

# MIM Notes



December 1, 2002, Nº 271 The Official Newsletter of the Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM) Free

## Boston rallies against war on Iraq

**M**IM handed out 500 copies of MIM Notes at the November 3rd rally on Boston Common opposed to war with Iraq. There were not nearly enough for the thousands of demonstrators with Boston Police estimating 15,000.(1)

Various peace organizations including the Quaker American Friends Service Committee succeeded in drawing out a real cross-section of suburbia to the rally. This was not a rally of young students, but instead a huge section of middle-aged and elderly people showed up.

One of the shirts worn by the rally participants read: "Baseball is life. The rest is just details." That pretty much makes it official that at least a small section of middle Amerika opposes the war.

A sign from an anarchist contingent read: "Anarchists are black; commies are red. Fuck this war, class war instead." Another sign read, "thank you France and Germany," in reference to French opposition to the U.S. position in the United Nations and the German campaign, which among other things saw discussion comparing Bush and Hitler.

There were many demonstrators  
*Continued on page 4...*



### Protest around the world

Rallies against the U\$ war on Iraq in the last month took place in (clockwise from top right): Washington, DC; Ankara, Turkey; New Delhi, India; Madrid, Spain; Brussels, Belgium; and Johannesburg, South Africa.

For more anti-war coverage, see "Polls on war with Iraq" and "MIM conducts poll of it own" on pages 4 and 5.

## Sen. Kerry's vote proves that the war-mongers are on top

One clear indication that the war-mongers start on top even in Massachusetts is that incumbent Senator John Kerry (D-MA) felt free to vote for the war despite the organizing of tens of thousands of his constituents. His website [kerry.senate.gov](http://kerry.senate.gov) does not even mention the word "Iraq" except in one document where he mentions it only to ask for a bi-

partisan approach on Iraq and other subjects. Kerry won re-election in a landslide: 81% to 19% for his Libertarian opponent.

On his campaign website, Kerry seems to have forgotten that he posted the following analysis from the Boston Globe: "On the other hand, Kerry still faces a vote in the Senate authorizing

military force. If he votes for it—and at this point many Democrats indicate they will—all his earlier

*Continued on page 6...*

## The white van baloney Sniper shows Amerikkka itself

CNN repeatedly showed active police chases of white vans in the Rockville, Maryland area in October. In one lengthy television interlude just prior to the capture of the suspects, helicopter cameras focused on a "suspicious" white van pulled over by police in one gully. Yet as we all know, it turns out there was no white van and no white box truck involved in the arrest of the two suspects owning a blue 1990 Chevrolet Caprice. It appears it was all settler hysteria imagining white vehicles—and MIM would say the same process is at work not just in finding suspects but in convicting them.

The Maryland area sniper who shot 13 people was a justification for not covering everything from Iraq war debate to the Chechen hostage drama in Moscow's theater. CNN had found its equivalent of fresh pornography—a sniper. Anyone watching TV risked permanent brain-damage as the media boxed out for George W. Bush, who badly needed as many distractions as possible. People surfing the Internet did much better with the variety of topics and depth of detail they found.

A case involving a man falsely convicted of rape and who died of a heart attack in the process of clearing his name caused the New York Times in 1995 to publish a summary of the academic evidence regarding eyewitnesses

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# Audio interview with Jose Maria Sison now available!



Interview with  
Prof. Jose Maria Sison  
24 October 2002

*Prof. Sison upon his release from prison after the fall of dictator Ferdinand Marcos.*

*Editor, MC206; Production, MC12*

## MIM Notes

The Official Newsletter of The Maoist Internationalist Movement

ISSN 1540-8817

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100	\$380
200	\$750
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Make anonymous money orders payable to "MIM." Send to MIM, attn: Camb. branch, PO Box 400559, Cambridge, MA 02140. Or write mim3@mim.org.

A MIM Notes correspondent interviewed Prof. Sison at length by telephone on 24 October 2002. Prof. Sison expands on some of the points discussed in the print interview and discusses some new topics. The interview is available on-line at <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/countries/phil/index.html> and <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/agitation/philippines.html>; we are also selling audio CDs of the interview.

Here is a track list:

1. Why the United States slandered Prof. Sison as a "terrorist".
2. Terrorism defined.
3. U.S. hypocrisy in the "war on terrorism".
4. The (un)official sanctions on Prof. Sison.
5. "A climate of fear." Intimidation of the NDFP negotiating panel.
6. Current status of the NDFP/GRP peace negotiations.
7. Principles of protracted people's war.
8. Bush's drive for war on Iraq.
9. The United States and feudal exploitation in the Philippines.
10. What can be done to support Prof. Sison.

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## What is MIM?

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

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

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

# San Francisco Prison protest exposes SHU brutality

October 31 through November 5 tens of thousands of people in downtown San Francisco came face to face with the stark reality of life inside the Security Housing Units (SHU) in California prisons. On the busy corner of Market and Powell streets activists erected a mock SHU in a five day vigil to expose the brutality of these torture units. The activists collected signatures on a petition calling for the closure of the SHUs. At final count the protest gathered 1328 signatures. The fight has not ended and people interested in participating can download a petition at <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/>

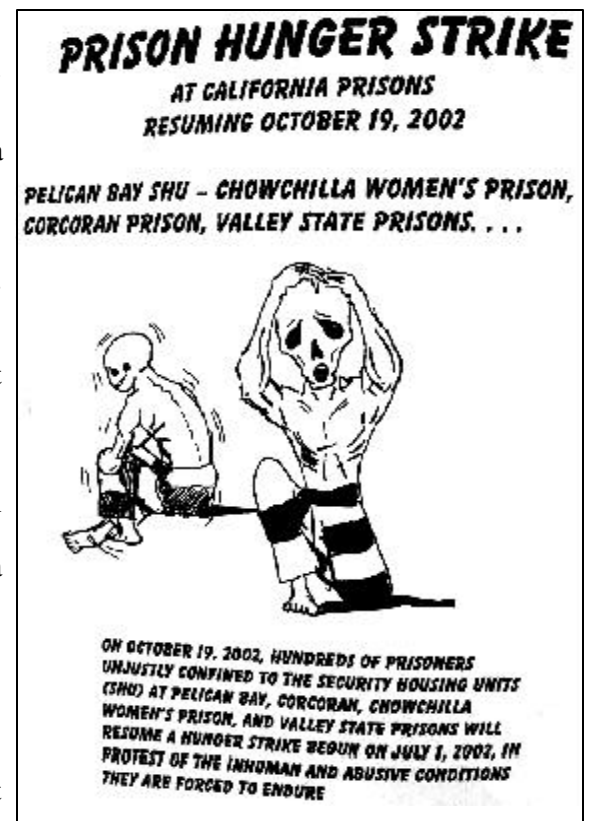
prisons and continue collecting signatures.

Organized by the All People's Coalition Against the U.S. Occupation and Terror, the SHU protest included a hunger strike inside the SHU with a different persyn every 24 hours, and activists on the outside talking to passers by. MIM was an active participant in this event, sending an activist to take up a post outside of the SHU for several hours each day of the protest, along with a flyer designed by MIM detailing the brutality in the California SHU and the history of these control units across the country. (A

copy of the flyer can be downloaded at <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/prisons>).

The SHU is a prison within a prison. It consists of 6x9 foot cells with prisoners locked up at least 22 hours a day, in conditions of sensory deprivation: no daylight, no human contact, no training or educational activities, and no phone access. Guards subject prisoners to strip searches and shackles every time they leave their cells. The only regular release from the cell is to an exercise cell that is just a larger version of the SHU cell. As a former SHU prisoner commented, "I wouldn't wish that on my worse enemy."

A federal court found conditions at the Pelican Bay SHU facility to be unconstitutional in 1995. The court ruled that prisoners suffered gratuitous and racist beatings and that medical facilities were inadequate. Prisoners report that little has changed since that ruling. Corcoran prison is infamous for its "gladiator fights," staged between 1988 and 1996. MIM met one man who had been in the Corcoran SHU in 1995 "in the thick of the mess." He explained how guards sent him to the SHU on the pretext that he had attacked



them with a ballpoint pen—while he was on the ground handcuffed behind his back. He said that false charges such as this were common grounds for lockup in the SHU.

A poster on the side of the protest SHU in San Francisco quoted a Pelican Bay SHU prisoner: "...the most ridiculous information is used to support our validation and SHU placement, i.e. assisting each other in legal work, signing a card for a dying prisoner and just about any speech or association that has anything to do with gang

*Continued on page 8...*

## Why the United States does not attack northern Korea yet

At least by 1994, the U.S. Government concluded that northern Korea probably does have nuclear weapons. Political scientist and arms control expert Dr. Randall Forsberg has pointed out in her campaign that the united States does not attack Korea, because Kim has nuclear weapons.(1) (Forsberg ran for the U.S. Senate on an anti-war platform as a write-in Democratic candidate.)

Right now, the Bush administration would like to take a chance with a lot of lives and guess that Iraq does not have nuclear weapons. This has allowed Saddam Hussein to come to a conclusion about Korea too: "Asked why the United

States is not targeting North Korea, which has acknowledged it was developing nuclear weapons, Saddam said 'first because North Korea has no oil and, second, because North Korea is not an enemy to Israel, nor is it near its borders.'"(2) By the way, the Associated Press and Washington Post just quoted are so "objective" that they quote Saddam Hussein by naming him by first-name; yet it does not quote George Bush saying, "George said. . ."

Notes:

1. See for example, [www.ForsbergforSenate.org](http://www.ForsbergforSenate.org)
2. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A62167-2002Nov3.html>.

## 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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## France swallows imperialist trade privilege

France has given in on a major stumbling block in inter-imperialist relations. Economic relations of the states called the "European Union" have one huge and ugly fact that does not fit with the rhetoric about "free trade" and elimination of European borders for economic exchange—French subsidies to agriculture.

Starting in 2004, the European Union is going to give ever larger shares of its money to subsidize agriculture in the poor states newly entering the European Union in eastern Europe. France has recognized this fact and come to accept that subsidies to its farmers will decline if not in absolute amount then in real terms from 2007 onwards.

This agreement reached between Germany and France immediately cast a different light on England's relationship to the EU. With France gradually accepting reduced privileges, England's right to a "rebate" of its contributions to the EU came under fire. In fact, as a result of the deal between France and Germany, Tony Blair of England and Jacques Chirac will not be holding a meeting at the end of the year as planned—because the "rebate" issue has become so hot. It just

goes to show that imperialism can never really resolve trade issues peacefully.

In this case, France and Germany have agreed that giving development aid to peripheral European states is more important than France's own internal farming. They have sought to speed up their neighbors' economic growth, partly to slow down the outflow of migrants coming from their neighbors. As of now, the European Union of 15 countries plans to add 10 more countries. Turkey is excluded from that list. Since Turkey is more of a U.S. puppet-regime, it is not surprising that the United States spoke up on behalf of the European Union's admission of Turkey. As of now, there is still a disagreement between European and U.S. imperialism over Turkey. A diplomat representative of the EU, Javier Solana said, "The United States must understand that putting Turkey into the European Union is not like putting Mexico into a free trade agreement. We treat Turkey far better than you treat Mexico."

Note: Elaine Sciolino, "A Fight Over Farms Ends, Opening Way to Wider Europe," New York Times 25Oct2002, p. a3.

# Polls on war with Iraq: Going it alone is the problem, say Amerikkans

The war with Iraq has presented a unique historical problem to the rulers and the people opposed to the war in Iraq. The 1991 war against Iraq had U.N. blessings, so now it is not surprising that polls show the U.S. public wants U.N. backing again.

A poll of Illinois voters is typical. Only 18 percent of Illinois voters opposes the war categorically. 17 percent is in favor of the war no matter what. In other words, the opposition is very weak-kneed.(1) If the U.N. were for the war, we would see a huge slingshot in the polls, and the only reason the U.N. has become a focal point is that imperialists France and Russia have drawn the line against u.s. imperialism, on behalf of their own interests.

Illinois is above average in opposition to the war. More than half still want more proof that Iraq is developing weapons of mass destruction.(1) Yet it's number on opposition to war whether internationally backed is the same as opposition in Massachusetts, less than 20%. We cannot realistically expect any better in Amerikkka, land of the labor aristocracy. To expect better is to lie to ourselves and delay the day of real change by spreading illusions. The oppressor nation of Amerikkka is only arguing over the strategy of oppression. These polls confirm each other and countless polls going back decades on Amerikkkan attitudes toward Third World countries

in general.

If the other imperialist countries were united against a Third World country or were at least not willing to draw the line against imperialist action, the Amerikkkan public would be jumping up and down for war. Since history often proves the imperialists willing to collaborate against the Third World, we do not hinge our opposition to the war on the United Nations. At best, the United Nations is giving some people false hopes, when in fact we need a determined fight by the majority in the united States to stop the war-mongers. We cannot afford to wait for the results of diplomatic maneuvers.

It is a mistake to discount bourgeois polls completely because they are done by corporations and because each corporation asks different questions that result in contradictory poll results. The biggest problem with polls by the corporations is that they are boring and repetitive questions, as shallow as their askers. Yet the questions they do cover are of value. Academic polls and widespread communist discussions with the public will prove much of these polls to be accurate information if synthesized and comprehended correctly. Lenin instructed us to do just that, despite what numerous critics at the "RCP-USA" and other philistines have said about MIM lately. Here is what Lenin said almost directly addressing the kind of

philistinism in question:

"We have decided to begin with statistics, fully aware of course that statistics are deeply antipathetic to certain readers, who prefer 'flattering deception' to 'base truths,' and to certain authors, who are prone to smuggle in political contraband under cover of 'general' disquisitions about internationalism, cosmopolitanism, nationalism, patriotism, etc."(2) Lenin went on to quote at length from various governments' statistics, because he knew that if he did not work on the basis of some factual generalization, the philistines would fill in the gap with their inaccurate fantasies and chauvinism. There is never a choice between rejecting all corporate and government information on the one hand and accepting a perfect independent communist set of information on the other hand. Those who act that way are idealists opening themselves up to chauvinist vulnerabilities that dominate the superstructure under imperialism.

In fact, the different questions by the corporate pollsters are a good thing. We at MIM oppose those who see one counter-example of opinion and then proclaim all polls flawed. Such a view stems from the settler political economy and individualism of the Anglo-Saxon world that does not believe in the existence of social groups anyway. Such individualist ideology opposing statistics

has to be defeated thoroughly for class struggle to advance.

Large demonstrations in San Francisco do not prove that the rest of the country is anti-war. We believe there is such a thing as an Amerikkkan nation. It is an oppressor nation. It exists and supports war. If the anti-war movement wants to say that its position is the prevailing opinion, it needs to prove it. When we see demonstrations in all the major cities that look like San Francisco's demonstrations, then we can at least conclude that the cities are opposed. As a matter of fact, data shows that urban people are more anti-militarist. Rural and suburban whites are generally more pro-war. Before we anti-war people claim we have the majority, we should at least prove it in our home base—the cities.

There are many who like to lie on this point as if lying would be a shortcut to success for the anti-war movement. Nothing could be further from the truth. It is a nine-digit figure of Amerikkans we are talking about that year in and year out support war against anything supposedly anti-U.S. in the Middle East. No amount of lying is going to make their fundamental views go away.

Note:

1. <http://www.suntimes.com/output/news/cst-nws-ipoll27s1.html>
2. V.I. Lenin "Statistics and Sociology" with January 1917 preface

## Boston rallies against war on Iraq

making a variety of determined efforts. One of the researchers of this article most applauded the hard-working activist who donned a large mask of George Bush in order to let passers-by spit on him.

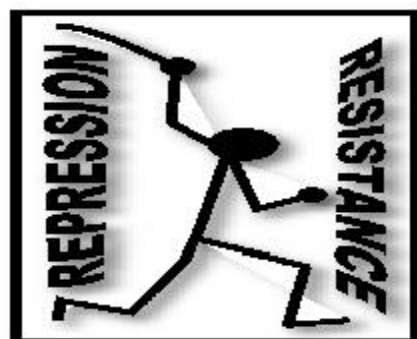
The present writer preferred the two dogs carrying signs: "Another mutt against imperialism." It again raised the question of whether we insult dogs when we call those in the White House dogs and their lackeys, "running dogs of imperialism." We cannot remember any dogs sending out an air force to bomb another country into the Stone Age.

The logistics of the rally were not the greatest. Many speakers spoke too softly to be heard or one could blame the sound system crew. A counter-demonstration of about 30 people drew a larger crowd of people from the rally with anti-war signs, probably because there were no demonstration marshals on hand to show them where the anti-war rally was on Boston Common. The rally activists said the rally was bigger than they expected. Perhaps as a result, one usually sharp speaker we will not mention by name bumbled through his speech obviously

trying to come up with innocuous things to say that would appeal to such a large crowd. On the whole though, the rally activists deserve credit for bringing out a large cross-section of Massachusetts and New England. Once again, we warn readers not to take the situation in California as representative. Even in Massachusetts, the peace movement is on the offensive, setting the agenda, but the war-mongers start on top.

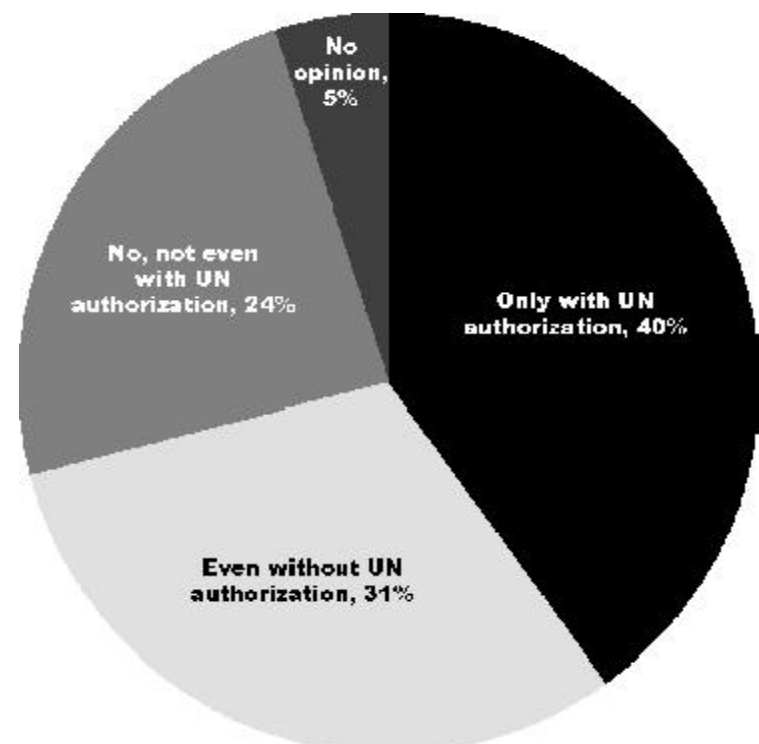
Notes:

1. [http://www.globe.com/dailynews/307/region/Tim\\_Robbins\\_joins\\_thousands\\_of%3A.shtml](http://www.globe.com/dailynews/307/region/Tim_Robbins_joins_thousands_of%3A.shtml)



## USA Today/CNN/Gallup poll

A survey of 1,014 adults age 18+, November 8-10, asked: "Suppose Saddam Hussein does not comply with the United Nations resolutions passed [today/ on Friday]. Do you think the United States should invade Iraq with ground troops — only if the U.N. votes to authorize the use of U.S. ground troops, or do you think the United States should not send ground troops to Iraq at all?" The results imply that more than two-thirds would support the war if the UN were to get in line with the U.S. agenda.--MC12.





# MIM conducts a poll of its own at Boston demo

Our poll detailed below, conducted over some hours at the Boston rally November 3, should not be taken as representative of the country, but rather of demonstrators in Boston. According to police estimates, the rally had 15,000 people, so these percentages probably say something very approximate about 15,000 people.

## November 3, 2002 poll

**1. What is the cause of this war in Iraq?** Oil, 24/85 = 28%. Preventing other countries from obtaining weapons of mass destruction like our own, 5/85 = 6%. Having an excuse to install fascism here, 3/85 = 4%. Other, 53/85 = 62%.

The vast majority of those stating "other" said they chose so because "all of the above" was really true. Some found a combination of reasons such as two out of the three above reasons. Another reason given was "Bush's ego." Another was "Americans' desire for a comfortable life."

MIM would not suggest asking this question again. It proved that the audience had great ambivalence on naming the reason for the war, because they believed multiple reasons were the cause. Respondents offered in-depth intellectual responses that are difficult to pin down in a quick (three hour) poll.

**2. How would you rate Bush's intelligence on a scale of one to seven with one being the lowest?** The average response was 2.5, with 33 of 81 valid responses rating Bush a one.

There were many giggles about this question, but also some people grunted before answering. We had four answers of "negative one" and one of "negative 22.5 million." All the combined negative answers were coded as one. Clearly amongst the 33 giving Bush the lowest possible score, there was some frustration, which led to grunting and amazed condemnations. The intelligence of Bush is a very hot issue for our demonstrators, with many wondering how it is possible for what is happening to be so far off from what they would imagine themselves.

Although MIM asked the question, we did so to find out what the demonstrators think, not because we believe intelligence is the issue ourselves. This is another way of saying that MIM's prior knowledge of the Amerikkkan population gave rise to the very question we asked. Questions do not appear out of vacuums. We would rate Bush above-average in intelligence, although probably much less intelligent than some other presidents. The real issue is the politics of money. That's what determines who gets to the White House. Again, MIM is out of step with the demonstrators, but it does not bother us.

**3. With 1 being "hopeful" and 7 being "hopeless," how do you feel about the Democrats overall?** The average response out of 78 valid

responses was 4.7.

One persyn responded "one" because "I'm hopeful about all people." Such an answer may frustrate those individualists who oppose all statistical knowledge, but we would say such answers average out, with as many leaning in one direction as in another. And even if such people were common in such a way as to cause biased answers, some imperfect group-level information is better than none. On the whole, we would not say that a majority of people were answering the question in such a way as to make it meaningless.

This was a well-designed question in the sense that there was a wide variety of answers. It shows that the crowd was not completely radical and in fact Shannon O'Brien [Democratic candidate for Governor] was wise to send people to leaflet there. It appears that radical internationalism is contending for the hearts of thousands of Democrats in Massachusetts. As we point out elsewhere, it confirms what the pundits are already talking about, namely the existence of a question whether pro-war Democrats will stay in that party while others bolt for the Green Party that they are already considering in light of other polls.

**4. Using your own definition of "terrorism," would you say the United States is terrorist?** Yes, 59/81 = 73%. No, 9/81 = 11%. Don't know, 13/81 = 16%.

We had a handful of people say the United States is not terrorist, because only its government is, not the people. Another comment among the "no" and "don't know" respondents was "yes, if they go to this war." Judging from such comments, there are some people who are experiencing politics as they go along and are prepared to alter prior judgements based on what happens with this particular war. The answer to this question, even in the "no" and "don't know" column shows that the people in this demonstration are close to or ready to take a very hard-line position on U.S. terrorism.

This result was perhaps the most encouraging in that it shows that people who demonstrate against the war may not be people just seeking a better strategy of oppression. It appears that there are at least a few thousand people who despite the propaganda machine, already find their own government guilty of terrorism. For those abroad wondering if it is impossible for Amerikkans to reach some of the same conclusions that they do, once again, the answer is the truth is the truth everywhere. Not only the Third World people see the truth about U.S. imperialism. The internationalist Amerikkans may be in the tiny minority but they still exist in the thousands, perhaps even the millions in the u\$a as a whole.

**5. Do you feel you persynally have the right to condemn terrorism?** No,

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**We have to learn when not to nitpick and when we are receiving information that is better than nothing.**

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5/78 = 6%. Yes, 71/78 = 91%. Don't know, 2/78 = 3%.

Questions 4 and 5 worked both better and worse than expected. I did not expect so many demonstrators to say that the United States is terrorist. I expected a much more even breakdown and then a breakdown within that breakdown by question five. As it turns out, a high proportion of demonstrators condemned the terrorism of the united \$tates and then said they had the right to condemn it persynally. It would be accurate to say that most demonstrators accept a verbal level of engagement on principles. They do not have to see U.\$ terrorism ended before they feel they have the right to condemn terrorism in general. MIM disagrees, but unlike many people who believe in the tactics of lying in all difficult situations, this is not something MIM believes lies can successfully overcome. We report the percentages; even though they are against our own opinion.

## On doing our own poll

We asked these questions in public in the demonstration in groups ranging in size from one to six. As the demonstration went on, the more able-bodied and determined remained in the cold. The mere launch of the marching part of the rally left behind most of the demonstrators. We found that asking more than two people simultaneously often resulted in people walking away in the midst of the questions.

As usual there were complaints about the questions being vague. MIM again states that some information—even imperfect information—about groups is better than none at all, so individualists should stop resisting that information.

While the U.S. Government Census takers have the relatively clear-cut job of counting people, people are being born and dying the whole time of the census. People living illegally get missed and so on. That does not mean we do not benefit from having the approximate count that the U.S. Government does do. It's the same with all other statistical

information. We have to learn when not to nitpick and when we are receiving information that is better than nothing. Even very poorly constructed information can be useful in some contexts and synthesized with other information in others.

## Do your own poll

For people who would question MIM's analysis of the Iraq and war situation, we would suggest the following immediate exercise. The question that went most smoothly was our question about "terrorism." The following questions should go well in any city or town in Amerika and we recommend that people try it some places in the South, the West and the countryside before concluding that the u\$a's population is like Boston demonstrators.

1. Using your own definition of terrorism, would you say the U.S. Government is a terrorist organization? Yes; no; don't know.

2. On a scale of 1 to 7, with 1 being extreme disapproval and 7 being extreme approval, do you approve the way the current government is handling the Iraq issue?

3. Would you support a war against Iraq if England, France, Israel and Canada were the only countries to join with the use of bases in Qatar (a tiny Arab country)? Yes; no; don't know.

*Did you know?*  
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**What's New @ MIM's Homepage**

# Sen. Kerry's vote proves that the war-mongers are on top

Continued from page 1...

questioning could be forgotten, or seen as empty rhetoric." (1) That's exactly what Kerry did. As the only presidential candidate for 2004 willing to talk about the "War on Terror" and "question" the proposed war in Iraq, Kerry showed his true mettle when it came time to vote. After all, he did say every time he spoke on foreign affairs that he supported President Bush.

Kerry's vote is especially embarrassing to the reformist peace movement, which somehow expected better, because he had no Republican opponent boxing him into a corner in his election. Also, Kerry does not need money and does not really need to pander to military or oil interests just on that basis. His wife has the Heinz fortune. The real reason for Kerry's vote is that the Amerikkkan labor aristocracy will not vote for someone who opposes the war and Kerry has made that conclusion. As an imperialist, Kerry does have the power to oppose the war and he can even gain support from his constituents and reformist activists for so doing, but he turns them away, because he has predicted that he cannot be elected president without the labor aristocracy's support. That means he has calculated that the Amerikkkan majority is pro-war. That is an implicit poll, better than many others, and a real statement on the Amerikkkan population.

For that matter, the Boston Globe—while suspect for its own war-mongering position—has found further evidence that Kerry is right about the population. Even in Massachusetts, George Bush's approval rating increases the more he talks about war with Iraq. Prior to recent talk on Iraq, Bush's approval rating was down below 50%. Now he is back above it again at 55% approval in Massachusetts. 59% of Massachusetts people polled said that Bush made a strong case for war on Iraq. Only 19% said Bush's case is "very weak." 58% of Democrats also said Bush had a strong case. Bush's only problem will be if he cannot line up an international coalition, because only 17% will support him then.(2)

As a result of Kerry's actions, the largest number of protest signs at the Boston rally November 3rd was for a write-in candidate named Randall Forsberg running as a Democrat opposed to the war. The fact that Forsberg is running against Kerry (another Democrat) shows the whole problem with the one-party state in Massachusetts.

Ironically, the immediate victim of Kerry's vote was Democrat Shannon O'Brien who had to sweat out a closer governor's election than she wanted with polls showing her in a dead-heat with Mitt Romney. In fact O'Brien lost the race. The Green Party governor candidate Jill Stein who spoke at the rally drew 4 or 5% in pre-election polls and 3% of the actual vote.

MIM endorses no candidate, but would like our readers not to be naive. At the

rally, Shannon O'Brien activists were not highly visible, but some did hand out leaflets with a xeroxed letter from former opponent Robert Reich endorsing O'Brien and saying that the only choice is between O'Brien and Romney. The Boston Globe also had an article being handed out by O'Brien written by Joan Vennochi. Like Reich, Vennochi ran out the standard stuff that Stein was siphoning off votes from O'Brien.(3)

It sounds oh-so-shrewd, but it is not. In Vermont, in some races, the Republican is an afterthought. In some places in the United States, the Republicans could easily become the third or weaker party. If the Greens are party number two, the Republicans cannot be adding any seats in Congress. One would think that the Democratic Party would figure out that that outcome is in its favor in the Congress. Instead, Republicans are giving money to Greens to run against Democrats in the West to siphon off votes, while Democrats do not help Greens in the places where the Greens could be number two.

Now in Massachusetts, those Democrats who feel trapped by a Democratic legislature with the power to override a governor must pull the lever for the Republicans; even though only 15% of Massachusetts is really Republican—and probably those, again, only because there is no choice other than the Democrats. This means that in some instances, Democratic success cannot go any further. In Massachusetts, Democratic success has reached near its limit, which is why the public has elected Republican governors in the immediate past and did so again by electing Romney. So the question becomes, why not elect a Green governor with a Democratic Party legislature.

MIM will answer the question. The Democrats do not want a Green Party candidate for governor with a real shot, because they have more in common with Republicans. That's why they give that shot to the Republicans every time. Each year the Democrats go to the Greens and say "lesser evil," but if Democrats were really closer to Greens than Republicans, there would be no Republican Party to speak of in Massachusetts.

The stupidity of the narrow-minded Democrats is dogma. They sing the "lesser evil" song every time, no matter what. It would take little effort to split up the Massachusetts Democratic Party and allow a third party breakaway to leave Republicans in the dust of third place. Yet it does not happen, thanks to the chokehold of Big Money on politics that prevents even the most obvious political realities from reaching the light of day. As time wears on, even the only state that voted for Democrat George McGovern in 1972 has to listen to Republicans dominate the press day-after-day as the only "real" alternative to the Democrats.

The truth is endlessly degraded in electoral politics, because candidates feel

they have to compete with others also allowed to dodge divisive issues. As a result, candidates say what people want to hear and they do not engage with the truth often.

This is another reason that MIM does not involve itself in electoral politics. Readers only need recall that not a single candidate for Massachusetts governor answered MIM's questions about Massachusetts prisons. Those candidates would not be able to get away with that if the truth were not that the vast majority of Amerikkkans in Massachusetts do not care that much about issues. These candidates know that tough substance is not what the population wants to hear, which is why Romney's ads are all haircut, blonde dye, lipstick and his kids jumping off rafts. We can be sure that millions would not be spent on such ads if political consultants had not figured out that a majority likes them.

People stuck in electoral politics become slaves to "lesser evils" dogmas not to mention fund-raising with special interests and pulling levers every couple years as a substitute for real politics. Playing the game only legitimizes it.

Voters who complain about the process should see that there are other ways. In plebiscites, there is no opportunist competition of candidates, only a thumbs up or down on questions of substance or the performance of a leader. As we write this story, voters across the United States are complaining about "negative" political advertising. Most of that sort of complaint is rooted in the belief that politics should be entertainment, not issues. These people are perturbed that

negative ads disturbed their harmonious music show, their ball game on ESPN or their porn channel, which may or may not be called porn. Those people who are not super-powerful but instead ordinary yet pursue entertainment above profit or anything else—these people we call the gender aristocracy, and in the context of a discussion of political campaigns, we have nothing further to say about it. It is the people who are serious about issues but who complain about negative political ads that concern us.

There is no other way in a system of electoral opportunism for candidates to show where they differ from other candidates than by attacking them. The "negative" ads by-and-large are the most true part of the electoral process that the United States has. The candidates speak mostly truth about each other; although they do sometimes invent it and hope not to be caught. Without those negative ads, there'd be no discussion of issues at all within the bourgeois process.

Once people learn what happens to the truth in electoral campaigns, and once they realize it was Lenin who said a vanguard party should be unpopular but speak unvarnished truth, a large number will turn to communist politics. While we defend individual liberties, we communists have seen through electoral politics and the kind of "majority rule" where one country's majority decides to bomb another's.

Notes:

1. Anne E. Kornblutt, Boston Globe 16Sep2002.
2. Frank Phillips, Boston Globe 2Nov2002.
3. "A vote for Stein is a vote for Romney," Boston Globe, 31Oct2002.

## What is militarism?

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Voters reject living wage for coffee growers

Berkeley California — Voters rejected a ballot measure that would have made it illegal for coffee shops to sell coffee that wasn't certified Fair Trade or organic. Coffee shops, including Starbucks and Peets, spent thousands of dollars to finance opposition to this measure which would cost them roughly 10% more for beans. The measure was voted down by over 70% of Berkeley voters.

Coffee is certified as Fair Trade if growers receive at least \$1.26 per pound (\$1.41 for organic) and the importers are obligated to provide credit to the growers. Opponents of the measure complained that it would stifle consumer choice. And in what is often considered the most liberal city in the country, voters apparently agreed. MIM would say that there is nothing wrong with restricting peoples freedom. We are in favor of restricting the freedom to murder, restricting the freedom to enslave, restricting the freedom to exploit, restricting the freedom to oppress, and more in the name of ensuring all people survival rights including the right to food, housing, and medical care. There is nothing wrong with forcing Amerikan

corporations and Amerikan consumers to pay a little more for the labor from which they greatly benefit.

Berkeley is a wealthy city East of San Francisco with a heavy concentration of students. It is no surprise to MIM that these people do not want to give up persynal freedoms like the freedom to choose which brand of coffee to drink. While people around the world are literally dying at the hands of imperialism, Berkeley residents want to preserve their right to have a nice cheap cup of coffee. No doubt this measure would have faired even worse elsewhere in the country.

The Fair Trade coffee campaign is being spearheaded by San Francisco-based Global Exchange. It focuses exclusively on small farms which account for 70% of the worlds coffee. On their website Global Exchange explains the focus on the price paid for coffee: "Coffee is the second largest US import after oil, and the US consumes one-fifth of all the world's coffee, making it the largest consumer in the world. But few Americans realize that agriculture workers in the coffee industry often toil in what can be described as 'sweatshops

in the fields.' Many small coffee farmers receive prices for their coffee that are less than the costs of production, forcing them into a cycle of poverty and debt." According to Global Exchange, coffee prices fluctuate widely but generally hover around \$1/pound. More recently growers have been receiving prices as low as 20-40 cents per pound.

This campaign by Global Exchange has not been without impact in the United States. The number of coffee shops carrying Fair Trade coffee has increased dramatically over the past few years, and in response to protests and public pressure Starbucks introduced Fair Trade Certified coffee in October of 2000.

MIM supports forcing Amerikan corporations to pay more money for goods they import from the Third World. The tremendous wealth in this country comes from the exploitation of Third World workers. At the same time we recognize that reforms within capitalism that give a slightly higher wage to these workers will not end their exploitation or eliminate the fundamentally oppressive system of imperialism.(1) The only way to ensure survival rights for the

world's people is to overthrow imperialism.

Notes:

1. Global Exchange admits as much. Workers on large coffee farms generally earn \$2-3 per day in harsh working conditions. The Fair Trade campaign does not address these workers. Global Exchange explains "Fair Trade is fundamentally focused on the small farmer, the producer of the great majority of the world's coffee. Therefore, it cannot address all of the social inequities associated with coffee production around the world. As noted earlier, by deliberately excluding plantations from the Fair Trade coffee market, the movement does little to improve the lot of landless farmworkers employed on those estates." Working within the capitalist system and relying on the marketplace to achieve their ends they are forced into the position that "any discussion of opening Fair Trade markets to estate owners (and farmworkers) should be postponed until the market grows large enough to absorb them without undermining the position of the small farmer cooperatives."

## *San Francisco voters pass anti-homeless initiative*

On October 5 a coalition of activist groups held a "Poor People's March for Justice" in San Francisco to oppose Propositions N & R, ballot initiatives which would cut general assistance to the homeless and reduce the number of apartments under rent control. Proposition N passed; proposition R failed. Proposition N cuts the monthly general assistance allowance for homeless people from \$395 to \$59 (from \$395) and requires they stay in a shelter to get this money.

MIM attended the rally and distributed a reprint of the article from the October 1 issue of MIM Notes "San Fran homeless become political fodder: Care Not Cash provides neither." The rally began in the Mission, a heavily Latino neighborhood, with participation from a number of homeless people and day laborers and with speakers in Spanish appealing to the people on the streets to vote on Tuesday to defeat these ballot measures.

As the article in MIM Notes explained, "Homelessness is a chronic problem of capitalism. Even in a wealthy imperialist country like the United States people are living on the streets because they don't have the money to pay for housing." The other literature distributed at the rally was limited to statements about the propositions and their negative effects, without any analysis of why we have homelessness or how to fight it so participants and passers by welcomed MIM's flyer.

Many people attending the rally did

have a more comprehensive analysis of the situation, including those who came with a banner that read "\$5 billion a year for the poor, not for Israel's war." These connections to global survival rights are crucial to make within Amerika's borders where the majority of the population enjoys a very high standard of living compared to the rest of the world. Homelessness caused by capitalism is a far bigger problem than what we see in the United States. In Third World countries, where the U.S. props up puppet government with economic and military aid, literally millions of people are without adequate shelter, food, medicine and even water.

Although the rally was focused on the need to get out to vote against these propositions, speakers did represent the position that voting will not solve the problem of homelessness. One speaker decried the electoral system in the U.S. but stated that it is still worth voting on these ballot propositions where we can have an effect. MIM agrees with this position. We do not support voting for imperialist candidates because there is no difference between them and the independent candidates can only remain independent as long as they lose the race. But for local elections and ballot initiatives there are some winnable battles over important issues that can be worth voting on.

All the while we are discussing these issues of homelessness within the united states we need to keep in mind what MIM wrote about Proposition N: "We should

not just be fighting to end homelessness putting profit before survival rights, in Amerika. The denial of basic needs, anywhere in the world is a crime."



# UNITED FRONT

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# The “white vote” is no myth

## *Electoral politics remain based on race*

MIM opposes electoral politics, above all because currently the U.S. Government as constituted reserves the right to determine what happens in all countries in the world. The majority inside U.S. borders is in effect determining what happens everywhere. In addition, the electoral process in 2002 remains ugly in the sense of ignorance of issues and voting based on simple lines such as race or ethnicity.

The Baltimore Sun is a bourgeois paper much more optimistic about electoral politics than MIM Notes is. Yet the Baltimore Sun admits this: “In Alabama, Mississippi and South Carolina, there is still a tipping-point phenomenon at work. If the black share of the population reaches 25 percent to 30 percent, and a Democrat needs about one-third of the white vote to win, that one-third is difficult or often impossible to achieve. For many voters in these states, the Democratic Party is considered “the black party” and thus to be avoided.”(1)

Although ex-Klan leader David Duke lost his races for governor and Senate in Louisiana, he won the majority of the white vote each time he ran and only lost because Blacks are 30% of the population there.(2) David Duke is an elected Republican Party leader of his local parish. His connections to other prominent Republicans are strong:

Pat Robertson the evangelical Christian leader and one-time Republican Party presidential candidate endorsed Duke for governor of Louisiana in 1990 and gave John Ashcroft a 100% rating on issues.

Attorney General John Ashcroft gave a 1998 interview to neo-Confederate journal Southern Partizan magazine where he praised it for “setting the record straight” on “Southern patriots like Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, and Jefferson Davis.” The same Southern Partizan magazine called David Duke “a populist spokesperson for a recapturing of the American ideal.”(3)

In Texas, a Black man named Ron Kirk ran for Senate. “Democratic strategists calculate that Kirk will need about 35 percent of the white vote to win. He’s currently getting 30 percent and needs a historic late surge to make history (undecided white voters have always broken against black candidates in the past).”(4)

Similarly, Governor Jim Hodges knows he needs one-third of the white vote to win in South Carolina.(5) Pundits say Democrat Senator Mary Landrieu will win in Louisiana because she polls a whopping 31% of the white vote. (She is a white blonde herself).(6)

In 2000, whites cast 81% of votes across the USA. Bush won 54% of that vote in 2000. However, that number

largely covers up that racial voting is a regional phenomenon. In California, Bush lost all racial groups in 2000.(7) In the South though, it is generally impossible for Democrats to win, because they simply cannot get 35 or 40% of the white vote.

A book by John B. Judis and Ruy Teixeira titled “The Emerging Democratic Majority” says that the growth of the Hispanic vote and other demographic factors spell doom for the Republican Party soon. Others are starting to notice the racial dynamics of politics, whereas in the past, civics teachers and pundits opposed the notion that Amerikkkan politics are racial. David S. Broder of the Washington Post noted the pattern correctly: “Ever since Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.), who is retiring this year as the longest-serving senator in history, switched parties in 1964 over the issue of civil rights, this state — like the rest of the South — has been trending Republican. In 2000, George W. Bush carried South Carolina easily by capturing the white vote, 70 percent to 26 percent, while Al Gore took 91 percent of the black vote. The rest of the Old Confederacy followed the same pattern, and the national election turned on whether Florida would be the lone holdout from a GOP [s]weep of the

region.”(8)

In 1994, the Republicans won the Congress and white men from the South came to dominate even more than before. Newt Gingrich of Georgia became majority leader in the House. His top two lieutenants were Texans. In the Senate it is Trent Lott from Mississippi in charge for Republicans. In the Senate, there has not been a Black from the South since 1879.(9)

Notes:

1. Jack W. Germond, “3 elements may loosen GOP grip of the South,” The Baltimore Sun 3Nov2002.
2. Associated Press 29Sept91. (New York Times 19Oct91, p. A1 says he got 58% of white votes.) [www.texaswest.com/archive/99/april/28/opinion.htm](http://www.texaswest.com/archive/99/april/28/opinion.htm)
3. <http://www.commondreams.org/views01/0122-04.htm>
4. <http://www.upi.com/view.cfm?StoryID=20021104-073003-4856r>
5. <http://www.heraldonline.com/local/story/1882885p-1870880c.html>
6. [http://www.wbrz.com/stories/102702/new\\_landvote.shtml](http://www.wbrz.com/stories/102702/new_landvote.shtml)
7. <http://www.upi.com/view.cfm?StoryID=20021016-094913-4016r>
8. David S. Broder, “Race looms large in Southern Races,” Washington Post 13Oct2002.
9. [http://abcnews.go.com/sections/politics/DailyNews/texas\\_021021.html](http://abcnews.go.com/sections/politics/DailyNews/texas_021021.html)

## San Francisco Prison protest exposes SHU brutality

*Continued from page 3...*

activity or a violation of law or prison code.

“...CDC refuses to define ‘gang activity’ and so in the eyes of CDC, everything and anything is gang activity. And, should a prisoner have no gang activity, there is an exception clause that allows them to keep us in the SHU anyway.

“...the means for obtaining release from the SHU [are] paroling, debriefing, dying, and the loss of sanity.”

SHU prisoners at Pelican Bay started another hunger strike October 19th to expose the conditions there. This action in San Francisco was timed to publicize their struggle. Although the protest received no direct mainstream media attention, the Pelican Bay hunger strike received sudden interest by the media after several days of this vigil on the outside. But even if no mainstream media attention had been gained this action was an overwhelming success. It was a demonstration of the numbers of people that a few dedicated activists can reach and educate, and the magnitude of impact we can have.

A number of former prisoners stopped to sign the petition. Those who had not

been in the SHU stressed how bad the conditions are in the prisons even outside of the SHU. Guard brutality, medical neglect, lack of education and inadequate food are commonplace throughout the California prison system. A former guard in the California Department of Corrections who spoke out against guards’ abuses signed the petition. Speaking out cost him his job.

The vigil took place in an area containing a cross-section of San Francisco’s population, including business people and homeless. Activists came face to face with the reality that Amerika has the highest imprisonment rate in the world. All who volunteered outside the SHU were struck by the large numbers of people walking by who had been to prison. Many of the homeless had been to prison.

A large number of tourists also stopped at the exhibit. Tourists from other countries were uniformly shocked that the SHU form of solitary confinement is legal in the United States.

The U.S. Government now holds about a half million more prisoners than China; even though China is four times the U.S. population. In this so-called “free country” freedom is imprisonment. The

U.S. imprisons more Black people than did apartheid South Africa before Mandela was president.

As in the rest of the country, people from oppressed nations are imprisoned in California at a disproportionate rate. In 1998 the CDC reported that 34% of the population in all CDC institutions

was Latino, and 31% was Black. The population of the Security Housing Units (SHUs) is even more disproportionate. 82% of those in SHUs were non-white, and 52% of those in SHUs were Latino. This compares to a California population that was 32% Latino, and 7% Black in 1998.

### *New York Times coverage of Venezuela lacks one fact: election*

The Amerikkkan mass media continue to run stories about the large protests and counter-protests in Venezuela and calls for the resignation of President Hugo Chavez. While these stories demonstrate the political instability in Venezuela (which now includes military unrest) and report on the claims and counter-claims regarding the validity of the protests, the Amerikkkan media leaves out one thing—that Chavez won an election and his term is not up!

It goes to show that “democracy” in the sense of majority rule means nothing to the Amerikkkan mass media despite pretenses to the contrary. MIM does not hang its hat on such electoral processes, but these mass media often do. Reading the New York Times, one would have thought that Hugo Chavez was just another u.\$.-installed dictator who never faced an election.

Note: “Venezuelan Leader Defies Military and Ignores Call for Election,” New York Times 25Oct2002, p. a7.



# 9/11 relatives turn responsibility upside down

Nearly 3000 hypocritical or terribly ignorant relatives of the World Trade Center 911 victims are seeking \$1 trillion from the Saudi rich including the royal family and government leaders for aiding Al-Qaeda. For example, Liz Alderman of Armonk, NY said, "I've learned and I believe that an awful lot of the funding that enabled the terrorists to attack America was provided by Saudi Arabia."(1)

If anyone should be sued here, it is the ones bringing the suit. Not only should they pay all legal and defamation costs for bringing the suit, but also they should pay damages for their share of supporting the U.S. Government that gave Bin Laden, money, training and the most advanced weapons in the 1980s.(2)

Here is how MSNBC explained it: "Indeed, to this day, those involved in the decision to give the Afghan rebels access to a fortune in covert funding and top-level combat weaponry continue to defend that move in the context of the Cold War. Sen. Orrin Hatch, a senior Republican on the Senate Intelligence

Committee making those decisions, told my colleague Robert Windrem that he would make the same call again today even knowing what bin Laden would do subsequently. 'It was worth it,' he said.

"Those were very important, pivotal matters that played an important role in the downfall of the Soviet Union,' he said."(1) The U.S. Government thought it was worth it to train, arm and fund Bin Laden so it could strike at the social-imperialist "Soviet Union" in the 1980s. Bin Laden is a clear example of "what goes around, comes around."

After getting U.S. aid, Bin Laden subverted the Saudi regimes, according to the World Trade Center victim relatives themselves.(1) In other words, the CIA unleashed an extortionist on the Saudi ruling class. The ones responsible for that are the voters of the united States, including people such as those bringing the lawsuit against the Saudis.

This lawsuit is being opposed by the Bush administration.(1) There may be a section of imperialists waiting in the wings to support this lawsuit, but thus

far it is a typical imperialist petty-bourgeois lawsuit—people seeking even more antagonism with the rest of the world for the benefit of the flow of gravy to their trough. The demand for \$1 trillion is nothing but war-propaganda, as any but the most naive will realize, because there is no way to extract that \$1 trillion for such a nonsensical cause except war to take over Saudi assets. That means that this imperialist country petty-bourgeoisie bringing the lawsuit against the Saudis wants an even wider and more ridiculous war than what the united States is already involved in.

A lot of namby-pamby "Marxists" are constantly making excuses for the war-mongering, chauvinism and hypocrisy of the imperialist country petty-bourgeoisie often mistakenly referred to as a "proletariat." True, no doubt at least a portion of the nearly 3000 relatives was too busy watching NakedNews or reading Maxim magazine to know that their own government created the very Saudi rulers they are now suing, but the phony communists do nothing but delay

the day of the necessary transformation of parasitic imperialist country populations by not telling them the truth.

In contrast, like Stalin and the German communists of his day in 1945 speaking with Germans immediately after Hitler, MIM tells Amerikkans that they need to change themselves and that they have a long way to go. The communists of that day told the Germans that they were "co-responsible" for Hitler and that was the truth that could not be evaded.

The reason that Bin Laden is so effective today is previous support from and experience working with the CIA. The sooner Amerikkans get that through their thick skulls and strike down hypocrits in denial on that point, the sooner Amerikkans will be able to live with the rest of the world in peace.

Notes:

1. New York Times 25Oct2002, p. a15.
2. This should be known to even the most dull Amerikkans by now, as even the Wonder Bread of media, MSNBC has reported it: <http://www.msnbc.com/news/190144.asp?cp1=1>

## The white van baloney: Sniper shows Amerikkka itself

Continued from page 1...

the type of which claimed in 2002 day after day that there was a white van. After each sniper shooting the story was the same from the eyewitnesses.(1)

"A 1993 review of 1,000 convictions of people who were later found to be not guilty revealed that eyewitness errors were the single largest factor, accounting for about half the cases."(2) At least 80,000 trials a year rely on eyewitnesses for evidence.

Experiments show that the ruling class has successfully brainwashed the public into blaming someone for crime—anyone—once a crime has happened. For example, in an experiment with a staged theft with 100 eyewitnesses, the eyewitnesses faced a police lineup that did not include the perpetrator. 21 eyewitnesses still picked someone from the lineup. In a similar study, even when the eyewitnesses knew that the criminal might not be in the lineup, 33% still picked the wrong person.

The figures for picking the right person from the lineup are no better when the

actual perpetrator is in the lineup. Researchers divided eyewitnesses into two groups—people who were sure and pointed quickly and those who had to think about it.

Among the eyewitnesses sure they found the culprit, only 70% picked the right person from the lineup; 30% were wrong. Among the eyewitnesses who reasoned their way to a conclusion, the accuracy rate was only 30%; 70% of the time, these eyewitnesses picked the wrong person.

To make matters worse, there is "monkey-see-monkey-do" effect. Witnesses who knew there were other witnesses became more confident. This confidence turns out to have no relationship to accuracy.

Despite these studies, police do not always put people with similar features in the line-ups to force eyewitnesses to make hard choices. They go on using the same methods despite these studies that have come out from 1981 to 1993.

The hypocritical Liberals who lead



Police towing away a white minivan in Virginia. In this case, a couple of innocent immigrants were detained, and ended up being turned over to immigration authorities. --MC12

these studies see the abysmal figures, but they cling desperately to an asinine system. "Police are skeptical when I present these findings," said Dr. Wells. "They're afraid of making witnesses overly cautious. They want convictions, not cautious witnesses. But we find the right procedures minimize false identifications while leaving the accurate ones unchanged. If the culprit is there, they'll spot him."(2) Seeking respectability with the police—within the system—these individualists refuse to face the facts they gathered.

The truth is that the system only claims to punish the appropriate individuals to

bolster its own legitimacy. In actuality, the police and even the researchers don't care about the obvious facts that have made the fascism-crazed settlers of this society willing to convict anyone without any evidence. With so many false leads in the sniper case and so much police work done on those leads, it should be obvious that cool objectivity does not rule in our injustice system.

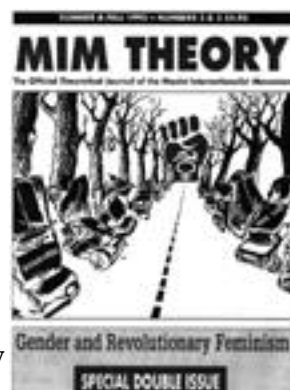
Notes:

1. "Power of Illusion: Those Seeing White Vans Breathe Easier: So Do the Drivers." 26Oct2002, p. a14.
2. New York Times 17Jan1995, pp. c1, c6.

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

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

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## Indiana restricts prisoner property

Greetings in peace and solidarity:

The reactionary forces that control the Indiana State Prison (ISP) are continuing their abuse against prisoners housed on the D-ALS unit. Our fundamental and human right to communicate, possess and receive information is being threatened. On September 25, 2002 the entire unit was locked-down because of an isolated fight between two knuckleheaded inmates. During the lock-down our families were denied the right to visit.

But it doesn't end there. The oppression has gone a step further. They are now implementing further repressive measures. We are told that now we can only have the following items:

- 1) Five personal books or magazines
- 2) No hardcover books
- 3) One ink pen without casing
- 4) One newspaper
- 5) 15 letters
- 6) Ten photos
- 7) 50 sheets of writing paper
- 8) 25 envelopes
- 9) \$20 in stamps

This measure is not about an isolated fight between two inmates—it's a retaliatory response due to outside pressure being brought against this prison by several state representatives who are disgusted with the persistent abuse being inflicted upon those confined to D-ALS.

We have brought it up to those running this prison that state law I.C. 11-11-3-6 clearly authorizes prisoners to receive books, magazines, newspapers or other periodicals as long as they come directly from a publisher, distributor, bookstore, etc. This law does not distinguish between hardback or soft-cover books. So long as they come from a publisher etc. Also, I.C. 11-11-5-4 prohibits the restriction of our reading & writing materials and visits as punitive discipline measures, unless we abuse these rights, which is not the case. We urge support to stop this crime attempting to silence progressive revolutionary voices!

Fax or Call:

Commissioner of the IDOC  
Evelyn Ridley Turner  
FAX (317) 232-6798  
TEL (317) 232-5715

—A prisoner in Indiana, October 2002

## Indiana phone scam

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility and the Indiana DOC have found a way to profit from their incarcerated offenders.

When an inmate arrives at WVCF he must turn in a phone list with the telephone numbers of family, friends, and lawyers that he wishes to call. After receiving the list, WVCF will place a "Block" on certain numbers. Here is how it goes:

When people contact WVCF about this WVCF informs them that the person's telephone company has some sort of long-distance block on that person's phone line. That person contacts their phone company and finds out that WVCF was wrong. They call Wabash again and WVCF offers the person to be billed directly from Wabash. Wabash offers to become their specific long-distance carrier for calls from WVCF. They rate may not be much different from that of a regular carrier but the cost to the facility is next to nil.

This allows the facility to play the percentages game.

# Under Lock & Key

## News from Prisons & Prisoners

When you take that percentage and multiply it by the 20K plus inmates in Indiana prisons the IN DOC is bringing in a lot of revenue by families just wanting to talk with their loved ones. How can they say that the IN DOC or the stat of Indiana is financially short of funds when these types of dirty capitalist tricks are used on unsuspecting citizens.

Personally its taken me nearly 5 months for me to able to call my mother. All the powers that be-down here said it was not her phone that was the problem. Her phone company said that WVCF was the problem. I can call home now and mom uses her phone company instead of allowing the DOC to become rich off our phone calls.

—A prisoner in Indiana, September 2002

## MA pigs try to break organized prisoners

The pig counselors here recently told me I might be on the list to transfer out of this [max. security prison] to [another prison]. But the catch is that I must first go through and complete the STG Renouncement Program. Then I'll be on 2-year probation. If or when I leave, I will let ya'll know ASAP. It could be as soon as this year or early next year. But whether or not they leave me here on lockdown or let me go to population I will persevere. To quote Uncle Ho:

Without the cold and desolation or winter There can be no warmth or splendor of spring without winter Hardships have tempered and strengthened me And turned my mind to steel.

All they do when they keep me locked down and be oppressive in any other way is make me more serious in my convictions. I laugh at their attempts to break me down.

On a brighter note, the beasts have finally eased some of the restrictions that were imposed on the "gang blocks" and the whole max of [this prison]. They used to let us out for rec. 5 times a week, twice outside in a cage and 3 times on the tier, 1 hour each rec. and they had a 45 cell unit divided into 15, three man sectors. Now there are 4, five-man sectors and we come out 7 days a week, 1 hour each day, 2 yard days and 5 tier rec's. We still do not have direct access to the main law library or general population. Two out of the four "gang blocks" do have access to the main law library. I believe that is because those two blocks are not organized. It's a mixed block while the two other blocks are Latin Kings and Neta so we are more restricted due to the fact that our blocks will protest against their abusive oppressive tactics in an organized fashion.

—a MA prisoner, October 2002

**RAIL adds:** STG, or so-called security threat group, is a label given to supposed gangs or organizations accused of posing a threat to the security of individuals or the prison institution. Often, as described above, groups fighting the repression in the prison are labeled gangs. Evidence for so-called gang association may be no more than the fact that a prisoner speaks Spanish or has a particular tattoo. An STG label is used to justify harsher incarceration conditions at higher security levels. Often the STG label

results in long-term imprisonment in an isolation unit.

Ho Chi Minh was part of the united front against imperialism. However, he failed to recognize the significance of the Cultural Revolution and the importance of fighting revisionism. For more on MIM's analysis of Ho Chi Minh, see: <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/wim/wyl/text.php?mimfile=hoandplp.txt>

## Fighting Censorship at Attica

Revolutionary Greetings,

I received your correspondence dated 10/11/02. I'm extremely grateful for the support you will be giving me when and if I encounter censorship battles here. I'm more than willing and able to go to Federal Court in order to get your much needed voice in here behind these prison walls. When I received your letter dated Oct 1st, 2002 I immediately wrote the Deputy Superintendent of Programs inquiring as to why my MIM Notes was being censored and why the appeal mechanism wasn't being enforced. Enclosed is both the letter and response that I received. In essence they are saying that for you to send the publications to me and if all is well so be it. If they feel there is any rule violations it will go in front of media review (Dir #4572). Other than that all is well. I'm doing my part, please start to send MIM Notes to the above address.

—a New York Prisoner, October 2002

**8 October 2002**

**Dep. Supt. of Programs R. Savage,**

Mr. Savage, Hello how are you? Fine I pray. I'm writing you because a problem has arisen that I would like for you to address. I received a letter from the Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM) publications dated Oct 1st, 2002. In the letter they explained after my inquiry about my not receiving my publications, that Attica Correctional Facility is censoring and not allowing in MIM Notes. They aren't even abiding by the guidelines as set forth in DIR #4572 Media Review and are sending back publications without any appeal process. I would like to know why has my MIM Notes been denied as set forth in DIR #4572 so that I can activate the appeal process as set forth in DIR 4572. I appreciate your time and patience in this matter. I've enclosed a copy of the letter for your information. I hope to hear from you shortly.

—NY prisoner

**Date: 22 October 2002**

**From: Media Review Committee, Attica Correctional Facility**

**Edward O'Mara, Chairman**

Deputy Superintendent Savage has asked that I respond to your inquiry regarding a publication entitled: MIM Notes.

The publication is subject to the same provisions as any other publication, which arrives at the Attica Correctional Facility. If staff determines that there are possible violations of Directive #4572, the publication is to be sent to the Media Review Committee for further scrutiny. All concerned employees are aware of this regulation and this Facility is in COMPLIANCE with the directive. There

have been no MIM Notes denied entry into the facility by the Media Review Committee in your name. The appeal process is always an option when Directive 4572 is employed.

We hope that this clarifies this matter for you.

**MIM Campaign update:** This letter is a step forward in an ongoing struggle against censorship in Attica that started a year ago. With the help of comrades on the inside and supporters on the outside we are ready to take this campaign to the next level. This is the first word from Attica we have received and they have denied violating their Media Review policies. However, MIM has evidence of materials being rejected at Attica addressed to other prisoners including MIM Notes, books and personal letters. Generally speaking other prisons in the state do follow Directive #4572 and as a result most allow our mail through, while others only censor occasional materials while providing specific explanations (which we argue against). Attica has been the exception, just denying mail across the board. Therefore we must pressure Chairman O'Mara to stand by his word that they will be in compliance with their own

## 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 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.

regulations in which case we will be able to regain contact with many revolutionary comrades being held in Attica

We encourage those on the outside to write Chairman Edward O'Mara and Deputy Superintendent of Programs R. Savage at: Attica Correctional Facility Box 149 Attica, NY 14011-0149 and to cc: MIM with a copy of your letter. Get in touch with MIM to provide further legal or campaigning support to this effort.

## Censorship victory in Tennessee

Dear MIM,

I received my magazine today. I got it the same day it arrived here, they didn't give any trouble. That's what they should've done the first time. I feel good about the situation, I'm glad MIM was there to help see it through. That makes me know that when you struggle for a cause and together, a change will take place.

— a prisoner in Tennessee, October 2002

**MIM responds:** We had to send the magazine to this prisoner twice because the first time the prison rejected it. On appeal the prison administrator tried to claim MIM had not sent anything to the prisoner. But after being furnished with a photocopy of the returned envelop he was forced to admit to the censorship and allow the magazine in. Many censorship cases in prison just require persistence and the time to write protest letters. We need help with these battles. Contact us to get involved. And to view the latest on prison censorship by state check out <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/prisons/censor.html>

## Fighting the 3-Strike law in California

There is no doubt that we are indisputably under siege and definitely in a major state of emergency. Fortunately we still have a contingency of prison community, civil and human rights organizations and activists working in our behalf to abolish this racist and oppressive 3-strike law that is targeting the poor; people of color in general; and Black males in particular.

However, we must bear in mind that these outside groups, activists and organizational heads are not our inside leaders, but are only representatives of our collective plight, struggle and body, and can only be as effective as the body of which it represents. Therefore, if we are inactive and/or ineffective in our inside demonstrations and struggle for justice and liberation, they in turn will be ineffective representatives of our plight and struggle.

Therefore, we cannot afford this luxury of just sitting around doing nothing and hoping for everything. Political change does not

happen like that. There is serious work to be done on all levels and our outside representatives cannot do the job alone, nor should they have to. We must organize and formulate effective inside demonstrations that will not undermine our overall objective or jeopardize our outside representatives!

Therefore the National Plantation Psychosis Awareness Committee and Associates has initiated a class action group appeal /832.5 citizens complaint against CDC alleging the following:

CDC has implemented a general policy and practice of double celling. This practice is imposed upon inmates whether they are willing or unwilling to comply. Consequently the unwilling inmate is either coerced, threatened or persuaded by disciplinary actions to accept this aforementioned double celling and therefore often creates a volatile, hostile and all too often lethal living environment for the inmates and has consequently and dangerously placed all single cells throughout CDC at over 198% capacity.

In most instances, to cover up these departmental threats and coercions of forced double celling, inmates are made to sign get along chronos which serve to relieve CDC of any liability should the inmates injure one another as a result of being forced into cohabitating these one man designed cells, thus lethal overcrowding conditions.

Petitioners agree with the supreme court ruling that in itself "inmates contentions that the close confinement of double celling-housing, two inmates in a single cell - for long periods creates a dangerous potential for frustration, tension and violence, does not lead to the conclusion that double celling... is a cruel and unusual conditioning of confinement in violation of the eighth amendment." Rhodes v. Chapman, 452 U.S. 337 at 70.

However, CDC's practice of "forcing" double celling with threats and coercions after the opposition of sharing a single cell quarter has been explicitly expressed by either inmate creates a volatile and gladiator type environment for both inmates and thus triggers an eighth amendment violation of deliberate indifference to a substantiated risk of serious harm, in that "the federal constitution's eighth amendment does not require a prisoner seeking a remedy for unsafe conditions to await a tragic event, such as an actual assault before seeking relief." Farmer v. Brennan, 128 Fed 2d 811, 815.

The aforementioned practice of "forced double celling" not only negligently and barbarically creates a penological interest of safety and security rather than serves one, but further serves to: 1. Arbitrarily make the 3-strike law physically possible; 2. Arbitrarily facilitate our own incarceration; and 3. Camouflage the true magnitude of the 3-strike law from the public.

Petitioners request that CDCs arbitrary policy and practice of forcing and coercing the double celling of unwilling inmates with threats of disciplinary actions be rescinded immediately.

The notification of this class action group appeal/832.5 citizens complaint against CDC is a preamble for the proceeding February 26, 2003 call to all 3- strikers, old lifers (7-ups), supporters and sympathizers to mobilize themselves throughout the state for a legal, nonviolent mass demonstration of resisting the policy and practice of forced double celling under the auspice of the above appeal/ complaint.

We must utilize the time between now and February 26, 2003 to educate and prepare our collective body for the inevitable threats, force of violence and other strategic maneuvers the department of correction is going to launch against us in an attempt to extinguish this mass demonstration of peaceful and legal resistance and to neutralize our inside organizers and outside contacts.

Therefore we must stress the need to remain focused, united, disciplined and committed to the objective of our liberation and not be distracted nor discouraged by the hardships and strategic compromises that are surely to come. This is a 3-strike backlash demonstration with no side issues other than the demand to provide the 7-lifers a release date.

Common sense, simple economics and ramification of safety and security issues and codes dictates that the politicians and public at large will be much more receptive to our representatives demand to abolish this racist and oppressive 3-strike law and provide dates for the old 7-lifers, when CDC wakes up one morning to discover its prison yards, dayrooms, classrooms, workplaces, etc, bursting at its seams with tents, sleeping bags, cots and an immediate need of 50,000+ unavailable beds as a direct result of us simply resisting CDCs arbitrary practice of forced double celling.

This massive 3-strike backlash demonstration across the state of California's department of corrections will set in motion the needed, real and substantial political background that will give our outside representatives and pursuing legal defense teams the needed fuel and momentum to break the states back and liberate us from this race/poverty based oppression that affects us all. Black, white, Mexican and others.

We have the needed numbers, power and outside support. Therefore, the ultimate power is in our hands. So now we must mobilize and collectively make this 3-strike back lash a permanent reality for CDC, the governor and public.

Ignoring this appeal to mobilize and act will in all likelihood cost us all the rest of our natural lives and continue to drain our communities of its most precious and valuable

resource, which is our youth.

Be involved! Make it happen! 3-strike backlash. Starting February 26, 2003. Dare to struggle, dare to win.

—founding president/minister of defense of the National Plantation Psychosis Awareness Committee (NPPAC), September 2002

MIM responds: We unite with this prisoners call for protest against the 3- strike law in California. This law has resulted in ridiculous sentences for minor crimes and even greater skyrocketing imprisonment rates in California. On the CDC web site visitors can browse the population of the prisons side- by-side with information about the supposed capacity of the prisons. Supporting this prisoner's argument about double celling, virtually all of the institutions are housing far more prisoners than they had capacity for by original design. Laws such as the 3-strikes law directly impact the rate of imprisonment but have no effect on the crime rate. The skyrocketing numbers of people in prison in the U.S. as a whole over the past 30 years have shown no relationship with the crime rate. Locking more people up, in increasingly dangerous and repressive conditions, is only serving the ends of social control and repression of the oppressed nations.



## What is internationalism?

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

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

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

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

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

## Facts on U\$ imprisonment

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

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

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

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

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

2. Ibid., 1992 report.

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

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

5. Atlantic Monthly December, 1998.





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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. New York Times, 8 de febrero 2002.
2. [www.state.gov/www/global/terrorism/fto\\_info\\_1999.html](http://www.state.gov/www/global/terrorism/fto_info_1999.html).

### ¿Que es el MIM?

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

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

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

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