

MIM Notes



April 1, 2004, Nº 299

The Official Newsletter of the Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM)

Free

Spanish people try to vote down Iraq War Elections pit terrorist factions against each other

UNCLE SAM STIRS TROUBLE IN EQUATORIAL GUINEA AND ZIMBABWE

Bush teams up with old apartheid buddies to pick new neo- colonial lackeys in Africa

The United States, England and Spain have conspired to overthrow the government of Equatorial Guinea. Mercenaries caught in the act confessed on television March 10th.

The mercenaries sought to replace President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo in Equatorial Guinea with a man in exile in Spain, Severo Moto. Equatorial Guinea used to be Spain's colony. With money from the U.S. Government and multinational corporations and a promise of oil interests, the mercenaries went into action.

Equatorial Guinea caught 15 people, the advance party: "The 15 people detained comprised white South Africans, black South Africans of Angolan origin, a German and others from Kazakhstan and Armenia, officials said on Tuesday."⁽²⁾

It is only fitting that Zimbabwe holds most of those captured, some 64 mercenaries. England lately criticized Zimbabwe to the point where Zimbabwe withdrew from the Commonwealth England heads.

"Some of the men were said to have been former members of the notorious 32 Commando of the South African defence force, a clandestine unit of the apartheid regime who went on to join the equally controversial private military company Executive Outcomes, which carried out military operations for the governments of Sierra Leone and Angola in the 1990s. It was formally disbanded in 1999, largely in response to South Africa's Foreign Military Assistance Act, which outlaws mercenary activities."⁽¹⁾

An English gent providing a cover for
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Spanish peace protestors (madrid.idymedia.org)

First Monthly Demo Against SHU; Protests Across California

March 6

Protesters took to the streets across the state of California to demand California prisons shut down the Security Housing Units (SHU). Like other control unit prisons across the country, the SHUs are prisons within a prison. They are solitary confinement cells where prisoners are locked up 23 hours a day for years at a time. The one hour a day these prisoner sometimes get outside of their cell is spent alone in an exercise pen not much larger than their cell, with no direct sunlight. This long-term isolation causes serious mental and physical health problems for many prisoners. And these torture cells are used to target politically active prisoners using a system of classification that makes it impossible for prisoners to appeal their assignment.

Activist groups in California have initiated a united front to shut down the Security Housing Units. Organizations and individuals have come together to coordinate our actions and raise the struggle against the SHU. The united front recently convened a meeting that included the Barrio Defense Committee, the Maoist Internationalist Movement, the African People's Socialist Party, Aztecs of North America Inc, African People's Solidarity Committee, Justice for Palestinians, Zami! Cooperative, and California Prison Focus. Participants also include family members of SHU

prisoners and former prisoners themselves.

In cities across the state, participants in the united front will be holding protests the first Saturday of every month. We are collecting petition signatures and educating people about the SHU torture and why it must be shut down. Participants in this united front see the fight against the SHU as part of a larger battle against the criminal injustice system as a whole. And many participants also have an understanding of the corrupt system of Amerikan imperialism that uses prisons as a tool of social control and national oppression. We bring these lessons to the people on the streets as we build this movement to shut down the SHU.

In the city of San Francisco MIM led the protest against the SHU this month at the corner of Powell and Market streets. We set up a literature table with flyers, newspapers, magazines and petitions. Our signs demanding the SHU be shut down caught the eye of many passersby who stopped to ask about the campaign. Many of the Black men walking by stopped to support the struggle, having experienced the prison system first hand. And many Black wimmin also stopped based on their experience of having relatives locked up.

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With the election of pseudo-socialists to power in Spain on March 14th, the Anglo-Saxon imperialist press went into overdrive saying it was a vote for terrorism. MIM would say of course it was a vote for terrorism: terrorism was the only choice on the Spanish imperialist ballot. On the one side was giving the Spanish government what it wanted: a vote for the war in Iraq. And on the other hand was giving Al-Qaeda what it wanted — withdrawal from Iraq. Spaniards suddenly voted overwhelmingly for withdrawal. (Whether or not the "Socialist Party" actually carries through with promises to pull out of Iraq by the end of June is another question.)

The definition of "terrorism" is violence or the threat of violence against civilians to achieve a political goal through intimidation. Bush with Spain's help killed thousands of Iraqi civilians to remove Saddam Hussein. The troops are still killing Iraqis and preventing freedom of speech.⁽¹⁾ Likewise, somebody killed 200 Spaniards in the subway to achieve a political goal, maybe one of Al-Qaeda's goals since Al-Qaeda reportedly claimed responsibility.

The Popular Party led by outgoing Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar sent 1300 Spanish troops to help Bush in Iraq, even though over 90% of Spaniards oppose the Iraq war.⁽²⁾ Until bombs in Madrid killed about 200 Spaniards on the subway, it looked like the Spanish people were going to be bought-off for another round of war.

The reasoning of the public prior to the bombing appeared to be that Aznar had brought prosperity to Spain, so it would keep quiet about the war in Iraq. In reality, Spain has benefited from the European Union through economic growth in conventional bourgeois terms. The European Union (EU) has the historic task of consolidating majority-exploiter rule, especially in Ireland, Portugal, Spain and Greece, but also eventually eastern Europe, where MIM is not so sure the EU can actually succeed in creating a parallel competitor to the United States. Currently parts of Europe like France, Belgium and England are solidly bought-off imperialist states while other parts look spotty. The EU is aiming to fix all that.

The Madrid bombing derailed the EU-Bush combination that we saw in Spain. Combining a European economic outlook

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Letters

Reader takes MIM to task on Abraham Lincoln

Dear MIM,

It is indeed shocking to read in “MIM Notes” that you are singing the praises of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Washington was not an “anti colonist”. The genocide against Native People and Africans began before the “revolution” and continued well after. Washington just laid the basis for the white privilege we see today. That is why he is “beloved” by Amerikans. Lincoln was concerned with preserving the “Union”. He would have preferred to do so without the “Emancipation Proclamation”. Slavery did not end because Lincoln and white Amerika found it “intoleritable” as you have said, but because the Slaves found it intoleritable. A true example of a revolutionary hero from the past would be Nat Turner. If the Trotskyists had been around back then they would have denounced Turner as an “indiscriminate killer of ordinary white folk” including “Women and children” (one of their favorite terms).

mim@mim.org responds: Many people have written to us, disappointed with our recent comments on Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, and other American “founding fathers.”

We are trying to wrest certain terms and ideas away from the reactionaries. We’ve done this for years by spelling Amerikan

with a “k”—we’ve recently broadened this campaign to undermine more of the reactionaries’ bogus rhetoric (<http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/wim/cong/noamericans.html>). That’s why you’ve seen more references to George Washington, Abraham Lincoln et al. in MIM Notes recently. The point is: the “principles” the reactionaries say these “founding fathers” stood for contradict their actual principles. In fact, the “founding fathers” principles are in many important cases much closer to MIM’s. We’re saying that if these boobs really wanted to live up to the legacy of earlier bourgeois revolutionaries, then they wouldn’t censor MIM Notes because we uphold the principle of armed revolution; they wouldn’t set up secret courts and further restrict civil liberties; etc. This does *not* mean we think Abraham Lincoln was a great proletarian revolutionary; we are careful to make this clear. It’s an old story: when the bourgeoisie was young and out of power, it took progressive stances, talked about the “unity of all mankind,” etc. Now that it is old and in power, it has to oppose those progressive stances it once took. We are trying to highlight that.

We’d agree with you that Black resistance to slavery was principal to slavery’s overthrow. Lincoln did not free the slaves; slavery was overthrown in a revolutionary process, the largest part in which was played by Blacks, especially in the electoral and *armed* struggles of Reconstruction. The failure of Reconstruction and the counter-revolution that followed has a lot to do with the fact



Nat Turner: Now that’s a revolutionary hero.

that the North’s principal aim in the Civil War was not the emancipation of Blacks.

That said, whatever his motives, Lincoln did some very good things that objectively aided the revolutionary struggle against slavery. He stood up to the slave states and called their bluff of armed action; previous governments (all the way back to George Washington) had always backed down in the face of that threat. Despite severe criticism at home, he both emancipated the slaves and armed blacks to fight against the South. These were important factors in the South’s eventual defeat (and their experience under arms helped Blacks fight for their rights during Reconstruction). He stuck with a bloody and unpopular war when he realized that it was the only way to break the political clout of the Southern planter class. Thus, in several key moments, Lincoln was presented with the choice of intra-white unity or abolition of slavery—and he chose the right side. Of course, he would rather have abolished slavery peacefully, but when events proved that peaceful abolition was a pipe dream, he stuck by his guns and toughed it out.

The point of all this: Lincoln took the political principles of the rising bourgeoisie seriously (“Our progress in degeneracy appears to me to be pretty rapid. As a nation, we began by declaring that ‘*all men are created equal.*’ We now practically read it ‘all men are created equal, *except negroes.*’ he once said). However, the bourgeoisie can no longer realize those principles—in fact it must oppose them at every turn. This is the hypocrisy we hope to unmask by comparing Bush, Clinton, et al. to Washington and Lincoln.

I should emphasize, though, that if on further reading and thought you change your mind and believe that MIM still truly upholds its white-working-class line [which this letter-writer had questioned in an earlier letter], but disagree about George Washington etc., you should work with us as closely as possible. There will always be disagreements on tactical and strategic matters among revolutionaries. Lest we degenerate into an anarcho-Trot debating society, it’s important to not let those differences get in the way of action.

Editor, MC206; Production, MC12

MIM Notes

The Official Newsletter of The Maoist Internationalist Movement
ISSN 1540-8817

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

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

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What is MIM?

The Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM) is the collection of existing or emerging Maoist internationalist parties in the English-speaking imperialist countries and their English-speaking internal semi-colonies, as well as the existing or emerging Maoist Internationalist parties in Belgium, France and Quebec and the existing or emerging Spanish-speaking Maoist Internationalist parties of Aztlan, Puerto Rico and other territories of the U.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.

Black political establishment divided in Mass.

Although Black legislator Dianne Wilkerson made a clear statement supporting gay marriage and some college clerics supported the gay marriage effort in Massachusetts, there has been a backlash in the Black church. “The Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston, the Boston Ten Point Coalition, and the Cambridge Black Pastors Conference—jointly called for the Legislature to amend the state constitution to ban same-sex marriage.”(1) Signatories on another

statement for banning same-sex marriage included ex-radical Rev. Eugene Rivers of his Azusa Christian Community church. Orthodox Jews and Muslims also signed. By the end of February, polls showed that a majority opposes gay marriage even in Massachusetts when earlier the same polls showed a plurality in favor in November 2003. Now the figure nationally and in Massachusetts is 53% opposed to gay marriage.(2) The change in public opinion shows that

struggle does matter.

Ironically, as the Catholic Church blasted same-sex marriage, statistics came out that 4% of active clergy in the American Catholic Church is involved in abusing children as measured in the 1950 to 2002 period.(3) “My pedophile priest supports traditional marriage” is an example of a protest sign up in Boston, which teemed with small demonstrations for and against gay marriage over the course of days in February. We cannot

help but wonder if the Catholic Church’s clergy would be of higher quality if some had had openly gay marriages instead of deviant lifestyles hidden by black robes.

MIM would warn that 4% would be much higher than the portion convicted and in prison and very high by police standards generally, but the actual proportion of society involved in sexually abusing children is a subject of much debate and little clarity because of the

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Oppose Big Government power: Gates suggests spoiling the Internet

The current writer removes hundreds of spam messages per week from his/her email inbox. Yet, the solutions under capitalism are worse than the disease of spam. Bill Gates has now suggested that all email cost money like postage stamps in order to slow down spam.

MIM’s platform on the Internet opposes any solution using Big Government under capitalism. We want no charge per email and no state sales taxes among other retrograde ideas.

There are only two ways Gates can accomplish his goal of charging per email. One is to go to the government to get a

cumbersome regulation. The other is to arrange a conspiracy of service providers connected mostly to telephone and cable companies. Such a conspiracy would try to accomplish Gates’s goal by achievement of monopoly power.

On this point, MIM shares a self-interest with all the small entrepreneurial companies working on softwares that know how to toss out spam automatically. Bill Gates made his billions by starting as a small software company and by copying the redeeming features of the Apple Macintosh operating system that served customer needs and spreading it

far and wide. Now there are many small companies working on anti-spam software and Gates is pulling the rug from underneath them. He of all people should have some faith in the entrepreneurial spirit of capitalism.

Under socialism, no one would have motivation to send out spam in the first place, just as there would be no motivation to trade in pornography, weapons and drugs. Now under capitalism, when a spammer sends email and makes a sale, that actually counts as increasing the income of the country. Furthermore, all

the income of companies and company divisions working on the spam problem also counts as part of the economy—the Gross National Product. It’s an example of how much of the capitalist economy is just waste. Capitalism creates a problem and then brags how it solved it and made everyone “richer.” Still this waste is better than the kind where the government gets involved in turning email into an extension of the Post Office.

Note: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/TECH/internet/03/05/spam.c.harge.ap/index.html>

Bush still weaseling

For his stupid supporters, George Bush is tweaking his words only so slightly so as not to be noticed. Now he does not claim there were nukes or any other weapons of mass destruction in Iraq that justified the war for Baghdad.

Now he and others refer to “programs” or the “ability” to produce such weapons. “I’m not just going to leave him in power and trust a madman,” he says.

Many of the Iraq war supporters will not notice the change in words. Others won’t notice what a ridiculous position Bush is in: to say that Saddam Hussein was a nasty madman who had the capability to produce weapons of mass

destruction but somehow did not produce them and did not use them. What is it Herr Bush? Saddam Hussein was a nice guy or not? Perhaps your whole approach that ends in that inevitable question is wrong.

While we wait for Bush to consult his staff of psychologists on Saddam Hussein, we at MIM point out that the whole approach of judging individual leaders’ sanity is a poor substitute for addressing the causes of war and militarism. There is no government leader in the world without access to at least a black market in weapons of mass destruction. That’s as guaranteed as the

law of supply and demand under capitalism. The solution is for the people globally to unite to take down the global gendarme of capitalism and put in its place a strict dictatorship of the proletariat in which no one is able to profit from weapons dealing. There is no justified right to trade in weapons of mass destruction or to have cash or other wealth that make such transactions possible. That’s a lot to swallow for our bourgeois ideologues like Bush and Rumsfeld, but no other approach is worth taking seriously.

Note: Washington Post in Boston Globe, 8 Feb 2004, p. a25.

Reading comprehension problem on taxes States and courts can’t read the U.\$ Constitution

The U.\$ Congress is under pressure to allow state taxation of the Internet. 20 states have put lines in their income tax forms requesting money for items purchased out of state, most recently California and New York.(1) The request for taxes at the state level represents an attempt to create a capitalism even worse than the variety originally conceived by the “founding fathers” of the United States. Without the required legal permission, which is not supposed to be granted in any case, the states have gone ahead with their plans taxing interstate commerce.

There is a connection between this question and the sovereignty struggle of the indigenous peoples, because the same states wanting to tax the Internet also believe they have the right to tax people who do business on First Nation territory usually referred to as “Indian reservations.” No one questions taxation of people within state territory, but taxing interactions between people on the Internet or between states and the First Nations should be off-limits— whether or not that business hurts the business interests of tax-paying businesses within a state.

Businesses in New York or anywhere

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PIRAO gives credit where credit is due

by PIRAO chief,
March 15, 2004

Just a note, I keep forgetting to credit people in our central task reports. PIRAO5 deserves credit for doing the work that makes our circulation upsurge possible. We can call that kind of work Deputy Minister of Distribution. The work for the all-time records in circulation can be chalked up to PIRAO5. HC123’s job contributing to MIM internationalism is difficult to describe. For all practical purposes, HC123 does the vast majority of actual work in our International Ministry (and our International Minister is limited in time by party resolution) and it is HC123 providing a good gob of the

glue that keeps our web page together and going forward in foreign languages. Deputy International Minister does not even give full credit to what HC123 is doing. If there would be such a thing as Minister of Internationalism, it would be HC123. The only reason we don’t give that title out is that everyone in MIM is supposed to be an internationalist and we don’t want to create an impression it can be one department. HC123 deserves the credit for coordinating and doing the work while doing it in a fashion in line with MIM’s goals including its central task. It’s safe to say anyone can learn someone else’s job, but right now, HC123 is unique in contributing to MIM.

It’s important for us to acknowledge the contributions of the comrades whenever we can figure it out how to describe it. This is especially true because MIM does not have labor bureaucrats. We have no one making a career out of advancing the international proletariat. That fits in with our notion of the role of the majority-exploiter country comrades and it also makes a virtue out of a weakness that would only change if we suddenly had the money the Sierra Club has for instance.

I know other comrades right now who are also working on things or attempting to work with MIM. As we get into regular working patterns I will figure out how to credit you too.

Spanish people try to vote down Iraq War Elections pit terrorist factions against each other

with Bush's foreign policy was never going to work 100% because of the inherent competition among imperialist powers. In this regard, France and Germany probably bet correctly on the trajectory of the EU. French reactionaries in particular made the calculation that the European pseudo-left would contribute to setting apart Amerikkkan and European interests.

Suddenly the deal being offered by Aznar to the Spanish labor aristocracy did not look so good. The anti-war movement in Spain had been so wimpy that even with 90% public support it could not stop Aznar. All it could do is force Aznar to calculate what would happen if he sent too many troops.

Without an armed struggle in Iraq, the anti-war movement in Spain would be nothing at all. However, combined with the Iraqi armed struggle, even a very weak peace movement can cause a flip-flop of the petty-bourgeoisie under the right circumstances. That can mean trouble for imperialist military interventions. The fact that Spaniards are a tad less bought off with the redistributed spoils of imperialism than Amerikkans are made this occurrence more likely.

To the credit of the Spanish, they figured out the political motivations of the Aznar regime and held it accountable in the days after the bombing to tell the truth about the bombings. Aznar's government tried to blame it all on local terrorists called the ETA when the evidence also pointed to Al-Qaeda. Unlike Amerikkans, the Spanish are not so sanctimonious to think that killing civilians in Iraq is unconnected to killing civilians in Madrid. Had Bush opted for a covert mission to capture Saddam Hussein he would not have had this problem, because the public would have ignored it. It was having an overt war that caused the Madrid versus Baghdad trade-off in the Spaniards' minds.

It goes to show that if we can succeed in making all the covert wars overt wars, the petty-bourgeoisie in the imperialist countries may from time to time flip-flop in such a way that there is a backdown from war. What is killing us is the situation in the United States, where a thoroughly corrupt people does not have its own numerous overt and covert wars shoved in its face. Currently, the Amerikan petty-bourgeoisie can have the luxury of thinking 911 was "out of nowhere," which is why even though MIM has no people's army, the central task of creating public opinion is important.

Uncle Sam is going to twist the truth by twisting arms, which is why a people's army is necessary. However, in the meantime wherever people resist imperialism through armed struggle there is hope that the petty-bourgeoisie may flip-flop.

While Aznar voted in front of cameras, class-conscious Spaniards carried protest

signs saying, "your war, our dead."⁽³⁾ Most of the people who died opposed the war in Iraq and did not even vote for Aznar's government, because the neighborhood they came from opposed Aznar.

Stupid Polish lackeys rushed in to back Bush's war, by saying they will retain command responsibilities where the Spanish were supposed to take over. The Polish lackeys still think they will be keeping the Bear off their back and shopping in Bloomingdales if they attack all the other countries in the world Amerikkka asks them to. We won't be surprised to see purse strings loosen in the West to pay for rent-a-troops from eastern Europe in Iraq. The Polish and other eastern Europeans are going to have to think harder about what could possibly bring global peace.

Into the European fray came those pundits who merely repeated what they read in the latest neo-conservative Zionist book—namely, that the West refuses to believe the stated reasons by Al-Qaeda for its war. The Daily Telegraph in England said, "De-ideologized, postmodern man is particularly bad at grasping the ideological nature of its foes. . . . The desire not to take our enemies at face value, in word and deed, is the hallmark of much of contemporary Europe."⁽⁴⁾ Yet, the Al-Qaeda videotape picked up in Spain did say that Bush's war in Iraq was the reason for this bombing, so in fact, it is the neo-conservatives not taking Al-Qaeda at face value.

It's a sad reflection on the Anglo-Saxon exploiter population that the Daily Telegraph, Joe Lieberman and Edward N. Luttwak can get away with a cultural argument as if Muslims have been suicide bombing Amerikkans and Zionists for thousands of years straight. The Muslims may think that is what they are doing, but in fact they pick among their doctrines and interpreters of Islam those that seem relevant to their time. That's what Muslims have always done; that's what people in all religions do and that's what gives one religion an edge over another, not some timeless command from some god.

Of course there are documents and doctrines that support Luttwak's claim that Islam is fighting the same battle since the Crusades. However, those doctrines would have no popularity if their material causes were removed. This is something the religious of the world do not want to hear, but it is obvious and necessary to world peace. Religion is a divisive force for the species, because it rests on ideas that cannot unify the public through mutual scientific verification. Religion is the perfect justification for war in the hands of people like Joe Lieberman and Edward N. Luttwak. At the same time, religion is not so powerful that it can serve as a real and permanent cause of war unaffected

by material events. Some permanent ideology of hate is a myth.

In all the hoopla about "extremist" Islam, the West has managed to conjure up Hitler as well, clear evidence of a twisted demonization dynamic going on. David Brooks of the New York Times attacked Spaniards this way: "The Spanish government was conducting policies in Afghanistan and Iraq that Al Qaeda found objectionable. A group linked to Al Qaeda murdered 200 Spaniards, claiming that the bombing was punishment for those policies. Some significant percentage of the Spanish electorate was mobilized after the massacre to shift the course of the campaign, throw out the old government and replace it with one whose policies are more to Al Qaeda's liking.

"What is the Spanish word for appeasement?"⁽⁵⁾

MIM did an Internet search for "Spain" and "appeasement" and found 45 news articles—all of which turn out to be by papers in English-speaking imperialist countries—the United States, United Kingdom and Australia. We can speak of an Anglo-Saxon opinion on this question.

In case we did not get it, the New York Times ran two columnists both saying the same thing, Edward N. Luttwak in addition to David Brooks. Connecticut Senator and Democrat Joe Lieberman, a Jew, also raised "appeasement," but we are disgusted by the upside-down usage of the word. It's an example why we have to remember the truth and forget who is saying it. Joe Lieberman's coming from a family that suffered in the Holocaust does not change what the historical policy of "appeasement" was.

"Appeasement" refers to a British and French policy in World War II

spearheaded by Neville Chamberlain that sought peace with Hitler in 1938 by letting him occupy Czechoslovakia instead of taking up the offer from the Soviet Union to attack Germany in concert. Of course we all know now that Hitler did not "settle down" after Czechoslovakia and went on to make a huge international war anyway.

The propaganda is so thick in the Anglo-Saxon imperialist countries that many have convinced themselves that it is actually Al-Qaeda being appeased. Yet Al-Qaeda is not occupying any foreign countries. And just like Osama Bin Laden said, there were U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia since the 1991 Gulf War. It is the United States occupying Iraq and it is the United States that is the superpower that cowardly politicians around the world serve as lackeys. "Appeasement" in 2004 is going along with U.S. war plans and assisting in U.S. terrorism in Iraq and elsewhere around the globe.

Notes:

1. http://www.dissidentvoice.org/Articles7/Fisk_US-Censorship.htm ; http://www.dissidentvoice.org/Articles8/Fisk_Iraq-Censorship.htm ; A newspaper closely linked to British military intelligence has reported it all. There is no dispute of fact: "Two months after 'liberating' Iraq, the Anglo-US authorities have decided to control the new, free press." www.independent.co.uk
2. <http://www.nytimes.com/2004/03/16/international/europe/16SPIN.html>
3. http://kutv.com/topstories/local_story_075114846.html
4. <http://www.opinion.telegraph.co.uk/opinion/main.jhtml?xml=/opinion/2004/03/15/dl1501.xml&sSheet=/opinion/2004/03/15/ixopinion.html>
5. <http://www.nytimes.com/2004/03/16/opinion/16BROO.html>



Sierra Club targeted by white nationalists

The Amerikan environmentalist club called the “Sierra Club” is having an election at the end of April. The former governor of Colorado, Richard Lamm, is running on a platform opposing immigration to the United States. The same Lamm had considered running for president as a candidate in Ross Perot’s Reform Party.

White nationalist hate groups are advising members to send the Sierra Club \$25 for the right to join and vote.(1) The Sierra Club has 750,000 members, but the issue has come up before and the racists believe the vote is close enough that they might win. (2)

One may wonder what immigration has to do with environmentalism. Although closing the U.S. borders is not as extreme as what Hitler did, the basic reasoning is the same: that racism is the solution for everything. Whatever problem arises, the racists have a simple “solution.”

MIM would say that the rise of the racist movement in the Sierra Club is proof of MIM’s assertion that the environmentalist movement is the least effective social movement of the last 100 years. Every year Amerikkans give environmentalist organizations not just millions but several billions of dollars.(3) Yet those organizations do not get the job done and the result is frustration and people calling for simple and stupid answers.

The Christian Science Monitor backed up the racists this way: “Most new migrants to the US use up more resources and do more ecodamage than they did back home (where they most likely didn’t own a car, for instance). They take on the consumption patterns of the world’s biggest polluter.”(2)

What the racists do not point out is that once in the United States, the birth rate of immigrant families gradually declines,

thus supporting the Sierra Club’s goals on population growth. In agricultural lands, peasants have children to support themselves in old age. That is not as necessary in the United States and that is one reason why the birth rate is lower in the United States than most countries. Furthermore, strictly speaking, the Sierra Club’s goals of smaller populations and reducing ecological impact of humyn activity are not the same.

Even better, we have the following solution for the Christian Science Monitor, Richard Lamm and the KKK. We suggest that they sell their cars and move to Iraq, where certainly the U.S. puppet government will find them jobs with Halliburton. Once there in Iraq, all the racists will do much less “ecodamage” and have a smaller “ecological footprint.” With any luck, they’ll all be shot by indignant Iraqi nationalists and their ecological footprint will become smaller



still. The only problem with such a strategy is that it is based on the false premises of the white nationalists. In fact, war and the racial/ethnic hatreds causing it are the most immediate threat to the environment and capitalism is the long-term cause of environmental destruction.

Notes:

1. <http://msnbc.msn.com/id/4522557/>
2. <http://www.csmonitor.com/2004/0311/p08s03-comv.html>
3. <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/bookstore/books/enviro/dowie.html>

Black political establishment divided in Mass.

Continued from page 3...

questioned reliability of childhood memories in very young children. The Catholic Church reported that only 6% of the victims were age 7 and younger and 78% aged 11 to 17,(2) but of course, that might be just what people can remember. It’s not a simple matter to say that the Catholic clergy are more abusive than the public at-large.

The joint statement with the Catholic Church issued details on how gay marriage is bad for kids: “The marriage of one man and one woman is the basis for family life, into which children are born, nourished, and educated. This understanding of marriage and family predates and precedes the authority of the state.”(4) No one told the clerics that older is not necessarily better.

Within Amerikkkan capitalism today, it is true that children face oppression from parents who abandon their families. This would not happen in a socialist country with public norms for day-care and education, but in the United States, we have not adjusted yet to wimmin’s working. We have neither a non-oppressive family nor public institutions fulfilling their role. We have the worst of both worlds when it comes to family issues. As a result, studies show that children in families without fathers have a host of problems that children in other families do not. We can also predict psychological difficulties for boys and girls raised without a father—some of which may be a stigma thanks to those defending “traditional marriage.” Black families have suffered disproportionately on account of Black men missing because of prison and premature deaths from heart disease and other causes. Thus, the ministers did not err when they said, “The court’s re-definition of marriage explicitly

divorces the institution of marriage from the procreation and education of children. Despite the experience of all human cultures and the empirical data of sociological studies, the court ignores the fact that the stable, permanent relationship of a husband and wife is the optimal basis for child rearing.”(4)

Despite this truth, we see no reason to link a stand on the Amerikkkan family or the Black family problem in particular to gay marriage law. Reality has developed far beyond where it can be stuffed back into a neat box called the traditional family. Single wimmin head families now and it is not against the law. For the ministers to be consistent they would have to advocate legal discrimination against single mothers heading families and married couples who never have children. Combined, the single mother families and couples without children are approaching majority status throughout the imperialist world, places like the United States and Au\$tralia for example. The “traditional family” is already a small minority. The ministers did not take a consistent stand on behalf of children, so we find them ideologically abhorrent. They disguise their oppressive ideology in the name of children and pseudo-sociological study.

The fact that lesbian couples may tend to have the traditional mother but not a traditional father to raise children is indeed questionable in the current context and perhaps even more important than the whole marriage issue. However, that is a separate issue. Raising the breakdown of the Amerikkkan family or the Black family in particular in this context is just discrimination.

For that matter there is no proof that gay marriage weakens marriage. To the extent that gay/lesbian behavior is in the open, heterosexual relations may also improve by way of clarity.

Whether the ministers like it or not, in an increasingly prosperous society, sex for its own sake—whatever that is and if it really exists at all—has motivated behavior ranging from pornography to divorce to “Sex in the City” to gay marriage.

Many of the changes in life having to do with increased life expectancies and longer leisure time with more money are negative. The leisure time activities of Kobe Bryant and his accuser spring to mind as symbolic of what happens in leisure time at the expense of children still. Divorces with children involved are still harmful because the rest of society has not adjusted yet. However, the notion that sex should be something traded for a living by most wimmin or accepted as part of a “traditional marriage” involving children is falling by the wayside. As wimmin no longer have to have sex to have a family—in other words no permanent relationship with a man—because wimmin will not starve and their children will not, things change. The hoary past was a past of coercive sexual relations and as wimmin escape those relations as the studies show, men also innovate in their relations. It is this period of transitional change that the ministers are now condemning. They put their finger on a problem but not a solution.

MIM does not mourn the fall of the “traditional family,” because we are confident that people everywhere can find new and positive ways to relate in solidarity and raise children in new and better ways than before. For examples of public roles in raising children we recommend the culture of Stalin’s Soviet Union and Mao’s China. Amerikkkans will probably never go back to having as little leisure life as in Stalin’s or Mao’s societies, but we still can see some

examples of how public life can be more positive for raising children.

Notes:

1. Boston Globe 8Feb2004, p. b1.
2. Boston Sunday Globe 22Feb2004 repeated here: http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2004/02/25/bush_seeks_marriage_amendment/
3. USA Today 17Feb2004, p. 4a.
4. http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2004/02/07/what_happens_for_300_children_of_divorced_parents_in_the_spot_for_their_parents

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

What's New @ MIM's Homepage

First Monthly Demo Against SHU; Protests Across California

Continued from page 1...

Prisons are tools of social control which are being used to perpetuate this national oppression. Amerika locks up a higher proportion of Black men than were in prison in South Africa under the openly racist system of apartheid.

In recent petitioning work in the Mission district, where there is a large number of Mexicanos, MIM has also found significant interest in supporting the fight against the SHU. In California the SHU is disproportionately made up of Latinos. As many prisoners have reported to us, being Mexicano/Latino/La Raza immediately gets you classified into a gang when you get into prison, which can lead to lockdown in the SHU because of the CDC's gang classification policy.

Students from the University of Santa Cruz tabled on Pacific Ave, the heart of downtown Santa Cruz. They collected 75 signatures and handed out flyers to Free Jose Luis Avina, who is currently in a SHU in Corcoran State Prison. While incarcerated for defending himself against a North Amerikan in 1995, Jose Luis participated in the November 1999 hunger strike in New Folsom Prison during which 68 prisoners exposed the brutality there. Governor Gray Davis responded by shipping Jose Luis to the SHU along with six other hunger strikers. His mother, Quetzacoelocia, started the Barrio Defense Committee in San Jose to protect their neighborhoods from police assault and to free her son.

In San Jose the Barrio Defense Committee and Justice for Palestinians set up a mock SHU at the Berryessa Flea Market in San Jose from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 noon, collecting signatures for the Petition to Shut Down the SHU and to Free Jose Luis Avina from the SHU. Comrades handed out fliers with a bulleted list of SHU conditions, shortening the extensive explanation by MIM, which was very effective. They also advertised for a community discussion around the SHU at the Pena Cultural de la Raza the next day.

The display in San Jose was strengthened by a mock SHU constructed of wood, matching the 6' x 8'

dimensions of an actual cell. The mock SHU is very effective because people can better imagine the effects of these torture units. Being big enough to attract a lot of attention, once people find out what it is they are usually shocked at how small it is. We successfully made contact with people who want to support the Campaign to shut down the SHU. The first Sunday of the month, the Barrio Defense Committee organizes cultural programs within the Mexican community and the discussion of the SHU was had within the community following this demonstration. This meeting was effective in recruiting people to collect signatures and hand out fliers in Sonoma.

In addition to the reports above, activists were out in Los Angeles and will be out in Oakland next month. SLALA & RAIL did a two-locale petitioning drive to shut down the SHU in Los Angeles. They petitioned first in MacArthur Park—a good place to go if you speak Spanish, not so good otherwise—then moved on to an anti-“Three Strikes” protest in Inglewood that was extremely friendly and pretty correct in overall orientation. Demo organizers read our petition over the PA system in the park where the protest was held and told demonstrators not to leave without signing.

For the next Saturday (April 3), we are planning to petition at the Silver Lake Farmer's Market at Sunset Blvd. and Griffith Park Blvd. (south of Santa Monica Blvd., north of Silver Lake Blvd., across from the 99-cent store, accessible by the Silver Lake Blvd. exit of the 101). We'll be there from 10am to Noon as the market ends at noon.

The united front will be holding its next statewide meeting in Oakland on Saturday, April 10th at noon at the Uhuru House on 7911 MacArthur Blvd. People in California can also join our email list to get involved in these organizing efforts. Information, petitions and fliers regarding the Abolish the Control Units campaign across the country can be found at MIM's website at: <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/agitation/prisons/controlunits/index.html>.

Statewide Organizing Meeting to Shut Down the Security Housing Units in the California Prisons

When: Saturday, April 10, 12-to 2pm

Where: Uhuru House, 7911 MacArthur Blvd, Oakland

On Saturday, April 10, 2004, the United Front to Shut Down the Security Housing Units (SHUs) in California will hold its second statewide meeting at the Uhuru House at 7911 Mac Arthur Blvd in Oakland to organize legal, political and organizing efforts to shut down the security housing units in the state of California.

The United Front to Shut Down the Security Housing Units recently convened a meeting hosted by the Barrio Defense Committee in San Jose included MIM (Maoist International Movement), the African People's Socialist Party, Aztecs of North America Inc, African People's Solidarity Committee, Justice for Palestinians, Zami! Cooperative, and California Prison Focus (CPF). Participants in the meeting also included family members of SHU prisoners and former prisoners themselves.

The United Front calls on all justice-loving people to uphold human rights and support an end to the brutal isolation cells used to torture predominately Raza and African prisoners.

The United Front will hold monthly public actions on the first Saturday of the month in locations across the state and is building for a mobilization to coincide with the legal battle regarding the first amendment and the Security Housing Unit so-called “gang” classifications and regulations. This mobilization will take place at the Federal Court in San Francisco on April 26, 2004 at 450 Golden Gate Avenue.

To attend the April 10th meeting or more information on the United Front to Shut Down the SHUS, contact:

San Francisco: mim124@mim.org (415) 267-4879

San Jose: barriodefens@earthlink.net (408) 885-9785

Santa Cruz: rufus4you@yahoo.com (408) 471-9098

Los Angeles: lizm9698@sbcglobal.net (818) 848-0402

Chico: diana.sottana@sbcglobal.net (530) 864-2134

Competition creates waste in health care

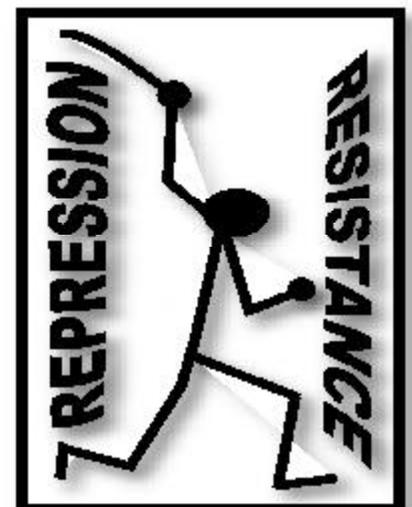
In the United States, doctors supposedly compete for patients. Mostly they do this through managed care organizations, corporations that insure patients at work. For this reason, a survey shows that 63.5% of 904 Massachusetts physicians would prefer a single-payer system. Single-payer is another phrase for national health insurance and in any case, single-payer would in effect be national health insurance. Only 10.7% chose managed care as the best way to organize medicine.

As a result of the hodgepodge of corporations, medical practices vary and paperwork varies from corporation to corporation and doctor to doctor. Even within the same corporation, paperwork can vary and there are no uniform standards, thanks to a lack of political will both in corporate management and U.S. politicians.

Paper work and standards are essential in the medical profession and that fact cannot be hidden very easily the way it can in other capitalist businesses.

67% of doctors surveyed also said they would take a 10% pay cut to get out of some paperwork. Thanks to a lack of political will in the United States for centralized standardization out of a fear of socialism, medical doctors waste a lot of time and deliver sub-standard care given the money spent, even compared with other capitalist countries. It's another case where individualism creates chaos.

Note: Boston Globe 10Feb2004, pp. d1, d5.



Columnist offers fearless dating advice

A stupid magazine for wimmin that we generally count as part of a patriarchal conspiracy has a columnist offering dating advice counter to a whole culture's fears. We have to applaud at least in part Elle's E. Jean Carroll when she advises single heterosexual wimmin to give out a phone number to 20 men per week. Quite correctly, she advises that by meeting large numbers of men, probability is on the lonely heterosexual womyn's side.

The book "Mr. Right, Right Now! How a Smart Woman Can Land Her Dream Man in 6 Weeks" advises wimmin to let go of their fears of meeting men. Men are at sports bars on Sundays watching games, so she says go to one and have French fries instead of watching "Sex and the City" at home.

The point is that where people are in public, that is where to meet men—the gym, cigar bars, bookstores, animal shelters, the baggage carousel at airports, and yes, even walking down the street. She says wimmin must squash their fears and "hunt" just like men do. The proof, she says, is that wimmin like shopping, so why would they not like hunting for men? Put that way, it does seem rather odd that wimmin would search for commodities more aggressively than boyfriends—on this MIM would have to agree.

MIM approves of the plan for heterosexual wimmin, even if we do not think it requires purchasing a book for \$24 to figure it out. Too much of pseudo-feminism is involved with criticizing men for where they approach wimmin, with what class's language. The list gets so long that it's not surprising wimmin reflexively say "gross" to just about every idea for meeting men.

The heterosexual pseudo-feminist becomes the most contradictory animal in the world. After rejecting every possible avenue in some form of politically correct language masking fear, the pseudo-feminist finds herself stealing her friends' boyfriends, going out with her boss or getting recommendations from parents in a step just barely above arranged marriage. In contrast, E. Jean Carroll takes a bird's eye view, a social approach.

No doubt countless educated wimmin and most of the wimmin interested in Maoism at this point do not want to be approached by men in as many places as E. Jean Carroll advises wimmin to hunt men. Thus the rights of one group of wimmin end up pitted against another. E. Jean Carroll says she receives thousands of letters from lonely hearts and decided to write the book based on them. Frankly, this is something involving not thousands but millions of wimmin, because E. Jean Carroll is just one columnist in touch with a fraction of the problem. On the opposite side we are sure there are also millions—and in some cases with some overlap in the lonely-hearts club.

For MIM and revolutionary feminism this dilemma cuts to a core issue—why we are unable to unite wimmin and move

forward. Quite the contrary, almost every attempt at a moderate feminism is in fact pseudo-feminism and a bundle of contradictions. The key is there is almost no attention to theory and its analyses of groups of millions of people in pseudo-feminism.

On the one hand, from the point of view of the lonely hearts (and all the problems that come with that, including single mothers and children without fathers), the restrictions placed on wimmin in the guise of prohibitions regarding sexual harassment language amount to one thing: a form of business regulations that favor one group of wimmin over another. Every time a womyn says "gross" on how to meet a man and calls for some ban or another, we should see a combination of fear and competition for men.

The politically correct womyn with the word "gross" on the tip of her tongue asks whether her sisters are crazy. "Do you want your bosses to hit on you? Do you seriously want to encourage men to ask you for dates as you walk down the street by following E. Jean Carroll's advise and asking men for dates that way?"

In reply, the lonely heart can then say, "ah, I see, you non-working wimmin want to meet our bosses after work, so you don't want us to meet them at work. As for walking down the street, you want to make sure that Mr. Right does not meet any riff-raff like us, because he does have to walk down the street sometimes instead of relying solely on his parents' introductions at country clubs."

Ms. Politically Correct then says: "Oh, great, so now I'll be dating my psychiatrist and giving my phone number to the guy putting me under the knife at the operating table in the hospital? Otherwise I'll be giving up on the competition, right?"

Ms. Politically Correct does have a point, but MIM says most of her points have to be resolved through economic reorganization of society, not lifestyle practices concerning dating. It is simply logically impossible to resolve economic inequality between men and wimmin through ingenious dating practice.

The way to solve the problem of bosses dating employees is socialism, not a self-defeating dating practice. Under socialism, rules for firing are very strict; everyone is guaranteed a job and no one could possibly lose on some career ladder because of some boss's desire for a co-worker. Worker control is the solution for the abuses of bosses in general. Likewise, psychiatry as practiced now is completely wrong and stems from the individualist ideology of class society. The solution is socialism and not a long list of rules of who to date and not to date, because no one can escape the coercion of class society as it exists, no matter how long the list of politically correct rules.

In the imperialist countries we have "democracy" and "freedom of initiative" for all the wrong things. A majority of people in the United States backed the

Let the pseudo-feminists save their fears and marshal their energies for a crackdown on weapons, pornography, alcohol and drugs for profit. Let's talk about public-owned TV and radio and what they will allow and not allow under the dictatorship of the proletariat, but let's not crack down on where and how people can meet dates.

war in Iraq (and is now starting to change its mind). Before that a majority of people backed starving Iraqis to death and forbidding medical equipment from entering the country. That is an example of something that no majority of people should have the right to do except in a just war—definitely not a pre-emptive war to create a colony. We do not believe a majority should even have the right to stop gays from marrying, much less make Iraq a colony.

It the majority wants to pass a law saying it's illegal to date your boss, then that would be better. People can adjust to that and maybe no one will die as a result as long as those sorts of restrictions do not pile up. That kind of democracy MIM can live with. If majority rule results in unnecessary deaths, then we say to hell with democracy. If we start seeing a lot of lonely-hearts suicides then we have to publicly attack any written or unwritten customs getting in the way of healthy life.

In the imperialist countries, companies have the freedom of initiative to build weapons and sell them. The same goes for tobacco and pornography. Meanwhile, unwritten cultural rules mostly self-imposed by wimmin prohibit wimmin from walking down the street and giving a man her phone number. Furthermore, it's almost a college graduation requirement to know that men should not catcall wimmin on the street, which in fact is a rubric for a much broader agenda of fear. Meanwhile, the mainstream media are full of stories about the evil of meeting over the Internet.

The truth is that all means of meeting the opposite sex (or the same sex) are flawed and at least a little bit dangerous and we should keep that in mind when tempted to condemning one particular means of meeting. Restricting avenues of meeting always favors one group of people over another and although no means is perfect, the street and the Internet are in fact two of the most democratic ways to meet available. The Internet is restricted to computer-users, but it opens up much larger geographic distances. The street mingles all the classes available in that one area, the

downtown city street being most democratic of all.

Of course, meeting is not the whole problem. It is possible to get good at meeting people and then fail the next step. "Ask Beth" advice columnist finds it necessary to point out that the Internet is so easy it may encourage lonely hearts to see more than is really there. She says visits with Internet dates should be chaperoned and people should inquire into his family and friends.

Wimmin need to look at their fears. Perhaps they are not really heterosexual and fear public scorn for admitting it. There is no reason not to date wimmin instead of men, if that would reduce fear. Asexuality is another possibility. To hell with anyone who would laugh. As a group, asexual people may want to restrict social interaction entirely, but we cannot allow asexual or fearful people to limit the right of people to approach each other—whether it be for politics or dating. Right now there are people who think there should be a right not to be offered a leaflet on the street, but these are fearful fascist types. If we build a society based on that paranoid group's needs, the humyn race will come to a quick end.

Right now, the patriarchy comes with violence against wimmin, so no matter what we do, we will not get an accurate answer to what wimmin really want. We will try as hard as we can to arrive at the truth and that truth may be that once violence and inequality are gone, wimmin may have no physical attraction to men.

In the meantime, there are heterosexual wimmin who at least think they are pursuing Mr. Right. Let there be democracy and freedom of initiative on this point and let the pseudo-feminists save their fears and marshal their energies for a crackdown on weapons, pornography, alcohol and drugs for profit. Let's talk about public-owned TV and radio and what they will allow and not allow under the dictatorship of the proletariat, but let's have initiative in dating whether it be on the street or the Internet or airport baggage carousels.

Note: "Plan of Attraction," The Sun (Baltimore) 27Jan2004, p. e1.

USA STIRS TROUBLE IN EQUATORIAL GUINEA AND ZIMBABWE

Continued from page 1...

the mercenaries caught in Zimbabwe says they were headed to the Congo to guard mines.(1) We don't imagine that it will amuse Zimbabwe very much, given the discovery of wire-cutters and camouflage uniforms in the plane and the flight plans contradicting the story.

Zimbabwe also caught a British military intelligence officer attempting to greet the plane full of mercenaries—Simon Mann. Of course, the description of him is that he was “former”(2) British SAS specialist. In the spy world, there are never “current” spies caught. Such admissions would defeat the purpose of having “secret services.”

England admitted that it has no comment and generally does not have any comment about its secret services. It's important to understand the implications of this policy and the whole concept of secret services.

Since these secret services are secret, these mercenaries do not stand much chance of a defense. With such a “principled” stand by Tony Blair, the entire

Third World has justification for executing every English national as a spy. After all, Blair will not deny it and more importantly, won't abolish secret services.

Of course, Tony Blair and other imperialists will complain when Third World countries start executing spies. Such attacks on civilians—some who are not really civilians—will then be counted as “terrorism” by the same imperialists.

It gets better: as of March 12th, the U.S. State Department and embassy in Equatorial Guinea have nothing to say on their web pages.

The plane carrying the mercenaries in Zimbabwe was Amerikan. Whether it be Haiti or Iraq or Zimbabwe, what we see is Bush going back to the Reagan-era and rehabilitating all his buddies of torturer and mercenary fame. Back then, the Reagan administration justified it as a response to the Soviet Union. Today there is no such excuse and so the imperialists seek to keep it quiet.

Besides, the dictator of Equatorial Guinea thought he was a friend of the

united States. He has property there and an oil deal.

We say to all the lackeys and wannabe lackeys out there in the Third World: look at Noriega from Panama, Saddam Hussein in Iraq and Aristide in Haiti. It does not matter whether or not the CIA puts you on payroll and lets you own nice houses in Amerika. National pride should come from action like this—catching mercenaries for imperialism always trying to exploit the Third World a little harder.

Equatorial Guinea should nationalize all the assets of the multinational corporations involved in the plot—any companies from the United States, England and Spain including Exxon-Mobil, Amerada Hess Corp, U.S. ChevronTexaco Corp, Noble Energy Inc, Devon Energy Corp and Houston-based Marathon Oil Corp.(4) Any companies innocent in the plot should sue their own governments for damages instead of Equatorial Guinea.

We stand behind Zimbabwe if it wants to execute the mercenaries. If it does not, it may look like Zimbabwe aided the

conspiracy and hosts mercenaries attacking others. If any imperialist invades to back its mercenaries or to punish Zimbabwe or Equatorial Guinea, Africa should unite to throw out the invaders. The conflict in Equatorial Guinea is an extension of the conflict in Iraq. It is U.S. imperialism against most of the world, aided by partners in England and Spain.

Notes:

1. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/international/story/0,3604,1168389,00.html>
2. <http://www.reuters.co.uk/newsPackageArticle.jhtml?type=worldNews&storyID=472686&ion=news>
3. <http://news.independent.co.uk/world/africa/story.jsp?story=500330>
The same newspaper in England tied to British intelligence refers to SAS in the present tense in another article on the same subject. <http://news.independent.co.uk/world/africa/story.jsp?story=500325>
4. <http://www.cnn.com/2004/WORLD/africa/03/10/guinea.plot.reut/>

Reading comprehension problem on taxes

Continued from page 3...

else should get used to the fact that they may lose business competition because of inferiority or because of state taxes that make those businesses uncompetitive. The urge to go to the government to alter the rules of business competition is the inevitable kernel of imperialism—something we do not see in such bald-faced manner in U.S. treatment of Germany or England but something we do see when it comes to arresting say the president of Panama, Iraq or Haiti.

The United States does not get to set tax rates in Germany for the benefit of U.S. tax-paying companies and even less should New York State have the right to tax tribes. The U.S. Constitution says in Article 1, Clause 3 of Section 8 that Congress (the federal government) has the right “To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.” Clause 6 of section 9 also says specifically, “No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another: nor shall Vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay Duties in another.” The correct reading (not interpretation) of this supposedly highest law of the land is that states are not supposed to be trying to control interstate commerce and no matter one's view of the status of the tribes, states such as New York or North Carolina are not supposed to be regulating tribes.

When a tourist goes to Germany from the United States, the U.S. Government may impose a duty on import items when the tourist returns. However, no one

would think that New York has the right to tax a New Yorker coming back from Germany. Yet somehow some stupid courts have decided that somehow the states have the right to tax people leaving state boundaries.

One of the worst court decisions on this question was in 1994 in New York where the U.S. Supreme Court took the wrong side in “DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE OF NEW YORK, et al., PETITIONERS v. MILHELM ATTEA & BROS., INC.” In that decision, the Supreme Court avoided the question of the U.S. Constitution and what it says about tribes. A previous Supreme Court decision—1965's “WARREN TRADING POST CO. v. ARIZONA TAX COMMISSION ET AL.”—also avoided the question: “Since we hold that this state tax cannot be imposed consistently with federal statutes applicable to the Indians on the Navajo Reservation, we find it unnecessary to consider whether the tax is also barred by that part of the Commerce Clause giving Congress power to regulate commerce with the Indian tribes.”

The official newspaper of the labor aristocracy in New York, the New York Post, says that New York State has the legal right to tax the First Nations and that Governor Pataki recently passed up the chance to rake in \$400 million in taxes. The February 14th Post claims the reason Pataki backed down was the threat of violence.(4) Why stop there, New York Post? New York State is losing a lot more than \$400 million a year by not taxing Canada. Hopefully you are not going to give in New York Post, just because of some threats of violence from some Royal Canadian mounties.

The “founding fathers” of the United

States suggested that the solution for reading comprehension problems when it came to the Constitution is the musket. There is no other option when the corrupt authorities so wilfully misinterpret the law. We might add that the same is true of broken treaties. So it is that when governments pursue the interests of the businesses within their jurisdiction or pursue revenue for its own sake, violence or war are the result. That is inevitable under capitalism and the only solution is

global communism.

Note:

1. <http://www.kansascity.com/ml/kansascity/business/8106784.htm>
2. <http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/93-377.ZO.html>
3. <http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/scripts/getcase.pl?court=US&vol=380&invol=685>
4. <http://www.nypost.com/postopinion/editorial/15658.htm>

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.

Tolkien's 'power corrupts' message is old news

Lord of the Rings: Return of the King (2003)

What we said in our review of the earlier installments of "Lord of the Rings" mostly applies to the last installment as well, so we will just add a few notes. "Lord of the Rings III" won 11 Oscars in February 2004 thus equalling the previous record for one movie, but from our point of view, it was an epic effort on behalf of a fairly ugly idea.

Perhaps 500 years ago, when ideas of monarchy dominated, it would be progressive to show a king ruining his kingdom with a bearded wizard showing up to set things straight. Too bad a wizard can't just show up and set things straight in the White House. Encouraging such notions only promotes political passivity and that's our main beef with the "Lord of the Rings" hocus-pocus.

Yet, "LRIII" even waters down the message on how kings have to be critically evaluated, by picking on someone who is merely a caretaker standing in for the real king's line. Perhaps in some ancient time it would be a necessary compromise to engage the audience unable to see why they should evaluate the jobs their kings are doing. Today the message that a real man has to show up and set off a war against the legions of evil is mostly reactionary—especially in imperialist countries like the united States.

We can also contrast this with Sergei Eisenstein's movies about kingdoms hundreds of years ago. With the Germans shortly to invade the USSR in 1941, Eisenstein created a film titled "Alexander Nevsky" about a time hundreds of years earlier when the Russian people defeated Germanic invaders. Hurray for Eisenstein and the Soviet film companies.

In contrast, the effect of "LRIII" is militarist and criminal. As in the earlier installments, we have one elaborate excuse for scenes of gore. Most of the military opponents are dead bodies brought back to life, and so we learn that there is no reason not to make a war. The opponents are deemed unworthy of life to begin with. These are dangerous ideas to be floating around in a country already rampaging around the globe from Afghanistan and Iraq to Haiti.

The issue of trust among the various species of Middle Earth interests us, but "LRIII" raises the question in a rather simple way. Again and again the question arises why each species should stand with the other species to fight against evil when there was lacking a prior history of common struggle. "LRIII" comes out against such speciesism (read nationalism) and shows it to be a lack of courage in the face of evil. "LRIII" reduces the question of cross-cultural cooperation to a question of the gallantry of the men fighting. The lack of development on this point is one reason that the good does not outweigh the bad in "LRIII."

Finally, the one thing we liked about

"LRIII" is that it showed mere mortals boldly storming the gates of hell. The mortals win thanks to a fight within the squad of three sent on a special mission to drop a ring in hell's fire. Had not one greedy, schizoid power-seeking mortal jumped on the hero of the story to steal the ring of power, the mortals of Middle Earth would have failed in defeating evil. So in essence, the mortals won in spite of themselves—through a lucky break. So much for the notion that it is futile to struggle because of anarchist-nihilist notions that "power corrupts." The message is to struggle in the face of apparent doom. "Power corrupts," but there are other things going on as well.

On this point of struggle in the face of apparent doom, we find the "LRIII" useful. Sometimes the choice is between the impossible (communist revolution and organizing people to be more harmonious and peaceful) and certain death (letting things slide as they are). With tens of thousands of Orcs about to invade Middle Earth, to say this or that military or political mission has little chance of success becomes meaningless, stupid and immoral. We have to choose the missions with the greatest chance of success even if those greatest chances are not that great.

In Mao's military writing he warns his comrades not to launch guerrilla battles without a 90% chance of winning. It would be better to run than lose. He said so because he saw again and again that it is possible to set up battles against Japanese invaders and their lackeys such that the enemy is outnumbered and outgunned 10 to 1—despite the fact that the Japanese and comprador armies far outnumbered the communists at the beginning and had more money and better technology. However, it would be important to point out that if there were no battles possible which would guarantee 90% success rate, then Mao's statement would not apply. His battle tactics coincided with a certain overall strategic situation in which he believed he had time and numbers on his side in the long run. He had witnessed concretely the possibilities he wrote about and so his battle tactics were not at all a question of speculation or estimation or analysis which people would disagree over. Had Mao been placed in the Middle Earth military situation, he would have adapted his military tactics.

Mao turned out to be right about China's overall strategic situation and so his battle tactics were able to produce the desired end. Today the problem is that we have a lot of people who look away when they think about nuclear war, environmental destruction and black markets and legal markets in weapons of mass destruction. In the backs of their minds, many people know that imperialism is producing doom, but they escape the horror of politics and war, by among other

things going to movies like "LRIII" or listening to heavy metal like "Led Zeppelin" or just drinking a lot of whisky.

Today, the planet faces certain death in the hands of imperialism and the forces of evil have the upper hand momentarily. It's time for the heroes of the proletariat to step forward.

Don't wait for the bearded guy on the white horse.



Read hundreds more Maoist Movie Reviews at the only Maoist Movie Review website on Earth

From *Aguirre: The Wrath of God* ("the humyn species has chalked up some achievements since the time of the Conquistadors...") to *Yol* ("really about the womyn question under semi-feudalism in Turkey"), from *Alien3* ("basic contradictions of imperialism underlying the plot also undermine its triumphant ending") to *Z* ("If we had the resources to do our own films, we could do a better job, but under capitalism, we have to take what we can"), Maoist Movie Reviews are in a league of their own.

www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/movies

Join the fight against the injustice system

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Under Lock & Key

News from Prisons & Prisoners

Dreadlocks = escape paraphernalia?

I'm being charged with possession of escape paraphernalia, possession of an altered authorized item, and changing my appearance. Are you ready for the bullshit? I went to the facility barbershop and got a haircut, having my 5 year old dreadlocks cut. I kept them to send to my 13 year old sister. Three days later they were uncovered in the cage assigned me during a routine property tossing. Although they weren't altered in any way, and were initially given back, the security punk who found them decided to come back 1 1/2 hours later and reconfiscate them and to lock me down. Unbelievable! This isn't the half of it. I should beat the charges though.

—a New York prisoner, March 2004

Super flip-flops on censorship

I am writing concerning the MT11 that I have yet to receive, but have been told by [the superintendent] that he will let me get it. He told me this two weeks ago. Since that period I have had other publications held up such as the newspaper I've been receiving over two years here. It's as I've told you before: this camp is run by some of the most out-right racist individuals on the planet and they make their own rules to fit their racist actions on a daily basis.

—a Pennsylvania prisoner

California censors used books

We hope this letter finds you and your staff in good health and with this we send our love and respects.

OK to matter at hand a couple of months ago you send me a book called "Black Awakening in Capitalist America". Well I must inform you that they would not let us have it because they had claimed it had writing in the book, so they said it was a used book.

The only thing we can ask of you is to make sure the books are clean with no writing in them. With this said we ask if you can try to send us another book. OK also we ask that you send us the next couple of issues of the MIM news letter.

— A California Prisoner at Pelican Bay, February 2004

CDC Tactics of Oppression

The CDC's policy of of take-take-take continues unchallenged with ever increasing momentum and, as usual, without any form of coordinated and organized resistance from the prison masses. (Sporadic and isolated acts of unorganized resistance from specific groups or races has proven time and time again "ineffective.")

As we have recently seen and are experiencing, personal packages from loved ones and family have been terminated under the guise of "the safety and security of the

institution" and the supposedly "tremendous" burden of labor that is required from the correctional officers to pass these packages out to the convicts and inmates. We can easily assume that these pigs/puercos have forgotten what they were hired to do.

But better yet, let's not assume anything and stick to the concretes. Personal packages no longer exist. Overpriced vendor packages through state approved companies are allowed. Well, isn't that convenient? And again, which has and is becoming evermore characteristic, inmates and "so-called" convicts lay down in defeatist acceptance as if this were somebody else's problem and purchase these overpriced vendor packages.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see that this is an issue of money, an issue of financial gain for the state and these vendor companies (not to mention other things) at our expense and our families expense. Not my expense, not your expense, not the individual's expense, but our expense, the collective expense of us all, irrelevant of gangs and racial divisions. The issue here is financial gain, pure and simple, despite their phony concerns and excuses.

The first step in countering this is in the education and cooperation of the prison masses. The second step and quite possibly the only other step necessary in countering this is also pure and simple: boycott. They want to make profit, well then we can take profit out of the equation and deprive them of this. Through practice (action), let's gain back what we are losing and in the process, separate the inmates from the convicts. That is, separate the dead weight of the selfish individualists from the collective masses.

The CDC's tactics of oppression, of dividing and conquering the prison masses, are not only succeeding but are continuously changing, while our tactics of resistance have either become nonexistent at all or, at best, only rigid, unchanging, and held in the past by the existing social order within prison society itself. Our tactics of resistance must also change, fluidly and creatively, in order to coincide and counteract these pigs/puercos' changing methods of oppression and take-take-take which is only splitting the prison masses further and depriving us of more and more power everyday.

— A California Prisoner, February 2004

HDSP Discontinues Vocational Programs

High Desert State Prison has discontinued all vocational programs and now everyone is without any further training and education. Prisons are supposed to rehabilitate prisoners and prepare us for society. Now that the vocational classes, including GED programs are discontinued, the uneducated will remain uneducated.

— A California Prisoner, January 2004

Inside AD-SEG

This is coming to you from someone who is living this nightmare every single day. You see, being in Salinas Valley State Prison alone is a nightmare, but when you talk about

administrative segregation that's another chapter and believe me, I know. I've been back here for nine months now and the things I've seen could last the average person a lifetime. One thing I've seen is how the "administration" will house a snitch right next to you to try to get information from you. These snitches want to go to a yard that they call "sensitive needs" and they will do anything to get there because they can't be in general population and the "administration" knows this. The reason I know this is because I had one of those placed by me. You really can't talk to too many people because you don't know who is who.

Now we get to the dehumanizing aspect of this place, it's how you go out to this "cage" they call a yard and it is literally a cage with no toilet. It's about 20' by 15' but that's just estimating. All you can do is walk back and forth like an animal and if that's not bad enough, they make you go out in your underwear even when it's raining, although they will give you this thin denim jacket. The only time you get to put on a jumpsuit is when you're leaving the unit to go to a medical visit or court. But a lot of the time I've also

MIM on Prisons & Prisoners

MIM seeks to build public opinion against Amerika's criminal injustice system, and to eventually replace the bourgeois injustice system with proletarian justice. The bourgeois injustice system imprisons and executes a disproportionately large and growing number of oppressed people while letting the biggest mass murderers — the imperialists and their lackeys — roam free. Imperialism is not opposed to murder or theft, it only insists that these crimes be committed in the interests of the bourgeoisie.

"All U.S. citizens are criminals—accomplices and accessories to the crimes of U.S. oppression globally until the day U.S. imperialism is overcome. All U.S. citizens should start from the point of view that they are reforming criminals."

MIM does not advocate that all prisoners go free today; we have a more effective program for fighting crime as was demonstrated in China prior to the restoration of capitalism there in 1976. We say that all prisoners are political prisoners because under the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie, all imprisonment is substantively political. It is our responsibility to exert revolutionary leadership and conduct political agitation and organization among prisoners — whose material conditions make them an overwhelmingly revolutionary group. Some prisoners should and will work on self-criticism under a future dictatorship of the proletariat in those cases in which prisoners really did do something wrong by proletarian standards.

seen them march people to medical in nothing but underwear and karate shoes.

One thing that is really very bad is that the officers back here in AD-SEG don't know how to communicate with the convicts. They are very disrespectful and very unprofessional. That's about 90% of the officers that work back here. But what can we do when it's our word against theirs? Nine times out of ten we're going to lose. Since I've been back here, I've seen retaliation like you wouldn't believe. I'm talking about things you wouldn't think someone who is supposed to uphold the law would do. I've heard so many times that this prison is being investigated but have yet to see them change their ways and actions.

Another subject that is very serious is the "rations" they give us. If you see how they feed us in AD-SEG, you wouldn't believe it. We barely get enough and they say it's a balanced diet, but that's hard to believe. You're still hungry after meals. Now when I was in general population, we got more to eat than in AD-SEG. Just because we're in jail doesn't mean we should be treated like animals. We're paying our debt to society and we're paying in a big way.

— A California Prisoner, February 2004

Uphill battle for border petition

I received your book "Marx and Engels" as well as the other info you sent, which I sincerely appreciate.

I will do my best to fill all signature spaces on the petitions you sent. However, the one for "Operation Gatekeeper" might be hard to fill. [MIM is circulating a petition which reads in part: "The U.S. Border separates families, communities, and nations. It also keeps Third World workers and farmers under regimes where wage rates are drastically depressed through violent repression — this allows the United States to make huge profits off of its investments abroad. We the undersigned call for an end to 'Operation Gatekeeper' and an end to policies restricting people's free movement across the border." See <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/cal/OpenBorder.htm> for more information —ed.]

Where I am currently there aren't too many comrades, and the views on Mexican Americans aren't too equality based. As I'm sure you know, prison systems breed racism and fuel hatred among prisoners to keep us separated and weak as a class, which I believe we are. The focus has over the years been on each other instead of our oppressors. Nevertheless, we comrades will seek to unite them together on a more common goal basis.

...
I end this letter with a clenched fist salute!
In solidarity,

—A Texas Prisoner, December 2003

MIM responds: Petition campaigns play

several roles. One is to register the number of people who already believe the position stated on the petition, and communicate that to the public or politicians. But they are also very important for developing and solidifying those beliefs. We struggle with people over signing petitions because we want to convince them the political positions on the petitions are correct. In some cases it's not worth it — when the proportion of supporters is likely to be so low that we should spend our time elsewhere. However, we have developed these campaigns over issues where we believe we can make substantial progress and build support for our cause.

If you are correct that many of your fellow prisoners are predisposed against Mexicans, the struggle to get petition signatures may help change some minds, and may help develop or strengthen ties to those who, like you, oppose imperialist oppression. Many prisoners, including even those from the oppressor nation, might be convincible on this campaign because the issue is so clearly one of state repression, which prisoners share in common with undocumented migrants.

Even when people come from different backgrounds or nations that have opposing interests, experiencing the injustice system and imprisonment might help tip them in favor of the correct position on this issue. We urge you to stay with it, and keep us posted on the outcome.

California forces all prisoners into "gangs"

The DOC is violating prisoner's civil rights left and right. I'm ready to do everything in my power to expose these evildoers. The DOC is as dirty as they come. My ethnicity is Hispanic. When I arrived in the DOC I was asked by a C.O. if I was "a Northern Hispanic or Southern Hispanic", I said "I don't know what you mean." Then I was asked what city/town I was from, I stated Salinas, CA. It was then that I was classified as a Northern Hispanic. Now I'm labeled as a northerner, which is a gang member from the prison/street gang Nortenos. At that particular point in time I had no idea what that was or what I was about to experience behind these walls. The Southern Hispanics are classified/labeled Surenos, another prison/street gang. The DOC currently has the Northern and Southern Hispanics on a 24 hour, 7 day a week lockdown. We are getting no visits from our families, no exercise outside our cells, and no state issued hygiene.

- a California prisoner, January 2004

Shut Down the SHU Torture Chambers

Some call it RES (Reduced Environmental Stimulus), sensory deprivation, psychiatric

seclusion, solitary confinement, or mosaic of despair; no matter what the title, Security Housing Units (SHU) are, at best, torture chambers. Cell blocks are marked throughout by a dull sameness in design and color.

Cells are often windowless and when you do have a window, it's painted over. Your bed mattress is so thin that it barely serves a purpose. Toilets are of stainless steel and upon using them for sit downs, you subject your buttocks to hemorrhoids. Toilets have a loud flush that often wakes others up at night.

For recreation, you're taken to a small exercise pen with cement floors and now recently introduced gated kennels. They are of cell-like design and toilets flush every five minutes only. These cage pens are more suggestive of satellite cells than areas for exercise and recreation. The effect it has on a person is stark and unremitting monotony.

Who among MIM readers can imagine years without ever seeing any aspect of the world outside except for a small patch of sky? Going months, years without the opportunity for normal social contact with other people.

Confined 22 1/2 hours a day. Food delivered through a narrow port in the cell door, all meals eaten in social isolation. Some inmates spend time pacing around the edges of the cell and cape pen. This is similar to caged felines pacing in a zoo.

Then there are the cagings that guards subject inmates to, often in the outside pens with no clothes. Here is a credible account of one such incident: one day in late January, a counselor was walking from her office toward another facility. It was very cold (she was wearing gloves and a heavy jacket) and it was pouring rain. She observed two African American inmates being held naked in two cages. When she passed by again, an hour later, one inmate was still there. She observed that he was covered in goose bumps, shivering, teeth chattering. He said he was freezing and asked her to request a pair of shorts and a t-shirt. She then saw an officer coming in her direction. When she looked at him and made reference to the caged inmates, he continued walking, looked back, and shrugged his shoulders, saying it was the lieutenant's orders. From experience she knew of this lieutenant's attitude and proneness for retaliation upon those who cross him. With that, she continued on and let the matter drop from her mind. Although the incident bothered her, she feared group reprisals if she spoke out. This left the inmates in the cages. Its certain that they became sick from the experience and psychologically damaged from the encounter.

These types of acts go on all the time with even more horrific tales. There is a sick sadistic fascist mentality behind the walls of America's kamps and dungeons. Join MIM in the struggle to close the SHU torture chambers.

It's disturbing also to see indigenous

people, African, Mexican, Asian, Indian, etc. being willing participants in what MIM has defined as social, political, economic, and genetic control. I see no reason why California as a state clings to the hypocritical title of Department of Corrections. Those indigenous people I spoke of are slaves to pay, psychologically indoctrinated lap dogs whose natural dispositions have caved in. It's mental retardation to watch those who look like you, have similar or same origins as you, slowly wallow away and die or be continually oppressed. This system wasn't designed with people in color to be the jailers, counselors, sergeants, lieutenants, wardens, etc. It was for the white class to carve out their existence off the oppressed semi-colonies and to erode them to extinction. But you have so many who appear to be "happy to be part of the team." What they don't know or won't consciously admit is that they are serving someone else's goal and facilitating their means to an end. Certainly, those who have always built these dungeons statewide have a plan. The elite has always thought or drawn plans with foresight. But for those who are non-white, I say to you: the signs of mental starvation are not as obvious as physical malnutrition.

As America's internal colonies, we've been set up by a hegelian dialectic of creating an alleged problem, increasing to the point of outcry or mass hysteria, then providing what the people will welcome as a solution: prison kamps and torture chambers.

Suffering Attributable in Significant Part to Conditions in the SHUs: irrational anger, ruminations, over sensitivity to stimuli, confused thought processes, social withdrawal, chronic depression, emotional flatness, mood/emotional swings, overall deterioration, talking to self violent fantasies, perceptual distortions, hallucinations, suicidal thoughts.

— A California Prisoner, February 13, 2004

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.

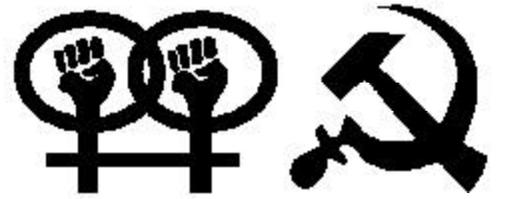
Notes: 1. Marc Mauer, "Americans Behind Bars: The International Use of Incarceration 1993," The Prison Sentencing Project, 918 F. St. NW, Suite 501, Washington, DC 20004 (202) 628-0871 Reference: SRI: R8965-2, 1994

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.



HAITI: ¿Y QUE LUEGO DE LA SALIDA DE ARISTIDE?

Por: Eduardo Tamayo

El avance de las fuerzas paramilitares y la presión de Estados Unidos, Francia y Canadá dieron la estocada final al gobierno de Bertrand Aristide que el 29 de febrero huyó con rumbo a la República Centroafricana. Mientras el caos se había apoderado de Puerto Príncipe, la capital, y se multiplicaban los enfrentamientos que dejaron 10 muertos y saqueos en diferentes puntos de la ciudad, los embajadores de Estados Unidos y Francia, James Foley y Thierry Bukard, respectivamente, posesionaron al abogado Boniface Alexandre, presidente de la Suprema Corte de Justicia, como gobernante interino del país. Los jefes rebeldes Guy Philippe y Louis-Jodel Chamblain, que iniciaron las revueltas contra Aristide el 5 de febrero con la ocupación de la ciudad de Gonaives, entraron a Puerto Príncipe el 1 de marzo acompañados de decenas de hombres armados. El ex policía Guy Philippe, que participó en un intento de golpe de Estado contra Aristide en 2001 y es acusado de narcotráfico y numerosas violaciones a

los derechos humanos, horas antes reconoció a Alexandre como el nuevo jefe de Estado y se mostró de acuerdo con la intervención militar de Estados Unidos.

Aristide, que en varias ocasiones había declarado que no renunciaría, se vio obligado a dimitir cuando el Departamento de Estado de Estados Unidos presionó por su salida, condición previa que habían exigido tanto la oposición civil, representada por el 'Grupo de los 184' liderado por el empresario Andre Apaid, como por la oposición armada que llegó a controlar cinco de los nueve departamentos que conforman el país. El secretario de Estado de Estados Unidos Collin Powell, en los últimos días les dio un reconocimiento inusitado a los ex tonton macoutes (policía represiva de la dictadura duvalierista), llamándolas 'fuerzas armadas del norte'.

Sin embargo, Estados Unidos no podían permitir que la situación quedara en manos de los jefes paramilitares que en su momento apoyaron y contribuyeron a formar y entrenar. Cinco

horas antes de que el Consejo de Seguridad Nacional decidiera el envío de una fuerza multinacional a Haití, Estados Unidos mandó un contingente de 200 infantes de Marina de un total de 1000 anunciado por Powell. A estos se sumaron unos 300 soldados y miembros de la policía anti- motines de Francia y soldados canadienses. La misión de las fuerzas estadounidenses será, según la BBC, restablecer el orden, distribuir ayuda humanitaria y repatriar a los haitianos que se han echado al mar en precarias embarcaciones, buscando refugio en otros países.

Por el contrario, el analista Michel Chossudovsky señala que Washington pretende reinstaurar en Haití una colonia plena estadounidense con todas las apariencias de un funcionamiento democrático. El objetivo es imponer un régimen títere en Puerto Príncipe y establecer una base militar permanente en Haití.

La administración estadounidense busca la militarización de toda la cuenca del Caribe. La isla Española es la puerta de entrada para la cuenca del Caribe pues está estratégicamente localizada entre Cuba al noroeste y Venezuela al sur. La militarización de la Isla, con el establecimiento de bases militares de Estados Unidos, no solo tiene el propósito de presionar políticamente a Cuba y Venezuela, sino que también se orienta a proteger el comercio multimillonario de drogas que pasa por Haití hacia Estados Unidos desde los sitios de producción en Colombia, Perú y Bolivia. Se estima que Haití es ahora responsable de un 14 por ciento de toda la cocaína que entra a Estados Unidos, representando miles millones de dólares de ingreso para el crimen organizado y las instituciones financieras estadounidenses que lavan enormes cantidades de dinero sucio. (Al respecto ver: 'US sponsored coup d'etat. The destabilization of Haiti' <http://globalresearch.ca/articles/CHO402D.html>)

Estados Unidos, por otro lado, culpabiliza a Aristide del caos y la desestabilización de Haití pero olvida fácilmente que la situación creada en este país, en mucho, es el resultado de

la aplicación de los planes de ajuste impuestos por los organismos internacionales que están bajo control estadounidenses, esto es el Fondo Monetario Internacional (FMI), el Banco Mundial y el Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo.

Aristide -que triunfó democráticamente en 1990, fue derrocado por un sangriento golpe militar, y reinstalado en el poder en 1994, gracias a una intervención militar mayoritariamente estadounidense- pronto olvidó sus planteamientos progresistas y aplicó las recetas del Consenso de Washington para responder, sobre todo, a los intereses de los acreedores internacionales. Como producto de la aplicación de los principios del 'libre mercado', se desestabilizó la producción local agrícola sobre todo de arroz, azúcar y maíz, vitales, convirtiendo al país en un gran importador de alimentos. En el 2003, el FMI impuso la aplicación de precios flexibles en los combustibles, lo que trajo como consecuencia una fuerte espiral inflacionaria que incrementó el descontento popular hacia el gobierno de Aristide que ya había entrado en una etapa sin retorno de corrupción y autoritarismo. Ahora, la restauración del orden bajo égida estadounidense no es augurio de que el país más pobre de América pueda salir de su prolongada crisis económica y política.

(ALAI)

(Fecha publicación:01/03/2004)

(<http://www.eldiariointernacional.com/aristide103.htm>)

¿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.

El MIM acepta como miembro a cualquier individuo que esté de acuerdo con estos tres puntos básicos, y que acepte al centralismo democrático, el método de gobierno por la mayoría en lo que se refiere a cuestiones de línea del partido. El MIM es un partido clandestino que no publica los nombres de sus miembros para evitar la represión estatal dirigida históricamente contra los movimientos revolucionarios comunistas, y anti-imperialistas. Si Ud. desea una suscripción para cualquiera de nuestros periódicos o libros teóricos, en español o en inglés, por favor mandar dinero en efectivo o un cheque al nombre de MIM a esta dirección:

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