, John Vincent, Richard Ziser, Gianluca Zanna, and George Dare.

4. "FBP Border Watch denies support and volunteer offer due to past racial remarks," May 3, 2005, <http://www.friendsoftheborderpatrol.com/PRJTDenial01.html>

5. Hugh Dellios, "Terror alerts ripple south of U.S. border," Chicago Tribune, August 19, 2004, [http://blog.zmag.org/index.php/weblog/entry/war\\_on\\_terror2/](http://blog.zmag.org/index.php/weblog/entry/war_on_terror2/)

"Last week, the FBI investigated and ultimately discounted a report that another Al Qaeda suspect tried to open a bank account in Tijuana, across the U.S.-

Mexico border from San Diego. U.S. officials are questioning a suspected Pakistani who carried a South African passport and a plane ticket to New York when she crossed illegally from Mexico into Texas."

J. Jaime Hernández, "Al-Qaeda, A Pretext for Sealing Mexican Border," March 21, 2005, <http://www.mexidata.info/id431.html>

6. "Minutemen plan to patrol San Diego border," May 2, 2005, <http://www.kfmb.com/story.php?id=11305>

7. Dan Baum, "Patriots on the Borderline," March 16, 2003, <http://www.latinamericanstudies.org/immigration/borderline.htm>

"Simcox speaks of sovereignty, the Pledge of Allegiance and the rule of law, but his body language is all about the gun. Sooner or later he's going to use it, he wants everybody to know, in a showdown with the illegal immigrants and Mexican drug dealers he believes are ruining the United States. 'These are enemies who are wrecking our economy,' he says, his eyes shiny with emotion. 'This is about national security.' If Simcox dies in a blaze of border gunfire, so be it, he says. 'Damn them. That's how much I care about my country.' "

8. Chris Strohm, "Lawmakers consider using military to seal U.S. borders," April 30, 2005, <http://www.libertypost.org/cgi-bin/readart.cgi?ArtNum=93833>

9. Chris Simcox, "Leaders of two citizen patrol groups feud over methods," Associated Press State & Local Wire, March 27, 2003.

10. "'Scarborough Country' for April 5," April 13, 2005, <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/7406542/>

11. <http://www.760kfmb.com/asx/2005/04/minuteman.asx>

04/minuteman.asx

12. Andy Ramirez, "Why I support the Border Patrol Agents...," March 28, 2005, <http://friendsoftheborderpatrol.com/Viewpoint.html>

13. Diane Smith, "Agents leaving Border Patrol in droves, union says," July 30, 2002, <http://www.dfw.com/mld/dfw/news/3762176.htm>

14. Andy Ramirez, "Enforce the law? A novel concept for the Bush administration," March 24, 2005, <http://friendsoftheborderpatrol.com/Viewpoint.html>

Viewpoint.html

15. Andy Ramirez, "FBP Denounces Bush Amnesty," February 3, 2005, <http://friendsoftheborderpatrol.com/Viewpoint.html>

16. Andy Ramirez, "Andy Ramirez' Viewpoint," <http://friendsoftheborderpatrol.com/Viewpoint.html>

17. Kelly Brusck, "Rally supports Border Patrol agents, programs," July 24, 2004, [http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2004/07/25/news/californian/23\\_22\\_217\\_24\\_04.txt](http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2004/07/25/news/californian/23_22_217_24_04.txt)

## 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.

## Minuteman

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undocumented migrants before, and the CHDC has repeatedly called for u.s. military troops to be placed on the u.s.-Mexico border. Fascists and other white nationalists have for years been calling for the military to seal the border further.

Criticizing President Bu\$h for supposedly being apathetic about the migrant “invasion . . . a hostile takeover” and critical of the Minuteman Project—even though Bu\$h will probably sign the supplemental spending bill including the REAL ID Act (the final version of which was passed by the House last Thursday)—the American Patrol declares: “If America is to be saved, Americans must save it. . . . It is up to us.”(7)

Fascists are typically a motley mishmash ideologically and full of eclectics, whim-worshippers, and other pre-scientific types, each with their own reactionary selfish interests. They vary in their orientation toward cooperating with the federal government and the media and disagree on other matters. Not surprisingly, the Minuteman Project volunteers have reportedly divided into multiple groups “with each announcing its own California border watch.”(8) “Project co-founder James Gilchrist said he expects the groups to operate independently yet simultaneously, some under his endorsement and the Minuteman banner. . . . ‘The Minuteman Project is more like a master marketing tool,’ Gilchrist said. ‘We are allies, but not as merging partners.’”(8)

Whether this is more a matter of strategy (a conscious policy of decentralization) or necessity isn’t clear at this point: Gilchrist and Simcox might prefer that the leadership be more centralized. However, the assorted white nationalists making up the Minuteman Project have divided into factions, and “Gilchrist and two other Minuteman leaders have recently been quoted swapping barbed comments about each other.”(8) Jim Gilchrist has admitted to having disagreements with fellow Minuteman Project founder Chris Simcox. On Hannity & Colmes, April 18, 2005, Alan Colmes pointed out “rumors that [Simcox] and co-founder Jim Gilchrist, that’s the two of you, are not seeing eye-to-eye on the direction of the project. And that Mr. Gilchrist is leaving 10 days early.”(9) Simcox said he wasn’t leaving himself. Responding to the part about the rumors, Gilchrist said: “There is no distinction between Chris and I other than we have different opinions about the media. That’s all.”(9) Colmes: “What are your differing opinions?” Gilchrist: “We won’t go there. I like you and he doesn’t.” But Simcox said: “I don’t think that’s something we should be talking about, but Jim and I — there’s no need for both of us to be monitoring this situation now. Civil of homeland defense will take over a continuous effort of monitoring the border. Jim is going to take phase two, Minutemen Project phase two and start implementing that on the interior where we’re going to be — have Minutemen protesters

picketing employers who are hiring illegals and see if we can’t make an effort, some impact there.”

Publicly, Gilchrist and Simcox want to minimize their differences. However, on May 6, Express-News reported that “[t]he movement’s two top leaders are working separately with splinter groups, and not all of the groups necessarily embrace the strict controls on volunteers established by Minuteman organizers.”(10)

“‘There are no ties,’ Gilchrist said this week. ‘If we did anything else together, it would be as allies, not partners. I support his goals, but I’m weary of his management capabilities.’ . . . Numerous Arizona participants, including organizers, said Simcox’s dictatorial ways — he became known as ‘The Little Prince’ and ‘The Little Hitler’ — angered countless volunteers, prompting many to quit.”(10)

Now, the Press-Enterprise reports that “Simcox said his group, formerly Civil Homeland Defense, has been renamed Minuteman Civil Defense Corps, and he plans to grant franchise status to other groups modeled on the Minuteman Project. He plans California border watches in June and October, he said.”(8) This would allow the decentralized leadership of the Minutemen to present the appearance of unity

However it organizes itself, whatever face it puts on, this movement is fascist and must be stopped

Despite its “Hispanic” mouthpieces, its token Black and indigenous members, and its pretense of opposing “supremacy groups . . . no matter what their race,” this whole “secure the borders” vigilante movement is fascist in character. It is has roots in chauvinist fears about an economic decline of the country, and openly appeals to fears about cultural mixing and the decline of predominantly white AmeriKKKa. It puts white nationalism on the same footing as oppressed-nation narrow nationalism. It equates white racism with oppressed-nation racism. It spreads confusion by equating fascism with racism and then waving around cracker wannabes like Andy Ramirez and Henry Esparza in order to prove it’s not racist because it has a few nation traitor friends from the internal semi-colonies. Still, it portrays Latino migrants as innately violent people and sex offenders, and anti-“democratic.” It pays lip service to going after businesses that employ undocumented migrants—and wrongly suggests only those businesses benefit from undocumented migrant proletarians’ labor—but opposes removing the undocumented status that makes the migrants vulnerable to minimum wage and other labor violations in the first place. It has no fundamental disagreement with either capitalism or imperialism and has the support of imperialists like Congresspersyn Tom Tancredo, Senator Wayne Allard, DemoKKKrat John Kerry, and Kalifornia Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and many others. In fact, it obscures imperialism by representing the united States as a country

oppressed by Mexico. It seeks to increase the harsh and inherently violent repression of undocumented migrant proletarians and to spread terroristic fear among would-be migrants. It openly panders to police and military personnel and defends those, such as Army Reservist Sgt. Patrick Haab, accused of detaining at gunpoint undocumented migrants. It calls for the government to militarize the border and make it more repressive and deadly than it already is. It pays lip service to opposing “big business,” but it is deeply hostile to communism.

Jim Gilchrist and and the Civil Homeland Defense Corps have openly worked with virulent white nationalists such as Fred Elbel and Mike McGarry. The mainstream media identified them as “spokesmans” for the Minuteman Project. What the media did not say is that Fred Elbel and Mike McGarry are both directors of the Colorado Alliance for Immigration Reform. CAIR advocates “for the rights of future generations of Americans” and opposes immigration in general. “We need a population policy that protects the interests of future generations!”(11)

The vigilante movement is backed to the hilt by the labor aristocracy and increasingly more imperialists, some of whom went to Arizona to meet the Minuteman Project. The elements of the labor aristocracy that oppose the Minutemen and measures like the REAL ID Act do so mainly on pragmatic and tactical grounds. Kalifornia Assemblypersyn Lori Saldaña criticized the Minuteman Project but “called on the governor to support more funding for the U.S. Border Patrol, introducing a petition asking him to support ‘trained, professional law enforcement officers’ that would be ‘the best way to provide a safe and secure border for everyone.’”(12) The vigilante movement and the larger wave of repression against undocumented migrant proletarians appeals to, and draws its lifeblood from, the most chauvinist and reactionary elements of AmeriKKKan society. The Minuteman Project has trained its volunteers to dupe the gullible mainstream media about their intentions at the border (and even a couple of supposed “Indymedia reporters” named Walt and Jessica). The Minuteman Project has opposed fascism in words, but it has done everything, short of using undisguised racist language, to appeal to the fascists of Amerika and just encouraged the fascists who inevitably joined the Minuteman Project to hide their fascist language and in other ways convert to crypto-fascists.

The “vigilante” movement has the support of the labor aristocracy, including unionized Border Patrol agents. Bu\$h verbally opposed the “vigilantes,” and the “vigilantes” judge Bu\$h for not being ruthless enough toward undocumented migrants, but the vigilantes unite with Bu\$h on measures to reinforce and further the repression of undocumented migrants. The labor aristocracy’s fascist

activism and action dovetails with the imperialists’ already harsh and lethal repression of undocumented migrant proletarians. Demokrat support for the Minutemen, recently embodied in John Kerry’s reportedly lauding “the success of the Minuteman Project during a meeting with co-organizer Chris Simcox in Washington D.C.,” shows that the social base of fascism in the united States is broad, far-reaching, and not limited to the Bu\$h clique.(13) The conditions do not yet exist for internal fascism on a large scale in the united States, but the incipient fascism targets the undocumented proletarians and the lumpen proletariat, not the petty-bourgeois Amerikan labor aristocracy. There must be resolute and militant opposition to the fascist activism and action on the u.s.-Mexico border. The various parasites, from the labor aristocracy to imperialists, who support the heightened repression of undocumented migrant proletarians must be exposed and their fascist movement against migrant proletarians defeated.

Notes:

1. Rick Murray and Chris Simcox, “Minuteman Civil Defense expands south and north; DHS’ Chertoff to visit Cochise County,” <http://www.civilhomelanddefense.com/>
2. “Group of private citizens plan to patrol the Mexico-US border in April to deter illegal immigrants from crossing into this country,” National Public Radio (NPR), Morning Edition 10:00 AM EST NPR, March 23, 2005, transcript.
3. “Leaders of two citizen patrol groups feud over methods,” Associated Press, March 27, 2003.
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# ‘Crown’ contributes to revolutionization

*Investigating entertainment conditions in the Western imperialist countries*

## Europa Universalis: Crown of the North. Strategy First, 2003

A popular game in Western Europe, “Europa Universalis II” (EUII) does not seem to add much to the original game and I was about to say that we do not need another game of yore that a player most easily wins by killing off all resistance. However, “Crown of the North” (CoN) that comes with EUII has some irresistible aspects.

CoN is about a contest for supremacy in northern Europe from 1275 to 1340. CoN’s real novelty stems from having four social groups with conflicting interests—nobles, clergy, burghers and peasants. Burghers we can think of as merchants or the predecessors to the bourgeoisie.

For the years 1275 to 1340, Marxists would have to look forward a few hundred years to capitalism. Contrary to common ignorant opinion, the world was not always capitalist. In those years, the burghers were the new emerging force. MIM does not write much on that period of history, but Marx knew much more. On our website, readers can see the review of the Stalin era movie which is about Novgorod in 1242. Novgorod also appears in EUII from 1275 to 1340, so we have the approximately correct era.

Novgorod received its due from Stalin’s Soviet Union through its portrayal as an advanced and democratically-minded city in the movie “Alexander Nevsky.” Novgorod’s attitude toward conquerors is not without controversy, but what is more important to us is that it’s an example of something that was ahead of its time.

The Alexander Nevsky era is proof that there is no timeless morality. CoN makes it quite clear that burghers saw benefit to ending slavery and CoN also says the peasants actually opposed ending slavery. The burghers preferred to hire cheap labor according to CoN and some history of slavery.

So MIM condemns the bourgeoisie today, sometimes for trading slaves for profit, but more often for wars for profit. However, had MIM been there in Alexander Nevsky’s day, we would have to sing a completely different tune about the bourgeoisie.

It is not possible in the game to instigate a revolution for the burghers or even against slavery. There is an option to declare some slaves free, but not a systematic abolition.

The decisions that come the way of the prince are also very historically informative. For example, how to handle the superstitions of the people at that time is one question. Some questions may be difficult for players to understand in context, so the object of the game is quite clear—“victory points” or “honor points.” By pursuing honor points, while trying to

appease the four social groups, the prince will know how to make various decisions.

The most annoying part of the game which ran quite well on XP in general is that it asks the prince (player) interesting questions in successive order, but it places the questions exactly over each other on the screen so that clicking “yes” on one question very often ends up clicking on the next question that pops up at that second, when one is playing in faster modes. The pop-up questions should appear on different parts of the screen.

The positive aspect of the decisions forced on the prince is that we learn to think of them as politically based. Without support from the four social groups, revolt is more likely, so the prince must learn what makes the various groups happy.

So the question for this game is whether such positive aspects are worth the context CoN occurs in. While shopping for this game, the reviewer went to a major chain store for video games. There, a Black child of five years, maybe even four was just tall enough to get his hands on a joystick demonstrating a TV-based video game. He looked up to the TV screen where he saw a squirrel dressed in a military uniform and helmet carrying a submachine gun. The joystick was to make the squirrel jump around and shoot at assorted live targets. When the squirrel lost the game, he fell into a pile of his own blood and died.

The drawback of CoN—aside from not being simple enough like the games that sell well today—is that from the beginning, the player must attack right away and grab provinces or soon lose. It’s not so much that we question the historical accuracy of that particular scenario where timeliness of attack was essential. The real question is whether people are able to sort out the violence from the thought process. Whether a squirrel, robot fantasy or historical setting, the point is usually just props for militarism. One might think that no matter how well CoN did with history, many people would interpret it as just another reason that today’s European and American militarism and random violence are positive.

How video games justify the crime of genocide is also strongly evident in the other games packaged with CoN. It’s possible to play the EUII scenarios in the box as the Iroquois nation, but even then other natives will attack the Iroquois, and the only place it is safe to do trade and settlements is where there are no people: the natives will not trade or provide any benefit for interaction in the “Fantasia” scenario: They simply attack at random times. Settler-go-home would mean not playing “Fantasia.”

Since the object of the game in “Fantasia” is expansion, the most secure way of expanding one’s imaginary society is to build an army and kill the natives of each province. There is even a special

button for “attack the natives.” As we said about EUII, the resistance of natives in a territory taken over is more realistic than in previous computer games with simpler assumptions, so as programming and realism it’s actually an advance. Now we need to go further in video game design and allow for natives to get along with other people—at least sometimes after struggle! Creating an Iroquois player was a step in the right direction, but not enough.

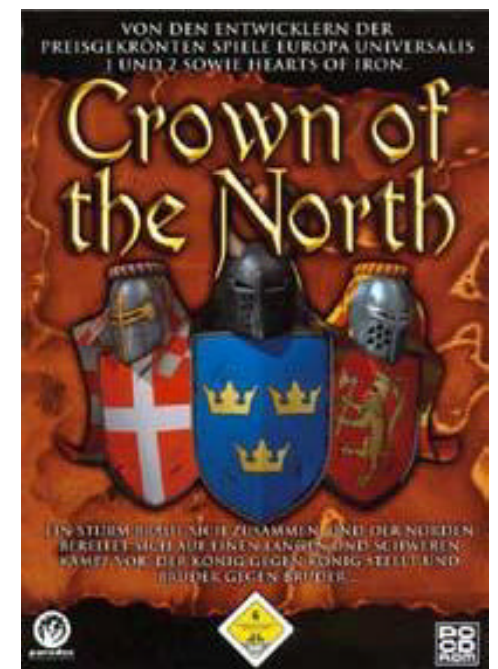
The ESRB gave this game package a “mild violence” rating, because the details of violence are missing. What we see is icons representing troops clashing. EUII and CoN come together on the same CD. In CoN, we have the bourgeois minimum distinction between war and terrorism, because after a battle against troops, the conqueror takes the town including its people. It’s not a genocide. In contrast, in EUII “Fantasia,” the point is to clear the land of the people—genocide. True, one can play without doing so, but the message is that not doing so will make one a “loser” in the game. Merely traveling through a province will lead to battles, so the positive aspects of exploration trade off with genocide. So “Fantasia” has some aspects brainwashing people to favor genocide, along traditional American lines.

CoN and even EUII are among the best software games available, because the standards in imperialist countries are incredibly violent. We advise readers to walk through a store specializing in TV and PC video games and look at each box to see what the game is about, before doubting MIM on this point. Then readers will understand MIM’s temptation to recommend games of good historical content that may nonetheless have unintended consequences of supporting militarism.

According to the industry, 63% of Americans over age 5 play video games, which may be a self-interested falsehood. However, we can be sure that total sales of over \$10 billion a year in the United States is not exaggerated. This figure is approximately the same as for the adult entertainment industry or the non-adult Hollywood films industry when either is taken separately, though both video games and adult films are growing very fast—another question where we have to get over preconceptions and where most alleged Marxist organizations are lagging far behind MIM.

For MIM, the investigation of entertainment in the United States is another experience like Mao’s “fine” and “terrible” that started his scientific work on China’s revolution. We cannot start with preconceptions.

The worst preconception about imperialist country people is that they are innocent “workers” who know not what they do in supporting imperialism. This is baloney. To spend \$10 billion and play



those games, you have to know what you are doing on an individual basis. While we might question whether a politician’s speech goes over its audience’s heads, we cannot question what the public goes out and buys for itself over and over again.

At least in Kanada, the number one selling video game is about a sport that gets its highest ratings for stick/fist-fights—hockey. That’s very Canadian of them and the preconception we have to be done with is the relative violence. NHL is very mild pornography in comparison with what else is selling.

The number one selling game in Amerika in 2002 was “Grand Theft Auto: Vice City,” with over 10 million copies sold. It’s a game about being a mobster dealing in violence and prostitutes—another variant on Amerika’s obsession with mass murder. In contrast, in an entire day, the CNN website may get 6 million viewers for all of its various stories while Grand Theft Auto is just one game. When we make this sort of comparison, it’s easy to see how Nintendo, Sony Playstation, Microsoft X Box and others are increasingly likely to leave all news reporting infotainment like CNN in the dust. (We hereby officially beg for reviews of even the dumbest games.) If we combine the games and compare them against the news stories, it’s clear where there will be more attention over the long run.

To a large extent, these games are just a reflection of the real world. A top ten game about Navy Seals is obviously coming from somewhere real, but why out of all the things going on on earth the Navy Seals is a top ten game is the question.

The obvious answer is advertising—the active outreach component of pornographic capitalism. People buy what they are familiar with and the advertising for the NHL, Navy Seals etc is already extensive. So games about heavily

*Go to next page...*



# Political opportunism made simple

## The Political Machine. Ubisoft, 2004

This strategy game is a simulation of the campaign for the U.S. presidency. In the realm of politics, "Political Machine" does not compare in sophistication to a strategy game like "Superpower," which one can play for days at a time, because "Political Machine" is a much simpler game that plays out in 41 turns.

"Political Machine" works within completely bourgeois assumptions, but it succeeds in presenting the gist of what bourgeois politicians face. At the fringes, this game raises questions about alleged "socialism" in Western Europe, by which the Amerikan-type game designers meant "social-democracy." Socialism means appropriation of the means of production and that has not happened in Western Europe; although it is accurate that most Amerikans do confuse the terms the way the game does.

Despite its bourgeois assumptions, "The Political Machine" may be of some use to younger game players, because it contains some basic notions of what political opportunism is. For example, a player may notice that the computer-generated opponent attacks from both sides of each issue, just depending on which state the candidate is in. The whole game is poll-driven, so if a player wants to win in a certain state, s/he has to find something appealing to that state's residents, based on what they already think.

According to the game, the only power that the candidate has is one of emphasis: if one spends enough money on political

ads, one can raise the profile of an issue in a state, but the proportions for and against any political stand do not change. Meanwhile, candidates willing to work with the issues that are already high profile enjoy an easy advantage.

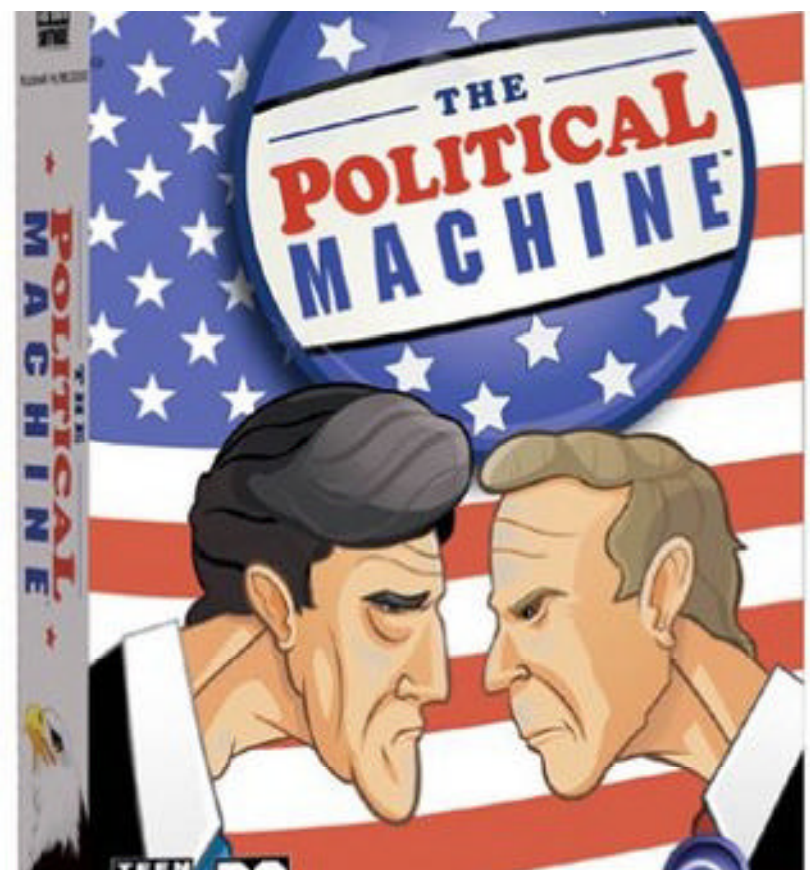
Another benefit of the game is that the proportions for and against various stands on political issues as presented by the game do reflect the real world in the united States. People who have spent all their time living in major cities like New York or Los Angeles or even just smaller cities that are college towns might be in for a shock to see the whole picture.

Left out of the game are the specific political debts one owes for raising money. Money flows in as if solely from volunteers interested in Amerikan politics broadly speaking.

On the other hand, the game does show that long-run popularity depends largely on money to buy political ads in newspapers, radio and television. The effectiveness of those ad purchases depends on the polling data that is given as fixed.

Once one learns what opportunism is from this game, and once one realizes that countless would-be politicians follow a path not unlike in this game, it is possible to understand why Lenin wanted what we call a "vanguard party" instead of a party like the Democrats or Republicans. People who want a fight for the truth regardless of its popularity have no choice but the vanguard party option.

The people who change reality and the parameters of the system are leaders. Leaders who have a direction are not the same thing as bourgeois politicians who



have to fight within certain confines or lose. This is especially true in the united States and other majority-exploiter countries where flattering the majority is inconsistent with the goal of international peace.

Technically, the program has little enough going on that there do not seem to be major errors or any major likelihood of the program's crashing. The only problem was graphical: a political tough guy hired in Washington state may not show up on the game board and therefore

it becomes impossible to move that piece. Other states can get crowded too, so that it is difficult to move pieces around or see what is going on in the state.

People who are far along with their political development will find themselves naturally tiring of this game quickly. On the other hand, MIM gives this game an unqualified endorsement, especially for youth, because of the other choices of games that youth might play instead. There is also nothing at all that a parent could find objectionable in this game.

## Crown

From previous page...

advertised movies like "Star Wars" and the "Matrix" arise.

On the other hand, in most cases, advertising is extensive because something sells enough to be profitable to advertise. So then we return to the question at hand—why is it that people buy into what they do as "fun." The "Matrix" raised choreography of violence to a new level and "Star Wars" came with special lighting effects for blowing up entire planets.

The monopoly capitalist corporations such as the NHL and the monopoly capitalists' government can compete at this level. NHL does well without real competitors and because for some reason newspapers have sports pages as if one band of people were worthy of daily news coverage.

The militarist games do well, because the imperialist governments have not yet gone bankrupt the way some businesses do. Against the anarcho-capitalists, we would say it's not just the governments in

such a situation of existing through unfair advantages. Capitalism by its nature involves competition won through unfair means and mega-corporations like the NHL would not arise if they were not profitable. If the monopoly capitalists could not hire governments they would hire their own private people to do the same things.

Likewise, against the anarchist-pacifists saying we should not support games like CoN, we would say Lenin's violent revolution ousted Russia from World War I and pacifists have no such accomplishment to their credit. It has to do with whether individuals can really change the world through their spiritual purity or whether action needs to be collective and still requires violence to end violence.

MIM is the only organization calling itself Marxist in the imperialist countries working on the question of the independent substance of "fun"—not as merely derivative of class and nation but with its own dynamics. Catharine MacKinnon identified the eroticization of power as the problem in gender relations and pornography as the cause. We're still not sure if pornography is the cause or

part of the effect, but we agree with MacKinnon broadly speaking on the question at hand. The problem we focus on is how violence became so "fun," that there is a whole newly arising multi-billion dollar industry simulating it.

In these games, they just do not seem to be "fun" without violence—with the exception of games about racing, professional sports and a handful of exploration games. A game out now with a teenage boy wedged between the breasts of two young wimmin looks positively quaint by comparison with most of the games glorifying total destruction. MIM tries desperately to understand this about thrill-seekers in hopes of finding a social causation that we can turn around and use against the exploiters and oppressors. By itself, the will-to-destruction culture is an example why the exploiters tend to self-destruction. They do not really have a rational plan they can follow. If the oppressors wanted to run a military without Abu Ghraib, they could not. So, the total nihilism of the imperialist culture spills back on itself, even while the imperialists make ample use of it to

control other countries. It's just that we do not want to rely only on imperialism's self-destruction. If we can, we seek to speed up the process through other means.

MIM has set about studying the overall facts on video games. From this investigation, we have to wonder whether CoN is still pornography and if we recommend CoN are we siding with soft-core pornography against other kinds. Thus far, MIM's answer is that if something contributes to revolutionization, we support it. Hockey video games may be an attraction to parents of young children, but we are reluctant to say they revolutionize anyone just because they are very mild pornography relatively speaking. In contrast, like the "Matrix" or possibly even "Star Wars," CoN is also pornography making violence fun, but it does potentially contribute to the revolutionization of people, because it contains elements promoting scientific thought.

Note:

[http://www.tvb.ca/wconnect/wc.isa?TVB\\_Preview~VW62769~bTiQPJou](http://www.tvb.ca/wconnect/wc.isa?TVB_Preview~VW62769~bTiQPJou)

## Build for the Unlock the Box conference

For years we've been asking our comrades behind bars to send information on conditions to help us build support for struggles like our campaign to shut down prison Control Units. We are currently working to bring this movement to a higher level through an upcoming conference called "Unlock the Box" on October 8 in San Francisco.

We invite prisoners to help recruit for this event and build support for this movement. We want to reach out to and involve as many people and organizations as possible from across the country. You can help by: 1) Creating a list of organizations (with contact info) who are interested in this work to reach out to 2) Contacting these organizations to see if they will participate or support our work 3) Getting people on the streets building awareness of the conference 4) Getting interested organizations to host events or meetings with representatives from our campaign to present on the topic of the control units and recruit support for the upcoming conference

Prisoners can help support this work by spreading the word about the conference within the prisons and encouraging our supporters on the inside to send information to their people on the outside to build participation. Those who can commit to this recruiting and who want more information, letters, fliers, etc should contact MIM. As always, we also need information from our comrades in the control units: statistics on the control units in your state or facility and reports on conditions in the control units are important for our educational and agitation work.

### Guards intimidate, extort prisoners

I'm writing this letter in deep concern, in need of desperate help, not only because I feel as though my life is in danger, I also fear the possibility of ever being paroled from this prison due to the ignorance of Pennsylvania central office executive staff, from the Secretary of Correction Jeffery A. Beard to the staff members at SCI Greene. They are obviously refusing a thorough investigation on the allegations and complaints I've made, not only here at SCI Greene, but also at SCI Camp Hill, about several security officers here at SCI Greene who have been breaking the law, from extorting inmates to blackmailing and planting contraband in prisoners' cells, just to get packs of cigarettes from inmates to save money from their pockets! This is how things have been running up here at SCI Greene for the seven years I've been here.

I was recently set up by officers on the search team for reporting abuse by a DOC officer to my family. In revenge they planted five weapons in my cell. Now this is right after a state institutional search, the biggest search ever! I don't care if you have an extra comb; they're going to take it! They do a tight and thorough search. Now I passed this major shakedown with no problems. Besides, I haven't had a write up in four years and I was going up for parole soon. Why would I jeopardize my chance of going home?

I know a lot of people up here who have been going through the same hell. I know when something is wrong and when something needs to be done about it. I'll stand up for what is right! And if I go through some harassment, if I have to go through the whole paper chase game to see justice, I'll do it!

The only thing I'm requesting from you, is

# Under Lock & Key

## News from Prisons & Prisoners

to please publish this letter in you paper. Please send letters concerning my complaints to:

Barry Stout Pennsylvania  
State Senate 1024  
Route 519, Suite 400  
Eighty Four PA 15530  
—a Pennsylvania prisoner, March 2005

### Mental Health Crisis in Illinois Ad Seg/Control Unit

I want to thank you for the info [on the brutal mental health effects of control unit prisons]. I had it read aloud to everyone in this seg control unit. Some of the inmates will write up essays on the Control Unit Mental Health Crisis.

—a control unit prisoner in Illinois, 5 May, 2005

It's important for families and friends of prisoners to understand the mental condition and challenges of prison inmates. There are prisoners that don't expose their problematic stressful conditions to family or friends due to a lack of support. Myself, one prisoner, I have suffered mental challenges every day that degrade and change my own behavior.

Picture living alone in a confined cell, and having solitary confined recreation cages or pods that have no bathroom stall. Twice a week, up to 18 prisoners fill these single-man cages, and are made to stay for two-and-a-half hours. There are no bathrooms in or outside these cages, nor will a station officer take you out for restroom purposes. Prisoners are forced to urinate and have bowel movements around others, and to be punished for this. Or they can hold their bodily waste. Then you have ones that throw human feces in a confrontation with someone else, risking hepatitis for themselves and others.

Corrections officers (C/Os) are supposed to distinguish your level of voice and say whether you are talking or yelling. Yelling is a rule violation. What is yelling? How appropriate is it for a C/O to determine a yell in legal terms and punish us for this? There is a difference, of course, between talking and yelling, but why should a C/O be able to say which is which when the determination results in punishment? Housed on an open unit with 52 cells on two floors, if everyone speaks in tones meant to be heard six inches away like you do in elementary school, the noise level will still be at a roar because of how many people are talking in this confined space. We must decide either to communicate with other prisoners and be heard, or avoid getting tickets for yelling and live in complete isolation. Choosing isolation will lead to either Attention Disorder or Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

The conditions we live in can be compared to those of a dog who is isolated for 30 days. Imagine interacting with the dog only to give it baths once a week, and giving it the same amount of food you would feed a puppy. How will the dog act when it is released?

—a control unit prisoner in Illinois, May 2005

**MIM adds:** see <http://www.ertext.org/Politics/MIM/agitation/prisons/controlunits/unlock.php> for more information on control units from MIM and others.

### Program strike in Oregon IMU

It's been a long time since my last letter yet I'm back. My mail is being fucked with yet you have sent me your Notes again without my asking and I thank you. I hope this letter makes its way to where it's going. I have some news for MIM, some good and some not so good. I'm glad to say this will soon be over for me. Ten years dead for a crime that didn't happen and I proved it. Or I should say they did yet I could not afford freedom.

That really doesn't matter now, I did the time and I'll be paroling from IMU. I've been in IMU this time for 18 months with 6 more to go. I'm holding up on the outside yet cracking on the inside. I have seen my letters in your Under Lock & Key in the past, please don't give up the ghost just yet.

I would like to tell you that team work is the only way my self and 1/4 of SRCI IMU went on a program strike. I would also like to say 100% is just not going to happen. There are some who like to get fucked over by DOC, yet 1/4 of IMU C-Pod refused to do their brainwashing program packets. We ripped them up and pushed them out the door and on to the tier. We also flooded out to let it be known we're one. We got bum rushed and 90% stayed strong. CO spray was used, many cans. We lost to the CO spray yet we won a long going fight for batteries. It sounds like a lot for so little yet when you have nothing, a new battery every week and a backup battery is like Xmas.

I have to commend the 1/4 of IMU in winning as a team of one. The only way is one, comrades. And for the other 75% of SRCI IMU, I have nothing to say to them.

You see if we can pull together and one and take control of IMU beds then they have lost control. If 50% of IMU is put on IEC, 50% of the bullshit beefs would stop. If 100% could happen then no one gets in. The downfall is no one gets out. The big picture is control. You see IMU is frozen. There is always going to be discomfort and hardship in war, comrades. It's time to stand up as one and put the bullshit aside. We are gearing up for round two. Stand up, comrades!

—a prisoner in Oregon, April 2005

### Pre-trial repression in Washington

I have been continuously housed in the Washington Correction Centers Intensive Management Unit as a pre-trial detainee/county boarder pending trial on five felony cases, one of which would be a "Third Strike" if convinced, since October 30, 2003.

Both county and prison officials claim they are justified in keeping me in the WCC/IMU because, a) the jail placed me on administrative segregation, b) I'm facing "Three Strikes" if convicted.

It is my understanding that I have a right to due process and due process was created to protect people from arbitrary actions by those acting under color of law. It is also my understanding that a pre-trial detainee possesses a "presumption of innocence" status. What does it mean if everything he suffers is justified by being convicted? Where is it written that the State may constitutionally punish a pre-trial detainee?

On March 14, 2005 I was in the middle of

one of my trials for unlawful possession of a firearm. During any court appearance I appear at I am forced to wear a 50,000 volt electronic immobilization device (EID) otherwise known as the "Bandit." During the middle of my trial as I was sitting at the defense table and my attorney and the prosecutor were at a sidebar with the judge I was hit with all 50,000 volts for 8 seconds. The Bandit is strapped to my calf, usually so tight that my toes go numb, and it is in direct contact with my skin. These creepreptional officers are always threatening me and doing other weird things to my food. So after the shock of the Bandit wore off I was to say the least very pissed off.

I never dealt with a bunch of corrupt creeps like I am forced to deal with right now. And to boot they actually have the nerve to say that I'm faking and deny any responsibility by stating that there is no evidence to support my allegations.

In closing I would like to thank you for your newspaper and salute you for your dedication in letting people know the whole story.

- A prisoner in Washington

## 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.

## Maltreatment of prisoners in Michigan

Dear Congressman Conyers:

I am writing to express my concerns about the ongoing physical and mental maltreatment of prisoners and their personal property within the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC). This prevailing injustice is directed disproportionately towards African-Americans and Hispanics.

Prisoners are arbitrarily being written major misconduct tickets, which may cause a prisoner to increase his security level and diminish his chances of being paroled. Moreover, minorities are more likely to be classified to a higher security level. Seventy-nine percent of prisoners in level five are minorities, although minorities only make up fifty-nine percent of the prison population. At the other end of the spectrum, minorities make up only fifty-one percent of the population of minimum security prisons.

Additionally, more than half of the people in prison have had some mental health problems. But prisoners with mental illness too frequently get tickets rather than treatment. This can be a problem for them as well as for those who have to live with them. The higher the level, the more people with mental health problems. Sometimes, the conditions in level four, five, and administrative segregation can actually cause psychological problems.

Presently, at this concentration camp, prisoners are taken to administrative segregation, and once inside are beaten, denied food and daily showers, and the right to send out their U.S. Mail (prisoners will give an officer a letter and it won't make it to its destination). If a prisoner attempts to exercise his First Amendment right in submitting an institutional grievance for redress of any of the aforementioned injustices, he most certainly will be retaliated against in some form or fashion. Prisoners are being oppressed and repressed by a totalitarian Executive Branch of the State of Michigan.

Now I have been a victim of reprisal by a Prison Counselor. I submitted grievances against this Case Manager for refusing to reclassify me for an institutional work assignment and transfer me to a lower level (I am a true level one but I'm currently classified at level four). This Case Manager summoned me to his office to inform me that he didn't like the fact that I submitted prior grievances against him, and he informed me that he would make sure I won't go to a lower level. In other words, he's going to have someone else write unfounded misconduct tickets or do it himself, and/or place me in administrative segregation.

The aforementioned Case Manager knows I am scheduled to go before the Parole Board this month, and that not having a work assignment will reduce my chance of a parole. Being in a higher level will have the same

effect. Any misconduct will also be cause for denial of parole. The way a society treats those who have transgressed against it is evidence of the essential character of that society.

I came to prison at the age of 22, and for the past eight years (in prison) I have tried to transform myself from a male with no direction or understanding on life, into a man with vision and responsibilities. I have obtained my GED and certificates and diplomas in an array of self-help programs. I've tried to utilize every accomplishment towards the betterment and advancement of myself and others. I have applied for Federal Student Aid and enrollment in a community college. Entering prison with a third-grade reading and writing level, I could never have imagined attending college.

No life is without error or regret. I have made numerous mistakes in the past, but I have learned to make more appropriate decisions and weigh my actions. I have paid eight years of my life for my transgression against society. I cannot change the past, but I can study and determine the future from it.  
— a Michigan prisoner, April, 2005

### New SRCI Mail Policy

In recent years MIM has reported on censorship problems in Snake River Correctional Institution (SRCI) in Oregon. A comrade recently sent us the following information from the SRCI newsletter:

"Books from Publishers and Distributors

The SRCI Mail Processing Center is now accepting books from all publishers and distributors, including bookstores. Publications from bookstores must be mailed from the point of purchase and not from the person purchasing the publication (ie. their house). Mailroom staff will inspect the book prior to issuing it to you. This will make it easier for senders to mail your books and will reduce the amount of books being returned to the sender."

This is a step forward, and will help MIM which publishes and distributes its own stuff. But this still amounts to an unreasonable limit on prisoners' access to reading materials, forcing friends and family to pay full price and have books shipped directly to the prison. MIM frequently sends used books in to prisoners, and this Oregon policy prohibits us from doing this. MIM will continue to challenge these restrictions in our day-to-day work of getting books into prisoners in SRCI and around the country. We will keep you updated on these struggles here in the pages of Under Lock and Key.

### Conditions at High Desert State Prison prison

I am a prisoner in California at High Desert State Prison (aka High Drama). I am currently residing in administration segregation (ad-

seg) in a building called Z unit. We have no sunlight in your cells, showers only given 3 times a week for barely enough time to wash up, and at this current time the entire institution is on lock down going on for 3 months and is rumored to be another month, and that is what they told us 2 months prior. I myself have run out of hygiene and rationing my one bar of soap I get issued a week to bath, clean clothes/sheets, and keep my cell clean. That little bar of soap goes quick. They keep the cells here are cold. They give you 2 pairs of socks, 2 pairs of boxers and 2 pairs of the state issued t-shirts. They don't warm you up. I could go on forever about the COs' conduct, their attitude and disrespect to everyone. Transfers are hard to come by at High Drama. There are people who have been waiting for a transfer for a year and a half.

— a CA prisoner, April 2005

The public should be made aware of the racism, favoritism and the prejudice going on behind the walls. The Black inmates at High Desert State Prison D-facility have been on lockdown since August of 2004. They have cell-searched us numerous times and are doing it again.

In December the staff confiscated all of my and my cellmate's property and paperwork (i.e., legal work, letters, address books, phone numbers, photo albums, loose pictures, novels). Approximately a week later they confiscated some other inmate's property, also in my building. These inmates got their property back within 2 weeks. We did not get ours back for two months. And when we got it back, not all of it was there. They kept approximately 96 photos of family members and close friends, all of my address books and phone numbers, so I can not contact my family and associates that I do not know from memory.

Whenever we write inmate 602 appeals and complaints against staff, they never get turned in to the appeals coordinator's box to be processed, but instead mysteriously vanish. They are violating our rights in all areas.

— a prisoner at HDSP, March 2005

### LA county jail covers up beatings

I was victimized at the LA County Jail in 1996 by the Sheriff's Department. The deputies lied and said I tried to stab the deputy with a pencil. This was to cover up the beatings I received, and enforce the 3-strike law illegally. I was sentenced to 25-to-life for an assault on a deputy, with a pencil. My public defender knew these deputies lie about their reports to cover up the beatings and enforce the 3-strike law illegally. During trial she stipulated to the deputies' evidence medical report, and other false reports. The judge heard the deputies lie in cross examination but he would not dismiss the case.

— a California prisoner, March 2005

## Join the fight against the injustice system

While we fight to end the criminal injustice system MIM engages in reformist battles to improve the lives of prisoners. Below are some of the campaigns we are currently waging, and ways people behind the bars and on the outside can get involved. More info can be found on our prison web site: <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/agitation/prisons>

**Stop Censorship in Prison:** Prisons frequently censor books, newspapers and magazines coming from MIM's books for prisoners program. We need help from lawyers, paralegals and jailhouse lawyers to fight this censorship.

**Books for Prisoners:** This program focuses on political education of prisoners. Send donations of books and money for our Books for Prisoners program.

**End the Three Strikes laws:** This campaign is actively fighting the repressive California laws, but similar laws exist in other states. Write to us to request a petition to collect signatures. Send articles and information on three strike laws.

**Shut Down the Control Units:** Across the country there are a growing number of prison control units. These are permanently designated prisons or cells in prisons that lock prisoners up in solitary or small group confinement for 22 or more hours a day with no congregate dining, exercise or other services, and virtually no programs for prisoners. Prisoners are placed in control units for extended periods of time. These units cause both mental and physical problems for prisoners.

Write to us to request a petition to collect signatures. Get your organization to sign the statement demanding control units be shut down. Send us information about where there are control units in your state. Include the names of the prisons as well as the number of control unit beds/cells in each prison if that is known. Send us anti-control unit artwork.

**MIM's Re-Lease on Life Program:** This program provides support for our comrades who have been recently released from the prison system, to help them meet their basic needs and also continue with their revolutionary organizing on the outside. We need funds, housing, and job resources. We also need prisoner's input on the following survey questions:

1. What are the biggest challenges you face being released from prison?
2. How can these problems be addressed?
3. What are the important elements of a successful release program?

## Facts on US 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.

# Notas Rojas



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## «TODA UNA VIDA NO SERÁ SUFICIENTE PARA AGRADECER LO QUE HIZO EL EJÉRCITO ROJO POR LA LIBERTAD».

(ERNEST HEMINGWAY)

Por: Luis Arce Borja

www.eldiariointernacional.com

Casi sin excepción los medios de comunicación y la mayoría de los intelectuales de Europa occidental han pretendido escribir su propia historia sobre los acontecimientos de la segunda guerra mundial. Su propósito, que alcanzó proporciones groseras, fue echar una cortina de humo sobre el rol preponderante e histórico del Ejército Rojo de la Unión Soviética en la derrota del fascismo hitleriano. Lo curioso es que hasta los grupos y medios de comunicación de izquierda, de palabra antifascista y antiimperialistas, bailaron al ritmo de la orquesta de la gran burguesía de los países ricos y se refirieron a la guerra mundial en términos abstractos y antihistóricos. Pero todo no fue “olvido” (voluntario por supuesto) sino también vulgar tergiversación de los hechos históricos. La mayor parte de la prensa francesa de Europa (Francia, Bélgica, Suiza) se refirió al Ejército Rojo, no para reconocer sus meritos en la guerra, sino para acusarlo de “invasor” de los países bálticos”. Un poco más y se declara a los soviéticos de la segunda guerra mundial tan culpables como las tropas hitlerianas.

Gunter Verheugen, vicepresidente de la Comisión Europea, exigió a comienzo del mes de mayo, que Moscú reconozca que el Ejército Rojo “había ilegalmente ocupado los países bálticos” (Letonia, Estonia y Lituania). Sobre el mismo tema, La Libre Belgique (un cotidiano cristiano de Bélgica), anunció (6 de mayo 2005) que “Rusia había estado invitada con insistencia por Occidente a reconocer la ocupación de los países bálticos por la URSS de Stalin”. El mismo George Bush, no tuvo ningún problema para denunciar a los “invasores soviéticos” en la segunda guerra mundial.

La política de arrasar de la memoria los verdaderos hechos históricos, es un arma estratégica de los herederos del fascismo Europeo. Su propósito fundamental es que los pueblos olviden a los verdaderos culpables del horror del pasado, y en tanto ello dejarles el camino libre para el resurgimiento del terror nazi y criminal. Por lo pronto, en Alemania, cuna del nazismo, Austria, Italia, España, así como en Bélgica, Holanda, Dinamarca, y otros países del eje de la Comunidad Europea, ya los grupos ultra reaccionario son fuerzas políticas oficiales que deciden directa o indirectamente las decisiones políticas de los gobiernos. Tienen ministros, alcaldes, curas y ocupan altos puestos en la administración del Estado. Son los mismos estados, y las grandes trasnacionales los que financian y sostienen a las organizaciones de extrema derecha. Por ejemplo, en Bélgica el grupo nazi llamado Vlaams Belang es la tercera fuerza política en la parte nerlandofona de este país, y su influencia es tanta que los mismos partidos llamados democráticos comienzan a cumplir los dictados y programas de esta organización que reivindica el nacional socialismo hitleriano. Este partido recibe anualmente varios millones de euros del Estado belga y tiene acceso a los canales de televisión y otros medios de comunicación. En Europa, en medio de una creciente crisis económica, se aperturan los estados policiales, crece el odio contra los extranjeros, y comienza a reimplantarse las fuerzas retrogradadas

de la iglesia católica cuyo actual Papa, el ex militante de la juventud hitleriana, es expresión del avance fascista en los países de la Comunidad Europea. Es en este contexto, controlado por las fuerzas más retrogradadas del sistema capitalista, que se tergiversa la historia y con ello se facilita la reimplantación de antiguos colaboradores nazis y simpatizantes del dominio racial.

Síntesis de la verdadera historia

La forma como la burguesía internacional ha tratado el 60 aniversario del triunfo sobre el nazismo hitleriano, muestra que hasta la historia tiene carácter de clase. Los verdaderos hechos deben ser rescatados en su autenticidad en tanto ello sirve como prueba del heroísmo de un pueblo que luchó no solamente por su libertad sino la de todos los habitantes del planeta. Es bueno recordar que un factor histórico-político fundamental en la ejemplar resistencia del pueblo soviético frente al invasor alemán fue el Partido Comunista de la Unión Soviética (PCUS). Esta organización revolucionaria, creada por Lenin, dirigió la unidad y la lucha del pueblo contra las tropas nazis. Los más destacados combatientes en el frente soviético fueron, sin duda alguna, los militantes comunistas provenientes principalmente de las fábricas. Por ello, las tropas hitlerianas, lo primero que hacían cuando tomaban el control de pueblos y ciudades, era ejecutar masivamente y en el acto a los cuadros y militantes comunistas.

El 22 de junio de 1941, la Alemania nazi ejecuta el “Plan Barbarota” y ataca la Unión Soviética. Para los soviéticos se inicia la guerra Patria, y se convoca a la más grande movilización de masas jamás vista en la historia de la humanidad. Obreros, Campesinos, amas de casa, jóvenes y viejos se unen a la resistencia armada y se inicia la gran epopeya de lucha contra el nazismo. Hitler utiliza para atacar a la URSS un ejército de más de 6 millones de hombres que a la época fue la más poderosa fuerza militar del mundo capitalista. En noviembre de 1941, es decir a un poco más de un año del inicio del “Plan Barbarota”, las tropas alemanas ocupaban militarmente un territorio soviético de 1'800,000 kilómetros cuadrados donde antes de la guerra vivían 80 millones de personas. En términos comparativos, el territorio ocupado por los nazis, era en conjunto la dimensión de Inglaterra, Francia, Italia y Suecia.

El frente Soviético fue decisivo en la segunda guerra mundial. En el periodo de junio de 1941 y 9 de mayo de 1945, las fuerzas armadas nazis (La wehrmacht), perdieron en la guerra contra los soviéticos el 80% de sus efectivos. Es decir 607 divisiones alemanas fueron liquidadas y hechas prisioneras. Esto significó 3 veces y medio más que lo que perdieron los alemanes en los frentes de Africa del Norte, en Italia y Europa Occidental. Solo en la batalla de Stalingrado del 17 de julio del 42 al 2 de febrero de 1943, los nazis perdieron 1'500,000 soldados y oficiales, lo que fue igual al 11% del total de pérdidas alemanas en la segunda guerra mundial. Las tropas de Hitler, cuando fueron derrotadas dejaron en suelo soviético 3,500 tanques, 3,000 aviones de combate y transporte, 12 mil cañones y morteros y otros materiales de guerra. En todo esto, los soviéticos, como muestran nuevas investigaciones, perdieron entre 26 y 27 millones de habitantes. Dos hombres sobre 5 de aquellos que perdieron la vida en segunda guerra mundial fueron soviéticos.

Otro elemento importante a resultar es que la segunda guerra mundial mostró el rostro extremo del sistema capitalista mundial y la voracidad imperialista. Decir que Adolfo Hitler fue un aventurero o loco como muchas veces es calificado

por los historiadores burgueses tiene el propósito de ocultar la esencia política de la segunda guerra mundial. La Alemania hitleriana, fue la expresión social y política de una fracción de la burguesía internacional, y ahí radicó la medula del odio de clase contra el socialismo soviético. Diversos historiadores, incluso algunos de la burguesía, reconocen que el objetivo fundamental del gobierno Alemán fue el exterminio de la Unión Soviética como República Socialista.

A propósito de la segunda guerra mundial y la participación gloriosa del pueblo soviético, hemos creído conveniente traducir del francés un excelente artículo, que como una flor en el desierto de la prensa burguesa y que milagrosamente pudo escapar la censura de la Santa Inquisición, relata con extraordinaria objetividad las razones por la cuales la historia ha sido tan burdamente distorsionada. Los autores son belgas, y se trata de Guy Spitaels, ministro de Estado, el escritor Jean-Marie Chauvier y el periodista Vladimir Caller.

¿Por qué minimizar la victoria roja? (\*)

Los autores inician su recuento con una pregunta bastante sugestiva:

“¿Por qué aquello que era una verdad en 1945, al momento de la victoria sobre el nazismo, no lo es ahora? Esta victoria tuvo por principales protagonistas el Ejército Rojo y el pueblo soviético. La mitad de las víctimas de la segunda guerra mundial fueron soviéticas. Los jefes nazis habían previsto la desaparición de por lo menos 30 millones de “Untermenschen” (sub hombres) soviéticos, y la deportación de otro contingente de 30 millones. En los territorios soviéticos ocupados los nazis lograron exterminar 10 millones de personas, de ellos 2'7 millones de judíos. Solamente entre 1941 y 42 hubieron 3'3 millones de prisioneros soviéticos eliminados en la “muerte programada”. El cerco de Leningrado, los “millares de Orador” en Bielorrusia, en Rusia y Ucrania, las 70 mil ciudades destruidas, las innumerables masacres perpetradas por los Einsatzgruppen, los SS, la Wehrmacht y sus auxiliares nacionalistas o fascistas (polacos, bálticos, letones, lituanes, ucranianos). Un genocidio frente al cual los soviéticos pudieron salvar un millón de judíos...Lo dicho hasta aquí no se trata de una opinión, y es más bien hechos históricos pocos conocidos por las nuevas generaciones”.

Según los autores, “El presidente Franklin Roosevelt, el primer ministro británico Winston Churchill y el general de Gaulle, principales jefes políticos y militares de los países de la coalición anti-hitleriana, reconocieron el rol principal de los soviéticos en la victoria contra el nazismo en 1945. ¿Nuestra liberación habría sido posible sin las victorias soviéticas logradas sucesivamente en Moscú, Stalingrado y Koursk?, ¿o sin la inmensa contraofensiva llevada por los ejércitos del mariscal Joukov que concluyó cuando se colocó la bandera roja sobre el Reichstagen en Berlín?. Sin estas victorias rojas, el judocidio por parte de los nazis hubiera continuado hasta la liquidación de 11 o 12 millones de judíos de Europa que habría sido el objetivo hitleriano. Pareciera que se desea hablar lo menos posible de esta contribución soviética a la libertad, que como dijera Ernest Hemingway, “Toda una vida no es suficiente para agradecer lo que hizo el Ejército Rojo por la libertad”. (Chaque être humain qui aime la liberté doit plus de remerciements a l'Armée Rouge qu'il ne puisse payer durant toute une vie) ».

Los autores señalan que habría ocurrido un « tabú a posteriori » respeto a reconocer la participación fundamental de la URSS en la segunda guerra mundial. Para sustentar dicha versión recurren a los argumentos del historiador Marc Ferro, especialista en Historia Rusa, quien afirma

que fueron los soviéticos quienes destruyeron la poderosa Wehrmacht y que ello sirvió para llevar a cabo en éxito el desembarco de los aliados. Y que gracias a ello los americanos y los ingleses pudieron liberar Europa del Oeste. El historiador explica que al momento que se instaló la “guerra fría”, cambio la historiografía occidental la que redujo a la nada el rol jugado por el poderío soviético en la lucha contra Hitler. Y ahora, dice Marc Ferro, la tendencia es exclusivamente a resaltar el rol de los anglo-sajones en los triunfos de la segunda guerra mundial. “Hay sobre todos ese rechazo a admitir que pudo haber en cierto momento de la historia, una superioridad técnica industrial de los rusos sobre Alemania durante la guerra”, dice el historiador. Como prueba cita el tanque T 34, “el mejor tanque de la época, que provocó el pánico en los alemanes, la producción de cañones de gran calidad. Dice también el especialista, que la ayuda en materiales de guerra entregados por los anglo-sajones a los rusos, tuvo lugar solamente después de la victoria Soviética en Stalingrado.

En 1941 cuando parecía el fin de la URSS, dicen los autores, este país se recompuso mediante una gigantesca e impresionante movilización patriótica. Para luchar contra el invasor se juntaron rusos, judíos, ucranianos, bielorrusos, georgianos, armenios, musulmanes del Caucazo, de Grimea de Asia Central, batallones reclutados en los Goulag (cárceles), etc. Esta resistencia fue también un lugar de iniciativas espontáneas y de una gran creatividad social y artística. Algo sumamente importante es que nuevas investigaciones en los archivos de la segunda guerra mundial confirman que el genocidio perpetrado por los nazis contra los “sub hombres” slavos y el comienzo del genocidio contra los judíos fueron parte de un solo proceso dirigido contra el bolchevismo, y que ello fue de naturaleza colonialista y racista.

Dicen los autores, que la cifra de “20 millones de víctimas en la URSS” muchas veces ha parecido exagerada, pero no es así. Recientes investigaciones muestran que las víctimas soviéticas en la segunda guerra mundial serían de 26 a 27 millones de personas. A esto hay que agregar decenas de millones de mutilados, huérfanos, de gente sin vivienda, y sobre todo dicen ellos sin “Plan Marshall” para reconstruir una URSS cansada y duramente destruida. Otra verdad señalan los autores, es que el “Frente del Este” contra el “judío-bolchevismo”, (según la definición nazi del poder soviético) no estaba integrado solo por los alemanes. Había tropas aliadas de Rumania, de Hungría, de España, de Italia, de Croacia, de legiones y divisiones de SS llegados de toda Europa, y comprendidos flamencos, wallones (Bélgica) quienes apoyaron los planes hitlerianos mediante “la bendición de ciertos clérigos”. Señalan que una tesis malsana que encubrió la colaboración con las nazis fue aquella que hablaba de la “Europa cristiana y civilizada” contra la “barbarie bolchevique”. Y eso precisamente, dicen, sirve ahora para que rehabilitar en Alemania a los herederos del nacional socialismo, y a los colaboradores nazis en Ucrania, en los países bálticos y mismo en la Flandria (flamencos de Bélgica). Así dicen los autores, “nosotros deseamos simplemente que este 8 y 9 de mayo, días de la capitulación nazi, ciertos hechos históricos no sean víctimas de la mentira por omisión. Y que la ocasión no sirva para rehabilitar la colaboración y levantar monumentos a los antiguos SS”.

Bruselas, 13 de mayo 2005

Note: (\*). Título original: Pourquoi minimiser la victoire rouge. La Libre Belgique, lunes 9 de mayo 2005. Autores; Guy Spitaels, ministro del Estado belga, Jean-Marie Chauvier, escritor y Vladimir Caller periodista.