

MIM Notes



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The Official Newsletter of the Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM)

Free

Bush signs \$190 billion farm bill opposing 'free trade'

Subsidized exports destroy Third World farming, create famine

Despite rhetoric for "free trade," U.S. President George W. Bush signed a massive bill for farm subsidies over 10 years, providing \$57 billion in price supports to U.S. farmers and \$133 billion in other aid. Such subsidies give an unfair advantage to U.S. farmers and are contrary to the "free trade" principles Bush, Gore, Clinton, Carter and others of the internationalist bourgeoisie claim.

MIM has to give great credit to the Los Angeles Times for following up on the details.(1) The principle behind U.S. farm subsidies is called "price supports." If prices fall below a certain level, the government makes up the difference with subsidies. This way prices stay up and supply rises. The same general concept is behind destruction of farm commodities seen from time to time and leaving of land fallow if prices are too low—the logic of capitalism that people should starve while food is destroyed to keep prices up.

The unfairness is the fact that subsidized food then gets exported contrary to U.S. rhetoric about subsidy-free "free trade." The exported food destroys farmers around the world, including in Africa where a huge famine is now brewing.

Until the day no one is hungry under capitalism or under socialism, MIM favors international price supports paid for by the united States and other rich countries. International price supports are part of our party platform of internationalist reform demands. If there are going to be price supports, they should be for all farmers in all commodities that can end starvation—not just for Amerikkkan or French farmers. It is much more important to subsidize African farmers than Amerikkkan farmers, who averaged



over \$20,000 in subsidies a year from the government in the year 2000.(1)

Progressive internationalist and rock star Bono has gone on tour in Africa with a conservative Treasury official Paul H. O'Neill. Here is what Bono said, "We can't have people in Congress who agree with debt cancellation and want to do something on AIDS, and then sponsor the farm bill."(1)

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Delegates call UN food summit a 'waste of time'

Delegates from poor countries called the U.N. World Food Summit which met in Rome the second week in June a "waste of time" and a "failure."(1) They criticized wealthy countries' farm subsidies, which make potentially agriculturally-rich countries dependent on food imports from wealthy developed countries. They also criticized wealthy countries for not taking the problem of hunger seriously.

"The entire leadership of western Europe and North America was here in Rome two weeks ago to discuss NATO," said South African President Thabo Mbeki. "They all came without exception, but they don't come now."

"I suppose that's because they don't think the problem of 800 million people going hungry in the world is important."(1)

About 24,000 people die every day of hunger and its related causes—one every 3.6 seconds.(2)

The United States again refused to recognize a global right to food. Recognition of such basic survival rights is at the center of MIM's politics. MIM does not recognize the right of a handful of people to profit from hoarding food or organizing food production to make food unaffordable for the poor.

Six years ago the United Nations set out to reduce hunger by half by 2015. This year's food summit was called largely because progress towards that goal was much too slow. Hunger has only been reduced 3% from 840 million in 1996 to 815 million today, according to the BBC. Assuming the same reduction rate over the next 13 years, there will still be 760 million hungry people in the world—360 million over the goal of 400 million.

The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) estimates that \$24 billion is needed every year for investment in agriculture and rural infrastructure in poor countries to meet the U.N. goal. Compare that to the roughly \$18 million yearly in subsidies Congress just gave American farmers (see Farm bill story, this page). According to the head of the FAO, Jacques Diouf, "[T]ransfer of funds from [rich countries] to the rural population of the developing countries amount to

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Earth First! activists win \$4 million lawsuit over violation of constitutional rights

The jury in the case of Earth First! activists Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney against four FBI agents and three Oakland police officers awarded the plaintiffs \$4.4 million for violation of their constitutional rights. The jury found that six of the seven defendants violated the first and fourth amendments of the American constitution, which claim to protect freedom of speech and prohibit unreasonable search and seizure, respectively.

After a bomb exploded in Bari's car—while she and Cherney were in it—the defendants arrested the activists, charged them with planting the bomb themselves, searched their homes, carried out a smear campaign against them in the press, and so on.

In their fifth day of deliberations, jurors asked for a copy of the two relevant amendments of the U.S. constitution. The lawyers for the defense objected to the request and motioned to keep the jury from reading the relevant parts of the constitution. The judge overruled the

motion and read the amendments to the jury. This request by the defense to keep the jury from hearing constitutionally protected rights is no surprise given the actions of the FBI and OPD in this case.

According to a press release from the prosecution at the outset of the trial "Bari and Cherney are suing the FBI and Oakland Police for violations of their First Amendment rights. FBI officials knew the victims were innocent yet blamed them of being guilty of bombing themselves. The FBI is also being charged with violations of the Fourth Amendment by conducting false arrest and illegal search and seizure. These charges have withstood the rigors of eleven years of challenges in federal court. In out-of-court settlement conferences prior to trial, Bari and Cherney have asked for: an investigation of the bombing, an investigation of the investigators, the Oakland Police to cease spying on peaceful political groups, an apology, and \$20 million. The defendants turned down all demands and made no counter offer."

The trial showed that the only evidence connecting Bari and Cherney to the bomb was fabricated by either the FBI or the Oakland cops. But the media and the police and FBI used the incident to smear Earth First!

In 1991, the year after Bari's car was bombed, Bari and Cherney sued the FBI and OPD. In April of this year the case finally made it in front of a jury. The jury trial revealed ongoing COINTELPRO (counterintelligence program) activities on the part of the OPD and the FBI including surveillance of local activists, fabrication of evidence for search warrants and the disappearance of FBI documents.

In 1990 an OPD unit in charge of keeping tabs on local activists and sharing that information with the FBI had a database of more than 600 people Bari and Cherney called on the phone. Hopefully anyone who thinks MIM is paranoid for being careful about who we call and what we say on home phones will take this information seriously. When

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Letters

To mourn or not to mourn: summing up 9/11

A Revolutionary Salute!

As you know I am an avid Maoist and reader of MIM Notes and MIM Theory. I am an intransigent communist revolutionary. I'm writing this letter in response to the pitiful and numerous things I've heard and read regarding "9-11." Most of these things center around the "innocent" victims and how it is an atrocious loss of innocent lives. To be honest my initial reaction was not revulsion but rather a cold sense of "you can't hide forever." Being a dialectical materialist I had to put the event in its historical context. I could not bring myself to mourn, from a political standpoint, the loss of however many reactionaries. Objectively it is recompense, although if I was a bourgeois-type subjectivist I would only view it as a loss of life, but I'm not. I am

a Maoist, so I am forced to lay my feelings aside and deal materialist analysis.

Now, my contention, which many find "cold-hearted," is that those people were *not* innocent. They were accomplices in the imperialist war against the Third World. To my eye they were like scouts who scouted out conquerable portions of the Third World and then mapped out an effective strategy to exploit. Now, we know that only one thing really allows for the gross super-exploitation of the Third World — the gun. When I began thinking of all of the corporations who had personnel in the World Trade Center I didn't see the meager 5,000 Yankees and Yankee conspirators killed. If I am "wrong" so be it. But I began to see the 14 million children's deaths each year in Capitalist Asia. I thought of one-half of all children's deaths in the world associated with malnutrition, the 13 billion people who don't have access to clean water. I saw the hundreds of thousands killed in Indonesia, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nigeria, South Africa, the Congo, the Philippines. I

thought of the labor conditions of Malaysia, Honduras, Kenya, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Colombia and many other countries. I know that in each and every one of these countries imperialism, imperialist-funded and -equipped armies and imperialist comprador regimes and classes are all responsible for more deaths in one month than 10 WTC bombings. And again those imperialist minions were complicit in each and every one of those deaths. So I'm reminded of what Mao said about reactionary deaths being as light as a feather.

Now, I am well aware that there may have been some innocents, but when weighed against the death toll caused by Amerikkka, objectively the answer is explicit. There is an old African proverb, "When he cat dies, the mice rejoice," so I don't blame anyone for rejoicing over "9-11." I even rejoiced, not for the loss of human life but for the destruction of two of imperialism's symbols and administrative centers (even if the destroyers were far from revolutionary). I can do that even though I recognize that the acts ended up being counter-revolutionary due to the conditions of the struggle here. It did weaken the U.S. economy, even though it's coming back.

I just wanted to write and give you my thoughts, especially since no one seemed to see it in this light. And although I am not a Castroite (i.e., state capitalist), I'll end with a quote from him: "End the philosophy of plunder and the philosophy of war will be ended as well."

**In revolutionary solidarity,
A Texas Prisoner, May 11, 2001**

MIM responds: In its statement released on the day of the attacks, MIM mourned the deaths of the civilians at the World Trade Center and Pentagon. "Their deaths are as lamentable and were

as preventable as the deaths of millions of children who die every year of starvation and disease, victims of militarism and imperialism," we wrote.

At the same time, we agree with this comrade that such attacks were inevitable—and remain so, as even bonehead War Secretary Rumsfeld and billionaire Warren Buffet admit. As long as the United States retains the right to oppress others by military force, "terrorists" will strike back. Advances in technology only make this easier.

Reprisal bombings, assassinating putative "terrorists," invading so-called "rogue states," or cracking down on civil rights at home cannot prevent future attacks. Yet this is all Amerika's current rulers have to offer. Both Democrats and Republicans represent a class of people that profits from world war. Therefore they are afraid to work aggressively for long-range peace.

It's time to break with old thinking to get at the root causes of humyn conflict—production for profit, the class system, conflicts over land etc. These can only be addressed by communism, as difficult as it will be to achieve. This is the harsh lesson MIM seeks to teach Americans from the events of September 11—and any future attacks.

This system is fucked—what can I do to fix it?

Hello,

I just wanted to write and let someone out there know that I looked up Walpole Mass, on a google search and all of these things [articles by MIM and others on the conditions at a prison in Walpole]

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Editor, MC206; Production, MC12

MIM Notes

The Official Newsletter of The Maoist Internationalist Movement

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

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

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

What is MIM?

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

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

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

U.S. armored vehicle kills two Korean girls

A U.S. armored vehicle struck and killed two Korean girls during military exercises in a suburb of the south Korean capitol Seoul on June 13. The commander of the U.S. 8th Army promised to “vigorously investigate” the incident. Sure, just like the army “vigorously investigated” the charge that U.S. base commanders recently dumped toxic chemicals into Seoul’s main river:

it found the charges true but exonerated the commanders.

The crash occurred three days after 200 protestors demanded compensation and an apology over the death of a Korean worker who died after suffering an electric shock on a U.S. military base.

The girls’ deaths also put a damper on Koreans’ celebrations of a 1-1 tie with the outplayed United States in the World

Cup. South Korea’s unprecedented success in the tournament—the Korean soccer team beat Poland and favored Portugal to win their group and advance to the second round—as well as its bid to co-host the tournament are somewhat indicative of its bourgeois economic success.

Setting aside the fact that south Korea’s relatively prosperous economy is

exceptional and uncertain, this recent crash and other deadly slip-ups and abuses by the Amerikan military make it all for naught. What use is a world-class soccer team when the 36,000 U.S. troops on Korean soil can provoke a war at the whim of the Amerikan government?

Leave it to Amerikan imperialism to spoil a good game.

Note: Reuters, 14 Jun 2002.

Bourgeois mouthpieces on Nepal: Psy-war hand-in-hand with irresponsibility

Headlines in print and on-line media over the last two months have claimed that the Nepalese army has killed hundreds of Maoist guerrillas in several clashes. But those with enough patience to read to the end of these reports discovered that the bourgeois mouthpieces themselves don’t believe the hype.

“The government routinely reports high rebel casualty figures from battles and low army death tolls. Casualty reports cannot be independently verified, as gunbattles often occur in remote mountain areas. Neither human rights organizations nor journalists can go to the regions of fighting without military permission...”

“[T]he guerrillas usually do not comment on casualties.”(1)

Certainly it was no coincidence that the first reports of the army’s success against the rebels came when the head of the

Nepalese government was visiting the Washington and London asking for military aid as part of the so-called “war on terrorism.” He got the aid. The United States gave \$20 million.(2)

To its credit, the Christian Science Monitor ran an article describing how an army patrol posed as Maoists when it entered an apparently Maoist-controlled village. “They said, lal salaam, comrade, but I knew they were army so I didn’t respond, otherwise I knew I would be dead,” said one villager. The army did assassinate six villagers, allegedly members of the local revolutionary government. “Villagers were so afraid of being identified as family members of the dead men—either by informants or army spies—that they left the bodies unburied for a day.”(3)

Unlike the bourgeois media—which has an interest in spreading lies or in selling more newspapers with eye-

catching headlines—MIM doesn’t report on the Nepalese government’s victory declarations—except to say we have no idea of the truth behind them.

We do know, however, that the protracted people’s war led by the Communist Party of Nepal is not “terrorism,” contrary to the opportunistic pleas of the Nepalese government. The Maoists target police, army and government officials as part of their struggle to overthrow the corrupt and reactionary Nepalese government and replace it with one that serves the people’s interests. They do not use violence to intimidate the populace—as the current government does, if the Christian Science Monitor is to be believed.

The current government has done nothing to eliminate basic problems facing the majority of Nepal’s citizens, such as semi-feudalism. Semi-feudalism is the system of land ownership

concentrating power in a few landlords’ hands that also puts the peasants in a position of exploitation. Farming under capitalism is done through a wage system, but under semi-feudalism, most peasants do not own land and cannot choose their exploiters. Poverty and government also contribute to terrible public health problems: Nepal has the fourth highest maternal death rate in the world, for example, 77 times that of the United States.

Since the current government uses force to defend the status quo—with all the violence inherent in exploitation, malnutrition, and disease—the Nepalese are justified to use violence to overthrow the current government.

Notes:

1. Reuters, 14 Jun 2002.

2. Reuters, 15 May 2002.

3. Christian Science Monitor, 8 May 2002.

A call for MIM Notes sponsors and distributors!

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

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

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200	\$750
900 (Express Mail!)	\$3,840
900 (8-10 days)	\$2,200

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

I\$raeli Refuseniks criticize occupation, draw fire from reactionaries

Liberal “peace” lobby hampered by its basic assumptions

by a Studies for the Liberation of Aztlan and Latin America comrade
BEVERLY HILLS, Cal.

On Monday May 20th SLALA sat in talks by two I\$raeli “refuseniks”—I\$raeli soldiers who have refused to serve in the Occupied Territories. The speakers were Ram Rahat, a senior spokesperson for Yesh Gvul, an I\$raeli peace group, and Ishai Sagi, an artillery Lieutenant who was jailed a year ago for refusing to lead occupation forces in the Territories. Ishai spoke for most of the time with Ram Rahat making a support pitch for Yesh Gvul at the end and saying that he served for 20 years in the I\$raeli military and was one of the first Refuseniks during the I\$raeli invasion of Lebanon. His main work now is to rally support for the Refusenik movement in I\$rael and raise funds for legal fees for soldiers behind bars for refusing.

The format of the talks was autobiographical. Ishai Sagi began by explaining his roots as the son of a 25 year veteran of the Israeli Defense Force (IDF) and of the war against Lebanon

who was raised in the tradition of “defending Israel” and in the belief that the IDF is “the most humane army in the world,” whose purpose is to defend I\$raeli lives.

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MIM Theory calls for articles, testimonials

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

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

Conscious internationalist social-democracy emerging

For the last few years, MIM has talked about reformist allies in “internationalist social-democracy.” Last year, MIM passed a platform with potential to appeal to internationalist social-democracy at the expense of traditional chauvinist social-democracy. However, the allies that MIM pointed to have been single-issue activists in the environmental movement, movement for affordable health-care and elsewhere. Now there is a think tank based in England formed in May 2002 called Fabian Global Forum of social-democrats that is consciously taking up the call to reshape European social-democracy.

Glenys Kinnock, a member of European Parliament talked about how accepting global trade is positive while it is necessary to make sure the rules do not favor the rich countries as they do now. She said, “Rich countries need to

phase out quota and tariff restrictions on exports from all low-income countries, and radically reform their use of export subsidies particularly for agricultural production. The European Union’s ‘Everything but Arms’ Initiative, which was adopted in 2001, lets all products except armaments from the very poorest countries in the world enter European markets duty and quota free. This is a step in the right direction, but clearly much more needs to be done to ensure that developing countries can effectively participate in the globalisation process.”(1)

Although social-democrat Martin Shaw and others talk endlessly about defending and exporting “democracy,” none of the contributors to the forum make a clean admission about social-democracy’s past since inter-European imperialist conflict over colonies severely intensified 80 years ago.

Internationalist social-democrats, as they come into existence, enter onto MIM’s turf, the international proletariat’s turf, but they do so with a difference, which is why they are occasional allies and not “comrades.” The crucial and historical divide was World War I when social-democratic activists decided to “represent” workers of Germany, France, England etc. which had become a labor aristocracy and respect their majority opinion favoring war while the communists stayed with a scientific definition of “proletariat” and held up internationalist principle, at the expense of support in elections. As a result, social-democrats in each country voted for war which pitted the workers of Europe against the workers of Europe. Since that time, the social-democrats have had a better claim on supporting “democracy,” meaning majority rule, while the communists have favored internationalist

principle even at the expense of popularity and “democracy.”

Today as we go into an era where internationalist social-democracy has some limited prospects of success, we would be remiss not to point out the underlying competition between the united States and Europe. Since even “conservatives” in Europe have greater natural respect for social-democracy than the politicians of the united States, an Amerikkkan-led globalization looks one way while an assertive European Union means something else in global politics. The Vice-President of the European Parliament from Scotland depicted the Amerikkkan-led vision as follows, “an unregulated free market where capital is king and the poor are being ripped off by de-regulation, privatisation and the plundering by rapacious global corporations and corrupt politicians.”(2)

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International researchers publish rice genome

Scientists from China, Japan, the United States and other countries published draft genomes for the two main strains of rice in the 5 April 2002 issue of Science magazine. These new data give researchers an idea of where the 45,000-55,000 genes that influence rice plants’ characteristics are and what they might do. Researchers have already used this information to find several genes that control flowering time. The new data will also aid the study of other grains like wheat and maize, as their genomes are similar to that of rice.

Just as it hailed the draft humyn genome last year as the cure for all diseases, the bourgeois media touted the rice genome as the solution to all the world’s agricultural problems. “Could [genetically modified] rice feed the world?” asked the Independent (UK)—clearly a rhetorical question, judging from the puff piece that followed.(1) Never mind that both the published humyn and rice genomes are *draft* sequences, with much work yet to be done before they are complete. (Some researchers worry that all the hype might backfire, with funding drying up before the projects are complete.) Never mind that even when the genomes are complete, it will take decades to make sense of all that information. Never mind that there are some important characteristics and applications that capitalists will not investigate or develop, because they are not profitable.

Never mind all that, science is cool, dude, it will save the world. Ironically—dialectically—by pushing this hyperbolic view of science and technical advance, devoid of its limitations under capitalism, the bourgeoisie is pushing idealism and metaphysics, not materialism. No wonder the bourgeoisie has a hard time defeating all kinds of mystical bugaboos like creation “science.”

As the other articles in this issue of



Rice Genome Project

No wonder the bourgeoisie has a hard time defeating all kinds of mystical bugaboos like creation ‘science.’

MIM Notes make clear (see page one), the major barriers to eradicating hunger are not technological. If poor farmers can’t afford new high-yield technology, what use is it to them? If farmers from poor countries can’t compete with heavily subsidized rich-country farmers, many won’t even be farmers for much longer.

The historical experience of the first “green revolution” is relevant here. During the ’60s and ’70s, agribusiness and chemical monopolies promoted new seeds and techniques with dramatically higher yields. They claimed that this new productivity would eradicate hunger and alleviate poverty.

Food production did increase in those countries which adopted “green revolution” techniques—but hunger did not decrease. “The total food available per person in the world rose by 11 percent [from 1970 to 1990], while the estimated number of hungry people fell from 942 million to 786 million, a 16 percent drop. This was apparent progress, for which those behind the Green Revolution were

understandably happy to take the credit.

“But these figures merit a closer look. If you eliminate China from the analysis, the number of hungry people in the rest of the world actually increased by more than 11 percent, from 536 to 597 million...”(2)

“Nor was it increased population that made for more hungry people. The total food available per person actually increased. What made possible greater hunger was the failure to address unequal access to food and food-producing resources.

“The remarkable difference in China, where the number of hungry dropped from 406 million to 189 million, almost begs the question: which has been more effective at reducing hunger—the Green Revolution or the Chinese Revolution, where broad-based changes in access to land paved the way for rising living standards?”(2) MIM adds that Deng Xiaoping’s capitalist reforms are eroding the basis of these gains: land reform and collectivization. Large class disparities are re-emerging in the Chinese

countryside as wealthy farmers, often with government connections, buy up poor farmers’ lands.

In the rest of Asia, where 75% of rice areas used the new seeds by the ’90s, hunger is as bad as it ever was.(2) “According to Business Week magazine, ‘even though Indian granaries are overflowing now,’ thanks to the success of the Green Revolution in raising wheat and rice yields, ‘5,000 children die each day of malnutrition. One-third of India’s 900 million people are poverty-stricken.’ Since the poor can’t afford to buy what is produced, ‘the government is left trying to store millions of tons of foods. Some is rotting, and there is concern that rotten grain will find its way to public markets.’ The article concludes that the Green Revolution may have reduced India’s grain imports substantially, but did not have a similar impact on hunger.”(2) The Amerikan government also destroys grain or pays farmers to leave land fallow on order to keep grain prices high.

Green Revolution techniques depend on fertilizers and machinery, which many poor farmers cannot afford. As Peter Rosset et al. from the NGO Food First correctly sum up, “If the very basis of staying competitive in farming is buying expensive inputs, then wealthier farmers will inexorably win out over the poor, who are unlikely to find adequate employment to compensate for the loss of farming livelihoods.” In poor countries, this often means former farmers cannot afford food for their families. “Hunger is not caused by a shortage of food, and cannot be eliminated by producing more.”(2)

Although they will not be the principal weapons in the fight against hunger, MIM believes that biotech advances like the publication of the rice genome could help feed people—if they are in the hands of

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Bush farm bill opposing 'free trade'

Continued from page 1...

Organizations including the World Bank, the IMF and Oxfam have all admitted that despite U.S. rhetoric the United States is destroying "free trade" around the world and thus the economies of Africa.(1) The World Bank and IMF are especially hypocritical in this regard, because they enforce "free trade," by not lending development or emergency money to countries that do not open themselves to subsidized exports from rich countries—all in the name of "free trade."

Nor is all of this just Republican hypocrisy. Clinton also continued a long line of farm subsidies by signing a farm subsidy bill in 1996. It is just further proof that the bourgeoisie, the capitalists cannot accomplish this "free trade" thing they have been talking about for over 200 years. The capitalist ruling class is simply unable to rise above the politics of money in the current system. Of course the House representatives and Senate members from states with big farms make it politically impossible to abolish farm subsidies and any candidate in the dumbocracy going against the monetary interests of these farm states will be punished by those farm states. It's another reason that MIM opposes majority rule of exploiters and favors minority rule by an internationalist communist party which will have strict rules against pursuing its own self-interests.

MIM will explain further. The U.S. banks benefit when the United States cancels African debts with taxpayer money; although debt cancellation is in some ways contrary to the underlying logic of capitalism. These banks can then

get their money back more easily and can lend out more money. Congress's thinking about canceling \$10 billion in African debt but then passing a \$190 billion farm subsidy bill is consistent in one way—favoring U.S. corporate interests.

The news of the farm bill arrives at the same time as horrible news on the starvation front. The United Nations has already backed off its goal of reducing malnutrition in the year 2015 to 400 million people. Now it seeks additional funding of \$24 billion a year so that 600 million people will not go hungry by 2015.(2) What the U.N. seeks and what the U.S. Government provides in just one farm bill are not far apart. If the international proletariat forced the U.S. Government to spend its existing subsidies equally on farmers around the world instead of just American farmers, this would be a huge gain in the fight against hunger and poverty.

Meanwhile another United Nations agency is reporting that 10 million people in southern Africa are on the brink of starvation. "The U.N. World Food Programme and the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization say about four million tons of food will need to be imported to Malawi, Zimbabwe, Lesotho and Swaziland over the next year."(3) Even more could starve in upcoming years just in southern Africa. In the world as a whole, an eight-digit figure of people starve to death each year thanks to the poor distribution of food caused by capitalism. While such people are starving, the same rich countries then wonder why there is "terrorism."

United Nations, Oxfam, Christian and other charities destroy agriculture in the

Third World to benefit U.S. corporations. When food arrives free, of course, local farmers go out of business. While Oxfam has at least raised its voice against American trade hypocrisy, none of these organizations has the political will or knowledge to solve the real problem. In fact, even MIM's call for the meager reform of international price supports is not widely heard. This is another reason why the international proletariat must organize itself politically with Maoist internationalist parties at the head.

True free trade can only occur under communism, a world without borders, property interests and governments favoring one faction of the human race over another to such an extent that a portion dies from starvation each year. We call the transition to the world of communism "socialism." Socialism is in some ways an incremental development beyond capitalism. In the case of internationalist price supports, there are some planks in MIM's platform that even capitalism can implement. For MIM the point of socialism is to implement the survival rights of the people through any means necessary, including "dictatorship of the proletariat." Once those rights have been implemented and no one is starving, we may then proceed to a world without coercion, communism.

Notes:

1. Warren Vieth, "U.S. Exports Misery to Africa With Farm Bill" Los Angeles Times, 27May2002.

2. <http://www.cnn.com/2002/WORLD/europe/06/04/food.hunger/index.html>

3. <http://www.cnn.com/2002/WORLD/africa/05/30/africa.famine/index.html>

Food summit

Continued from page 1...

some eight billion dollars per year, against over 300 billion to their own rural populations."(3)

In other words, for every \$1.00 the rich countries give to farmers abroad in poor countries, they give \$37.50 to farmers at home. In terms of fighting hunger, this ratio is upside down. (Of course, in terms of more profits for American businesses and cheesy vote-buying, it's about right.) MIM favors "price support" subsidies for all farmers everywhere growing food that can help end world hunger—not just farmers in America and France. It is much more important to subsidize African farmers than American farmers

Even a high-ranking European Union official admitted that E.U. subsidies to European farmers violated principles of "free trade"—although he reserved his harshest criticism for the recently-passed American farm bill, which he called, "highly deplorable."(3)

The United States main contribution to the conference was a clause in the final document promoting research into genetically modified crops.(4) The United States alleges that such new crops could bring about a second "green revolution" to feed the world. Of course, huge technological developments in agriculture over the last century, including the first "green revolution" in the '70s, did not solve the hunger problem (see also "International researchers publish rice genome" on page 4). In fact, agricultural production in many poor countries *dropped* as a result of the first "green revolution," which was driven by rich nations' business interests, not poor countries' needs.

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, one of the only two heads of states from rich countries to attend the summit—although he left early to watch the World Cup—somewhat opportunistically linked the summit to the "war on terrorism." "The problem of hungry people in the world is, after terrorism, or indeed alongside terrorism, the most serious problem facing the world community. One must remember that a starving man is a desperate man, perhaps even a dangerous one." His priorities are skewed—more than six times the number killed in the World Trade Center die every day of hunger, making this priority number one in MIM's book—but he is correct to link the two problems. What he and other capitalist leaders cannot provide is a solution to either problem. As MIM said in its September 11 statement, "It's time to break with old thinking to get at the root causes of human conflict — production for profit, the class system, conflicts over land etc. These can only be addressed by communism, as difficult as it will be to achieve."

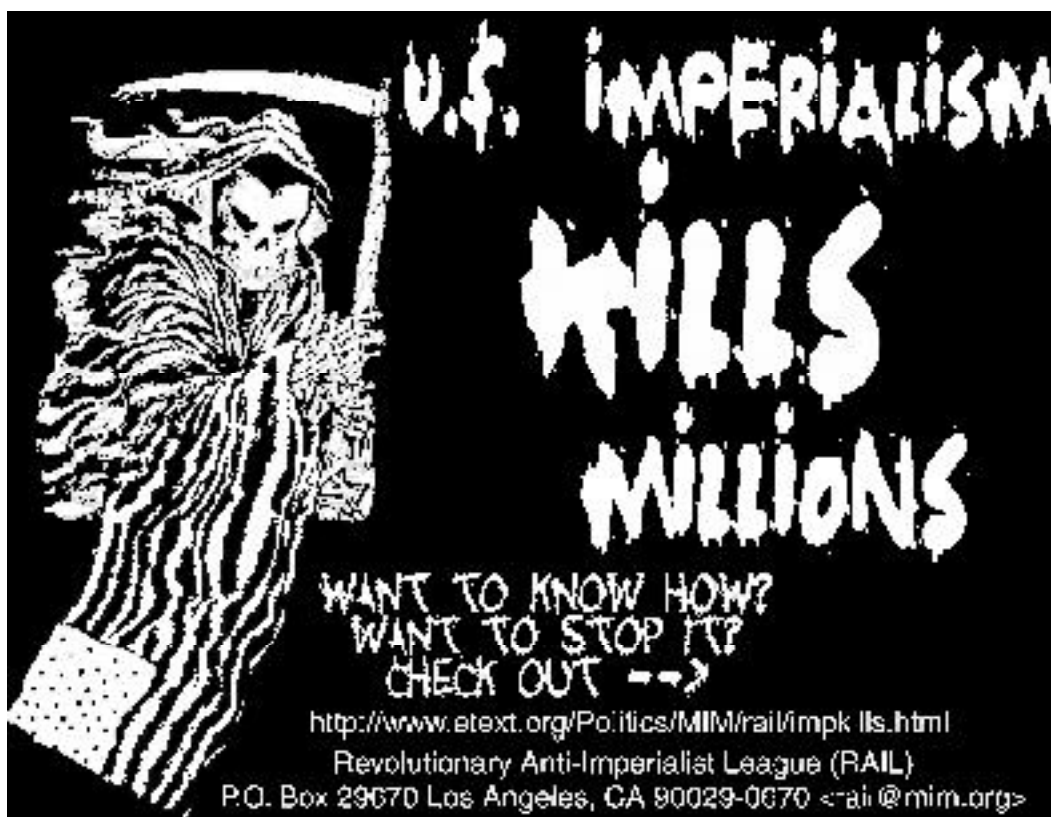
Notes:

1. BBC, news.bbc.co.uk, 13 Jun 2002.

2. The Independent (UK), 8 Apr 2002.

3. AFP, asia.news.yahoo.com/020612/afp, 12 Jun 2002.

4. Reuters, 13 Jun 2002.



Stickers with this graphic on them are available for sale and distribution. Contact rail@mim.org or write to MIM at PO Box 29670, Los Angeles CA 90029-0670. ("Kills" is red, and there's red blood on the blade.)

Earth First! activists win \$4 million rights lawsuit

Continued from page 1...

asked whether they still track the activities of activists the OPD refused to comment.(1)

Earth First! is a radical anarchist organization devoted to direct action to protect the environment. Bari, who died of breast cancer in 1997, helped lead civil disobedience campaigns, such as the one to stop redwood logging in Humboldt County. During these campaigns activists blockaded sawmills, chained themselves to bulldozers and otherwise disrupted logging. These actions pissed off the timber industry, mill workers and lumberjacks.

Bari received many death threats for her efforts, so the bombing was not entirely a surprise. That the FBI and OPD were all over the crime scene within minutes of the explosion suggests that not just the timber industry had it in for Bari. And their failure to investigate or even take seriously the death threats, instead focusing on pinning the bomb on Bari and Cherney reveals the motives of the FBI and OPD. Trying to explain away their lack of investigation, Phil Sena, the FBI case agent said "Threats are in the eye of the beholder."(2)

One of the first pieces of "evidence"

used to arrest Bari and Cherney was the conclusion that the bomb was in the back seat of the car and so they must have been aware of the explosive. But it is obvious even to the inexperienced eye looking at the car wreckage that the bomb exploded under the drivers seat, a conclusion that an FBI lab technician finally reached three weeks later. Among fabricated "clues" linking Bari and Cherney to the bomb were nails discovered in the car (not surprising since Bari was a carpenter) which were supposedly identical to the nails in the bomb. This evidence was used to justify a search warrant for Bari's residence, but in fact the two sets of nails bore no resemblance to each other at all. Then after a raid on Bari's house the OPD again discovered nails that supposedly matched exactly to the nails in the bomb. And again this evidence was used to authorize a second search warrant for Bari's house. But again this supposed match between nails was completely false.

On the stand FBI agents and Oakland police officers contradicted each other in their testimony. And in sworn testimony agents admitted they were either lying or would be willing to lie. One of the key

FBI investigators, Frank Doyle, said "Perhaps in the deposition I agreed to things I should have said were otherwise." The FBI agent in charge of the case took a more evasive tactic saying "I have no recollection of anything I authored." And he went further to claim he really shouldn't be blamed because "I had no idea what was going on in the case, and furthermore, I wasn't all that interested."(2) These quotes lend themselves to the conclusion that this was just a case of bungling and miscommunication, the argument of the lawyers for the defense. But the bigger picture makes it clear that this was a targeted operation against Earth First! activists by the FBI and Oakland Police Department.

Activists should pay attention to this case and understand that the police and FBI continue active surveillance of activists and will seize any opportunity to frame and arrest those under surveillance. The U.S. government takes threats to capitalism seriously, and the freedoms supposedly ensured to people in this country do not extend to those threatening the system. We can learn

from the history of the FBI attacks on the Black Panther Party that it is capable of murdering, imprisoning and destroying militant anti-imperialist leaders and organizations. This is not just a strategy of the past. In Oakland, the birthplace of the Black Panther Party, surveillance and attacks against activists continue. And we can be certain that they continue elsewhere in the country as well.

MIM advises activists to take basic precautions when organizing. Don't make the pig's job easier. Avoid talking about organizing details on telephones which can be tapped. Wear a hat and other coverings to make it harder to take your picture and identify you when doing public organizing. And don't give out your name, phone number or address to people you don't know. Fear of the FBI and police should not keep us from organizing, but activists need to be realistic about the rights we do and do not enjoy in this country.

Notes:

1. San Francisco Bay Guardian, May 29, 2002.
2. Indymedia web site: sf.indymedia.org

International researchers publish rice genome

Continued from page 4...

people who put humyn interests first, not profit. Monopoly capitalists like Monsanto, DuPont etc. not only control who applies new technology and how, but they set the research agenda.

"In 1999, one coporation, IBM, had more patents (2756) than 134 countries combined (2643)."(4) These patents are used to enforce companies' monopolies. This is an example of how "intellectual property" can be transformed into "a non-tariff barrier to trade" as the Wall Street Journal would say.(3)

"[O]f the 1233 drugs that have been approved in the last decade, only 11 of these were for treating tropical diseases, and of these half were intended for livestock, not humans."(5) This bias away from the most pressing global human needs towards profit can also be seen in two of the heavily-publicized "genetically modified organisms:" One seed line from Monsantos which made it impossible for farmers to set aside part of the yield for the next year's crop, and another variety which improved the effectiveness (and hence the sales) of a particular pesticide.

When it comes to humyn needs like food or healthcare, MIM is in favor of pitting the Third World bourgeoisie against the imperialist country bourgeoisie, in the name of "free trade"

and against "intellectual property."(3) This can lead to reforms such as when imperialist-country drug companies waived their patents and allowed Third World countries to make cheap versions of anti-HIV drugs.(6) Under socialism, MIM would have the state pay researchers fixed sums for discoveries relevant to meeting humyn needs. This would provide a material incentive for those still backwards enough to need it while at the same time making the fruits of their research available to all.

Notes:

1. The Independent (UK), 5 Apr 2002.
2. Tikkun Magazine, Mar 2000, www.foodfirst.org/media/op-eds.
3. "On utilizing contradictions in the bourgeoisie and the principal contradiction in 2001," MIM Notes 238, 15 Jul 2001.
4. Science, 5 Apr 2002, p. 57, www.sciencemag.org.
5. Science, 5 Apr 2002, p. 55, www.sciencemag.org.
6. MIM Notes 234, 1 May 2002.

What is militarism?



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. 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

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.

I\$raeli Refuseniks draw fire from reactionaries

Continued from page 3...

Immediately this was disproved when he described some common practices of his unit. This involved carrying out nighttime raids into Palestinian homes and “securing” (at gunpoint) families while his superiors interrogated the men and threatened them with the removal of work-permits if they did not give names of neighbors as supposed terrorists. Also on the list of the “most humane army in the world” was sacking and looting Palestinian homes under the pretext of “confiscating weapons” so that “not a single kitchen knife is available in the West Bank.”

Ishai joined IDF at the age of 18 and began policing the borders. From there he went on to the Golan Heights, the border with Lebanon and then to Nablus in the Territories. Here he was given the following “Firing Orders:” “Any Palestinian that picks up a stone, shoot him.” The absurd reasoning behind this was that while army convoys travel at the bottom of ravines and through tunnels, stones inadvertently dropped from the top would gain such momentum so as to shatter the glass of a military vehicle, kill or distract the driver and cause an accident that could claim or endanger I\$raeli lives. That is why they had to shoot anyone, including 6-year-old children, who pick up rocks. Ishai called this reasoning “occupation logic” where the principle of “protecting Israeli lives” is used to justify any action in support of I\$raeli settlers and their military defenders.

At this point an aspiring mass-murderer in the audience could not contain himself and could not wait for the conclusion of Ishai’s argument and gave himself away by enthusiastically leaping up and clapping as Ishai explained how occupational logic demanded that

Palestinian children be irreverently machine-gunned for the sake of defending I\$raeli lives. He quickly sat back down when he noticed that his blood lust had gotten the best of him. There were a few hushed “yeahs” from the opposition contingent in the back.

Another example of “Occupational Logic” involved stone-throwing settlers in the Occupied Territories. The I\$raeli army doesn’t have authority over I\$raeli citizens, and therefore cannot order them to stop throwing rocks at Palestinians. On the other hand the I\$raeli army is bound to defend I\$raeli citizens against anyone so their orders were “Defend Settlers when they are the ones throwing rocks.”

Ishai recalled that one of his soldiers handed him a leaflet explaining why the I\$raeli occupation was in violation of international law and that he shared this information with others under his command because “It is my job to protect my men and did not want them to do anything illegal that would have consequences for them.” For this his superiors reprimanded him. He concluded his talk by saying how he refused a second tour of the Occupied Territories and was sent to prison.

In addition to the 100 or so participants (mainly members of the Synagogue and press) there was a loud opposition contingent of 20 outright reactionaries and their infants lined up along the far wall of the hall each carrying signs bearing the slogans “Traitors to Israel” and “Terrorists!” These reactionaries were outraged that opposition to the I\$raeli occupation would manifest itself in “their temple” but did little to argue about anything said by the speakers (for they did not wait around for the Q&A part of the program). Instead they spent most of their time booing mention of the words “peace” and “justice” when these

were mentioned.

Shouting matches ensued between participants and disruptors before Beverly Hills Police showed up to ask the disruptors to keep quiet during the event. One particularly frenzied reactionary, a young woman who spent much of the time shouting and inciting the infants present to cry finally shrieked that she could no longer bear to listen to Ishai’s tales and stormed out of the building, at which time everyone else began clapping and booing.

During the Q&A period, Ram Rahat said in answer to a question about U.N. peace proposals that Yesh Gvul favored the two-state solution with I\$rael retreating to its 1967 boundaries, while Ishai said he thought the IDF should police the borders and pull out of the Occupied Territories.

During his time at the border Ishai says he realized that border checkpoints were “ineffective” in stopping the movement of Palestinian laborers into Israel. He said that it was possible for the military to stop and harass some laborers, but that in the meantime 10 others would get by. Ishai declared himself a staunch supporter of border checkpoints and claims that they are necessary to keep “terrorists” out of I\$rael and that the reason so many “terrorists” get through is that the army is in the territories defending a handful of fanatical settlers. His “solution” implies more military buildup along the border between I\$rael and the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. [Which he well get, as I\$rael just announced plans to build a 70-mile long fence along its border with the West Bank.] During the discussion of “Occupational Logic” people in the audience questioned why I\$raeli convoys were in the Territories to begin with and both the audience and Ishai blamed the fanatical settlers.

So on the one hand, some of the I\$raeli opposition to occupation recognizes that I\$raeli convoys and settlers have no business in Palestine. But on the other hand both the war-mongers and this opposition share the some of the basic principles of “Occupational Logic”. These people are so consumed by the mythology of “the democratic state of I\$rael” and so used to living off the backs of the oppressed that they unquestioningly buy into the rhetoric of “protecting I\$raeli lives from terrorists” and arrive at conclusions like increased military buildup at the border.

At a time when the ruling party in I\$rael has made it a point of principle that there “will never be a Palestinian state” peace-minded people in I\$rael and in the United States should not seek to achieve peace through half-measures about the “obvious need for security” because this is the inroad for war mongering and fascism. The Liberal “peace” lobby in both I\$rael and the United States continues to dodge the real issues of reparations, socialism, and the removal of settlers—most likely by force of arms. The question Liberals should be asking is why they’re willing to let I\$rael continue its hegemony over the oppressed nations while turning a blind-eye to the historical consequences of their democratic chatter.

The event was sponsored by the Progressive Jewish Alliance, an Amerikan Jewish organization with good views on the Death Penalty and U.\$ drug laws (www.pjalliance.org); the Los Angeles chapter of the international vigil group, Women in Black (www.wib-la.org); the I\$raeli peace group, Yesh Gvul (“There is a Limit!” www.ywsh-gvul.org); and The Shefa Fund an Amerikan Jewish fund-raising organization (www.shefafund.org).

Conscious internationalist social-democracy

Continued from page 4...

When one considers how much trouble Europe gave U.S. President George W. Bush over the global warming treaty that the Bush backed the united States out of, a picture emerges where the capitalists of Europe decide to compete with Amerikkkan capitalists by using a social-democratic facade. While Amerikkkans stand for polluting for profit, the Europeans step back and say that they can compete as business people while respecting global regulations. Amerikkkans and neo-liberals say regulation is bad while internationalist social-democracy can point to the value of having global regulations.

The internationalist social-democrats are in a difficult spot. As they surrender their traditional support to Le Pen and the “right-wing,” the social-democrats will make unreliable allies because of their respect for majority rule. They seek careers in European Parliament and thus

need a way to put together majority support in elections. In the end they will sacrifice the interests of the international proletariat in order to obtain majority support, because of their respect for and self-interest in “democracy.”

MIM agrees with most of what professor Martin Shaw had to say about the need to remake social-democracy. He concluded his article on the new Fabian website the following way: “Social democracy will only become genuinely global if it can see itself as something very different from a safe and fairly comfortable corner of European politics, and can imagine a very different role and a very different world. The global challenge to social democracy is deep and potentially uncomfortable. It remains to be seen if it can be grasped.”(3) Social-democracy will have a hard time reaching its full internationalist potential without supporting the People’s Wars in the Third

World. This will be a difficulty, but globalist social-democracy has some potential for staving off traditional fascism in Europe. While traditional social-democracy is our entrenched enemy, we have many prospects of unity with globalist social-democracy on our platform of an international minimum wage, international limitations on hours worked, international rights to education, international agricultural price supports etc.

Notes:

1. <http://www.fabianglobalforum.net/global600/article001.html>
2. <http://www.fabianglobalforum.net/global600/article002.html>
3. <http://www.fabianglobalforum.net/forum/article001.html>

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

What's New @ MIM's Homepage

MIM website readership doubled over last year

by Web Minister

May 2002 was a blockbuster month for MIM's website in terms of achieving MIM's central task of "creating public opinion and the independent institutions of the oppressed to seize power." Rather than declining as in May 2001, readership increased sharply in May 2002 from both a year ago and a month ago. We believe this is proof that we can beat the usual summer trend of a precipitous drop-off in readership. May 2002 showed that it is possible to accelerate MIM web traffic growth beyond its 80 to 100% annual rate seen the past year.

Top ten non-U.S. locations receiving 100 or more MIM web pages

Ranked by total kilobytes transferred (not number of pages)

Location	Pages served
Germany	3,865
Canada	2,721
Australia	2,312
France	780
"United Kingdom"	1,912
Sweden	643
Japan	477
Belgium	279
Netherlands	637
Italy	1,069

Other big users included "South Africa" (254 pages), the Philippines (125), China's Taiwan province (220), Finland (430), Brazil (215), and Singapore (154).

Comparing May 2001 to May 2002

	2001	2002	%change
Avg. MIM pages served per day	1010	2361	+133.8
Number of different computers MIM served	11,217	28,050	+150.1
Number of different MIM files actively chosen from	2,401	3495	+45.6
MIM data transferred average per day (Mb)	62.4	102.3	+63.9

May 2002 was the first month in which we had an article in Farsi (spoken in Iran and western Afghanistan). Our objective was to let the Farsi-speaking world know that there is a MIM and what it stands for. MIM does not attempt to organize parties in the Third World.

Our culture pages also continued to expand.

Movie reviews read over 500 times in May

Movie	Readings
The Matrix	2,312
Blackhawk Down	900
Moulin Rouge	661
Star Trek	568
Truman Show	538
A Bug's Life	532

Most popular music reviews

Band	Times requested
Metal in general	110
System of a Down "Toxicity"	70
Tool	68
Tupac	59
Hatebreed	58

The web site—especially its art and movie review pages—is leading the party into the cultural work that should always precede revolution.

Just some selected other reports:

* Once again, the top read September 11th story is in Chinese and second place goes to the Spanish translation of the definition of terrorism.

* The Tiananmen article in Chinese was served 815 times.

* MIM served the most popular Black Panther article 666 times.

* Readers read 443 pages in MIM Notes 257 in .pdf format.

Standard disclaimers

1. The numbers in these reports are conservative estimates for a number of reasons.

a. The number of computer users refers to number of computers. The number of users could be higher or lower, because some computers serve pages to more than one individual, because individuals share computers and because conversely individuals use computers in more than one place.

b. The number of pages served should

be thought of as a minimum, because statistics do not count re-readings or re-servings from local computer memory. Nor do they count sharing of pages once downloaded.

c. Most but not all graphics served are excluded from the figures to cut back on increasing "page" averages just by calling up various graphics.

2. Tracking where computers are from is bound to have some error as many wise users intentionally surf the web and leave a false trail. On the other hand, we doubt that such error means that non-U.S. readership is lower than reported, given that we do not count .com, .net and .edu readership.

Notes:

1. As in past reports of this format, these statistics exclude most graphics.

2. Excludes non-U.S. computers that have .com, .edu or .net suffixes—a very common occurrence. We also exclude another quarter with non-identifiable addresses.

MIM website gains international audience

by Web Minister, June 16, 2002

After a record-breaking May, the MIM website fell back as expected in the first two weeks of June. Nonetheless, there are two odd silver linings to the June statistics already.

First, although the number of readers is down, the size of files, such as books and .zip files is up, double on average thanks to large files being downloaded. Hopefully this means readers are seriously studying the MIM website, even if there are fewer readers.

The really big news is that over 60% of MIM's readership comes from outside U.S. borders, as measured by megabytes of data transferred. Exactly one-third of all MIM data transferred the first two weeks of June went to the Asia-Pacific region. Another 27% went to Europe. These figures refer only to known hosts served in certain regions. After certain .com and other hosts have been accurately counted, the figure would be higher than 60%, but we do not know how much higher. At least 4954 requests came from Europe and Asian/Pacific people requested files that are on average larger than those chosen by Europeans 3323 times in the first two weeks of June, 2002.

We checked our past reports, especially

the August, 2001 report since it was before September 11th. At that time, there was as yet no such trend evident at all. Host geographies were widely dispersed and hugely dominated by U.S. readers—at least we assume since the task of tallying those websites would be very difficult. We will have to keep an eye on whether or not the European and Asian/Pacific readership will remain dominant.

In August of 2001, MIM served only 8617 distinct host computers an average of 909 pages a day. As we focus on August, 2002 and measuring our response to September 11th, we hope to beat that figure by as large a margin as we can, even more than by 80 to 100% as we usually expect on an annual basis.

It remains unclear whether MIM will be able to accelerate readership later in the summer as hoped. Further analysis of May, 2002 figures and why they accelerated so much showed that some of my initial enthusiasm for having uncovered the secrets of the Internet proved incorrect: a pornography site had decided to link to us briefly and produced a large part of our gains. MIM infrastructure volunteers like myself are familiar with being in this position. (See, "Against lifestyle idealism: The PIRAO and porn" at <http://www.etext.org/>

Politics/MIM/wim/cong/piraoporn.html)

Comrades can contribute to our goal of solidly thrashing the August, 2001 figures in many ways—by giving money, by doing the hard real-world labor of

distributing newspapers, by translating articles, by writing music reviews and by coming up with new interest areas that would be appropriate for the MIM web page.



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MAOIST MOVIE REVIEWS

Yes, Virginia, we were mercenaries...

We Were Soldiers (2002)
Directed by Randall Wallace

We agree with many movie critics that the movie "We Were Soldiers" departed heavily from critical Hollywood Vietnam war movies like "Full Metal Jacket" and "Platoon" or the highly personalized "Born on the Fourth of July." "Soldiers" not only tried to make the men of the 7th Airmobile Division look professional—"just doing my job, ma'am, nothing personal"—but it portrayed them as deeply patriotic, in an almost religious sense, devoid of politics. In this the film builds on the other recent war film, "Black Hawk Down," which also emphasized soldiers' personal commitment to each other over any discussion about what the soldiers were doing and why.

Thus, behind the weekly list of box-office hits—"biggest opening in a month beginning in 'J' in an odd-numbered year ever"—is the unseen hand of the Pentagon, White House and their super-

patriot conspirators in Hollywood. They want to hype Amerika's sense of pride and unity.

In order to look objective, the "Soldiers" tried to strike a balance by showing the human side of the Vietnamese People's Army (NVA), the Amerikan adversary in the war. The film tried to recount the NVA struggle against the French—if only to differentiate the "freedom-loving" Amerikans from the colonizing French

But ultimately the film just made the Vietnamese look stupid to highlight the Amerikan technological advantage in the air and in firepower. Thus the film only justifies and escalates the awesome terror war machine that we witness today in Afghanistan and the Philippines.

Counterproductive self-glorification

Actually the film echoed all the anti-communist pictures in the past. "55 Days in Peking" (1963), "Sand Pebbles"

(1966), "The Green Berets" (1968) and other racist films that depicted Asian peasant-based revolutionaries as mindless suicidal hordes, doomed to be defeated by smarter, stronger Westerners.

But if the movie viewer will only be a keen observer one may ask: Is it not the height of desperation for a ground commander to order his air and artillery support to fire on his perimeter for the fear of being overrun by his enemies? Only a commander on the brink of defeat would give such an order.

Moshe Dayan, the Zionist defense minister in 1967 said, "The Vietnam War is a helicopter's war, so the U.S. will win this war." How wrong he was. In 1975, the US withdrew all its forces in Vietnam and until now is trying to exorcise the ghost of its terrible defeat in that war. All of the Amerikan imperialists' technological superiority could not save them from defeat in Vietnam, any more than it can stop "terrorist" attacks at home.

You'd think the Amerikan imperialists would have learned their lesson and quit meddling in other nations' affairs; quit backing corrupt politicians allied with feudal lords; quit exploiting the world's majority. But they can't. It's in their nature, as Mao said. They are driven to conquer greater and greater profits, so they "make trouble, fail, and make trouble again" until the proletariat puts them down for good.

Hollywood makes this kind of movie to pacify ruffled hearts and minds. Movies will not exorcise the ghost of Amerika's defeat in Vietnam. It will take more than a wall of remembrance in to turn their defeat to victory.

Yes, Virginia, if the United States could not win in China, Vietnam, Cuba or any part of the world they want to, at least they can win in their movies like "We Were Soldiers."

—MZZ76, a friend of MIM; edited by MC206

Letters

Continued from page 2...

popped up on the screen! I am outraged, animals are treated better than most of these people. Its not fair I know, but all I can do is write and just let you know that someone out there really does care about you guys.

I printed out about four pages and put it on the kitchen table so that someone in my family would read it, and was actually hoping that my father would read them and try to do something about it. He is probably just as ignorant as all those stupid fucks out there that make all these fucked up laws! He "has never even heard of Cedar Junction"! I just don't get it!

My ex-husband, went all through the system so I have heard a lot about it and have also been through a small part myself. Like a lot of the inmates who have been locked up for a long time he started out in Walpole! He actually told me one time that the old Salem Jail, where if you had to use the bathroom you had to use a bucket and then throw it in a big "well" of some kind. Which he also said was right by where the weights were, was the best jail that he had been to!

For him to have said that to me something isn't right. I could probably tell you stories all day long that he has told me, just like I know you could do the same.

That is not the point of this letter though.

I just want you to know that if it matters at all, I feel bad for all the people that are suffering right now for the wrong reasons. If there is anything that you think a 23 year person could do then let me know. If not at least you know that

someone out there doesn't look at a cop driving down the street, and think that he is out driving around trying to help out the community. I know exactly what those stupid shits are up to ,and it is driving around aimlessly all day long looking for someone who he might think just might be up to something "against the law". They actually go out and look for shit like that.

Just one example, I was in Middleton the other day and there was an old lady holding a shopping bag standing and the corner waiting for a light to change so that she could cross the street, and what do I see fly past the right of me? Yep, a fucking pig not paying any attention to the old lady or thinking anything about maybe getting her across that busy street safely, no, he was more concerned about getting in front of me so that when it changed to become one lane that he would be one car ahead in line!

Fuck 'em all thats what I say, I know that won't change anything but, still. I would say have a good day, but I know that ain't gonna happen. Try and make that best out of your day and hopefully you will think of something for me to do for you.

Take care,

— a reader in Massachusetts,
 June 2002

MIM responds: Thanks for your letter. We definitely do want to hear from people like yourself who think the system is messed up and needs changing. We see the problem with the prison system as part of a larger problem with this country. It is a symptom of an imperialist system which uses social control to maintain its power, both in this country and in the Third World. In Third World countries the U.\$ takes resources and cheap labor

for profit, and uses the military (and puppet militaries and governments) to keep the people from rising up and taking power for themselves. In this country the majority of the people have been bought off and so choose not to see the oppression going on. Still, the internal semi-colonies (e.g. Blacks, Latinos, and First Nations) are oppressed, and more likely to rebel. One of the clearest examples of this oppression is the fact that the United States disproportionately imprisons these groups. The United States imprisons Blacks at a higher rate than Apartheid South Africa.

There are many things that a 23 year old persyn can do to fight this injustice. In fact that is why we put the information out on our web site, we want people to read about the injustice and be inspired to take action. First, we will point you to the agitation section of our web site

where there are lots of campaigns described with potential actions that people can take. You can find that at <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/agitation/> and included on that page is a section on prisons. There is a lot of work to be done around the criminal injustice system which, in this country, is used as a tool of social control to keep the imperialists safely in power.

Many of the campaigns listed on our web page target just the kind of problems you mention in your e-mail: the terrible conditions and treatment of prisoners across the United States. There is also information about MIM's Books for Prisoners program which offers political education to prisoners, providing free literature and also the opportunity to work and struggle with comrades on the outside.

UNITED FRONT

Get the new issue of MIM Theory, #14, and read the latest theory on building the movement to overthrow imperialism once and for all, in 174 pages. Articles include MIM congress resolutions, history from the Spanish Civil War to Puerto Rico, Kenya, and Stalin -- plus international documents, reviews, and much more. Send \$7.50 to the address on page 2.

Under Lock & Key

News from Prisons & Prisoners

IL prisoner brings lawsuits and press coverage; IDOC clamps down hard

After 17 years in maximum security, I decided to sell out for myself, settling a four year Federal lawsuit to go to a medium security facility. I signed a contract after my court-appointed attorney assured me that nothing would go wrong as long as I obeyed the rules. After my arrival, I learned that the IDOC had adopted a new ranking system, making my new prison one step away from a maximum security one. I tried to get the settlement reversed, but the judge threw it out.

As I adapted to my new environment, I found the health care system to be a death sentence. A young first-timer kept being misdiagnosed about his stomach complaints and finally died of cancer. I started publishing articles in a Chicago newspaper about all these prisoners' sufferings, and I was finally shipped out to a "punishment prison," Shawnee Correctional Center. Shawnee normally accepts parole violators and prisoners from other facilities with disciplinary problems.

When I tried to get the breach of contract heard in court, the same judge threw out my case. I then filed a complaint against my attorney with the Attorney Disciplinary Commission, but the lawyer claimed he never advised me that my transfer was permanent. I'm sending a copy of a letter my attorney sent to the Assistant Attorney General who also signed my contract with me as proof that my lawyer is full of shit. I'm now too far from home for visits with my elderly father. The IDOC will not even honor my father's doctor's note, advising that I should be moved closer to my father for visitation, as my father is in failing health.

During my stay at this punishment camp, I have been exposing the prison for what it is and have been cussed out and threatened by the warden. In fact, my MIM Notes were confiscated and I was made to either mail them back or destroy them. In all of this struggle, I received the address of a lawyer who is looking for prisoners who have been abused in IDOC health care, for participation in a possible class action suit. He is:

Benjamin Wolf, Legal Director, ACLU, 180 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60601-1287

— an Illinois prisoner, May, 2002

LA Kops' old tricks

I'm intimately familiar with the pains and tribulations of the struggle. When I was merely a 13 year old kid, L.A. Sheriff's deputies caught me horsing around on the roof of a supermarket. They came up onto the roof, handcuffed

me at gun-point, beat me, called me many niggers, and then they threw me off the roof of the supermarket whilst I was still handcuffed behind my back.

—a California prisoner, 24 May, 2002

Protest prison brutality

Below is a protest letter written in response to one of our campaigns in Under Lock and Key. We encourage all readers, prisoners and non-prisoners alike, to join us in sending letters to protest the conditions at Limestone Correctional Facility.

Albert N Muskowitz Section Chief Civil Rights Division US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington DC 20530-6018

4/11/02

Re: Limestone Correctional Facility Lockup Unit

Mr. Muskowitz,

My name is ABC XYZ, and I'm presently confined at XXX Correctional Facility. I'm writing you due to some very disturbing news that I read in a recent publication. The news that I read was in regards to the horrific conditions at Limestone Correctional Facility Lockup Unit. The article described in detail the deplorable conditions that the prisoners are subjected to at the facility. Mainly the fact that prisoners on numerous occasions are beaten beyond recognition and without mercy for nothing what so ever. I'm writing you in hopes that the purported illegal abuse will stop and those directly and indirectly responsible alike be brought to justice. I thank you for your attention to this matter and I hope to hear from you shortly.

Yours etc., A New York Prisoner

Fighting prison censorship

Dear MIM,

I just got MIM Notes for April and I wanted to touch base and let you know. There were several articles I really enjoyed reading, namely "Amerika - the real nuclear rogue state", "Thousands support Palestinian self-determination", and of course everything dealing with prison censorship of inmates First Amendment liberties. The latter of the three subjects is of great interest to me because I have recently been studying up on the facially overbroad regulation of publications due in no small part to the fact that these capitalist swine rejected a book I ordered entitled Peristroka from the U.S. book club (they're cheap and I'm broke). There is little doubt that mail-room officials may conclude certain

publications, though seemingly innocuous to laymen, have significant implications for the order and security of the prison. However, it is equally certain that prison walls do not form a barrier separating prison inmates from the protection of the constitution, nor do they bar free citizens from exercising their own constitutional rights by reaching out to those on the inside - Turner v. Safely, 482 U.S. 78 96 LED 2nd 64, 107 SC&2254.

The limitations placed upon First Amendment Freedoms must be no greater than necessary or essential to the protection of the particular governmental interest involved. These swine (read mail-room officials) are sweeping their censorship too wide, and therefore are placing unnecessary burdens upon many inmates rights. The first question a prisoner should ask himself is whether the actions of the officials is reasonably related to penological interests.

—a prisoner in TN, May 2002

Dear MIM,

I just received your letter with information on how to fight prison censorship. I'm certainly gonna read up on it in the law library (I don't know anything about the law stuff but I'm still going to read up on it.)

I did put in a grievance on the 20th asking why [my MIM Notes] were held for that long and not letting me know any reason or get any kind of notice. I notice these prison workers want to reject mail that they don't agree with. Instead of being staff prison workers they want to be police officers, investigators, inspectors, nosy low lifes thinking everything is a threat when I know for sure that MIM Notes and all the other publications you guys have are very helpful and they do help us prisoners to educate ourselves because I've seen it before.

I am in a lockdown facility, segregation maximum, 1 hour out so I'm going to start reading and checking up on that law library because I know these prison workers are doing some shady thing and are evil.

I did receive my appeal back for the appeal on "MIM Notes" and "What is the Maoist Internationalist Movement" and it says: "the MIM magazine and MIM Notes have been sent for headquarters review. Should headquarters support the rejection the MIM magazine and MIM notes will be barred state wide. Should headquarters not support the rejection, the magazine will be returned to CBCC and forwarded to you."

I think these people reject it because

they seen where it says "Internationalist Movement," and when they seen that they just reject it because like you said, there was no "evidence to support their claim." There were no details on the mail rejections.

—a prisoner in WA, May 2002
Tennessee Warden arrested

Dear MIM,

We are going through some changes at this prison right now. Hell we don't even have a warden no more! Yeah the U.S. Marshall came a few weeks ago and escorted him from the property, handcuffed and all. They reported on the local news that the warden, James M. Dukes, and his associate Warden Bruce Westbrook had several criminal and civil complaints filed against them by prison employees and former employees for a number of reasons. Interestingly

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.

enough, all of the complaints were of a sexual nature; i.e. sexual-assault, sexual-battery, fondling, sexual harassment, etc. Fucking perverts, I hope they get just what they deserve too. Unfortunately, officials like them enjoy some sort of immunity, plus they'll just get probation if they get anything at all. I expect the Attorney General to settle on a monetary basis with the employees just to avoid liability if the cases were to instead be litigated. They are always gonna look out for their own.

— a prisoner in TN, May 2002

United Struggle from Within

As Washington USW member #1 and leader I will address a couple of issues.

Issue 1: Clallam Bay Censorship. [In response to reports of recent censorship there] Clallam Bay has a long history of rejecting publications and literature. Censorship has been successfully won once in this state. CBCC is steep in racism, nepotism and repression. I think and know the censorship issue can be won there because MIM Notes has not been banned statewide. The comrade and MIM have to appeal the mail rejection to the Office of Corrections Operations at DOC, PO Box 4129, Olympia WA 98504-1129. They review all materials, books, publications, and make the decision to accept or reject subject materials.

DOC policy states that publications can't be rejected based on political or religious ideology. MIM has been accepted at WSP, MICC, WCC, SCCC and WSR. I know because I have been to those facilities within the last year and a half. There should be no problem as long as the comrade is not on any mail restrictions. I would suggest that until the institution accepts MIM Notes that you send him material off the web site, it would be easier.

The comrade must also be, if need be, ready to fight the mail rejection all the way to the top, even if it means a law suit. I and another comrade have already lost (for now) a civil suit on the strip cell abuse at CBCC. I went all the way to the Ninth Circuit. I have not given up. I will try to file a motion for reconsideration but it has almost been 60 days.

Issue 2: McNeil Island Correction Center rejected a USW cover letter [stating that the slogan in the letter "Arms Up, Fist High" was the reason.] I think the sleeping giant is starting to wake up. A lot of comrades are starting to respond to the USW call. The enemy reads too. I think they may be a little upset about the article in MIM Notes 249, Jan 1, 2002 Under Lock and Key. I sat in that IMU for six months receiving MIM Notes and other publications and books with no problem. That is where in the belly of the beast I came up with the slogan Arms Up, Fist High, I'm not the first or the last that will use it. It is something that surfaced from the heart so if you want to revise the letter and add the significance of the slogan you can, and tell them I came up with it.

Arms up, Fist high has two levels of understanding. 1) When the arm is raised it is standing up, reaching out apart from the body, independence. The clenched fist is a symbol of strength and solidarity. 2) Arms up: to arm oneself with any tools one needs by any means necessary to connect to the fist. Fist high: Is a clenched hand of five digits, freedom, equality, justice, humanity, and environment raised to its highest levels unity.

Issue 3: Point platform

I would like to first salute revolutionary prison comrades in Oregon and South Carolina for being leaders nationwide with organizing techniques and a point platform. I was trying to wait and coordinate with the NAACP and BPC, Black prisoner Caucus, prison club. The NAACP plans to set up prison chapters at all Washington facilities. I was taken to the hole so I did not make the meeting on May 9th which was to elect a membership board. We are ahead of them in that we already have a base of contact. But soon they will have physical contact and the administration approved to set up meetings, dialogues and share issues.

There are close to a hundred policies and serious issues that we need to be addressed. I don't think censorship is one of them right now. I know that many comrades in other states face this serious obstacle but we are dealing with only one wild racist institution for right now. Just as Indiana prisoners, we face an illegal price fixing too. We pay \$234 for a \$84

13 inch color TV. But with 35% we are paying \$325 so we pay four times the price, plus a \$10 hold that is mandatory insurance shipping cost. So when you are transferred to another facility, i.e. IMU to IMU every six months, you have to pay the \$10 again if you want to receive your TV appliance. If you do not have the fee your TV or radio, which the fee for shipping that is \$7.50 but sales for \$54 prison price, street value \$9.99 for a cassette AM-FM radio you will lose, have destroyed, or donated after 30 days. So if you have no money you lose your appliance. That is just one crazy corrupted issue, it is like a rain barrel full of holes. You don't know which to plug first to stop the leak.

But the repressive capitalist penal system of Washington has not stopped the beginning in of revolutionary awareness. Comrades are starting to step forward in letter writing. I challenge us to do more by centralizing our efforts on organizing and educating politically. I know a lot of us prisoners have no background in political ideologies or science. That did not stop others. We must establish study groups, even if its just one other person. Some basic books we are fortunate to find in our facility library or from other state libraries. Other comrades in other states don't have that opportunity. We are moving forward, growing as a movement. Continue the struggle against the odds.

Arms up, fist high!

—USW prisoner #1, Wasington State

MIM responds: Our only point of disagreement with this comrade is over the relative importance of the anti-censorship struggle. If even one prison in a state is censoring MIM then we have to make that battle something of a priority. Not necessarily state-wide, but it is something that USW in that state needs to take on. This is because our ability to get literature and letters into the prisons is central to our organizing and educating work. If we can not reach our comrades behind bars we can't help you organize any campaigns or provide materials for any educational work.

United Struggle from Within (USW) is an anti-imperialist prisoner mass organization within the MIM-led United Front. All prisoners interested in leading

our organizing work behind bars should get involved. Help to set the agenda for our work in you state and get involved organizing and educating others.

Political struggle

I was passing out MIM Notes today in the recreation yard to the new brothers who either came from other prisons or the streets. A few understand their conditions. But the majority of brothers today keep saying that they ain't into that political shit. ... As long as you're of a different organism other than these white racists in Amerikkka your struggle in society will always be political.

— A Pennsylvania prisoner, May 2002

Only in Amerikkka

Greetings from the [Pennsylvania] Department of Correction. I am writing to publicize how and why the pigs here get away with beatings, harassment and refusing prisoners medical care. They get away with it because the PA DOC Handbook says it is OK. DC_ADM 001, Inmate Abuse Allegation Monitoring Policy states that the following are excluded from the definition of "ABUSE":

- CONDITIONS OF CONFINEMENT;

- CLAIMS OF INADEQUATE MEDICAL OR INTENTIONALLY DENIED MEDICAL CARE;

- HARASSMENT OR NONPERFORMANCE OF DUTY BY STAFF MEMBERS; AND OR;

- ABUSE BY ANOTHER INMATE.

Only in Amerikkka could such a rule exist. I ask you if that isn't abuse what is?

— A Pennsylvania prisoner, May 2002

What to do about the parole board?

I was so thankful to receive the paper again. I'm presently in the hole. I passed the papers from MIM to the brothers here and their attitudes towards each other have changed a lot. I guess the truth does change perspectives.

I'd like to ask one serious question.

How do we incarcerated get people from outside to put an end to this racist parole and probation board?

— A Pennsylvania prisoner, May 2002

MIM responds: We pose this questions to our readers as well. Amerika leads the world in per capita imprisonment. Rates in the oppressed nations—which do not control the prisons system, a tool of their oppressors—are particularly high. Onerous parole regulations contribute to this. Thus there is the possibility of reforms in this system which could aid the revolutionary movement. MIM leads struggles for such reforms, and we welcome input from our readers about winnable battles we can take on.

Facts on U\$ imprisonment

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

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

To find a comparison with U.\$ 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



julio 1, 2002, N° 261 Fragmento del Periodico Oficial del Movimiento Internacionalista Maoista Gratis

PLAN “ALUVION EN LOS ANDES” Y ASESINATO DEL PRESIDENTE GONZALO

Por Luis Arce Borja
El Diario Internacional N° 59
Bruselas, 17 de mayo del 2002

En 1994 publicamos (El Diario Internacional) el artículo Operación capitulación, Historia secreta de las “cartas de paz”. En dicho texto señalamos que las “cartas de paz” que Fujimori y Montesinos falsamente adjudicaron al Jefe de la guerrilla peruana, fueron formuladas “bajo una concepción criminal y siniestra que implicaba el asesinato del presidente Gonzalo”. Dijimos entonces, que “antes o después” él se convertiría en la principal víctima de los verdaderos autores de las cartas que calificamos de vulgar patraña fabricadas en las oficinas del Servicio de Inteligencia Nacional (SIN). A la luz de esta denuncia incontestable afirmamos que a partir de la publicación de la primera “carta de paz” (octubre 1993) sólo existían dos posibilidades en torno al destino del presidente Gonzalo: La primera se refería a que él habría sido asesinado después de abril de 1993 cuando fue trasladado de la isla San Lorenzo al penal militar del Callao. La segunda, consideraba que el presidente Gonzalo seguía con vida pero que su existencia transcurría bajo condiciones carcelarias brutales y de exterminio físico y mental.

¿Cuál de las dos hipótesis que desarrollamos en 1994 ha sido la más acertada?

La idea de que el presidente Gonzalo fue ejecutado clandestinamente después de abril de 1993, y más exactamente antes del mes de octubre del mismo año ha cobrado cuerpo a partir de una serie de elementos secretos hechos públicos después de la caída de Fujimori y Montesinos. Existen muchos indicios, incluso algunos testimonios, que conducen a una verificación más exacta de esta hipótesis. Por ejemplo, se conoce ahora que las “cartas de paz” pidiendo una negociación de la guerra popular no fueron redactadas por el presidente Gonzalo como propagandizó el gobierno. Su autor, de acuerdo a una auto confesión, fue Rafael Merino Bartet, quien reivindica la autoría de las mismas. (Declaraciones a Caretas, 9 de mayo 2002). Las declaraciones de Merino, no sólo descubren al verdadero autor de las misivas de paz, sino que revelan también las incongruencias en el manejo y montaje de las mismas. Como se verá más adelante, las afirmaciones de Merino al ser entrecruzadas con los testimonios de Montesinos (vladivideos) no dan ningún resultado coherente, y eso es producto de las mentiras con la que el gobierno ha intentado ocultar durante 9 años la desaparición del jefe guerrillero y presentar como cierto un “acuerdo de paz” que nunca existió.

Ahora se sabe también que el plan que elaboró y ejecutó el Servicio de Inteligencia Nacional (SIN) para “hacer capitular a Gonzalo” se denominó “Aluvión en los Andes” como dice Vladimiro Montesinos, o “Tempestad en los Andes”, como ha dicho Merino a la revista Caretas. Según la versión de Merino, este plan tuvo dos partes: La fase

A destinada a buscar información del prisionero y: fase B, dirigida a convencer al presidente Gonzalo “que su captura había significado el descabezamiento de la organización”, y que no tenía más camino que la capitulación. Lo que oculta Merino son los métodos que se utilizaron para lograr ambas fases. No cabe duda que dicho plan se ejecutó en los sótanos del SIN y sus ingredientes fueron la tortura, el crimen, el montaje fílmico, la falsificación de cartas y una abundante publicidad en los medios de comunicación. Los videos sobre el presidente Gonzalo y las “cartas de paz”, que tanto Fujimori, así como Montesinos y Merino han presentado, para dar muestras de veracidad a la “capitulación de Gonzalo”, fueron los elementos ejes que sustentaron al plan “Aluvión en los Andes”. Merino es un civil de 69 años de edad, 34 de ellos dedicados a servir a los militares. Desde 1968 se enganchó con las sucesivas dictaduras militares. Sirvió al general Velasco alvarado y después lo hizo con el general Morales Bermúdez. En 1980 (fin de las dictaduras directas de las Fuerzas Armadas) inició su carrera en el Servicio de Inteligencia Nacional (SIN) y a partir de 1990 se puso bajo las ordenes de Montesinos.

Se conoce también ahora (de acuerdo a testimonios que entregamos en este mismo artículo) que el presidente Gonzalo al ser desaparecido fue reemplazado por un personaje que ha doblado en el aspecto físico al presidente Gonzalo. Es sobre la base de este montaje teatral que se construye la vida virtual del presidente Gonzalo. Es esta “resurrección” de laboratorio, la que sirve ahora para propagandizar la “huelga de hambre de Gonzalo”, o el reciente “diálogo” (1° de mayo) entre el presidente de la “Comisión de la Verdad y Reconciliación” y el jefe guerrillero. Ha quedado descubierto también que Montesinos era el que dirigía el “comité central del Partido Comunista del Perú” que desde 1993 el SIN hizo funcionar en la Base Naval del Callao. De esto da cuenta el mismo Montesinos, que a través de los vladivideos muestra como convocaba y dirigía los “debates” del “comité central”, integrado entre otros por Osman Morote, Edmundo Cox, María Pantoja, y otros capituladores que han venido trabajando para Montesinos y el SIN.

“Cartas de paz”: dimensión estratégica y muerte del Dr. Guzmán

Las “cartas de paz”, constituyen el elemento clave para entender por qué Fujimori y Montesinos ejecutaron clandestinamente al jefe de la guerrilla peruana, en lugar de fusilarlo como lo habían planificado en setiembre de 1992, y que incluso estaba aprobado en un consejo de ministros. ¿Por qué estas cartas?. Ellas fueron construidas como parte medular de un plan estratégico antisubversivo de largo alcance, cuyo propósito fundamental fue la aplicación de una estrategia policial dirigida a liquidar la armazón ideológica-política (pensamiento Gonzalo) de la guerrilla maoísta. Como lo dijo el propio Montesinos, la aplicación de este operativo psicológico era para “asegurar la derrota estratégica de sendero luminoso”. En efecto, tanto los expertos americanos que desde 1980 venían participando activamente en la lucha contra la guerrilla maoísta, así como la policía peruana, estaban convencidos que la captura del presidente Gonzalo (setiembre 1992) siendo un hecho importante

en la lucha contrainsurgente, estaba lejos de constituir el fin de “sendero luminoso”.

La propaganda oficial que identificaba la captura del presidente Gonzalo con una derrota estratégica de la guerra popular, se desinfló tan rápido como aumentó la actividad subversiva en Perú. Según cifras oficiales de la policía y el ejército si para el año 1992 se registraron 2,992 acciones subversivas, en 1993 estas aumentaron a 3,760. Esta realidad, que resultaba diametralmente diferente a la propaganda que hablaba de la “derrota de Sendero Luminoso”, no pasó desapercibida ni para la policía ni para los funcionarios norteamericanos. El coronel Benedicto Jiménez Bacca, uno de los ex jefes de la policía antiterrorista del Perú (DINCOTE) y que formó parte del equipo policial que capturó al presidente Gonzalo, dijo: “La detención de Abimael Guzmán Reinoso el 12 de setiembre de 1992, conjuntamente con tres miembros del Comité Central, constituyó una victoria importante, pero sólo desde el punto de vista táctico, no estratégico...”. (Benedicto Jiménez Bacca, Inicio, Desarrollo y Ocaso del Terrorismo en el Perú, Tomo II mayo 2000). ¿Qué hacer entonces?, para que la captura del jefe maoísta se transforme, de triunfo pírrico en “derrota estratégica” de la subversión. Esta pregunta fue planteada en los términos más solemnes por la Subcomisión de Asuntos del Hemisferio Occidental del Congreso de los Estados Unidos. En efecto, el 23 de setiembre de 1992 a pocos días de la captura del presidente Gonzalo, esta instancia del congreso americano efectuó una reunión específicamente para analizar el “fenómeno senderista”. Dicho evento presidido por Robert G. Torricelli, se hizo una sólo pregunta: “La preocupación más inmediata sin embargo, es qué hacer con Guzmán, y cómo asegurar que su captura signifique el final de la organización guerrillera, Sendero Luminoso”. Es a partir de interrogantes como la formulada en el senado de los Estados Unidos, que surgirá el plan (Aluvión en los Andes) para “demoler el pensamiento Gonzalo, y tratar de liquidar de esta forma la fibra ideológica de la revolución peruana.

Y en efecto, tal como lo anotamos en “Operación capitulación”, el propósito político de las cartas de paz fue romper la unidad entre el pensamiento Gonzalo y su gestor. Era claro que el cuestionamiento de los fundamentos ideológicos y políticos del PCP no podía provenir directamente de algún organismo del Estado, menos de la policía y las fuerzas armadas que por naturaleza y formación intelectual son incompetentes para enfrentar a la subversión en este terreno. En este campo habían fracasado los partidos políticos oficiales, así como sus más famosos intelectuales (senderólogos, etc.) que desde 1980 hicieron vanos intentos de oponerse a la teoría y planteamientos doctrinarios de los maoístas peruanos.

La única forma de alcanzar este propósito era enfrentando a Gonzalo contra Gonzalo, o mejor dicho haciendo que el jefe de la guerrilla peruana rechazara todo el camino teórico práctico que había recorrido desde la primera mitad de la década del 60 hasta su captura. En lo fundamental se buscó presentarlo renegando de sus principios ideológicos-políticos y de su militancia en la doctrina marxista. Mediante el truco de las “cartas de paz”, el presidente Gonzalo, que hasta antes de su captura había calificado a

Fujimori de pobre diablo, “taimado y cínico ^Á chumbeque enganchado en la punta de las bayonetas... no es un hombre de principios...” (Discurso y comentarios acerca del golpe de Estado, II Pleno del Comité Central, abril 1992), ahora halagaba sus dotes de presidente triunfador con quien incluso se podía establecer negociaciones de paz. Así mismo, si antes había dicho que la guerra era la única vía para resolver el problema de los pobres del Perú, ahora decía que la “paz era una necesidad insoslayable de la nación y de la sociedad peruana”. Si en setiembre de 1992 (discurso en la jaula) llamó a continuar la guerra popular, ahora decía que la abandonen para entregarse en los brazos de la policía fujimorista. Si antes había dicho que el capitalismo burocrático no tenía viabilidad, ahora decía que Fujimori sentaba bases para el desarrollo económico del país y naturalmente del capitalismo burocrático. Si antes había dicho “el mando nunca muere”, ahora decía que el partido había sido descabezado y que no valía la pena seguir en la lucha por el poder. Si en su último discurso llamó a la formación del Ejército Popular de Liberación, ahora pedía la disolución del mismo. Y así sucesivamente, perdido en la negación de su vida y obra, el presidente Gonzalo de gran estrategia política y revolucionario de primera fila en Perú y en América Latina, aparecía como un político de baja monta que estúpidamente analizaba al revés y patas para arriba los problemas políticos del país y del mundo.

La dimensión estratégica de las “cartas de paz” provinieron de un régimen mafioso que gobernó el país sin el más mínimo escrúpulo moral, donde el arte de la mentira, la trampa, el montaje, el chantaje y la patraña política, se convirtieron en la alquimia para convertir el día en noche y la falsedad en verdad. Una de las características principales del marco político del país en el cual se fabricaron las “cartas de paz”, fue el manejo dictatorial y policial del Estado, del poder judicial y de los medios de comunicación. Ahora, al haberse revelado los vladivideos, se conoce los millones de dólares que la mafia de palacio de gobierno distribuía en diarios, revistas y canales de televisión. En esta realidad, el Servicio de Inteligencia Nacional (SIN) y otras instancias militares y policiales, tuvieron el control absoluto de la información y la noticia. Es aquí en este terreno, propicio para el montaje mediático, donde brotan las “cartas de paz”, que desde comienzo a fin estuvieron rodeadas de incoherentes mentiras que fueron fabricadas por Vladimiro Montesinos y el Servicio de Inteligencia Nacional (SIN). Hay que anotar que absolutamente todo lo que la prensa peruana informó desde octubre 1993 sobre las “cartas de paz”, se nutrió exclusivamente del SIN y de las propias manos de Vladimiro Montesinos. No se conoce una investigación independiente del periodismo peruano respecto a este hecho. Es por ello que la información sobre las misivas de paz y la “capitulación de Gonzalo”, tuvieron desde inicio a fin una orientación policial y antisubversiva.

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