



## united States leads in superprofit blood-sucking



### REPORT SHOWS GLOBAL WEALTH PICTURE

By MIM, July 25, 2005

On June 9th, the 2005 "World Wealth Report" on millionaires by consultancy company Capgemini came out. A trite, self-comforting belief of exploiters is that Third World capitalists are somehow the equivalent or equal of rich-country exploiters. The facts show that the world's wealth accumulates mostly and disproportionately in the united States and Western Europe. These imperialist-country people are richer than Third World people because exploitation is global, not mostly conducted within U.S. or European borders. The exploitation burden is carried mostly by Third World workers, not imperialist-country workers.

Capgemini's "World Wealth Report" covers 68 countries that own 99% of the global stock market and account for 98% of global income. Because the U.S. Government makes data readily available, too many discussions of wealth distribution focus only on the situation within U.S. borders or inside the borders of other rich countries with governments with enough resources to publish data and release data products. These discussions focus on relative differences, such as relative inequality, within imperialist countries, and disregard transfers between imperialist and Third World countries, and even ignore flows between the internal semi-colonies of the united States and the oppressor Euro-American nation.

China now employs more industrial workers just to export goods than the united States, England, France, Germany and Italy, combined, have for all goods,(1) but wealth in the world continues to accrue to the united States the most quickly. In 2004, there were 8.3 million people in the world with over \$1 million in financial assets, excluding residences. 2.7 million

Go to 3...

### See also

*China pulls plug on the dollar: p. 3*  
*Destroying exploiter myths: p. 4*

Go to 4...

## Minuteman Gilchrist joins fascist activists in Campo

*CNN praises Minutemen along with new anti-immigrant law*

By HC116, July 23, 2005

*From mimnotes.info*

After media reports of James Chase's estrangement from Arizona Minuteman Project leaders, it appears that in practice the leader of Border Watch and at least one leader of the original Minuteman Project are working together. From this writer's perspective, Minuteman Project founder Jim Gilchrist has been just as critical in public of Minuteman Project co-founder Chris Simcox as he has been of James Chase, so it wasn't too surprising to find out that Gilchrist was in Campo with James Chase and the California Minutemen, a chapter of Chase's Border Watch. Several articles on the Los Angeles and San Diego Independent Media Center Web sites record, some with photographs(1,2,3) and video, that Gilchrist was in Campo at the VFW post

on the weekend of July 16-17 and has called for "reinforcements" to participate in the border vigilantism, an ugly manifestation of fascist activism, near Tecate.(4) In one video, Gilchrist "accuses" a protester of being a "drag queen." Although Gilchrist claims in his bulletin that the protesters of the Minutemen were "death-threatening," there is a report of Minutemen threatening to shoot protesters.(5) Someone who was among the group that threatened to shoot the protesters has since gone on to say: "Had they [the protesters] started to come down the Hill, the shooting would have begun in defense of our base camp and its occupants. . . . I am proud to have been there to partake of it."(6)

Fellow Minutemen aren't the only ones uniting with James Chase, accused by

other Minutemen of behaving like Rambo, according to the Associated Press. An extremely reactionary faction of imperialists, finding Bu\$h's proposed guest-worker program to be insufficiently repressive, seek to use publicity of the California Minutemen to promote an even more reactionary migration policy.

By several accounts, there have only been a handful of people working with James Chase's organization in Campo at any given time. The question arises don't we have bigger fish to fry, and for that matter, aren't the Minutemen in general a fringe and motley group of little significance except as a lightning rod for activists, a distraction from the politicians who are elected and have a better chance of realizing their plans for the repression of migrants?

The imperialists are indeed moving forward with their own reactionary plans for the repression of migrants, but they are helped in a substantial way by border vigilantes, who directly and indirectly spread fear about the situation at the border and seek to establish a new normalcy in the public's views on migrants for the purpose of intensifying the repression of migrants. Minuteman James

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# Protest Against Needless Police Brutality at EOICI

**By comrades in Oregon**

[This article has been slightly edited by MIM to remove criticisms of persyns that we cannot confirm at this time. -ed]

Once again our theories and political practice have achieved amazing results. Throughout these past six years of captivity I've heard from almost every Anarchist publication that us revolutionary prison gangs have NO revolutionary potential. Yet we are the only ones, it seems, who through political protest and actions, not just words, are constantly fighting to change this oppression in their system we are held captive in.

Our movement exceeds far beyond the mere throwing of rocks or the extremism of burning an SUV vehicle, period. We are those who are the recipients of the oppression of their system, We are the troops on the front lines. Here, in the prison system, we risk bodily harm, and death daily by attempting to protest against the political wills of their elite. When you know that your very life may be forfeit, yet you still act, that is true ACTIVISM.

Yet, we are condemned for being gang members. With each prison gang, some who are enemies with each other, who supported and participated in unity in this uprising and protest against police brutality. And those who are not even members of gangs, we showed the establishment that WE as a whole, will not sit idly by while their representatives assault and brutalize helpless individuals.

Some say that there is no potential for activism among us gang members, yet

you ignore the wealth and knowledge that we possess, and the extensive cultural history that goes into the foundations of our beliefs. Had this been 1776, we would have been lauded as revolutionaries, as was George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Adams, Benjamin Franklin and all others who have fought for their beliefs.

Do you think that those who rise against unjust authorities deserve to be heard? I do!

On June nineteenth 2005, at EOICI, at 10:00 am, a young man, 18 years old and weighing in at 150 lbs, was brutally assaulted by officer pease, who is an x-competition power lifter weighing in at at least 360 lbs, while he was detained in handcuffs. This delegated officer assaulted this young man with no physical provocation form the prisoner. So all of Us got together in a united uprising. It started with as many as 100 prisoners, and at least 70 prisoners went through with what turned out to be the Oregon Department of Corrections biggest protest against the brutality and violence by its officers in recent history. Anyone who doubts need only look at the death of Billy Owens at the hand of the department of corrections own GANG ("the Outlaw Prison Guards"), the proof of which was already reported by the author.

Combined and in participation in the oppression against us and the violence perpetrated against a young 18 year old adolescent, that is reminiscent of recent abuses of authority as shown in footage

and photographs in the mainstream media, in Abu Ghraib, Guantanamo Bay and Camp Freedom in Afghanistan. Where is the outrage, we ask?? Where is the outpouring of support?? Where is the cry to amend and fix these inhumane actions and behaviors to ward people in our own country??? Are the aforementioned emotions and reactions reserved only for the "terrorists," who have shown a willingness to throw away innocent lives? What about those who wish for change, or have made mistakes and became victims of the system in the United States of America. Where is our supposed freedom? If you are fighting for change in a distant land, you are not to be abused or oppressed. Yet it is perfectly alright for "our own" people to be abused and oppressed, simply because we are convicts and/or gang members, or against the establishment. [MIM's OR Prison Coordinator responds: To claim that the amerikan people care more about Iraqi, Afghani and other foreign people is probably incorrect. Oppressed nations from the Middle East to Oregon are facing repression at the hand of u\$ prisons with support from amerikan chauvinism. There are political reasons why Abu Ghraib is bigger news than EOICI, and we need to use that to our advantage as best we can, while uniting the national liberation struggles and aspirations of all oppressed people under unkle \$ams boot.] It is our intention that here in our own systems, that these things happen and that as activists and Americans We need to protest against this type of behavior, and that this be clearly pointed out.

Has it been so long that when these

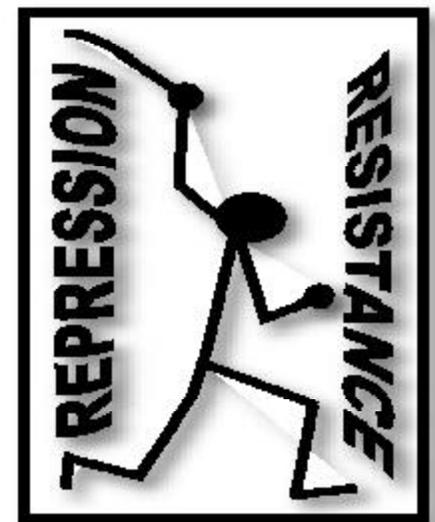
abuses happened in these distant lands, that it was shown that the majority of those who carried out the abuses, and who misused the authorities given to them, were actually prison guards and workers in the correction systems in Amerika.(1) In the fateful words of one of those accused, found guilty and sentenced for these crimes against decency... "Things like this are commonplace back home in prisons in Pennsylvania" ... How Absurd!

Send letters of protest and concern to:  
Sharon Blacketter, Superintendent  
2500 Westgate  
Pendleton, Oregon 97801-9699  
(541) 278-3602

Please cc MIM as well so that we can continue to cover this struggle

Notes:

1. See "Abuse of Iraqi prisoners: the U.\$ prison connection," <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/agitation/iraq/iraqprisonconnections.html>



*Production by MC12*

## MIM Notes

The Official Newsletter of The Maoist Internationalist Movement  
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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.

The paper is free to all prisoners, as long as they write to us every 90 days to confirm their subscriptions. There are no individual subscriptions for people outside prison.

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

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

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

# China pulls plug on the dollar

By MIM, July 21, 2005

From *mimnotes.info*

In July, China announced it would stop pegging the yuan to the u.s. dollar and fixing the exchange rate. Previous policy was to maintain an exchange rate of a certain number of Chinese yuan (8.277 for last ten years) per u.s. dollar. The other large capitalist countries allow traders to exchange currency as they see fit without such direct government attempts to influence exchange rates. China will now peg its currency to a basket of other currencies instead of just the dollar. For now, China has increased the value of its own currency to 8.11 yuan to the u.s. dollar.(1)

Figures from the first half of 2005, doubled to obtain an annual figure, show that bilateral trade with the European Union (\$100.1 billion) by China now surpasses China's trade with the united States (\$96.3 billion) and Japan (\$86.5 billion).(2) This might partially explain the reasoning underlying China's shift away from the dollar.

In a small discrepancy with China's figures, the U.S. Government claims that the China trade was \$103.9 billion in the first five months of 2005, with \$88.2 billion in imports from China. Only Canada (\$114 billion) exported more in the first five months of 2005 to the united States. Japan and Mexico have fallen behind China in exports to the united States.(3)

Forbes magazine has referred to China as the world's third-greatest trading nation. At current annual rates of growth in trade (32.7% for exports, 14 percent

for imports), China will surpass u.s. total global trade in about two years. Becoming the world's largest trading nation is well within reach for China.

MIM reported in 1997 that "China's exports alone involve more industrial workers than the total of all industrial workers in France, Germany and the 'United Kingdom' combined."(5) In 1997, China's exports to the world totaled \$182.7 billion. By 2004 they were \$593.4 billion.(6)

Since 1997 and MIM's calculation, China's exports have tripled again; yet, few of the oppressor-nation "Left" have reached or paid attention to the correct internationalist conclusions. It does not occur to the various chauvinists and opportunists that this sort of thing is possible only when most of the u.s. and European Union economy stems from parasitism. Americans are roughly aware of the truth that the average industrial wage is 61 cents an hour in China as of 2003,(7) but what that means for the flow of surplus-labor into the united States, and how Americans are exploiting the Chinese overall and to what extent, is just not a subject of attempted understanding.

Much more politically active in attempting to relate to reality are the protectionist reactionaries on the far-right conjuring stories of a Chinese economic takeover of the united States. When it comes to talking about a proletariat today, China has to come to mind first, and not just China in the context of its domestic economy. When we think of the contribution of proletarian work in the

economy of the united States and the European Union, again, China should come to mind first. That's how important China's exports are.

**Table 1.**

*China's exports to the united States in billions of dollars*

1994	41.4
1995	48.5
1996	54.4
1997	65.8
1998	75.1
1999	87.8
2000	107.6
2001	109.4
2002	133.5
2003	163.3
2004	210.5

Source: See note 6.

The intellectuals and activist leaders of the oppressor-nation so-called Left go on telling the same provincialist tales about the history of the Amerikan labor movement instead of a history of the Amerikan exploiter movement. The whole intellectual atmosphere of the Amerikan so-called Left is about as broad-minded as a genealogical search for family roots. Amerikan history books will become as relevant as the photo book of a family reunion—great for some particular people but not appropriate as a replacement for world history. If you did not realize that the Third World proletariat is doing almost all the work, ask yourself about the competence of the sources you read other

than MIM Notes.

Notes:

1. "Update 10: China Cuts Currency Link to U.S. Dollar," 21 July 2005, <http://www.forbes.com/infoimaging/feeds/ap/2005/07/21/ap2151566.html>
2. Finfacts Team, "China's exports surge by 32.7% in first half of 2005," 13 July 2005, [http://www.finfacts.com/irelandbusinessnews/publish/article\\_10002547.shtml](http://www.finfacts.com/irelandbusinessnews/publish/article_10002547.shtml)
3. "Top Trading Partners - Total Trade, Exports, Imports : January - May 2005," 13 July 2005, <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/statistics/highlights/toppartners.html>
4. "MORNING UPDATE: Mankus-Lavelle Group issues alerts for CSCO, AMTD, DNA, A, and HGSI," 12 July 2005, [http://www.forbes.com/prnewswire/feeds/prnewswire/2005/07/12/prnewswire200507120920PR\\_NEWS\\_B\\_MWT\\_CG\\_CGIU013.html](http://www.forbes.com/prnewswire/feeds/prnewswire/2005/07/12/prnewswire200507120920PR_NEWS_B_MWT_CG_CGIU013.html)
5. MC5, "A global calculation of surplus-value extracted from the Third World," in *Imperialism and Its Class Structure in 1997*, 8 August 1999, <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/mt/imp97/imp97c4.html>
6. "US-China Trade Statistics and China's World Trade Statistics," 28 February 2005, <http://www.uschina.org/statistics/tradetable.html>
7. "China Turns Into TV Powerhouse," 10 November 2003, <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2003/11/10/world/main582783.shtml>
8. "EU: Yuan be pegged to a basket of currencies," 12 June 2005, [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/english/doc/2005-06/12/content\\_450679.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/english/doc/2005-06/12/content_450679.htm)
9. "China scraps dollar peg," 22 July 2005, <http://www.hindu.com/2005/07/22/stories/2005072203871800.htm>

## united States leads in superprofit blood-sucking

From p. 1...

of these people were in North America. (These are "High Net Worth Individuals," HNWI, who are financial-asset millionaires.)

Exports in China are growing at a phenomenal rate—32% at an annual rate, as of the latest figures—but despite China's growing faster than the united States economically, wealth is accumulating even faster in the united States than in China. According to the report authors, China and India are growing faster than other countries. Yet, the booming Asia-Pacific region added 500,000 new HNWI between 2002 and 2004 for an 8.2% annual growth rate, while North America enjoyed a higher 9.7% growth rate in HNWI in the same time period.

In terms of total wealth, Europe and North America are about equivalent for HNWI. Between 2002 and 2004, the total wealth of the HNWI grew 10.2% in North America. Meanwhile, total wealth of the Asian/Pacific HNWI grew only 8.5%.

Moreover, the HNWI of Latin America gained the least at 7.9% annual growth.(2) The usual assumption of ignorant, rich-country so-called leftists is that Third World people face more intense exploitation, but that the benefits go to Third World exploiters. In actuality, exploitation is indeed more intense in the Third World, but most of the benefits go to imperialist countries.

Although Asia has over half of the world's population, and China and India alone are about 40% of the world's population, only about 28% of the world's HNWI are Asian.

Less than 24% of the wealth of the world's HNWI goes to Asian HNWI. African HNWI have \$0.7 trillion of the 30.8 trillion in global HNWI assets; Middle Eastern people, \$1 trillion; Latin Americans, \$3.7 trillion. The approximately 10% of the world that is North American or European accounts for approximately 60% of the total wealth of the HNWI and that is true even with

categorizing the world's second-largest economy—Japan, an imperialist country—as an Asian country!

The lop-sidedness in wealth flows mirrors the one in income,(3) but social-imperialists (socialists nominally) and other counterrevolutionaries calling themselves "leftist," opposing the Maoist Internationalist Movement, argue simplistically against MIM that wealth and income are separate, as if more wealth in the imperialist countries didn't mean more income to the imperialist-country populations, out of proportion to the number of exploited workers in these countries. In fact, wealth and income are connected. People who have wealth are able to extract more income. People getting under \$10,000 a year, let alone \$5,000 a year or less, are not likely to be millionaires. Such a thing happens so infrequently, it is not worth talking about. The global pattern of wealth ownership and income distribution is the same: the exploiters of the united States, Kanada,

Western Europe and Japan get the lion's share despite the bulk of exploitation happening elsewhere.

Notes:

1. MIM, "Chinese currency policy changes: China pulls plug on dollar," 21 July 2005, <http://www.mimnotes.info/news/20050721chinesecurrency/>
2. "World Wealth Report: 2005," [http://www.us.capgemini.com/DownloadLibrary/files/Capgemini\\_FSI\\_WWR05.pdf](http://www.us.capgemini.com/DownloadLibrary/files/Capgemini_FSI_WWR05.pdf) "Download Library," <http://www.us.capgemini.com/DownloadLibrary/requestfile.asp?ID=468>
3. "World Wealth Report : 2004," <http://www.ml.com/media/18252.pdf>
3. See MIM's explanation on income: HC123, "Imperialist population," 13 January 2005, <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/faq/imperialistpopulation.html>

# Destroying white exploiter myths

*Poor countries are not as well off as rich ones because of lower prices*

By a correspondent, July 9, 2005

*From mimnotes.info*

International price data released in 2005 continue to show that there is not as much difference in prices between the rich countries and poor countries as stereotype might suggest. Fitting the stereotype, Tokyo (134.7) was the world's most expensive city out of 144 cities surveyed by interests representing multinational corporations placing employees globally. The standard of reference is New York City set to 100.(1)

Nonetheless, Ottawa, Kanada and Winston-Salem, North Carolina were at the lower end of expenses, coming in at 66.4 and 66.6 respectively. Third World cities that are actually more expensive to live in range from Sao Paulo, Brazil (66.6) to Hong Kong (109.5). Also more expensive are Beijing (95.6), Douala, Cameroon (93.8), Istanbul, Turkey (93.8), Abidjan, Ivory Coast (93.0) and Hanoi, Vietnam (84.9). Using the most conservative definition of "Third World" there are at least 30 Third World cities more expensive to live in than Ottawa, Kanada!

In places that do the lion's share of the world's manufacturing while receiving a fraction of rich country wages, the cost of living is about the same as San Francisco (84.9) or higher-Seoul, Korea

(115.4), Beijing (95.6), Hong Kong (109.5), Singapore (88.0), Shenzhen (81.3) and Guangzhou, China (80.6).

The survey design undercuts common prejudice by asking for the purchase of similar items for a similar lifestyle in all countries. Such an approach is necessary to prove that cost of living is not lower simply because there are no luxury goods in a lifestyle.

In the worst-case countries, there is a gap closer to stereotype. In the cheapest city, Asuncion in Paraguay makes New York City look two and a half times more expensive. However, in Paraguay, the minimum wage was under \$5 a day, compared with New York City where it was over \$5 an hour in 2001.(2) Thus New York was two and a half times more expensive but minimum wage was more than 8 times higher.

For this contrast, Manila, Philippines (49.8) provided the second-worst contrast. Again New York looks two times more expensive from Manila based on the basket of goods used for this data source. (Also remember to compare Manila with Ottawa and Winston-Salem!) In the Philippines the minimum wage ranges from 280 pesos (under \$5 a day) to 140 pesos (just over \$2 a day). So in Manila, the New York expenses look like

double but the minimum wages are again more than 8-fold higher in New York too. This is just to take the two cases most similar to the stereotype we hear in the exploiter countries.

The belief that wages paid per output should be 10, 20 or 50 times higher in rich countries because of prices is an excuse by exploiters seeking to comfort themselves. Such assertions have no basis in reality.

[mimnotesinfo1@mimnotes.info adds: There are other easily available sources of world-wide cost-of-living data, such as ERI Economic Research Institute's Relocation Assessor® & Cost-of-Living Survey (<http://www.eri.com/index.cfm?FuseAction=ERIRA.Main&trkid=76-22>), which uses data as current as April 2005; although, the demonstration version of this database software is limited to places beginning with the letter "A" or "B." You can use this tool to research cost-of-living differences based on a variety of parameters, such as annual earnings and number of automobiles owned. According to this tool, to have the same standard of living in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bolivia, and other Third World countries, actually requires a higher income level than in the united States for several income levels.

The real slam dunk in all of this is that it actually does not matter precisely how much higher the cost of living is in some Third World places. Even if Third World prices were substantially lower than imperialist-country prices, the vast majority of Euro-Americans would still be exploiters due to other adjustments that would have to be made in calculations as a consequence of the price differences.

Those who use cost of living to wrongly justify exploitive income levels in imperialist countries should try out ERI's Relocation Assessor demo as an exercise in actually doing a tiny bit of investigation to back up their erroneous claims, which are so harmful to the world's exploited and oppressed people.]

Notes:

1. "Mercer Human Resource Cost of Living Survey : Worldwide 2005 Cost of Living Survey City Rankings," <http://www.finfacts.com/costofliving3.htm>
2. "Wage," [http://www.paraguayglobal.com/eng/personal2\\_eng.php](http://www.paraguayglobal.com/eng/personal2_eng.php)
3. "Manpower Resources," [http://www.coa.gov.ph/tsolmp/TSOIntra/Manpower\(labor\).htm](http://www.coa.gov.ph/tsolmp/TSOIntra/Manpower(labor).htm)
4. "2005 Global Cost of Living Reports," <http://www.mercerhr.com/summary.jhtml?idContent=1124760>

# Gilchrist joins fascist activists in Campo

*From p. 1...*

Chase might claim, as he has done so before, that he's always wanted to operate covertly and now enjoys the media attention for recruiting and security purposes only, but Lou Dobbs on CNN's "Lous Dobbs Tonight" last Monday evidently felt that the California Minutemen should serve a bigger purpose.

Seconds after lauding as "a bold new effort" the REAL GUEST Act of 2005, introduced on Monday by fascist Congressional Immigration Reform Caucus Chairman Tom Tancredo and Senator James Inhofe (R-OK), Lou Dobbs said the border vigilantes in Campo are "protect[ing] Americans from the dangers of our broken borders, millions of illegal aliens, possible terrorists and increasingly dangerous drug and human smuggling gangs."(8,9,10) On July 15, Tancredo threatened on radio to "take out" Mecca with bombs if "we determine that it [nuclear terrorist attacks on several u.s. cities] is the result of extremist, fundamentalist Muslims" (Jennifer Talhelm, "Criticisms of congressman's comments keep coming," Associated Press State & Local Wire, 21 July 2005).

On "Lou Dobbs Tonight," a news anchor described protesters as

"aggressive . . . anarchists, communists and advocates of returning the southwest to Mexico" and "the mob."(8) James Chase said: "We're not going to fire first on anyone. But we do reserve the right to stay alive. And that's not all those guns are there for."(8) Lou Dobbs said a Border Patrol agent "sounded absolutely helpless."

After repeatedly describing protesters as "communists," pro-imperialist, labor aristocracy mouthpiece "Lou Dobbs Tonight" went on to talk about "the China trade problem" with "communist China," and how politicians in Congress are allegedly using China to distract from CAFTA's impact on Amerikan jobs.

News networks have for several months been broadcasting interviews and news of border vigilantes throughout the country, but "Lou Dobbs Tonight" within the space of a few minutes achieved the feat of using border vigilantes as a backdrop for supporting the greatly intensified repression of migrants as well for reactionary chauvinist attacks on Chinese workers, rather than the imperialists and their lackeys. Yet, most of the demonstrators in Campo who were supporters of "socialist" organizations (particularly one opportunist organization unable to separate party-building activity from participation in a mass movement)

were not communists or other revolutionaries. Regardless, the reactionary media has conjured up images of a communist takeover of Amerika on different fronts and fueled hostility toward those who righteously oppose the fascist and racist Minutemen.

Protests of the Minutemen continue in Campo despite the negative media portrayals.(13) Chris Simcox's Minuteman Civil Defense Corps, a different border vigilante organization, plans to begin operating in California in October. And Andy Ramirez's Friends of the Border Patrol is set to begin "watching the border" and helping the abusive and murderous Border Patrol on September 16—a slap in the face to Mexicans and indigenous people who desire to be liberated from u.s. imperialism, which the border vigilantes reinforce through their fascist activism. Save Our State plans to protest outside the Laguna Beach Day Laborer Center (1765 Laguna Canyon Rd.) on Saturday, July 30th, between 11 AM and 2 PM. SOS calls their reactionary demonstration their "official introduction to Orange County" even though they protested there last Saturday. An open white supremacist allegedly tried to physically attack a counter-demonstrator. Based on photographs and statements by Save Our State supporters,

it appears that some activists at the Save Our State event were also in Campo last weekend.

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*Next page...*

# Tancredo shoots to polarize Amerikkans on 'immigration'

By HC116, July 24, 2005

From *mimnotes.info*

Republikan Colorado Congresspersyn Tom Tancredo has for several months hinted at running for President in 2008. Many anti-migrant activists have certainly supported the idea of Tom Tancredo's running for President, but Tancredo himself has seriously considered running.

As early as February 4, 2005, based on a Denver Post report, Tom Tancredo was in New Hampshire "railing against illegal immigration to 50 or so Republican activists . . . Just about anyone in New Hampshire will tell you, members of Congress come to snowy New Hampshire in February for one reason—to run for president." (1) The Denver Post quoted Tancredo as saying that a bid for the Presidency is "a possibility." (1) However, Tancredo said his running for President would be a last resort.

In New Hampshire, Tancredo wanted to encourage voters to use immigration as a "litmus test" for choosing candidates in the New Hampshire presidential primary. Tancredo said he was searching for candidates who would be tougher on undocumented migration; although, Tancredo and his Team America Political Action Committee openly oppose both documented and undocumented migration. The Denver Post also reported that "much of the political team of Pat Buchanan," including Angela "Bay" Buchanan, was helping Tancredo. Pat Buchanan has openly upheld the 1950s INS-named Operation Wetback, which also affected persyns who were u.s. citizens and other legal residents, as a model for deporting undocumented migrants. During the fascist and racist Operation Wetback, supported by Euro-Amerikan workers who claimed Mexicans were stealing Amerikan jobs, hundreds of thousands of Mexicans and Latinos in the united States were rounded up and deported in a vicious attack on Mexican workers and Latino communities.

Back in April 2001, the Denver Westword quoted bow tie-wearing Tucker

Carlson as saying on CNN's "The Spin Room": "There's a man [Tom Tancredo] who ought to be running for president." (2) Tancredo had just criticized Congress' giving Permanent Normal Trade Relations status to China.

Now, the Associated Press is reporting that "Tancredo is pressing on and even hinting at a long-shot presidential bid in 2008," but the AP also cites "experts" who say Tancredo wouldn't win that election, that he just has a chance at forcing other Republikans to move closer to his position. (3)

Mimnotes.info reports have previously pointed out that the Minutemen and their supporters in the highest levels of government, such as Tom Tancredo, Chairman of the increasingly powerful Congressional Immigration Reform Caucus, aren't necessarily shooting to achieve their most reactionary and fascist goals in the short term. They mainly seek to polarize the population to whip up support for intensifying the repression of migrants, which may take the form of creating an environment in which it is impossible to survive without proper documents, as well as creating the conditions for the extremely violent and terroristic repression of migrant workers and other oppressed-nation people, including those in the internal semi-colonies of the united States. It is not enough to wait until politicians and the media are openly calling for the immediate mass deportation of all undocumented migrants; although, some have done so. We must resist this reactionary movement now and stop it before it develops further and unleashes the groundswell of white nationalism that will threaten the lives of many more people in Latino and Asian-descended communities.

Thus, we should pay attention to individuals like Tom Tancredo, not to help Republikan strategists allied with the Bu\$h clique, but to understand the trajectory of reactionary politics in the united States, a trajectory that threatens fascist repression against migrant workers and other oppressed people. The Euro-Amerikan

nation will never peacefully give up occupying and oppressing Aztlán, but we can and should make it as difficult as possible for the imperialists, and the parasitic Amerikan so-called workers who make up a labor aristocracy, to wield fascist state repression—not just border vigilantism—against migrants.

The target of this movement to intensify the repression of migrants is not limited to migrant workers. This is about all migrants and other oppressed-nation people. We are facing a resurgent white nationalism hostile to all oppressed-nation people. The reactionaries, envisioning a white nation with "traditional" families and sexuality, also attack gay and lesbian people, migrants and non-migrants. It is no accident that Lou Dobbs last Monday attacked feminist single lesbian mothers, branding them a violent "radical group," in the same breath he attacked so-called communists and "illegal aliens." Original Minuteman Jim Gilchrist last weekend lashed out at a protester in Campo, California, calling the protester a "drag queen."

So, while zany Tom Tancredo threatens to "take out" Mecca in Saudi Arabia to "deter" fundamentalist terrorists, we should remember that what he stands for is a serious threat to millions of oppressed people right here in the belly of the beast. This is bigger than Tancredo, and for that matter, it is not just Bu\$h who is the enemy of the oppressed. Far from it, it is painfully obvious that narrow anti-Bu\$h sentiment plays into the hands of fascists like Tancredo, who has strongly criticized Bu\$h. We must organize to end this imperialist system and beat back the deeply reactionary, fascist offensive against migrant proletarians, however it manifests itself.

Tom Tancredo and others are portraying Bu\$h as pro-immigration and ineffective at securing the border. This whole anti- and pro-immigration debate plays into the hands of various chauvinists who approach migrants from the vantage point of different groups of parasitic Amerikkans. People should oppose the repression of migrants regardless of any

real or perceived benefits or costs to Amerikkans. They should be citizens of the world and genuine internationalists. That includes supporting oppressed peoples' just struggles against imperialism, and their other efforts to survive, not reinforcing the imperialist state machine's ability to repress through imperialist borders.

President Bu\$h is planning to put immigration on the front burner after the Supreme Court vacancy is filled. (4) Bu\$h will try to convince Latinos to vote, instead of organizing to end the imperialist system, and to support a migration policy that falls far short of ending the violent repression of migrants. In the process, Bu\$h will contribute to a polarization, a polarization that fans the flames of reaction against migrant workers, that cannot end imperialist borders and can in the long run only serve to unleash fascist repression against migrants, destroy Latino communities, and exacerbate conflicts between the oppressed internal semi-colonies of the united States. We must see through the imperialists' smokescreen, which pressures the public to make a choice between imperialists within the imperialist system, and resolutely oppose the white nationalism and chauvinism underlying the public's criteria for fixing the so-called immigration problem (read: "migrant problem").

Tom Tancredo's recently unveiled REAL GUEST Act of 2005 may become an important instrument in the reactionaries' efforts to polarize Amerikkans on migrants. (5)(6) While it may not pass in its present incarnation, other "immigration reform" proponents (and supporters of the status quo, the already harsh and deadly repression of migrants) will be pressured to address this legislation and respond to it. Tancredo wants to imprison, not just detain and deport, "illegal" border-crossers simply for crossing the border, putting even more migrants in jail. It also appears to this writer that the REAL GUEST Act of 2005 would reduce legal immigration and admission for several different categories

Go to p. 6...

From p. 4...

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Among many other things, this act

would modify the Immigration and Nationality Act so that undocumented persyns "shall be guilty of a felony and shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned not less than 1 year, or both. The assets of any alien present in the United States in violation of this Act shall be subject to forfeiture under title 18, United States Code."

"Illegal" border-crossers would be fined at least \$50, imprisoned at least a year, or both.

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# Human Rights Abuses in the Philippines: Shades of El Salvador and Vietnam

By Ecumenical Institute for Labor Education and Research (EILER)

Posted by Bulatlat July 2005 (<http://www.bulatlat.com/news/5-24/5-24-readereiler.htm>)

Bulatlat 5, no. 24 (July 24-30, 2005)

From *mimnotes.info*

Every Philippine government has resorted to employing death squads every time the people's movement makes great strides. In the 1950s, while peasant uprisings were on the upswing, there were the "skull squadrons" of Colonel Valeriano that terrorized the people of Central Luzon. Then there were the "Monkees," "Military Lost Command," the hit squads of the Military Intelligence Group (MIG), National Intelligence and Security Agency (NISA) and others during the Marcos dictatorship. Human rights groups estimate that the Marcos dictatorship was accountable for 1,166 killings from 1972 to 1983 alone.[i] This is surely apart from those summarily

executed and massacred by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) during military operations and the numerous cases of desaparecidos (disappeared).

During the Aquino administration (1986-1992), death squads like the paramilitary Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) and vigilante groups like the Alsa Masa (Uprising of the Masses) and Nakasaka (United People for Peace) were organized. The Aquino administration's endorsement of their activities reflects its adherence to a "total war policy" against the progressive movement.

The U.S. is behind the use of death squads in the Philippines as a counterinsurgency measure. Colonel Edward Lansdale, an operative of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), masterminded the 1950s counterinsurgency program of the Philippine government. Lansdale brought his expertise gained from his experience in the Philippines to Indo-China to help

implement the brutal counterinsurgency program called Operation Phoenix in Vietnam.

The role of the U.S. in the vicious counterinsurgency program Oplan Lambat-Bitag (Operation-Plan Net Trap) of the Aquino administration is no secret either. The features of the program show that the U.S. tried to replicate its "EL Salvador Solution" to defeat the progressive movement after the ouster of the late President Ferdinand Marcos. This includes installing Corazon Aquino as a pliant instrument to shield the state's fascism like it did in installing the pseudo-democrat Jose Napoleon Duarte as President of El Salvador to camouflage the atrocious activities of the fascist d'Abuisson death squad gangs that terrorized the people of El Salvador in the 1980s.[ii]

A U.S. newspaper reported that the U.S. government's involvement in Oplan Lambat Bitag included psychological warfare (psywar) operations and the formation of vigilante groups and other death squads. It pointed to the United States Information Agency's (USIA) activities in psywar operations like distributing anti-communist films and written materials.[iii] However, perhaps the most direct and concrete evidence linking the U.S. to the death squads was U.S. President Ronald Reagan's March 1986 approval of increased CIA involvement in Philippine counterinsurgency operations. Following the visit of Vietnam War veteran Major General John Singlaub, the Aquino administration appointed Jaime Ferrer as

Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government. Secretary Ferrer justified and encouraged the formation and activities of the death squads and he became their virtual godfather. Aquino also appointed General Rafael Ilete as Secretary of National Defense to oversee the implementation of "total war."

Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark investigated the activities of the death squads in 1987 and wrote in June that year that "the victims of vigilante violence were overwhelmingly poor farmers, slum dwellers and others who are pushing for significant land reform, wage increase and protection of workers rights, as well as those who oppose U.S. military bases in the Philippines." [iv]

The persistent campaigns of the progressive organizations and civil libertarians to expose the fascism of the Aquino regime, the people's militant assertion of their democratic rights and the active support of the friends of peoples oppressed by imperialism abroad like Ramsey Clark, exposed the brutality of "total war." This forced the U.S. and the local ruling elite to retreat temporarily and reduce the activities of the death squads.

However, beginning from the last quarter of 2004, attacks against members of cause-oriented groups intensified anew under the present Arroyo administration. This coincided with the achievement of extraordinary growth in strength made by the revolutionary movement after years of gradual advance. Kidnapping and murder of known activists, workers,

*Go to next page...*

## Tancredo shoots to polarize

From p. 5...

of people. The Act would add more Border Patrol agents, allow the Army and the Air Force to be law enforcers "at or near a border," and require the Department of Homeland Security to certify that all non-citizens have biometric documents (uniquely identifying individuals through biometric data such as fingerprints), readable at every port of entry.

Resonating with anti-migrant activists' most racist sentiments, the REAL GUEST Act, short for "Rewarding Employers that Abide by the Law and Guaranteeing Uniform Enforcement to Stop Terrorism Act," portrays migrant workers as terrorists. Others, such as Americans for Legal Immigration PAC (<http://www.alipac.us/>) and many other organizations, portray migrant workers as drunk-drivers and murderers, and we can now add baby-killers since ALI-PAC has accused "illegal alien" Raul Peña, not the white-controlled pigs, of killing Susie Peña in Los Angeles.

July 2005, <http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/la-na-immig24jul24,1,6925215.story?coll=la-health-nutrition-news&track=mostemailedlink>

"There are signs, however, that the administration effort is running into problems even as it begins: Several key business groups are hesitant to join the new coalition [of Bush's, for migration policy], questioning whether the administration can separate itself from the anti-immigration wing of the GOP that is promoting restrictive policies. And the party's leading voices favoring stricter limits on immigration, such as Rep. Tom Tancredo (R-Colo.), remain undaunted—pledging to intensify their efforts."

5. "Rewarding Employers that Abide by the Law and Guaranteeing Uniform Enforcement to Stop Terrorism (REAL GUEST) Act of 2005,"

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On the American Immigration Lawyers Association's Web site, this is Tancredo's section-by-section summary of the REAL GUEST Act of 2005.

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8. Stephen Dinan, "Tancredo pushes GOP to tackle immigration," Washington Times, 14 July 2005, A01.

9. "World Muslims shocked at Congressman's remarks," China Daily, 22 July 2005, 8, [http://www2.chinadaily.com.cn/english/doc/2005-07/22/content\\_462276.htm](http://www2.chinadaily.com.cn/english/doc/2005-07/22/content_462276.htm)

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3. Steven K. Paulson, "Anti-immigration lightning rod Tom Tancredo talking about presidential run," Associated Press State & Local Wire, BC cycle, 22 July 2005.

4. Peter Wallsten and Nicole Gaouette, "Immigration Rising on Bush's To-Do List," 24

## 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.

# *Sith fails to go beyond shallow, Liberalism, plays into fascists' hands*

By HC116, May 24, 2005

*From mimnotes.info*

## ***Star Wars: Episode III -- Revenge of the Sith Directed by George Lucas, 2005***

[This review was approved by MIM Congress 2005. -ed.]

At the world premiere of "Sith," Director George Lucas drew a comparison between the Iraq War and the Viet Nam War after saying one of the themes of "Sith" is how a "democracy" turns into a "dictatorship."<sup>(1)</sup> However, distinguishing between the movie's impact and the movie makers' intentions, David M. Halbfinger of the New York Times views the "partisan debate" resulting from "Sith" even before its release as "more a measure of the nation's apparently permanent political warfare than of a filmmaker's intent."<sup>(2)</sup> Moveon.org was

preparing to distribute material comparing Senator Bill Frist to the "Star Wars" character Chancellor Palpatine / Darth Sidious, who was a senator before he became Chancellor. It is not clear to this writer how much President Bush or Frist could have influenced the making of "Sith." Lucas "insists that the film's dialogue was written long before the war on terror or conflict in Iraq took centre stage in US politics," which could mean as early as the '90s.<sup>(3)</sup> "When I wrote this, Iraq didn't exist. We were just funding Saddam Hussein and giving him weapons of mass destruction."<sup>(4)</sup> However, filming started in summer 2003 after the media began covering Bill Frist's efforts to limit filibusters. For example, the Washington Post, on May 9, 2003, reported on a plan by which "a nomination could be forced to a vote within about two weeks. It is less drastic than several alternatives that are being threatened by Republicans, including lawsuits and tricky parliamentary maneuvers—known as the

'nuclear option'—that some senators have warned would likely prompt all-out war in the Senate." Producer Rick McCallum reportedly said he was going to get the "preliminary first draft of the script" in late April 2003 ("Episode III - Countdown to Summer," 17 April 2003, <http://www.starwars.com/site/homingbeacon/83.html>). In the "Star Wars" series, the Galactic Senate votes Palpatine into power.

The debate over what the dialogue of "Sith" is aimed at could shed some light on the movie's impact. However, what's important is the movie's actual objective impact, not the movie's intended subtext, however obvious it is. On the other hand, if "Sith" polarizes Democrats and Republicans, then that is a reality, and it has to be taken into consideration. So, this writer must ask why it is that Bush and Frist are compared to Chancellor Palpatine, but not Bill Clinton, who led an imperialist country that attacked Iraq and Yugoslavia after engaging in maneuvers

leading up to these attacks. Many moviegoers will perceive the movie as anti-Bush. Any movie that exacerbates division among the exploiter enemy deserves a modicum of praise. But what next is an important question. Anger against an individual imperialist can lead in vastly different directions depending on the context. "Sith" has encouraged people to draw comparisons between the character Palpatine, and Bush and Frist. That's a fact that is independent of any analysis.

It is not enough for a movie or anything else to be just against Bush or against certain Republicans. There is no such thing as pure anti-Bush sentiment anyway. Revolutionaries oppose Bush, but many fascists and other pro-imperialists oppose Bush, too. In the United States, some anti-Bush sentiment coincides with fascist politics. For example, many people supporting the intensified repression of migrants view Bush as a puppet of Vicente

*Go to next page...*

## ***PHILIPPINES***

*From p. 6...*

peasants, youth and students, human rights lawyers, members of progressive party-list organizations like Bayan Muna (People First), AnakPawis (Toiling Masses) and Gabriela, journalists and even religious people, occurred almost daily. The brutality of this resurrected terrorism is unparalleled in the country's history.

Contrary to what the Arroyo regime claims, the pattern of these killings and kidnappings shows that these are related incidents undertaken by "vigilante groups." The facts show that this is a centralized campaign funded and organized at highest levels of the state's leadership. The attacks are nationwide in scope and there is tight coordination and clear focus. Arroyo appointed human rights violators of the AFP to areas where the brutal killings are concentrated. The killings immediately intensified right after the said appointments and she remained silent on such brutalities even amidst international condemnation.

Indicators also show that selected members of the AFP constitute the personnel of these death squads. First, the worst killings and kidnappings are in places pointed out by the AFP's national leadership as priority areas for counterinsurgency. Second, the AFP is pouring its personnel and logistics in these areas. Third, it is also in these areas where the AFP is concentrating its campaigns

and operations like in Mindoro and Southern Tagalog from 2001 to 2004, and in Central Luzon starting from the last quarter of 2004. Fourth, intensified intelligence operations, intimidation and anti-communist black propaganda complemented the killings.

The renewed attacks came after the newly-established spy agency Counter Terrorism Center – led by former U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines John Negroponte – declared that the Philippines is one of the priority targets of the center's activities. It also followed U.S. President George Bush's declaration of the national democratic movement including the legal democratic organizations with national democratic principles and aspirations as terrorist organizations; and that these are targets of the U.S.' "global war against terrorism."

The overall pattern of this renewed fascist campaign is similar to Operation Phoenix authored and implemented by the CIA to defeat the national democratic forces during the last years of the Vietnam War.

The aims are similar – to dismantle systematically the "political infrastructure" of the national democratic movement by liquidating and kidnapping those perceived to be sympathizers, supporters, unarmed leaders and members of the movement. During its height, Operation Phoenix targeted the liquidation of 1,800 activists per month.<sup>[v]</sup> William E. Colby<sup>[vi]</sup> on 19 July 1971, before a Senate Subcommittee testified that the CIA's Operation Phoenix resulted in the killing of 21,587 Vietnamese citizens

between January 1968 and May 1971.<sup>[vii]</sup>

Likewise, the structure, pre-determined areas of operations and the secret nature of the hit squads are similar to those of the regional, provincial and district Intelligence Operations Coordinating Centers (IOCCs) secretly organized by the CIA within the ranks of the regional, provincial and district level units of the Army of South Vietnam (ARVN) tasked to execute the liquidations and kidnappings.

Another similarity is intensified intelligence operations; the CIA put premium on intelligence operations as indispensable elements of the campaign. The agency established the Combined Intelligence Center to construct a "political order of battle"<sup>[viii]</sup> and also established clearing houses within the IOCCs to review, collate and disseminate intelligence information to the hit squads. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's forcing Philippine Congress to pass a law requiring a national ID system is without doubt aimed at intelligence gathering targeting those they suspect to be part of the progressive movement.

The regime hopes that this renewed fascism can silence the increasing people's resistance. The U.S., on the other hand, hopes that this can derail the advance of the national democratic movement. Then again, the people are already fed up with Arroyo's brutal rule, her subservience to U.S. dictates, the involvement of her family with widespread corruption and the exposure of her theft of the 2004 elections. The escalation of daily rallies against her regime signifies that the people are ready

to oust her from power. The termination of U.S. control of the Philippines is sure to follow in the end.

Endnotes:

i] Washington Post, 12 April 1984.

ii] Installing pseudo-democrats, christened as "third force," became the trend in U.S. foreign policy following the rapid spread of anti-imperialist movements throughout the world, especially in countries where the U.S. established dictatorships.

[iii] National Reporter, Fall 1987, pp. 24-31

iv] The Nation, 19 September 1987, pp. 259-60

[v] Ralph McGehee, "CIABASE Files on Death Squads"

vi] William Colby was the CIA's station chief in Saigon and director of the agency's East Asia Affairs during the Vietnam War. He was later on promoted to become the director of the agency.

vii] Ibid.

viii] Pertains to their estimate on the movement's organizational structure, including the disposition, number and corresponding ranks of the movement's personnel.

Posted by Bulatlat

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# Sith fails to go beyond Liberalism...

Fox despite Bu\$h's being an imperialist and supporting reactionary migration policies himself. Others view Bu\$h as a puppet of Jews. The anti-Bu\$h sentiment of these fascists is shallow—they support imperialism to the hilt and disagree with Bu\$h either on tactical grounds only or out of some reactionary fear of “Jewish supremacy.” Such shallowness resonates with the quality of the potshots “Sith” takes against Bu\$h regardless of the movie makers' intentions. Shallow anti-Bu\$h sentiment is not limited to fascists, but is found in the chauvinist, pro-imperialist Democrats and so-called leftists. It is not just fascists who say that the united States is oppressed by Third World countries, such as Mexico, and by imperialist countries smaller than the united States.

“Sith” mocks certain language strongly associated with the Republikans: the language of absolutes, of “us” versus the “enemy,” and of “either with us or against us.” That is the obvious political veneer of “Sith.” The movie's inclusion of lines such as “if you're not with me, you're my enemy” will infuriate Republikans, but it also serves to obscure the movie's support for imperialism. As obvious as they may be, the references to Republikans are still cryptic in the science-fiction movie. Moviegoers will feel that they've “discovered” the movie's anti-Republikan content. The effect is to camouflage the pro-imperialist content of the movie. For all the impact “Sith” has on anti-Bu\$h sentiment—and there is no denying the real impact the movie has in fact had on generating dichotomous discussion between “conservatives” and “liberals” of the movie's politics—“Sith” has another, important impact underneath the surface.

There are different explanations for the rise of Adolf Hitler. Moviegoers may draw a comparison between Chancellor Palpatine, who is elected as Chancellor in “Star Wars” and later given even more abilities by the Senate, and Hitler. But the imperialists' self-serving explanations for the rise of Hitler have caused so much confusion about the nature of fascism that it is possible for “Sith” to lend itself to other interpretations. For example, a writer named “taran2,” posting in the Stormfront White Nationalist Community message board on the Internet, says that Palpatine is “played by a Scotsman who could perhaps pass as a Jew.”(5) “Palpatine exploits the multiculturalism of the Senate and the Jedi Knights on his way to destroying them. As a conniving, ruthless, self-serving, megalomaniacal Jew-like character, Palpatine is in every way a master of the Dark Side. . . . Eventually, the multicultural Jedi council proves weak.”(5) “Sith” opposes absolutes, but taran2 illustrates that fascists from open white supremacists to Congresspersyn Tom Tancredo consider “multiculturalism” and “political correctness” to be absolutes.

The movie's so-called opposition to absolutes becomes reactionary in another way. This isn't limited to “Sith.” Nothing could be more “absolute” than the Jedis' religious opposition to the dark side, yet later episodes also seem to be saying “don't get angry at oppression, Luke, or you'll turn into another Vader.” “Sith”'s criticism of Anakin's hotheadedness chastises the masses for being angry at their oppressors. Only those who aren't angry are left to fight the oppressors. The movie focuses on emotions, rather than differences in ideological and political line.

There are materialist absolutes, which are necessary, and then there are idealist absolutes. At any given point in revolutionary struggle, a persyn is in fact either part of the solution or part of the problem; although, dealing with a persyn who is part of the problem is not so simple as just pointing out that they are part of the problem. In contrast, the Jedis dogmatically oppose the “Dark Side,” which the “Star Wars” movies vaguely associate with certain emotions and the use of electricity bolts. It is left to moviegoers' imagination what these manifestations of the Dark Side are supposed to represent in the real world. One imagines that violence, by anyone who isn't following the orders of a council sitting in a chamber at the top of a tower in a metropolis, is an expression of the Dark Side.

This writer does not seek to discover the one enduring subtext of “Sith.” That is the job of idealist bourgeois art critics. What is important is the movie's objective impact. If the movie comes off as being anti-Semitic and fascist to fascists themselves, then that has to be dealt with along with the movie's polarizing Democrats and Republikans, and we should search for evidence that “Sith” opposes anti-Semitism to see whether the supposed anti-Semitism in “Sith” is a consequence of fascists' wishful thinking. “Unfortunately,” “Sith” does in fact lend itself to fascist politics. This comes out in the way “Sith” and its prequels show the rise of Palpatine.

“Sith” portrays the rise to power of a single, conspiring individual who takes advantage of a war with separatists to put himself in power. Palpatine even supports the separatists as a maneuver to put himself in power, but pretends to oppose the separatists. Palpatine isn't the only one who opposes the separatists. Bail Organa himself is anti-separatist. There is a consensus that the separatists are bad, like there is consensus in the real world that resistance fighters are bad. Palpatine manipulates anti-separatist sentiments to his own ends. The idea is that Loyalists are good, and the separatists are evil; the Loyalists are just fooled by Palpatine, who is a traitor.

The parallel idea in the real world is that Bu\$h took advantage of an otherwise just “War Against Terror,” or that some faction of the u.\$ government even



Lucas: Pushing Liberalism?

helped to carry out the September 11, 2001, attack on the World Trade Center. Some fascists say it was I\$rael that either provoked the World Trade Center attack or itself attacked the WTC. In effect playing off of fascist ideas, Michael Moore's “Fahrenheit 9/11” (2004) suggests that Bu\$h was a puppet of Saudi Arabia, rather than I\$rael, and portrays the united States as oppressed by a Third World country. The New York Times reported: “Alluding to Michael Moore's remarks about ‘Fahrenheit 9/11’ at Cannes a year earlier, Mr. Lucas joked, ‘Maybe the film will waken people to the situation.’”(2)

George Lucas' seemingly offhand remark does not prove how moviegoers will interpret “Sith,” but it does point to a problem with the movie. In general, “Sith” has no fundamental disagreement with imperialism. Democrats would call “Sith” “patriotic,” while some Republikans have called “Sith” unpatriotic and agitated for boycotting the movie. In truth, “Sith” does portray the rise to power of what is at most a tiny clique surrounding a single individual acting against the interests of the vast majority of the population. In the context of the united States, in which the majority of Amerikans are not only privileged but exploiters benefiting from imperialism—a fact that both fascists and opportunists deny—this story is a distortion of reality with the exception that Bu\$h's actions may lead to nuclear devastation of the planet including the united States. But nuclear devastation of the world is a threat posed by the imperialists in general.

An interplanetary government, the Galactic Republic is more like a world government than a single country. Yet, Palpatine does not even seem to have any nationality. “Sith” portrays Palpatine as an enemy standing above all nations. He was once Senator of Naboo, but now he is Chancellor, and Padmé is Senator of Naboo. “Sith” does not stop to consider how the monarchal Naboo could have produced a leader such as Palpatine. In the “Star Wars” series, Palpatine's /Darth Sidious' origin is a mystery even within the context of the explanation of the rise and fall of the Sith Order.

MC5 pointed out in her/his review of

“Star Wars: Episode II: Attack of the Clones” (2002) that “the characters' endorsement of democracy is rather shallow like the current understanding of democracy in the united States”.(6) That is still true with “Episode III,” which equates democracy with “pluralism,” but on an interplanetary scale. Obi-Wan Kenobi says the Jedi are defenders of “democracy.” But that's like saying the imperialist-army u.\$ Marines are defenders of democracy in the world. And importantly, the Galactic Senate has at least some Senators from planets with monarchies. So, the Galactic Senate is internally democratic, but the Galactic Republic isn't democratic necessarily in its individual member planets. It is supposed to be something terrifying when Palpatine declares the Galactic Empire, but meanwhile there are Kings and Queens on member planets of the Galactic Republic, and the movie lets that slide.

In addition, “Sith” portrays the resistance to Palpatine as growing mainly out of the Republic itself. The man who adopts Leia, the twin sister of Anakin's son Luke, is Bail Organa. Organa is the Viceroy of Alderaan. He is a rallying point for opposition to Palpatine even though Organa does not does not aggressively try to stop Palpatine's rise to power. Revolutionaries do not foreclose temporarily uniting with small oppressed-nation monarchists against imperialist powers, but “Sith” chooses to portray monarchists, not even bourgeois democrats, as leading the resistance. “Sith” illustrates the decadence of imperialism. In the real world, imperialist bourgeoisies do not play a progressive role in the class struggle and can prefer monarchy over a bourgeois democracy that is not subordinate to the imperialists. u.\$ imperialism supports monarchists, such as in Nepal, against the people, and that is going to show up in the movie culture at some point. “Star Wars” should be understood in this context otherwise the implication is that decadent imperialism's support for monarchy never shows up in the movie culture. Any movie that glorifies monarchists fighting rebels has problems with it even if the rebels seem to be reactionary, like the capitalist

# ...plays into fascists' hands

separatists in "Star Wars." Most moviegoers cannot tell the difference between monarchists who side with imperialists and monarchists who side against imperialists. Movie glorification with monarchists translates into support for monarchist lackeys in the Third World.

Even though Princess Leia does not appear in "Sith" except as an infant and is a prominent character throughout episodes IV, V, and VI, the infatuation with regality is at least relatively toned down in episodes IV, V, and VI. Han Solo even ridicules Princess Leia for being royal at one point, and Princess Leia comes off as being anachronistic surrounded by the high-tech, armed rebel forces. The latter three episodes of "Star Wars" may be anti-fascist and anti-imperialist despite the quirk that is Princess Leia and the movies' somewhat ambiguous attitude toward her; although, the masses, such as the Ewoks, even in Episodes IV-VI strangely seem untouched by the imperialists before they are forced to battle the Empire's army. Whether "Sith" is anti-imperialist is less clear. "Sith" portrays the separatists as greedy capitalists—as if that weren't redundant. Separatists, influential in the Galactic Senate previous to "Sith," include merchants who opposed some tariffs under the Republic. The separatists even include a "Commerce Guild" and a "Trade Federation." Much is made in episodes II and III of the romance between Anakin and Padmé, formerly Queen Amidala. Figuratively and literally, "Sith" romanticizes monarchy. The end result is that the glorified Jedi favor a semi-monarchist Galactic Republic over the imperialists who make up the separatists. Although the Jedi claims to defend democracy, "Jedi Knights" is itself not-so-subtle crypto-monarchism. This is not simply a matter of a name, "Knights." The Jedi are a caricature of Medieval knights, complete with apprentices, a code, and an almost mystical attitude toward the "Force." The Jedi are blood-based (midichlorians).

So, "Sith" pits a monarchist decadent imperialism against a rogue faction of imperialists: an inter-imperialist war. Monarchy isn't just something symbolic in "Sith" and the first two episodes. Although there is some question about how Queen Amidala was "elected" and whether she is only symbolic, whole planets' governments are monarchies. In Episodes IV-VI, what could be called Third World planets join the armed struggle against the Galactic Empire; although, "Episode VI" portrays the Ewoks' "primitivity" as a matter of Endor's isolation. In "Sith," however, the budding resistance just pines for the Old Republic. The focus in IV-VI trilogy is on defeating the Galactic Empire. The focus in I-III is on keeping the Old Republic. The second trilogy isn't just better material for anti-imperialist politics: the monarchists' role in second trilogy is less than it is in the first trilogy with Queen

Amidala.

There is one positive aspect of the relationship between Anakin and Padmé, and that is to illustrate in a strategically interesting way how intimate relationships can interfere with the work of individuals (revolutionaries or not) who are critical to a struggle. Anakin and Padmé must keep their marriage secret because it is against rules. Anakin's vision of Padmé dying in childbirth leads to his siding with Palpatine. But other relationships, such as that between Han Solo and Princess Leia in the second trilogy, are not so disastrous. Consequently, "Sith" blames Anakin's conversion to Darth Vader on an individual person: Padmé, who dotes on Anakin and is ignorant of Palpatine's scheming. This is the typical theme in the patriarchal movie culture of wimmin being either the Achilles Heel seductresses of heroic men or damsels in distress (with both the seductress and the damsel in distress as sexual objects). With the couples of Anakin and Padmé, and Han Solo and Princess Leia, the "Star Wars" series portrays wimmin in both of these ways.

"Sith"'s portrayal of a senate form of government with underhanded intrigue is interesting, but the movie barely hints at how imperialist democracy gives can give rise to fascists. Palpatine comes off as an aberration. "Sith" lapses into subjectivism when it relies on the mysterious, impenetrable "Dark Side of the Force" to explain Palpatine's abilities and Anakin's conversion. The process of good turning into evil is relevant to Marxism-Leninism-Maoism, and the M-L-M line on the new bourgeoisie within the party has something to say about the process of degeneration. It is notable that it is a high-ranking Jedi, Anakin, who turns into a Sith Lord. "Sith"'s explanation of Anakin's conversion, however, is just psychological and interpersonal. Remembering his mother's death, Anakin doesn't want his wife, Padmé, to die. He has a vision of Padmé dying in childbirth. That leads him to seek out ways to prevent what he foresees—except abortion, which strangely never occurs to the characters in the movie. Tempted by Darth Sidious, Anakin moves toward the Dark Side.

Probably the closest approximation for this situation in the real world is a revolutionary selling out to pursue a boyfriend or girlfriend, especially one that doesn't want her/him to be revolutionary, or being provincialist and protecting one's own family and friends against the interests of the exploited and oppressed. The idea of dating partners getting in the way of heroes' work is nothing new. Recently, there are the "Spider-Man" movies (2002 and 2004) with Mary Jane Watson and Peter Parker.

The story of Anakin's transformation into Darth Vader can be simplified even further. Hotheaded Anakin represents an intermediate between the Force, most embodied in the Jedi Council, and the



*Darth Sidious: Another world's Dr. Frist?*

Dark Side of the Force, which makes the monarchist-imperialist Jedi Council, pining for the peaceful days of the Old Republic, look that much more good in comparison with evil Darth Sidious. The Jedi Council is supposed to be models of goodness, and Darth Sidious is evil. Characters in "Sith" mention that Anakin would have been the youngest member of the Jedi Council. As a result, "Sith" turns Anakin's hotheadness into a function of his age, rather than political degeneration. However, Anakin, like the Jedi Council, never has a revolutionary goal to begin with. Like other Jedis, he is a soldier of a "peace-keeping" imperialist army.

#### Notes:

1. "Lucas on Iraq war, 'Star Wars'," 16 May 2005, <http://www.cnn.com/2005/SHOWBIZ/Movies/05/16/cannes.starwars/>
2. David M. Halbfinger, "Latest 'Star Wars' Movie Is Quickly Politicized," 19 May 2005, <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/05/19/movies/19star.html>

05/19/movies/19star.html

3. "George W Vader? 'Star Wars' sparks US political storm," 22 May 2005, [http://www.hindustantimes.com/news/181\\_1372502,00110003.htm](http://www.hindustantimes.com/news/181_1372502,00110003.htm)

4. Harlan Jacobson, "Lucas: 'Star Wars' isn't Iraq wars," 15 May 2005, [http://www.usatoday.com/life/movies/news/2005-05-15-cannes-lucas\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/life/movies/news/2005-05-15-cannes-lucas_x.htm)

"This was written during the Vietnam War and Nixon era, when the issue was how a democracy turns itself over to a dictator — not how a dictator takes over a democracy," he said."

5. taran2, "A White Nationalist interpretation of Star Wars," 13 June 2004, <http://www.stormfront.org/forum/showthread.php?t=137701&page=1>

6. MC5, "Star Wars: Episode II: Attack of the Clones," 20 May 2002, <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/movies/review.php?f=long/starwarsclonesII.txt>

7. "Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith," <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0121766/>

## What is Mimnotes.info?

<http://mimnotes.info>

Mimnotes.info publishes news articles and culture (media, movie, music, video game and other) reviews from the standpoint of the world's exploited and oppressed under imperialism, capitalism, and patriarchy. Inspired by the Maoist Internationalist Movement, mimnotes.info ("MIM notes dot info") opposes all group oppression, including the oppression of gays and lesbians, wimmin, and youth. The imperialist-patriarchy is full of horrors and misery for the world's oppressed majority. Mimnotes.info aims to build public opinion for revolutionary change. Nothing short of revolution can end this messed-up system.

Knowing the world and conditions inside the belly of the beast is key. Equip yourself with mimnotes.info and write for mimnotes.info.



We must strive to unbind the winds of the people by liberating the earth.

### Washington USW leader thrown in hole for activism

On June 21, 2005, Ronald Henderson was thrown into isolation for organizing a work strike in the mess hall at Washington State Penitentiary in Walla Walla, WA. "I've been placed on isolation; no phone, no yard, only a shower every three days. This is part of the disciplinary sanction for the work strike. 10 days iso[lation], 30 days d-seg and a possible IMU [Intensive Management Unit] program." In prisons across the country long term isolation cells have become common tools of repression. Nominally, they exist to house the most violent and incorrigible prisoners, what they call 'the worst of the worst.' The only thing that has proven incorrigible is the u\$ injustice system that has always served the interest of the settler nation and has only increased its use of torture in recent years. We know that people are a product of their environment, and a violent oppressive system begets violence and oppression. People can change, but imperialism can not.

However, this incident is a blatant example of a well-established trend that MIM has seen over the last couple decades with the advent of the control unit. People are being thrown into long term isolation not because they are a threat to other people, but because they are a threat to imperialism. Comrade Henderson is a long time activist with United Struggle from Within, and this is not the first time his organizing has landed him in isolation. In California, the largest prison state in the united \$tates, half of the people in the control units didn't even break any rules. They are in there on 'gang-affiliation' charges, based on things as little as who they get mail from or talk to, whether they have tattoos or speak another language or what part of California they come from. So we see a preemptive effort to prevent organizing as well the use of isolation as punishment to those who are becoming leaders. As a result people are being tortured for struggling for basic humyn rights, or because they might do so in the future.

Comrade Henderson's recent lock up was a result of his demands for better sanitation. His story begins, "I had been working in the kitchen a few months and an issue came up. I was asked by prisoners what should we do? What were our options? I first initiated a petition, which I was only able to get five signatures before it was snatched up by a c/o and given to his superiors. That was on 6/19/05. I was summoned a few minutes afterwards to the shift Lt. Then I was interrogated and interviewed by custody superiors, Lt. Sgt. and others. I was told I could not circulate this type of document, and was ordered not to and returned to work. They kept the petition document after I clearly asked for it back.

"For the next proceeding days I was approached and asked by numerous prisoners, 'where was the petition?' They wanted to sign. I relayed to them that it had been confiscated. On 6/21/05, as you

## Under Lock & Key

### News from Prisons & Prisoners

can read in the enclosed document, I initiated a work stoppage of my own accord. I was the only prisoner taken to the hole after four hours and an institutional lock down."

The referral that was used to put Comrade Henderson in isolation reads as follows: "On 6/21/05 at approximately 1045 hours, officer Craig Jensen announced count in the south dining hall. Instead of proceeding with the kitchen count procedure, all but one inmate remained seated. Count was announced a second time with the same inmate response as had previously transpired. Inmate Henderson then made a comment about inmates wanting showers. Sgt. Bob Patton intervened, explained that showers would be discussed later, ordered the inmates to comply with count procedures.

"Again, the inmates refused and remained seated. Sg. Patton ordered the south dining hall doors secured. The gun cage was manned and inmate Henderson was observed and identified as the primary instigator of the work strike. He was heard and observed making inciting comments such as telling the other inmates not to return to work. Other statements were "We need to stand together" and "We need to stand up for what is right." He was continually observed addressing the group of striking inmates. Only after intervention of CPM Knight, CP Schettler and Lt. Kirshaw did the inmates comply and return to work. Inmate Henderson is clearly the primary instigator of this strike."

The pigs don't mince words, Comrade Henderson is being thrown in a torture cell for uniting the prisoners and encouraging them to struggle for their rights. This is one reason why MIM calls for the closing down of all control unit prisons. They are a threat to progressive organizing on the inside and they are torturing thousands of people as a means of social control. Despite having one copy of the petition confiscated, Comrade Henderson was able to get a copy out with dozens of signatures by co-workers in the mess hall. The petition now has about 100 signatures and can be found at <http://www.petitiononline.com/TPR1/petition.html>. Supporters can also email the WDOC Director Harold Clarke or WSP Superintendent Richard Morgan at [doccorrespondence@doc1.wa.gov](mailto:doccorrespondence@doc1.wa.gov) to demand that Ronald Henderson be released to general population.

#### Why bother with the Parole Board?

I am writing you all to express my concerns about receiving another 18-month continuance within the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC). This latest continuance has led to a

confirmation of my hypothesis that prisoners are being denied emancipation not due to a "lack [of] reasonable assurance that the prisoner will not become a menace to society or the public safety," but rather because of politics, ideology, fear of backlash, racism, and cultural and generational backwardness.

I was convicted in a bench trial of assault with intent to do great bodily harm, felony firearm and being a habitual offender 3rd. I was sentenced to a term of five to 10 years in state prison on the assault and habitual charges, plus two years for the firearm charge, respectively.

At the time of my offense, I was a high school dropout, active gang member, living a misanthropic and chaotic lifestyle. My only needs and concerns at that time were how much money I could make and/or take from someone, how many women I could sleep with and material things.

If the inducement to rehabilitation is emancipation, then every day past my calendar minimum-release date is based on someone's subjective and arbitrary belief that I may commit another crime. Therefore, every day I am confined past my minimum-release date, I define myself as a political prisoner. Moreover, if the judge wanted me to do more than seven years, he would have given me more time, don't you think?

One could speculate as to whether I've discontinued my barbarism, idealism and simplistic thinking, but let's look at my institutional adjustment from a holistic point of view: I have completed a university course; the GED examination; vocational, job-seeking and therapy programs; and more for a total of 20 self-help programs. The first time I went before the Parole Board I had all my RGC recommendations completed and received an 18-month continuance.

The second time I went before the Parole Board, we discussed my offense, prior criminal record, institutional adjustment, recent major-misconduct citations, RGC recommended programs and my parole plans. I received another 18-month continuance.

If the Parole Board has no intention of granting me a parole, then why put me through a sadistic and fruitless interview process? These actions by the Michigan Parole Board are mercilessly harsh and outright cruel. I would prefer to have been told from the outset that I would be doing all 12 years, rather than having my hopes up for a release, only to be told by the Parole Board: "to hell with all of your personal accomplishments and your transformation, you're a criminal and forever will remain one." If one really believes that I may commit another crime while on parole, after serving eight years

in prison, then what will stop me from committing a crime after I discharge on my maximum sentence in three or four years?

It is not a wonderment to me that in 2003, 17,000 prisoners were past their first-release dates. I don't think twice about why Michigan's prison population has grown to nearly 50,000. I'm not bewildered as to why the un-reviewable decisions of 10 appointed Parole Board members added 9,000 prisoners to the system from just 1992 to 2000.

Therefore, I am formally and decisively requesting not to be interviewed by any more Parole Board members. You all, as customary, can forward my next denial(s) of parole through the U.S. Mail. May I look forward to the day of my Emancipation.

Sincerely and Wholeheartedly, — a Michigan Political Prisoner and Educator, 31 May, 2005

### 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.

### Lockdown at High Desert

I am an inmate housed at High Desert State prison here in California. I am currently on lock-down status without any remedy to appeal this condition. Currently all Black and white inmates are on lockdown due to rumors of inmates planning attacks on prison officials. I'm now seeking information on how to bring these issues before a court. This lockdown has been in effect since January 12, 2005. The lockdown does not allow any out of cell time except for a ten minute shower three times a week.

- a California prisoner, June 2005

The Warden D.L. Runnels and administration here at High Desert State Prison are prejudicially discriminating against the whole inmate population, in violation of knowingly deliberate indifference and eighth amendment rights "cruel and unusual punishment" clause, by outrageously denied outside fresh air and exercise yard. The United States federal courts has already made very clear: denial of out door exercise constituted "cruel and unusual punishment" (in *Spain vs. Procunier*, 600 F. ad 189) (9th Cir. 1979). For you to be denied all out door exercise and recreation locked in a cell 24 hours a day 7 days a week is an 8th amendment violation (see *Lopez vs. Smith*, 203 F. 3D 1122).

This inhumanity of cruel and barbarous treatment strikes at the heart of federal and state law well established: the Eighth amendment written as part of the "bill of rights" in 1791, see: *Troy vs. Dulles* 356 U.S. 86, 785 C.T. 509, 630 (1958). Together infrequent access to active recreation, long hours of in cell time and over crowded cell conditions is mentally and physically unhealthy (see: *Allen vs. Sakai*, 48F 3D 1082 (9th Cir 1995) and *Lopez vs. Smith* 203 F. 3D 1123, 1133 (9th Cir 2000).)

Staff officers alleged that the deprivation of federal and state rights to denial of outside exercise is because of safety and security of institution and may jeopardize the integrity of an investigation. The federal courts have already ruled that despite prison officials claims that their denial of outside yard was for the inmates own protection and institution security, it is still a federal violation and constitutional violation of the eighth amendment.

Staff officers are breaking the law to get more money from overtime pay, more lockdowns, more taxpayer money and

hazardous overtime pay. It's the old trick of "the inmate is going to attack the staff." This is a retaliation by administration on the inmate population as a whole because of the Correctional Officer A. Gonzalez being killed at CIM prison on January 11.

Every strategy and tactic is being applied psychologically and physically to provoke and incite a violent atmosphere and create a hostile morale among all races of the inmate population on behalf of the administration. Once again this is just another form of capitalism: where a group of parasites are using a position of power to get more money.

We are still locked down for no reason. The administration says they will not let us off because they keep on 'mysteriously' receiving info on future plots to assault staff. It's amazing how capitalism can be used on every level in every way and the capitalist just keep on keeping on.

- a CA prisoner, June 2005

### Freedom of religion denied in California

Here at Salinas Valley State Prison (SVSP) staff officials, particularly Captain G. Lewis, have discontinued Islamic religious service without any justification or any legitimate penological interests. Prison officials here at SVSP have their own policies and arbitrary and capricious rules, which violate my constitutional rights to exercise religious faith and worship of the religion of Islam. This is a deliberate violate of our (Muslim) rights. The Muslim community is being subjected to an arbitrary and unreasonable exclusion without any lawful justification. We are compelled to hold prayer in the yard instead of the chapel, which violates our constitutional rights of religious freedom, and denies us equal protection of the laws. 488 U.S. 1047 (1989); *Thomas V. Gunter*, 32 F. 3d 1258, 1260 (8th Cir. 1994). I ask MIM to assist the Muslim community at SVSP with whatever assistance that can be provided. Call and complain please.

- a California prisoner, July 2005

MIM adds: Protests can be made to Warden Mike Evans at (831) 678-5500 or 31625 Highway 101, Soledad, CA 93960. Send copies of protest letters to MIM.

### Segregation at SVSP unjust

As of now I have been in administration segregation going on nine months due to confidential information alleging I have substantial influence over my peers, which is bullshit. I've only been in prison for six months, and above all I'm a 22 year old first timer. It is extremely impossible for an individual sentenced to life in prison, first prison sentence, no psychological knowledge on psychological warfare, no experience, etc. Plus I'm on the most violent yard in CDC, which is C-yard. Also while in ad-seg I have received three CDC 114s, I was kicked out of ad-seg and brought back to ad-seg in 48 hours, it's crazy.

- a California prisoner, July 2005

### Deaths from negligence

Just yesterday morning in building #1 cell 209 an inmate was found dead. It's kind of suspicious that he could be like that all through the night through the counts and be found dead only in the morning. Those types of atrocities happen here on this supposed SHU for inmates who are listed as psychological inmates. The people who watch over us are not trained properly to work around us. I've been locked away in these death traps 3 different times, it doesn't get any better.

- a prisoner in Represa, California, July 2005

### No focus on rehab in California

We are still on punishment. It's been 6 months now stuck in the cell 24-7. I read in the *Christian Science Monitor* dated 6/20/05 that on July 1 the California Department of Corrections will be renamed the CDC and Rehabilitation. The focus on Rehab, says a spokesperson of the DOC, is intended to cut down on recidivism.

The vocational classes here were shut down more than a year ago and some of the vocational teachers were laid off. There's no rehabilitation programs in these level 4 prisons. There's always violence happening in here. Convicts on convicts, convicts on pigs and the punishments last for months. People in here need both education and vocational training. I've run into convicts that have never worked a day in their life. Once these convicts get out, what will they do to earn a living? These imperialist politicians are not concerned about rehabilitation.

- a prisoner in California, July 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?

Spread the word: Help us double our prison subscribers to MIM Notes. The best way for MIM to reach more prisoners is word of mouth. Pass MIM Notes around to others and encourage them to sign up for their own subscription.

## 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

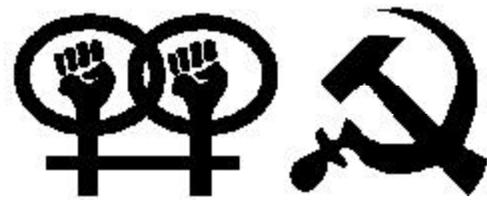
2. Ibid., 1992 report.

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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**La Guardia Civil española viola y tortura a una prisionera vasca.**

## ESPAÑA: TORTURAS COMO EN LA ÉPOCA DE FRANCO

[www.eldiariointernacional.com](http://www.eldiariointernacional.com)

Agentes del instituto militar español han detenido esta madrugada en Bizkaia a cuatro personas, a quienes relacionan con la organización armada ETA. Los arrestos se habrían registrado en Bilbo, Arrigorriaga, y Zornotza. El organismo anti-represivo, Askatasuna, ha confirmado que uno de los detenidos es Iñaki Peña González (25 años), mientras que fuentes policiales han difundido las identidades de otros tres: Sonia Marin Vesga (32 años), Arkaitz Ormaetxea Etxebarria (29) e Igor Zearreta Garai (27).

El primer arresto se ha producido en un piso de la calle Encarnación de Bilbo y horas después una mujer ha sido detenida en una vivienda de la calle Olatxu, en Arrigorriaga, siempre según fuentes policiales. Algunos medios de comunicación han señalado durante esta mañana que podría haber sido detenida otra persona en Zornotza, hecho que ha sido confirmado posteriormente por fuentes policiales citadas por Europa Press. A mediodía se ha conocido que una cuarta persona ha sido arrestada en el marco de este operativo policial desarrollado en Bizkaia. Concretamente en Zornotza, según han informado testigos presenciales, el registro, iniciado a las 08:45 horas, ha concluido pasada la una de la tarde. Los agentes del Instituto armado han abandonado el lugar en posesión de un ordenador y dos cajas. El registro se ha desarrollado en presencia de uno de los arrestados, un joven, que ha abandonado el domicilio esposado por los guardias civiles españoles. Además, la Guardia Civil ha registrado las viviendas de todos los detenidos. Durante el registro de uno de los inmuebles en Bilbo, vecinos de la zona se han acercado para mostrar su apoyo a uno de los arrestados. La operación permanece abierta por lo que no se descarta que en las próximas horas puedan producirse nuevos arrestos. Ya que la Guardia Civil busca a una 5 persona que no ha sido hallada en su domicilio de Zornotza.

Askatasuna poco después ha confirmado que los detenidos son el joven del barrio San Inazio Iñaki Peña (arrestado en Atxuri), la santutzuarra Sonia Marin (detenida en Arrigorriaga), Arkaitz Ormaetxea e Igor Zearreta, ambos detenidos en Zornotza. Las detenciones han sido realizadas bajo la supervisión del Juzgado Central de Instrucción número 5 y de la Fiscalía de

la Audiencia Nacional. El organismo anti-represivo ha denunciado con contundencia los arrestos y ha mostrado su preocupación por el trato al que los cuatro ciudadanos vascos puedan estar siendo sometidos durante el periodo de incomunicación en dependencias de la Guardia Civil española. Por esta razón, ha exigido que “se les levante la incomunicación que posibilita la aplicación de torturas”. Exigencia que desde Torturaren Kontrako Taldea de Santurtzi hacemos nuestra y a la que nos sumamos mostrando nuestra repulsa hacia esta nueva razzia

policial. Las palabras en estos momentos están de sobra, ya sabemos lo sucedido en los últimos meses con las personas que han sido detenidas en régimen de incomunicación, las denuncias por las torturas padecidas a manos de la policía han sido una constatación en este comienzo de año 2005.

Según fuentes policiales, los arrestos se habrían producido a raíz de las declaraciones efectuadas por Amaia Urizar de Paz en dependencias de la Guardia Civil española durante su detención incomunicada. Urizar denunció haber sido torturada por agentes del instituto militar. Entre otras vejaciones, Urizar denunció haber sido violada con una pistola durante el periodo de incomunicación, que se prolongó durante cinco días.

El relato íntegro de Amaia Urizar sobre los cinco días de detención (fue capturada el 29 de octubre pasado, 2004) ocupa diez folios (si alguien no tiene su testimonio íntegro y quiere conseguirlo no tiene más que ponerse en contacto con [santurtzikt@euskalerrria.org](mailto:santurtzikt@euskalerrria.org)). En ellos, la joven detalla que fue violada con una pistola por los guardias civiles encargados de custodiarla, además de sumergida en una bañera, entre otros tormentos. Para la mejor comprensión de algunos extractos del testimonio difundido por Torturaren Aurkako Taldea ([www.stoptortura.com](http://www.stoptortura.com)), cabe citar que Urizar es compañera de Garikoitz Azpiazu, a quien la Policía atribuye importantes responsabilidades en ETA. Cualquier comentario añadido está de sobra:

«En el coche iba en medio de dos hombres, llevaba la cabeza agachada. Nada más entrar, el que iba a mi derecha me empezó a hablar: ‘Has caído, Amayita, y esto lo tienes que asimilar; a nosotros nos da igual porque sabemos todo, pero ten claro que nos lo tienes que contar tú, y tienes dos formas de hacerlo, por las buenas o por las malas». «Nada más se abrió la puerta del calabozo, oí la voz del guardia civil que había ido en el coche hasta Madrid diciéndole a otro, al que llamó Garmendia, que hiciese lo que tenía que hacer. Se tiró sobre mí, me echó a

la cama y me agarró muy fuerte de los brazos. Empecé a gritar que me dejase, y ellos me gritaban ‘cállate, puta’. Entonces les ví. Estaban encapuchados y el que había ido en el coche tenía bajados los pantalones y los calzoncillos, y venía hacia mí mientras me decía entre risas ‘nos vamos a follar a la novia del jefe’. Se tiró sobre mí mientras restregaba su cuerpo contra el mío (...) Me gritaba ‘¿qué te dice tu pareja mientras te folla, gora ETA? ¡Seguro que estás poniéndote cachonda, puta, te vamos a follar todos y le vas a dar asco porque nos lo vamos a pasar muy bien contigo!’ Los que estaban en la puerta estaban pidiendo su turno y entre risas me decían ‘te va a follar hasta la tía que está aquí con nosotros’». «Me gritaban y me insultaban ‘puta, zorra, mentirosa’, y me colocaban una bolsa por la cabeza mientras la apretaban por detrás. Al principio sentía calor, tenía la cara empapada en sudor, intentaba moverme cuando la bolsa me tapaba la boca, no podía respirar y comenzaba a marearme: conseguía romper la bolsa con los dientes, y en aquellos momentos, cuando empezaba a respirar de nuevo, me golpeaban en los oídos sopapos con la mano abierta». «Estaba cansada, asustada, temiendo lo que irían a hacer, tenía ganas de devolver, así que una de las veces

que abrieron la ventanilla de la puerta aproveché para pedirles ir al baño. Entonces uno de ellos me respondió: ‘Si vomitas, te jodes, y como se te ocurra te lo comes’». «Las paredes del calabozo eran de gotelé y no sé cuál sería la razón, pero veía dibujos en ella, y se movían. Tenía miedo de salir de allí loca, el calabozo se hacía grande y se empequeñecía, la puerta se me acercaba y se me alejaba, el suelo también se movía». «Me llevaron de nuevo a la habitación de las baldosas blancas. Al entrar allí oí ruido de agua, era como si estuviesen llenando algo, y ellos se reían mientras me susurraban al oído ‘Amaia, Amayita’. No sé si fue a causa de limpiar toda la habitación con la lengua. Se cortó el chorro de agua, me obligaron a dar un par de pasos hacia delante y a ponerme de rodillas. Me quitaron el antifaz. Me apretaron las esposas, estaba esposada a la espalda. Ante mí estaba la bañera... Me puse muy nerviosa e intentaba echarme para atrás, pero no había escapatoria, estaba rodeada. Ya sabía lo que me iban a hacer (...)Entonces, entre dos hombres, uno agarrándome del cuerpo y el otro estirándome del pelo, me metían la cabeza en la bañera muy bruscamente, de forma que me golpeaba el pecho contra la bañera; sentía que me ahogaba, intentaba echarme para atrás con las piernas, a los lados, pero no podía; movía la cabeza con todas mis fuerzas para sacarla del agua, pero era imposible mientras ellos no quisieran. Tragué demasiada agua, tanto por la boca como por la nariz, tenía la cabeza mareada, estaba sin fuerzas, pero a ellos les daba igual y seguían gritando y diciendo nombres y más nombres, que lo asumiera, que lo asumiera. El llanto no me dejaba decidir nada. Ya no esperaban ninguna respuesta puesto que no daban opción a responder, sólo me daban tiempo a que respirase un momento. No podía más, en aquellos momentos pensaba que no iba a salir viva de allí, que no podía hacer nada, y dejé mi cuerpo como si se tratase de una marioneta. No hacía fuerza, sólo quería que aquello acabase; si su objetivo era matarme, que lo hiciesen cuanto antes».

«Me cubrieron los ojos mientras me decían que me llevaban donde el forense (...) Allí había un hombre, me enseñó el carné un momento, y yo le notaba como con desconfianza. Lo primero que me preguntó es si había sufrido malos tratos, y yo entre sollozos le contesté que no. Le dije que me mirase los ojos, porque tenía hinchado y rojo el ojo izquierdo. Me echó un vistazo y me dijo que aquello no era nada, que seguramente se habría infectado al hacerme la bañera, y me preguntó si quería un colirio. No me lo podía creer. Me preguntó si había sufrido malos tratos y luego él me dijo lo de la bañera. No quise el colirio». «Estuvieron enseñándome fotografías y más fotografías hasta que se cansaron, y entonces el que hacía el papel de jefe empezó a gritarme ‘¡puta zorra, si no has aprendido nada en estos días, lo vas a aprender!’ Me dijo que en aquel momento le daba igual pegarme dos tiros, y me puso de nuevo el antifaz (...) Me dijo que el juego se había acabado. Me levantó un poco el antifaz y me enseñó una pistola, era de metal. Yo intenté revolverme, estaba aterrorizada pensando que me iban a pegar dos tiros... Entre risas me preguntaron si la quería coger con las manos, a ver si tenía ‘cojones’ como mi hermano y mi compañero para dispararles; yo les decía que no, entre sollozos, temblando, y ellos entre risas me decían cosas

del estilo de ‘puta traidora’. Entonces sentí el metal entre mis piernas y un guardia civil me susurró que no me moviese. Yo lloraba y empecé a gritar como una loca, mientras hacía fuerzas por juntar mis piernas, pero no podía porque tenía atados los tobillos a las patas de la silla... Me puso la pistola entre las piernas y con su mano me apartó el tanga; yo le gritaba que me dejase en paz, pero él comenzó a golpearme en los oídos con las manos abiertas a la vez que me gritaba que estuviese quieta o que se le iba a escapar un tiro porque la pistola estaba cargada. Oía las carcajadas de los demás diciendo cosas del estilo de ‘zorra, guarra, puta, si te va a gustar...’. Me introdujo el cañón de la pistola en la vagina mientras me gritaba al oído una y otra vez ‘¿qué te dice (por mi pareja) cuando te folla, gora ETA?’ No podía parar de llorar y ya no tenía fuerzas para gritar. Empezó a introducirme y a sacarme la pistola de forma más violenta, lo que me provocaba dolor, mientras el que me estaba violando me susurraba ‘si te gusta, puta’, ‘no vas a tener un hijo porque te voy a pegar dos tiros’... Su olor se me metía hasta dentro, me daba asco, no sé si alguna vez se me irá ese olor de la cabeza... Todos estaban riéndose, uno me sujetaba por el cuello mientras el otro, una y otra vez, me metía y me sacaba el cañón de la pistola en la vagina y me sobaba el pecho de forma muy brusca, apretándome el pecho con las manos. Notaba dentro de mí el frío del metal, ellos me repetían que la pistola estaba cargada y que si disparaban sería mi culpa... No sé durante cuánto tiempo se prolongó la violación, pero me quedé muda, estaba como perdida; en aquella habitación estaban violando mi cuerpo, pero por un momento yo conseguí huir de allí, entre sollozos, pero conseguí huir de allí; me acordaba de la gente de mi entorno, estaba con ellos y con ellas, estaba protegida... De repente sacó muy bruscamente el cañón de la pistola de dentro de mí, mientras les decía a los demás ‘mirad, si se ha corrido la puta ésa’, ‘habrá que repetir, que a la guarra le ha gustado’... Volví a la realidad, me encontraba completamente dolida... De nuevo me enseñaron las fotografías, de una en una, y me decían respecto de cada persona lo que yo les había dicho (de qué pueblo eran...) más lo que ellos les querían imputar; me decían que tenía que aprenderlo todo de memoria para repetirlo todo cuando me subiesen a declarar... Lo repetieron en muchas ocasiones, yo tenía que repetirlo todo una y otra vez, y si me confundía en algo de nuevo empezaban a golpearme en los oídos con las manos abiertas, y a amenazarme diciéndome que iban a violarme de nuevo».

«No podía conciliar el sueño, estaba aterrorizada y nerviosa (...) Me sentía sucia, me daba asco el mero hecho de pensarlo, no sabía la razón por la que me habían violado y no podía dejar de llorar (...) Nada más entrar en el baño me quité el tanga para comprobar si me habían causado un desgarró o algo del estilo, porque me dolía mucho, pero estaba ‘bien’». «Me dijeron que ante el juez tenía que ratificar las declaraciones, que si no ya sabía lo que esperaba y que no le dijese nada sobre las torturas si no quería volver allí... Entonces se fueron. Después me metieron en un furgón quitándome el antifaz, me llevaban a la Audiencia Nacional. Empecé a llorar. Por fin estaba fuera de aquel infierno».

Mayo 9 de mayo del 2005