

# MIM Notes



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The Official Newsletter of the Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM)

Free

## Arrests at the Republican National Convention

### HOW BUSH DE-STABILIZED THE WHOLE WORLD

*“States that harbor terror, as the President has made clear, will be held accountable.”*

—White House Press Secretary  
Scott McClellan September 16 2003 (1)

*“Nations that continue to support terrorism, continue to harbor terrorist groups will be considered hostile.”*

—State Department spokesman  
Richard Boucher October 3 2001 (2)

*“With respect to the war on terrorism across the globe, the task is to see that terrorist networks are rooted out, and that the countries that harbor terrorists no longer harbor terrorist networks.”*

—Secretary of Defense Donald  
Rumsfeld,” January 8 2002 (3)

*“The United States draws no distinction between the terrorists and the regimes that feed, train, supply and harbor them.”*

—Condoleeza Rice, Jan. 31 2002 (4)

After promising to “roll back” and “destroy” regimes that “harbor terrorists” such as the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, the Bush administration now condemns terrorism in Russia’s Beslan, the actions that killed more than 326 people, approximately half children at a school. At the same time, the United States and England called on Putin to negotiate with the “terrorists.”

According to Russian President Putin, the United States and England are harboring terrorists. Putin has asked for extradition of the “terrorists” Akhmed

*Continued on page 4...*



*This demonstrator at the Republican National Convention in New York City 2004 got it right. The “cowardly lion” is from a children’s story, the “Wizard of Oz.” This Cowardly Lion features US Secretary of “Defense” Don Rumsfeld’s face.*

### Bu\$h: Cowardly leader of cowardly country

The “land of the free” and the “home of the brave” ate up George Bush’s words backing his pre-emptive strike on Iraq. Survey tested words appeared in his prime-time television speech accepting the nomination of the Republican Party for president:

“BUSH: Do I forget the lessons of September 11th and take the word of a madman...

“AUDIENCE: No.

“BUSH: ... or do I take action to defend our country? Faced with that choice, I will defend America every time.”

There are a lot of “madmen” in this world. There can be continuous war if no one has the courage to wait for the perceived enemy to attack. It takes even more courage to admit one’s own actions has provoked others to want to attack.

The Americans are cowardly types who aided I\$rael with military and

feet up and then consider themselves honorable warriors.

The leaders of Amerika are as cowardly as the Amerikan population. It takes courage to wait for a war instead of launching bombs and it takes courage to protect civil liberties in a capitalist country that boasts day-and-night about those liberties. The reason Kerry co-wrote the “Patriot Act” and Bush signed it and both endorsed the war on Iraq is the same underlying cowardice of the Amerikan population.

Note:<http://www.cnn.com/2004/ALLPOLITICS/09/02/gop.bush.transcript/index.html>

### PEOPLE FROM EX-FASCIST COUNTRIES CRITICIZE UNITED STATES

NEW YORK CITY  
August 31

New York City police “just plucked him out of the crowd,” said an older German man of a young Black man carried away by police while marching near Union Square. The German was in Union Square filming the demonstrations against the Republican National Convention.

“It’s just like it was in my country before the war,” he said; then adding, “I’m from Germany.”

Numerous people such as this German stopped by to talk to MIM with the hope that MIM would know what to do about such an arrest or had further information. Others stopped by to tell MIM what they knew. We told the German comrade that the U.\$ people were acting “scared” and “stupid” and he agreed.

Demonstrators all over the city were comparing notes and using text messages to figure out what was happening and every time MIM picked up an extra flyer with a schedule on it, another demonstrator wanted to take our copy of it.

Some New Yorkers hit back hard. A judge ordered a mass release of protestors and massive fines for detaining them.(1) (It remains to be seen how that all works out.) Even the New York Times recognized that what police were doing is “preventive detention.”

*Continued on page 7...*

### Inside: The national question in the ex-Soviet bloc

The massacre of schoolchildren in Beslan highlights the bloody inter-ethnic strife that has blossomed with the rise of Liberal capitalism in eastern Europe. As proletarian internationalists, we detest both great-Russian chauvinism and the kind of narrow nationalism that pits proletarians against other proletarians. We develop these points and others in a series of articles in this issue.

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financial aid to attack Arabs and then attacked Iraq with a pre-emptive strike. As usual, they bomb from the air tens of thousands of

# Frequently Asked Questions

## *What is internationalism?*

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.

Today, there are two kinds of internationalism, bourgeois internationalism and proletarian internationalism. In the bourgeois internationalist view, peoples of all countries should have a chance to become exploiters. In the proletarian internationalist view, exploitation inevitably leads to violent conflict, so peace amongst nations depends on a global view not defending private property.

“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.

“The Communists are distinguished from the other working-class parties by this only: 1. In the national struggles of the proletarians of the different countries, they point out and bring to the front the common interests of the entire proletariat, independently of all nationality. 2. In the various stages of development which the struggle of the working class against the bourgeoisie has to pass through, they always and everywhere represent the interests of the movement as a whole.”

—Karl Marx, “Communist Manifesto,” section II “Proletarians and Communists”

“There is one, and only one, kind of real internationalism, and that is — working whole-heartedly for the development of the revolutionary movement and the revolutionary struggle in one’s own country, and supporting (by propaganda, sympathy, and material aid) this struggle, this, and only this, line, in every country

without exception.”

—V.I. Lenin, about World War I in “The Tasks of the Proletariat in Our Revolution”

### *What is the dictatorship of the proletariat?*

The proletariat is the group of people who are propertyless and thus have “nothing to lose but their chains.” The proletariat is the least conservative element of society. The bourgeoisie is the class of people who appropriate the labor of wage workers through their control of the means of production.

Dictatorship is organized force. According to Marxism, all governments are dictatorships. When classes are abolished, it may be possible to have no dictatorships because governments will be abolished and replaced by voluntary cooperation. We communists admit to having dictatorship governments until we achieve our goal of classlessness. It’s a matter of accountability.

Dictatorship of the proletariat is the government of socialism. Dictatorship of the bourgeoisie is the government of capitalism.

Concretely and with reference to North American ideas, dictatorship of the proletariat is government implementation of “survival rights” above “property rights.”

The realization that the right to life itself can not be negotiable favors the

proletariat. Along with that realization comes the notion that a non-negotiable “right” implies the use of force to protect it from those who profit abusing those so-called rights. The use of force or law backed by force (government) to feed, clothe, shelter and otherwise protect survival rights is dictatorship of the proletariat.

The dictatorship of the proletariat is the most central question of socialism. We do not water it down or evade it. The whole Cultural Revolution in China (1966-1976) was about how to maintain and strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat so that it would not be corrupted. We communists are not Liberal. We do not tolerate those who put profit or such goals above survival rights. We favor repression or control of such people until the causes of their twisted thought have been removed and bourgeois thought has become completely impossible to the whole people. That will only happen under advanced stages of communism.

Because there is no exploited white working class in North America, MIM favors the joint dictatorship of the proletariat of the oppressed nations (JDPON). This amounts to putting U.S. imperialism into receivership by something like a proletarian United Nations. The whole dictatorship of the proletariat idea or its current form required as JDPON is a strategy for advance from capitalism toward communism, in which dictatorship is only a stage existing until certain tasks eliminating classes are done.

Editor, MC206; Production, MC12

### **MIM Notes**

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### **What is MIM?**

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

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

— Mao Zedong, *Selected Works*, Vol. II, p. 208.

# Brits want junk food ads banned

As knowledge of the obesity epidemic and its causes improves, the British public is calling for a ban of junk food ads during children's TV programs. 76% of the British people polled said they favored the banning idea.

"A third of those questioned felt parents who consistently failed to provide their children with a healthy diet should ultimately face prosecution." MIM would agree and that is just another reason we

are not big fans of leaving all parenting choices to two individuals who may be quite erratic.

MIM has always said that capitalism is an indiscriminate motivator. From MIM's point of view, the tobacco situation is similar and involves a class struggle. The class struggle is to curtail the tobacco industry for the benefit of the people. The battle against tobacco ads aimed at children appears won to

some substantial degree, but there is always another battle to win thanks to capitalism.

It is important to admit that the abilities to trade in slaves, sell substances with nicotine and bombard children with advertisements are examples of a kind of "freedom." The fact that it is necessary to take away such freedoms for the well-being of the proletariat is why we call our proposed form of government

"dictatorship of the proletariat." Eventually in the advanced stages of communism of the future, the entire population will give up any idea of trading in slaves, manufacturing cigarettes or pushing potato chips on television and then dictatorship of the proletariat won't be necessary anymore.

Note: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/3638714.stm>

## *Creationist Cobb County Georgia labors in medieval times*

### **Dictatorship of the proletariat in education needed**

Cobb County of Georgia faces a lawsuit for putting stickers in textbooks that say Darwin's theory of evolution is "a theory not a fact" and should be "critically considered." (1) Many of the same reactionaries in favor of creationism would also jump up and attack Stalin for taking a stand in controversies engaging Lysenko in biology. We would point out that Lysenko was a lot closer to being right than these creationists in the United

States, for those who think science is better off in Amerika than under Soviet dictatorship.

The many disputes about creationism in the United States and the regular political battles over research funding demonstrate that science production is political. Ultimately what children learn in school depends on what political authority believes. Instead of denying this the way most Americans do, we Maoists accept the truth and struggle to be sure that our politics does the most to promote

science and the specific science that is correct. Of course we will err sometimes but that is no reason to confuse religion and science.

As of September 8 2004, reactionaries are still in control of Cobb County education. The web page for the school board highlights the issue by giving creationism and evolution equal footing. (2)

For MIM this is a clear-cut issue of the dictatorship of the proletariat. The "freedom" to preach creationism in school has to be smashed. We also believe that

any parent who leaves his/her child ignorant of sex education should face attempted murder charges if that child subsequently has asexually transmitted disease. The parents' "right" to their spiritual beliefs is not higher than the right of people to survive or have a proper education. Nor is there a right to spread STDs in the name of the Bible.

Notes:

1. New York Times 7April2004, p. a 15.
2. <http://www.cobb.k12.ga.us/news/originpolicy.htm>

## *Who are you to decide what food to eat, what art to ban?*

# WHO MADE YOU GOD?

When we tell the Liberals there has to be a party or body of scientists deciding what is good or bad for society in terms of art and music, they say, "who are you to decide?" We should throw back in their face, "who are you to decide that mega-corporations should decide?" The whole question of "totalitarianism" is based on an illusion that someone is not deciding currently.

Advertising works, which is why corporations spend billions each year on it. If advertising did not work, our critics might have a point, but billions of dollars spent prove otherwise. Advertising is also the reason that looks are crucially important in establishing Britney Spears, Mariah Carey, Beyonce etc.

It is not true that consumers assess the world and then come up with their choices. Consumers do not wander from business establishment to business establishment analyzing how products are produced and what is available. We are also convinced the consumers would rather that the government regulate foods and drugs—do an analysis of what is in these drugs and under what conditions food and drugs are produced. Anyone who assumes that consumers really want to do the analysis of the products they buy themselves is badly deluded, probably a professional bourgeois economist.

Consumers go to a store and based on prior ads they buy what is available. It is not an arbitrary process covering all the bases. Walmart stores are big but not so big as to allow every commodity anyone

anywhere could think of producing. A few corporations decide on the vast majority of merchandise.

Mega-corporations choose and then spend money on ads. If a product makes less profit than others, the mega-corporation simply stops selling it. They make the choices. That is the truth even if the commodity sold is completely harmful as with cigarettes or junk food.

Once we get over our "free will" illusions and realize that people by their millions have been brainwashed into smoking and getting fat, we can start to debate the topic correctly. When it comes to the "who are you to decide" question, MIM is better to decide than the mega-corporations, because mega-corporations profit from their products and are not objective about them as a

result. Both MIM and mega-corporations will make mistakes in what is good for consumers, but when something harmful like cigarettes come along, MIM has no vested interest in lying in their defense. We also have no vested interest in spreading ads for potato chips. Even if it is not profitable, MIM in power can propagate a product that substitutes for cigarettes while not harming the public. Such did not happen under capitalism for decades until doctors starting getting tougher on their patients and ordering this and that type of therapy.

That is an example why MIM is better than the mega-corporations in deciding "what" to produce in the first place. Their goal is to make profit which simply depends on what is easily available and easy to advertise. The goals of the

international proletariat include a sustainable environment, enough food to eat, adequate shelter, clothing to wear and ever-improving medical science.

Who are we to decide? Better us than Frito-Lay or R.J. Reynolds or Playboy Magazine. People in the wealthiest capitalist countries are the most brainwashed because they think they are not. Anyone who has thought for five seconds about advertising's effects on children knows there is a Western form of brainwashing. It would be better that MIM does the brainwashing.

### **Lobbyists in Washington DC spent over \$1 billion in the last six months of 2003 alone**

In such an atmosphere, it is inevitable that the influence of corporations with concentrated economic power increases. The sooner we get used to this fact, the sooner we realize that the choice is not between a Naderite "take America back" fantasy of a small business world and imperialism, but between the concentrated power of capitalist imperialism and the concentrated power of socialism.

Note:

USA Today 2June2004, p. 6a.

# On the streets: Chechens come up in discussion

Ironically, at both the Democratic National Convention and the Republican National Convention, and before the massacre of schoolchildren at Beslan, many topics came up, but one was the Chechens. One persyn said that Stalin's deportation of the Chechens during World War II was a "human rights violation."

We pointed out to our critic that our sister party the Russian Maoist Party was the only one doing anything to oppose the war on the Chechens. Few other parties would get out of step with Russian nationalism; even though Lenin is still regarded as the greatest Russian leader of recent times and he called Russia imperialist at a time when Russia was less powerful than today.

We should also say that deportations in Stalin's day were rough affairs. Both supplies and train power were in short supply as the battle against the Nazis raged. Some people deported to new places died in the difficulties they faced. If it had been any other time but World War II, these deaths would have stood out more. Overemphasizing these deaths is a way of whitewashing Hitler and blaming the Russians for their relative backwardness, which is why even some families deported did not disagree or at least their children or grandchildren came to understand.

According to writers on the editorial page of the Boston Globe, 25 or 30% of the Chechens died in the deportation by Stalin, "the highest of any of the nations deported under Stalin."<sup>(1)</sup> This is likely an irresponsible charge. MIM has seen no evidence for it. We have seen a lot of evidence that each nationality has its writers who think their particular nationality sacrificed or suffered the most under Stalin. Such stories sell well in the West.

That is not to mention another important consideration: the vast majority of Stalin's purges and the Chechen deportation happened in the midst of the worst single war in world history. According to some English phony communists, "In 1940 a nationalist revolt broke out which climaxed in 1942, with the Nazi army just 300 miles away. Chechen nationalist leaders Hassan Israilov and Mairbek Sheripov issued an appeal declaring that the Nazis would be welcomed as guests, providing, of course, they were prepared to support Chechnya's independence."<sup>(2)</sup>

Islamics aimed at a republic of some small administrative units that would be called "counties" in the United States today. Like many other county-sized countries or provinces in the ex-Soviet bloc, some Chechens have the illusion that they could have established a country independent of both the Soviet Union and Germany during World War II. That is something that not even Poland with its tens of millions was able to do. Like the

other Nazi collaborators, some Chechens today are still talking about how the 1940 insurrection occurred while Stalin and Hitler had a pact; although it is very clear that the Chechen insurrection in 1940 affected Soviet geopolitical interests negatively. That's not to mention the 1942 insurrection of Chechens followed by the 1943-4 deportation of six nationalities in the region. Leaders who cannot understand how the 1940 insurrection adversely affected Soviet interests via the Germans only demonstrate their incompetence to offer political leadership. Those Chechen leaders and their Liberal allies talking about this to this day demonstrate an unrealistic attitude akin to having one's head in the sand.

For MIM, the failure to understand Nazi goals and ideology during World War II is the tell-tale sign of an ignorant and provincialist outlook. Had the many ethnicities won fabulous success in their insurrections in the Caucasus or Eastern Europe, the Nazis would have rolled over them and exterminated them before these county-sized units would have had time to put up anti-Soviet statues glorifying their war heroes. Now all these ethnicities are in an endless cycle of revenge and while we side with them against Russia, we at MIM are not going to encourage a misreading of Nazi history to do it.

We do the same thing in the United States. We support county-sized units—many First Nations for instance—in their national struggles against U.S. imperialism. Their struggle is realistic because there are many other nations oppressed by imperialism who are their objective allies. We do not support First Nations in looking down on Blacks or in supporting imperialism. That's how the struggle in the United States is completely different than when Nazis are rampaging through Europe.

Countless political leaders of the countries and provinces squeezed between Berlin and Moscow never accounted for the global forces at work and thereby failed their peoples entirely. Today they have to fight battles against Nazi statues—an indication of just how poor the nationalist leadership of these county-sized units was during World War II. Instead of refighting the battles of failed political leaders during World War II, the countries and provinces between Berlin and Moscow today should disown the failed leaders of the past, celebrate the Chechens and others who fought the Nazis and move on. Russia is in peacetime in 2004, so it's hard to imagine why these ethnic cleansings still go on. As hard as it is to imagine, we do have to account for it.

In the case of Chechens and Ingushes, Khrushchev let them back into the Caucasus after their deportation to Central Asia. This supposedly closes the

case on Stalin's supposed criminal nature. Yet, today we see Chechens and Ingushes fighting neighbors they did not used to have thanks to Stalin's deportation. We do not know if the Chechens are right that Putin is responsible for a six digit figure of deaths in Chechnya. Khrushchev let the Chechens back in, but now the political children of Khrushchev and the Russian partners of Bush in the "war on terrorism" have leveled Grozny. The evidence for that is indisputable—with pictures in all the Western papers. MIM fails to see much humynitarianism in letting the Chechens and Ingushes come back just to fight more. The leaders since Stalin either did not know what they were doing in the relation of class and national forces or they wanted to stir up ethnic fighting to generate Liberal capitalism.

In the 1920s, the Chechens waged Holy Wars.<sup>(3)</sup> A scene in the movie "Reds" alludes to such battles after 1917 and insinuates that the Bolsheviks allied with Islamic sentiments for Holy War in some circumstances to defeat the Whites. The United States was all in favor of Islamic holy wars until the collapse of the Soviet Union. Now with the "war on terror," the West claims to be against jihad interpreted as "terrorism." How the unity of the United States and Russia against the world's oppressed plays out remains

to be seen.

The whole anti-Stalin story falls apart when we ask the critics what they would have done in Stalin's place. Hitler marched eastward and found a "fifth column" to help him among disgruntled peoples of the Soviet Union.

In Yugoslavia, the Pope sanctioned genocide against the Serbs during World War II. Of course the Jews and Gypsies suffered genocide as well. In Hungary, a fifth column arose to support Hitler.

The road of Lenin and Stalin had brought great progress to the Soviet Union, but Stalin knew that he was not walking on water. There would be at least some of what happened in Yugoslavia, Hungary, Norway and France happening in the Soviet Union too—a fifth column supporting Hitler. Stalin's critics never account for that and that is why they always end up supporting worse violations of humyn-rights than what Stalin did.

The point is that on almost every stop along the way in his march eastward to Stalingrad, Hitler found some support from the ignorant and twisted. These backward elements took advantage of Hitler's appearance to slaughter neighbors they deemed ethnically inferior. Such was possible because the administrative units corresponded to a time

*Continued on page 6...*

## HOW BUSH DE-STABILIZED THE WHOLE WORLD

*Continued from page 1...*

Zakayev (asylum in England) and Ilyas Akhmadov (asylum in the United States).<sup>(5)</sup> By Bush's logic, Putin would also be right to attack the United States and England for giving political asylum to aides to the "terrorist" leaders.

Putin is testing whether the West sees him as a co-imperialist or not. The Washington Post has been quite critical lately. The New York Times and Boston Globe are too, to a lesser degree. The Boston Globe defended Aslan Maskhadov,<sup>(6)</sup> now deemed a "terrorist" by Putin. In the same editorial the Boston Globe gave Putin no credit for his election victory—this coming from the country with the banana republic election in Florida 2000.

So far the English imperialists are verbally backing Putin's right to preemptive strikes against terrorists, but they are saying they need evidence to extradite the supposed Chechen terrorist. It reminds us of what the Taliban said about extraditing Osama Bin Laden.

Although Russian imperialism holds no promise for the Russian people, it can have the effect of holding up a mirror to the Amerikan people and this helps those of us trying to spread internationalism a

little bit here. At the same time, it may mean that Putin will copy Bush and start dropping bombs on Georgia or other neighbors.

Macedonia is another place that has jumped in on the Bush logic with disastrous consequences. "Macedonian police gunned down seven innocent immigrants, then contended that they were terrorists, in a killing staged to show they were participating in the US-led campaign against terrorism."<sup>(7)</sup> The police smuggled the seven Pakistanis into Macedonia from Bulgaria and then killed them in 2002—all in an attempt to please Bu\$h.

Notes:

1. [http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/09/20\\_030916-6.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/09/20_030916-6.html)
2. <http://telaviv.usembassy.gov/publish/peace/archive/s/2001/october/100411.html>
3. <http://islamabad.usembassy.gov/www02011004.html>
4. <http://usembassy-australia.state.gov/hyper/2002/0131/epf407.htm>
5. [http://www.guardian.co.uk/russia/article/0,2763,13\\_01219,00.html](http://www.guardian.co.uk/russia/article/0,2763,13_01219,00.html)
6. "Putin's Potemkin Election," Boston Sunday Globe 14Mar2004, p. h10.
7. Boston Globe 1May2004, p. a8.

# Straight talk on the Russian elite

“As of now (and, remember, 13 years have elapsed since the collapse of the Soviet system!), 38 per cent of the current elite are alumni of the former Soviet nomenklatura. In the regions, this figure is as high as 61 per cent,” says Olga Kryshchanovskaya, head of the Center for the Study of Elites of the Institute of Sociology of the Russian Academy of Sciences.” (1)

MIM also came across a World Bank study of the actual oligarchs controlling oil, gas and other major industries privatized. The names that came up from the World Bank are Deripaska, Abramovich, Kadannikov, Mordashov, Potanin, Prokhorov, Alekperov, Maganov, Kukura, Abramov, Popov, Melnichenko, Pumpiansky, Makhmudov, Kazitzin, Bodanov, Khodorkovsky, Lebedev, Lisin, Zuzin, Smushkin, Zingarevich, Rashnikov, Vekselberg, Balaeskul, Blavatnik, Bendukidze, Fridman, Khan, Tahaudinov, Evtushenkov, Novitsky, Goncharuk, Plastinin & Dubinin. Together they have 1.44 million employees.

The 23 individuals or groups that these names are associated with have control of over one third of industrial sales in Russia. The federal government has another 20 percent of industrial sales in business it is connected with.(2) Small and medium size businesses account for the rest—less than half of industrial sales.

In any case, by our very inexact method of looking at the names, we would say less than half the oligarchs are Jews. That’s not to mention the government under Russian control. Hence, imagining some Russian national struggle that would simultaneously solve the class question in Russia is completely off-base. Because of a few Jewish names in the oligarchy, some minority of Russians has continued in the Brezhnev social-fascist tradition of narrow nationalist resentment. The difference between Brezhnev’s day and today is that today the various kooky nationalisms are all in the open.

Worst of all are the many people who used to be supporters of Gorbachev or Yeltsin and who now sing an anti-Semitic song. People who wanted Liberal capitalism should not be complaining now about the Jews in the oligarchy. Capitalism combined with attacks on the Jews is a formula for fascism.

It is important to understand that 80% of Russians oppose the privatization of assets of the Soviet Union—or at least the way that it happened. 43% of Russians as of 2003 want another Bolshevik Revolution;(3) though we have to admit that the energy, youth and vitality needed for a revolutionary movement is not there yet. As a result, resentment regarding privatization and the economic destruction of the Soviet Union planned by the CIA and implemented by the oligarchs has bubbled up as anti-Semitism. Some Russians have gone so far as to become confused about the national question by distinguishing between

Russian-speaking Jews and other Russians.

According to Stalin in his essays on the national question, a nation has a contiguous territory, economy, language and culture. Russian Jews do not deprive other Russians of their language or territory and they share the same economy and culture as Russians. That should make it clear that seeing Russians as an oppressed nation oppressed by Jews is not what Stalin had in mind.

There is also no race question. Jews are not a race to begin with, but if the question is to what extent discrimination occurs, then again the Jews do not belong in that discussion either. Jews do not control the Russian government or have sufficient power to discriminate against Russians.

There are many situations in the world where a social minority does disproportionately well in business. In Marxism we look at the national and race questions, but we focus our fire where conflict can lead to progress. In those situations where a national struggle can advance the mode of production simultaneously, we favor national struggle. That tends to be the case of all peoples in non-imperialist countries facing Western super-exploitation.

In Russia today, the failure of Khrushchev-Brezhnev revisionism has led to various crackpot ideologies to fill in where Marxism supposedly failed. According to the various narrow nationalist and racist ideologies circulating, last week it would be the Jews. This week it is the Chechens. The Ingushes are probably next.(4) These ideas take advantage of feudal provincialism that leads to intra-proletarian strife in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. In other cases, the ethnicities are involved in intra-bourgeois strife that benefits one group of capitalists over another.

As far as the international proletariat is concerned, we do not have a socialist government in Russia or Chechnya or anywhere else in the former Soviet Union or Eastern Europe. Putin and nationalist Russians may see the breakup of the Soviet Union or the attempted breakup of Russia as something to resist desperately, but we internationalists do not become alarmed except by intra-proletarian strife. Alliances with U.S. imperialism and intra-proletarian strife are wrong, but there is no saying what course the national struggle and class struggle will have to take to reforge a new and advanced Bolshevism of steel in the ex-Soviet Union. If Russia has to fall apart before political consciousness strikes the proletariat and people learn how to cooperate anew, so be it. We Marxist-Leninist-Maoists make no fetish of the bourgeois Russian nation-state.

In the former Soviet Union, if there is a national question, it is still the threat posed by Russians to other nationalities. Unlike the oppressor white nations of the West

though, there is a Russian proletariat that has proven its internationalism before in the 20th century.

As Mao said in the 1920s, at first glance, some of the violent struggles of then Chinese peasants appear “terrible.” Then he became used to them and realized that they portended revolutionary change in China and he called them “fine.” At MIM we oppose the Russian nationalist struggles aimed at Jews, Chechens and now the Ingush people. The people of Beslan in North Ossetia have paid a terrible price for Russia’s turning away from the road of Stalin. The solution is not futile intra-proletarian strife

and a cycle of revenge but proletarian internationalism.

Notes:

1. “Novaya Gazeta” newspaper, No. 63 (963), August 30—Sep 1, 2004.
2. Financial Times 7April2004, p. 7.
3. Jean-Marie Chauvier, “Russia: Nostalgic for the Soviet Era,” Socialist Viewpoint 15May2004, p. 36.
4. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/3635722.stm>

Dar Zhutayev assisted the research of this article.



## Putin admits he cannot police borders

One thing about going to a money economy and abandoning socialism is limiting Putin’s options regarding North Ossetia. His military and security forces are corrupt in a way that Stalin’s were not.

In a capitalist economy, the solution to corruption is to outbid possible competitors. In a country like the United States, where super-profits flow in like water at Niagara Falls, most government officials have good pay. Even so, occasionally a government official gets into debt for an ostentatious lifestyle or is too junior and finds him or herself bribed by someone who can eliminate financial worry. Such openings for bribery are 50 times worse in Russia.

Putin admitted that a factor in the Chechnya and North Ossetia questions is the corruption at the borders. Under Stalin and Mao, cash transactions came under suspicion. The gains possible from corruption were less and the possible punishments greater. That goes for drugs, a black market in weapons or just planning terrorist attacks. Someone who took a bribe of say \$10,000 under Stalin or Mao

would have few places to spend it and would only end up being caught. True, smaller items such as cigarettes did abound in matters of corruption, but few Russians or Chinese would deny that corruption was much less under Stalin or Mao respectively.

It is popular among the Russian people to blame the smaller nationalities for being “backward,” being narrow, needing subsidies and causing the collapse of the Soviet Union. Yet it was the Russians as a people who had the most blame for putting Khrushchev in power and making narrow self-interest the watchword of society. Once the pursuit of profit, bribes and selfish ends started in the economy, there was no reasonable expectation that the nationalities would not start looking to their narrow goals as well. In contrast, when the Russians crack down on Russian corruption within a Russian socialist society, only then will other neighboring nationalities tend to think they have a chance of fostering positive economic relations with the Russians.

Note:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/worldlatest/story/0,1280,-4473664,00.html>

# Vindication of Stalin in Croatia and Estonia

## *Yes, there were Nazi collaborators*

In all of Stalin's repressions during World War II, which did not start with the bombing of Pearl Harbor but with the invasion of Ethiopia by Italy and the Spanish Civil War, we hear Liberal historians and journalists continue the Cold War refrain that Stalin invented all the Nazi collaborators. Yet, today there is a continuous stream of news proving Stalin's critics wrong, but the Liberals keep on singing the same old song. We will talk about just two struggles that came up in August and September of not 1944 but 2004.

An example: memorials to Nazi collaborators head to be torn down against the objection of villagers in Sveti Rok in Croatia. This would not be a news item except it was in August, 2004. Funded by Croats in Australia and Canada who fled their country when the Nazis got beat in 1945, the mementoes to fascism that have gone up in recent times included a plaque to Mile Budak and a statue to fascist Ustasha leader Jure Francetic (1) responsible for mass slaughters of Serbs, Jews and Gypsies. Hitler had given these Croats an extremely rare honor by officially counting all Croats as part of the supposed Aryan super-race of people.

The fascist statue had already stood for years when under pressure from the Roman Catholic Church and others, the Croatian government realized it had to

come down—in August 2004. In doing so, the Croatian government adopted crypto-fascism by condemning “both” communism and fascism. Considering that the government officials carrying out the orders were former Ustasha fascists themselves, it is not surprising.

There were only two sides in World War II and the Liberals will never get over it. There is no “middle ground” with which to tolerate fascism. Many of the Liberals criticizing us today would have spouted historically revisionist Black Book of Communism garbage and fought on the Nazi side had they been there. Stalin deported 4% of Estonians in 1941 to Central Asia and Siberia according to bourgeois writer Geoffrey Hosking.(2) Their story is very similar to the deportation of Chechens except that a much larger portion of Chechens went. Thus, we can say Stalin had experience with deportations before the Chechens.

In Estonia today, they have gone a step further than the Croats and erected a whole monument to an Estonian SS Division that fought with the Nazis. The Jerusalem Post noted, “The establishment of such a monument in Estonia was hardly surprising in a country that has failed to prosecute a single Estonian Nazi war criminal to date, and in which a public opinion poll revealed that 93% of the Estonian public opposes the establishment

of a memorial day for the victims of the Holocaust.”(3) We should point out that the Jerusalem Post is hypocritical to complain about these facts, because it has contributed a great deal to anti-communism globally. In kissing up to the United States, Zionists have taken up anti-communism and thus contributed to whitewashing the history of the Holocaust.

On September 2nd, the government of Estonia managed to remove the monument. Nonetheless, the Baltic Times referred to it as featuring “Estonia's World War II freedom fighters.” The Baltic Times said this despite admitting that the statue was a soldier in a German uniform.

Stupid Liberals try to tell us Stalin was cracking down on nobody but figments of his paranoid imagination, but here is what happened in 2004: “The officials were forced to use batons and pepper gas to tame a crowd of over 300 locals who showed up to oppose the decision, many of whom threw stones at both the demolition crew and police vehicles. The project's crane operator was injured, and 11 police and rescue department vehicles sustained damage from thrown stones. In the end, 44 police managed to fight off the angry crowd, including Estonia's K-commando—a SWAT-type unit—and one dog. The government issued a statement proclaiming that the Lihula monument, erected on Aug. 20, was illegal as it stood on state-owned land and was erected without the owner's consent.”(4) If this is what it is like to tear down a Nazi monument in 2004, we can only imagine what Stalin was dealing with in 1944.

The large imperialist states of Germany and Italy mark the Western border of a territory ranging to Russia in the Ural Mountains. Excluding Russia, Germany and Italy, this territory of Eastern Europe and the beginnings of the Middle East is composed of countries where the population is a majority of exploited people. Yet, the entire region is stuck in a Medieval provincialism, which is why to this day there continue to be wannabe Nazi collaborators there. Whether we talk about the Azeris on one side of the region or the Estonians on the other, the lack of a global perspective is holding back the proletariat of the region. It is the job of the Marxists to show that economic problems there do not stem from one's neighboring ethnicity. In the United States we must do our part by talking about where the real gravy goes—super-profits to the Western imperialists and labor aristocracy.

Notes:

1. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/3605236.stm>
2. Geoffrey Hosking *The First Socialist Society: A History of the Soviet Union from Within* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1985), p. 252.
3. [http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=JP\\_ost/JPArticle/ShowFull&cid=1093587048913&p=1006688055060](http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=JP_ost/JPArticle/ShowFull&cid=1093587048913&p=1006688055060)
4. [http://www.baltictimes.com/art.php?art\\_id=10835](http://www.baltictimes.com/art.php?art_id=10835)

# Chechens come up in discussion

*Continued from page 4...*

in history when economic surpluses were lower and governmental units smaller—the delight of the original Green theorists like Leopold Kohr. Industrial revolution makes larger trading and government units possible and even makes global thinking a greater likelihood—with more advanced communications and transport. That is why relative to Western Europe, the more economically backward parts of Eastern Europe and the Middle East fall victim to provincialism. Contrary to the Greens, we would say the ethnic cleansing in former Yugoslavia was every bit as bad as the wars cooked up by larger industrial states.

The real question is: given that context, what was the solution? Obviously Stalin could not just leave the Jews and Gypsies in place to face massacre if Hitler took control of a civilian population. Deportation is not a universal violation of humyn-rights. In that context, deporting Hitler's next victims is life-saving. For that matter, in that context of Hitler's invasion,

some old national grudges would come to the fore just as we see in the 1990s and 2000s in the ex-Soviet Union.

Our critic of Stalin claimed he did not have to have a better solution to criticize Stalin for human rights violations. We hope we convinced him he was wrong and that such a posture is idealism. Today we see what happens when the Balkans and Caucasus get off the road of Lenin and Stalin. In the Soviet days, all peoples had citizenship. Now there are separate militaries and trade barriers. Under Stalin the economy was moving forward, and that greatly reduces inter-ethnic sniping. Today in an economy that never recovered from the collapse of the Soviet Union, we have various resentments about the “mafias” of other ethnicities.

After we have seen the suffering of people in Chechnya today or the killing of schoolchildren in Beslan, it is obvious that deportation is not the worst thing that has happened or could happen. In times of war and inflamed passions, the most enlightened option available can be

separation of peoples who are not going to get along. We are convinced that Stalin was an “equal opportunity dictator.” All the various nationalities suffered and sacrificed under his rule and all the various nationalities made progress under Stalin like they had never seen before.

Today we see an ongoing war in Azerbaijan between Armenians and Azeris. Each side has created more than a million refugees on the other. There was ethnic cleansing that involved both killings and deportations—this in the late 1980s and early 1990s. North Ossetia and Ingushetia also had fighting in 1992. Before the events of Beslan in September 2004, we told our critic on Chechens that the people of the region would kill each other if given the chance, and we stressed “kill each other, throw people in fires.” Beslan makes it clear MIM was right. Stalin had a plan to prevent ethnic cleansing. His critics still don't despite living in easier times today.

The event kicking off the recent ethnic

cleansing was the political Liberalism of Gorbachev. So the point is that if we are to blame Stalin for some problems, then we must also account for the even greater problems created by his critics. Without a Stalin, the peoples go backward and they gradually come to believe they can pull off a Beslan. Once we have seen a Beslan in the year 2004, we should know what Stalin was dealing with among the nationalities before he died in 1953. There was not going to be a perfect society in 1944, only fewer problems under Stalin than the alternatives.

Notes:

1. Zaindi Choltaev & Michaela Pohl, “Russia's ‘purge’ of Chechens,” *Boston Sunday Globe* 14Mar2004, p. h11.
2. <http://www.agitprop.org.au/stopnato/20000126chechmstar.php>
3. Geoffrey Hosking *The First Socialist Society: A History of the Soviet Union from Within* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1985), p. 240.

# “Soviet tanks in the street”

## Nazi propaganda worked on Schwarzenegger, Limbaugh & Hannity

“I saw their [Soviet] tanks in the streets. I saw Communism with my own eyes,”(1) said Governor Schwarzenegger in his speech August 31st at the Republican National Convention, of his native Austria and not for the first time either. He’s made similar remarks in speeches before and the major media outlets simply do not correct him, which is why dumb-ass conservative voters put him in power. Even the relatively few media outlets who do talk about Schwarzenegger’s inaccuracies do not mention the connection to Nazi ideology.

“As a child he could not have seen a Soviet tank in Styria,” Stefan Karner told the Vienna newspaper Kurier.

“Mr Schwarzenegger, now a US citizen, was born on 30 July 1947, when Styria and neighbouring Carinthia belonged to the British zone. Austria was occupied by the Allies, including the US, the Soviet Union and France.

“The Soviets left Styria in July 1945, less than three months after the end of the war,” Mr Karner noted.

“Another sceptic, Franz Nitsch, said:

‘Let me tell you this: as a boy, I lived for many years across the street from where the Russians were based in Vienna — and I never saw a Russian tank. He said it all on purpose — and that’s bad.’

“Mr Schwarzenegger also said in his convention address: ‘As a kid, I saw the socialist country that Austria became after the Soviets left.’

“Austria regained its independence in 1955 after the departure of Soviet forces. But Martin Polaschek, of Graz University, pointed out in Kurier that the country was governed by coalitions, including the conservative People’s Party and the Social Democratic Party. Between 1945 and 1970, all the nation’s chancellors were conservatives — not socialists.”(2)

Listening to Schwarzenegger, one would have thought Austria was behind the “Iron Curtain.” Instead, he lived in the British zone of occupation and likely not allowed out of it. The Soviet occupation was relatively light in Austria and all Soviet troops were gone by Schwarzenegger’s age eight. This brings us to the point. A boy ranging from age 1

to 8 does not know he is looking at Soviet tanks unless an adult told him. Schwarzenegger’s father belonged to the Nazi Party as a stormtrooper.(3)

Schwarzenegger is great proof why MIM is right and there has to be a joint dictatorship of the proletariat of the oppressed nations (JDPON). Even in a dramatic change like the collapse of Nazism, an imperialist country like Germany (which had annexed Austria) in 1945 does not go through immediate revolutionary transformation. Children such as Arnold do not receive proper education without JDPON and the whole world is still paying for that in 2004.

In countries where the “workers” are infected with parasitism, the people continue trying to sponge off the rest of the world through colonialism/imperialism. In such a context, it becomes possible to buy the old Nazi propaganda equating Jews, capitalist Allies and Soviets. The key is making an accurate judgment of the old social material—the Nazis in this case. The Nazis were simply not ready as people to go forward and communist

strategy must take that into account.

In 1941, the outlines for propaganda work written by the Nazis said that propagandists should stress that Jewry “is ready to turn all of Europe over to Bolshevism, its only goal being to destroy Adolf Hitler and his people.”(4) Taken in this light, Schwarzenegger’s comments about communism in Austria make more sense. It’s 2004 and pitiful dinosaur Arnold Schwarzenegger still thinks someone turned over Austria to Bolshevism (and we say: if only!)

The day after Schwarzenegger’s speech, radio talk-show and TV host Rush Limbaugh defended Schwarzenegger, although we did not hear the Soviet tanks subject brought up. Limbaugh said the speech was “conservative” and not “moderate” and went so far as to defend the speech against reactionaries from California who oppose Schwarzenegger as a “liberal.”

Likewise, on Sean Hannity talk radio we heard praise. Since Schwarzenegger rehabilitated Nixon in his speech, the

*Continued on page 9...*

## Arrests at the Republican National Convention

*Continued from page 1...*

Meanwhile, a poll of New Yorkers shocked pollsters: 49.3% of New York residents believe that the government “knew in advance that attacks were planned on or around September 11, 2001, and that they consciously failed to act.” Majorities of New Yorkers also do not believe the existing reports on the subject hit the nail on the head and 75% of both Blacks and Latinos want another deeper probe.(2)

The poll shows a real opening for the revolutionary truth—that the U.S. government is the most dangerous factor against peace both in New York and globally. Bush and Bloomberg are pushing the public hard, but trying to blame demonstrators or staging political ads to take advantage of 911 may eventually backfire on the rulers.

On the negative side, the relative complacency of New Yorkers has allowed New York police to become the most aggressive in attacking demonstrators out of the major cities in the Northeast. At previous anti-war demonstrations, police succeeded in preventing demonstrators from carrying signs and in preventing their even walking on certain sidewalks.

It is clear that Mayor Bloomberg wants to convince New York City and the country consuming New York media that demonstrations contain the seeds of terrorism. That is the only explanation for all the cops on the street harassing demonstrators, other than the fact that New York City has too much money to waste on cop services. Every time a siren goes off—and it was all day long for three

days—a portion of the public will accept that something legitimately “criminal” happened. On the other hand, hundreds of thousands of people in New York learned first-hand that the state is not what it says it is in this “free country.”

The RNC was a long week of siren abuse—something that many people are already aware of. That fact alone required that the demonstrators who remained be stout of stomach. Scaring people away from politics while criminalizing the demonstrators—that was the political goal of the vast police expenditure.

The New York Post, official newspaper of the labor aristocracy, obliged the mayor with disgusting fiction stories about violence and demonstrators’ plans that turned out to be untrue.(3) Others hyped the “anarchist” threat, whatever that is. It is unfortunate that the public has not entirely learned that that is just how the New York Post et. al. sensationalize or invent stories to make a profit.

One thing we did not see in the labor aristocracy media—a comparison of how much violence has been carried out by police as compared with demonstrators. The reason we do not hear that subject talked about is that police riots against the public are much more common than violent riots by demonstrators. Hiring fewer cops and providing existing ones something else to do is the surest road to reducing violence.

Despite the fact that Americans are ready to throw in the towel on civil liberties, thanks only in part to 911, it won’t

be just U.S. citizens who observe what is happening. A few minutes after the older German fellow approached MIM Notes about the arrest of the Black youth in Union Square, a Japanese youth stopped to speak to MIM as well. He told us what he saw using his hand as a wall to represent a wall of police and how they shut down a street for demonstrators trying to march. “Police can’t do that in Japan,” he said.

After so many decades of bragging about being a “free country” and looking down at other countries with supposedly less freedom, the United States had a banana republic style election in 2000. Now increasing numbers of foreigners are seeing that “free speech” and “freedom of association” are not what they are cracked up to be in the United States.

“Can they do that?” is the question of astonishment that we heard from those who do not know the United States better. There were at least 1821 arrests of protestors (1) and the many thousands there to see it happen learned something important.

The current ruling class thinks that hiring cops and spending Homeland Security money harassing demonstrators is a great unemployment program. Someone needs to tell the capitalist rulers that no, the economy has not enjoyed any benefit from having legions of cops following marchers around. Such a “service” makes no one better off. Quite the contrary, the more the public sees such a service, the

more it wants to stay away from the city involved.

As if in response, and after seeing Boston make very little money off the Democratic National Convention, Mayor Bloomberg tried to drown out the demonstrators by offering coupons to demonstrators who are “peaceful.”(3) He succeeded in getting the courts to allow him to keep Central Park off-limits to an anti-Bush protest, but t-shirts and slogans mocked him for trying to buy them off with 20% off at Applebee’s.

Notes:

1. <http://www.nytimes.com/2004/09/06/nyregion/06matters.html>

2. <http://www.zogby.com/news/ReadNews.dbm?ID=855>

3. The New York Post (and echoed by the Washington Times) said that the long-dead Weather Underground had resurrected itself for bombings in New York during the RNC. More intelligently, the Village Voice did not take it seriously and realized people were reliving their Vietnam era conflicts, a la Kerry, McCain and “Swift Boat Veterans for blah, blah.” <http://www.villagevoice.com/issues/0435/hoberman.php>

4. “Michael Bloomberg, the Republican mayor, is making his own contribution towards keeping the peace by offering protesters discount coupons for cruises and a free glass of chardonnay in selected upmarket restaurants.” <http://news.scootsman.com/international.cfm?id=1002512004>

# Latin King/Queens call for revitalized anti-imperialism

MIM recently received a lengthy article from members of the Almighty Latin Kings and Queens Nation opposing the “neo-colonial mentality, sectarianism, petty capitalism and outright anti-revolutionary attitudes” that they claim “have infected major and regional leadership, as well as our growing portion of the membership.” This “has greatly affected our ability to serve our oppressed communities and has prevented us from doing our best to maintain a uniform ideology and philosophy,” they argue. They also point out that police COINTELPRO-style psy-war operations have led to the arrest of veteran leaders and contributed to infighting

To correct these problems, the authors call on the ALKQN to unite around a “revitalize[d] anti-imperialist revolutionary kingism.” The authors favorably quote Mao Zedong: “This army is powerful because all its members have a discipline based on political consciousness; they have come together and they fight not for private interests [but for the interests] of the broad masses and of the whole Nation.”

The authors call on members to set aside their “self-interested or small-group concerns” and “take action... for the benefit of the third world oppressed masses—remember them!?!?” “Our true purpose for existence can’t be put as a second priority.”

Concretely, they suggest the ALKQN improve communication, adopt a unified, elected national leadership, and “create a news organ, perhaps a newsletter or newspaper so that the United ALKQN voice can be heard and where we can hear the voices of the masses we serve lead us to where the struggle should be.”

MIM agrees that the key to unity among the oppressed is unity in the revolutionary anti-imperialist movement. We would add that a movement with a socialist perspective is even better, as it eliminates the temptation to sell out one’s own (or another) people for crumbs from the imperialists’ table. The fact that the pigs have spent so much energy locking up the ALKQN leadership and demonizing the ALKQN in the press only shows how much they fear the ALKQN’s revolutionary potential.

We print below another response to the ALKQN “State of Emergency” article from the Noble Young Lords Party.

The Noble Young Lords Party/Latino Nations North America (NYLP/LNNA) was given a pre-published copy of the State of Emergency article. We support the WU-KNIGHTS and Original Crown Council Society’s effort to regain anti-imperialist influence within the ALKQN. [The authors of the “State of Emergency”

article called themselves the WU-KNIGHTS and Original Crown Council Society.]

Some of our members were formerly Latin Kings/Queens but they now have a practice wherein they keep politics in command. This stands in contrast to the semi-religious principles of the ALKQN. However, we have a great respect for the past political efforts of the ALKQN and we would like to see it take on a stronger anti-imperialist tone.

Lord Grim has been an integral part in the development of our soon to be published primer the NYLP’s Political Compendium Manual (PCM) and he has aided in the re-birth of the NYLP, therefore, we have a deep understanding of what the ALKQN is struggling with.

We have witnessed how the Federal/State pigs classified the ALKQN as Public Enemy #1 once their political activism was positively affecting the oppressed communities in Amerika. We have witnessed how pigs have exploited divisions and criminal leaders to further disrupt the ALKQN and its time to see the ALKQN opposing these attacks by regulating active and passive defenses as well as regulating internal preparations. Some things to oppose in the spirit of Mao:

- 1) Oppose criminal ways and uphold strict political discipline.
- 2) Oppose bully warlord ways and favor both democracy within proper limits and authoritative discipline in the ALKQN.
- 3) Oppose incorrect, sectarian policy on leadership and uphold the correct policy on leadership.
- 4) Oppose the policy of isolation and affirm the policy of winning over all possible allies.
- 5) Oppose keeping the ALKQN at its old stage and strive to develop it to a new stage.

The OCC Society and WU-KNIGHTS Society are attempting to oppose chaos, corruption and imperialism with this state of emergency article. The time has come for the ALKQN to come together in one voice and say “They’re right, we need to consolidate Revolutionary Kingism!” The potential effectiveness of a nationally united ALKQN would bring greater material/financial resources, greater anti-imperialist progress, and a more effective concentration on your long/short term objectives. The Lion Tribe, Tiger Tribe, and Bulldog Tribe need to set aside their perceived differences and come into one Networking Nucleus.

The NYLP believes in the practice of Democratic-Centralism. This means that all qualified members, whether they obtain rank or no, have a voice in the implementation of policy as long as it does not go against our established anti-imperialist stand. It is a way to ensure that the leadership is in check and in tune with the membership it represents and the oppressed Third World communities it serves. But once the majority decides upon an issue, the entire party must uphold

that policy whether they agree with it in the course of debate or not. This is called External Unity - Internal Debate. The State of Emergency article is a step forward in reaching such advanced practices as Democratic-Centralism.

It is the NYLP’s hope to see such a righteous organization as the ALKQN fulfill its promise to the Third World people. We have told the Ghost King and Red Cloud [individual authors named in the “State of Emergency” article] that they are free to leave messages to/from members via our e-mail addy [nylp@mim.org](mailto:nylp@mim.org) and we’ll send them to LG to be delivered to the OCC.

Our hands are open to all lumpen organizations that are making a sincere effort to focus on the anti-imperialist struggle and those that desire to learn more about the NYLP/LNNA can purchase

our NYLP Political Compendium manual which is soon to be published. Contact us at our e-mail or the following address for more information.

Noble Love!  
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“One must do in each moment what is necessary in each moment. Time should not be wasted in attempting what there is good reason for believing is not to be achieved. To postpone is never to decide, above all since now neither palpitating memories, nor painful resentments, nor serious impending catastrophes permit another opportunity. To foresee is a duty of those who undertake to lead. To go ahead of others requires seeing more than they do.” — Jose Marti

## 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.



## What questions do YOU have?

Wasn't Mao a butcher? Why do you spell it “Amerika”? Shouldn't you try non-violence first? What is internationalism? Isn't hating white people reverse racism? Why don't you leftists work together? Why don't you tone it down? What is a cardinal principle? What is your program? What is necessary to join MIM? What concrete actions can I take? How do I write articles for MIM? What is your copyright policy?

Go to <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/faq> and get real answers to these and other questions.



# Maoist review of *Asian Fortune*, a mag for 'Asian-Americans'

*'Where East Meets West: Serving the Asian American Multicultural Community Since 1993'*

June 2004 issue

So, Grandpa and Grandpa used to make a good living as upright and enterprising citizens selling toilet seats to the U.S. Army at \$1500 a pop from the family base in Shanghai. Life was good but your political leader Chiang Kai-shek had 20 years to fix China and instead he blew his chance—politics, dirty stuff you know.

Then tyrant Mao came to power and your grandparents high-tailed it for Taiwan with the accumulated wealth of decades of toilet seat contracts, but your parents made so much money supplying the U.S. Army squatting in Korea that you ended up going to college in the United States while living in a paid-off condo in DC. Now you write articles for *Asian Fortune* and you've even seen Donald Rumsfeld at a dinner-party.

You heard about some campaign against the Black Book of Communism errors, so you said Mao's killing 20 million in the Great Leap is not a "typo." Well golly be, then saying Mao died in 1977 in the same story (p. 26) is probably not a typo either.

Mommy and Daddy made good money, ahem, arranging visits of U.S. soldiers to enterprising young wimmin in Saigon. You had started attending good Catholic schools and everything was swell. Rice, vegetables and meat were in good supply when Ho Chi Minh's followers took over.

It took a good chunk of the family savings, but you got on one of the last helicopters out of Vietnam. You reckon that lots of people move as kids without even remembering much of their first home, but it must be hard on your parents to leave after so many years in the country they loved. So now you live in Northern Virginia where no Vietnamese

communists are allowed. ("Orange County CA Considering 'No-Communist Zones'", p. 27) Naturally, you write for *Asian Fortune* with the special mission of showing the Amerikans that not all East Asians are communists, which is why they fully deserve another million green cards a year. Daddy was a teacher with a bit of farm land and uncle was an officer in the Vietnamese army, well at least for 7 weeks.

Sister says Kerry is her man, having proven himself by running off the swift boat to kill a teenage Viet Cong member. Even though you are not so sure about Kerry, you're happy that your sister sports a Kerry button, because secretly you're afraid that respectable people will realize that your fellow "Asian-Americans" do not vote much. You work for *Asian Fortune* to raise political consciousness among your fellow "Asian-Americans." Lucky for you the 1960 and 2000 presidential elections were so close, you definitely have a point: even the "Asian-Americans" could choose the next Amerikan president. ("Janelle Hu: Harnessing the APIA Voter Power," p. 2)

You married an Amerikan Vietnam veteran and edit his stories for *Asian Fortune*. ("Uncle Ho—Enron Accountant?" p. 15) You notice he sleeps better at night after staying up all day writing articles for you. When will he ever learn to just forget all the people calling him a war criminal and monster when he got back from Vietnam? You even resent a little bit that your good love has not completely steered him straight yet. Why does he care about the protesters more than you?

Your sister says Kerry was wrong to



*Does the Twinkie Herald support General Taguba, too?*

oppose the war when he came back to the United States, but he did more to fight communism than Bush did. You argue back that if Kerry and others had kept their mouths shut, they wouldn't have needed an army or navy of people like him in Vietnam: bombing millions of communists to death from 30,000 feet up in B-52s would have done just fine. Whatever, you're modern now, not like your parents' generation and that was a long time ago, but if your husband does succeed in justifying another bombing campaign in Vietnam, the Congress will probably hand out some more green cards to prove how great Amerika is compared with bomb craters run by communists. That's what you like about Amerikans, so generous with their freedoms.

Mommy and Daddy had a clothing shop next to a discotheque in the shopping district closest to U.S. soldiers in Seoul. If those tens of thousands of troops had

not landed to fight off the evil communists, there's no telling if that shopping district ever would have gotten anywhere.

Now it's so bad in North Korea that people run into burning houses to save their pictures of "Dear Leader" Kim Il Sung only to die in the effort. (p. 12) It's so much better in a Christian capitalist country where after Sylvia Ewing killed her 8-year-old and 4-year-old children with a baseball bat and left a note saying "Jesus is coming . . . Jesus loves the kids" and after Christian Texan Andrea Yates drowned her five children aged 2 to 7 to save them from demon possession, we can still turn on the TV in freedom and call a 1-800 number to donate to Jesus.

Well, Yee-haw *Asian Fortune*, may you fully vanquish your competitor, the Twinkie Herald. And don't worry, we'll back you up on immigration and your hero General Taguba and his exposure of Abu Ghraib anyway.

## Nazi propaganda

Continued from page 7...

reactionary talking heads were eating that up too.

Mushing together socialism, Jews and Western democracy—that is a Nazi propaganda trick that treats everything outside Nazi ideology as the same. Speaking of pre-Nazi Germany, the Nazis said, "Its constitution was based on the political doctrines of foreign peoples, particularly Western democracies, and were strongly influenced by the Jewish spirit." (5)

The most sophisticated Nazi propaganda distinguished among Western "democracies" and the Soviet Union by referring to "the plutocratic-Jewish-Bolshevist world coalition." (6) In 1944, warning Germans to fight hard even as the tide had turned in World War II, the Nazi propagandists said that a Jewish journalist favored by Stalin said: "The remains of the European peoples who escape our tanks and flame-throwers—and not only the Germans—will be sent to work as slaves in the mines of

Siberia." (6) That comment was typical of how the Nazis prepared their own people in 1944. It is not a mere coincidence that Schwarzenegger has made speeches talking about Soviet tanks sending Austrians to work in Soviet labor camps. The Nazis are the originals putting such talk in the air. The Nazis' accusations and fantasies about the Soviet Union lived on in young Arnold.

Of course, MIM is not the only one to denounce Schwarzenegger for calling parliamentary democracies "socialist." A law history professor in Austria pointed out how Schwarzenegger was mushing things together before defending him as just a "politician." What the media does not do is explain who it was that originally referred to everything as communist and all of Europe under communist power—the Nazis.

Arnold Schwarzenegger has become a big donor to Jewish Holocaust causes, (3) but taking the Jewish part out of Nazi propaganda and leaving the rest

the same is not correct either.

Today reactionaries are doing the same thing as the Nazis—calling everything "socialism" including conservatism in Austria. As is typical for reactionaries, they justify this, because they believe all politics is lies and spin anyway. (7) This is not surprising, because most reactionaries in the West base themselves in Christianity and assume that politics is just another fairy-tale like the Bible. For them, consistent use of words like "socialism" is not necessary. If they like something, they call it "conservatism." Otherwise, if something bad happens, it's supposed to be "socialism's" fault according to these pre-scientific reactionaries. It becomes pointless to discuss with them—another reason that force is the only thing that educates people like Arnold Schwarzenegger's father. Try to avoid the truth of the necessity of the joint dictatorship of the proletariat of the oppressed nations and the children turn out like Arnold—damn confused politically

and historically.

Notes:

1. <http://www.cnn.com/2004/ALLPOLITICS/08/31/gop.schwarzenegger.transcript/index.html> See also, <http://hnn.us/articles/911.html#tanks11-26-03>
2. <http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/international.cfm?id=1040052004>
3. [http://www.usatoday.com/news/politicselections/2003-08-24-arnold-father\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/politicselections/2003-08-24-arnold-father_x.htm)
4. <http://www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa/salzburg1.htm>
5. <http://www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa/du.htm>
6. <http://www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa/nimals.htm>
7. A Schwarzenegger defender said this: "He did not speak as a historian, after all, but as a politician." <http://edition.cnn.com/2004/ALLPOLITICS/09/03/schwarzenegger.ap/>

# Under Lock & Key

## News from Prisons & Prisoners

### MO's Crossroads CC: Conditions stink

Please note the following inhumane living conditions that constitute a form of cruel and unusual punishment and deny equal protection being perpetrated on the offender population by Administrative Officials at the Crossroads Correctional Center in Cameron, Missouri.

The offender population at CRCC is double-celled with 65 square-feet per cell to be shared between offenders sometimes for a total of 22 hours and 45 minutes a day without being out of the cell. Though the general population at CRCC is not under any punishment per se, or emergency conditions, CRCC has been on modified lock-down status since 1997 and there is no liberal out-of-cell time afforded to offenders. Please take into account that:

1. No offenders have jobs or go to programs that have them out of their cells.
2. Recreation periods average two hours and 15 minutes per day. However, recreation is not every day and may be just four times per week.
3. Offenders are given three 30 minute periods daily out-of-cell, but according to policy they cannot come out of their cells unless they are: using the phone, in the shower, or cleaning their cells. Therefore, if they have no one to call, have already showered or cleaned their cells they may have as little as 30 minutes out-of-cell time once a day, or none at all!
4. Offenders are only allowed 15 minutes three times daily to go to the dining room, eat, and return to their cells, totaling 45 minutes per day.
5. There are several days a week when two offenders are kept confined in a 65 square-foot cell for as much as 22 hours and 45 minutes, with out-of-cell time totaling one hour and 15 minutes!
6. Offenders in Administrative Segregation status (the Hole) are allowed even less out-of-cell time and are forcibly double-celled with other offenders even though they are supposed to be segregated and housed alone. (The CRCC policy is to mace offenders three times daily if they do not want a cellmate (celly)).

These conditions are representative of an arbitrary punishment with no "equal protection" and are cruel and unusual when you take into account a person's mental state in constant close quarters confinement. There have been two incidents in 2004 when an offender was killed by his celly, both attributed to these conditions. There have also been several assaults, including on Ad. Seg. where an offender's not supposed to have a celly. This is also a health hazard, being exposed to others' illnesses (colds, flus, TB, etc.), and inhaling the odor of defecation for prolonged periods of time without relief, and most of all the lack of physical exercise. No other Level 5 institutions in Missouri limit out-of-cell time to such a small amount, including Potosi (death row)! Most have single and double-man cells.

Your efforts in investigating this matter and asking that these conditions be changed to humane ones of single-man cells or sufficient out-of-cell time would be of help and greatly appreciated.

— a Crossroads CC prisoner, June 2004

### Sexual Humiliation and Terrorism at Southport Correctional Facility

I am writing to you about a grave and ongoing problem in Southport Correctional Facility. Corrections officers, their supervisors and administrators are engaged in a systematic program of oppression of prisoners by sexual humiliation and terrorism doing patfrisk.

Purpose: to humiliate and degrade a prisoner while he is being patfrisked (handcuffed, hands on the wall, legs spread apart, facing the wall) with the intention and objective of provoking a prisoner into coming out of this position, which affords corrections officers in Southport Correctional Facility with the opportunity, under the guise of physically restraining said prisoner(s), to assault and brutalize a prisoner.

Purpose: to desensitize prisoners to sexual molestation and abuse, such as having their testicles, buttocks and penis touched, caressed and grabbed by another man.

Purpose: to instill a level of anxiety and fear in a prisoner at the prospect of being sexually molested, abused and/or assaulted by corrections officers during this humiliating patfrisk; that prisoners fear to leave their cells for showers or attend their court-mandated one hour of recreation.

Purpose: to diminish the morale of prisoners by creating a systematic atmosphere of fear, helplessness, anger and depression within prisoners being subjected to such sexual humiliation and terrorism.

Southport Correctional Facility is a maximum security special housing unit facility, located in the state of New York, in Chemung County. Prisoners in this facility (excluding the inmate cadre workers) are confined to their cells twenty-three hours a day, minus the court-mandated one hour of recreation. There are three levels of prisoners in Southport: Level I, II and III. Level I prisoners must wear a belt chain and handcuffs during their one hour of recreation. Level II prisoners are like Level I prisoners, with the exception that when Level II prisoners enter the yard cage, the handcuffs and belt chain come off. Level III prisoners wear only handcuffs and these are removed once the prisoner is secured in the recreation cage. All prisoners on Level I, II and III attend their one hour of recreation in single, one-man cages.

When a prisoner on any level (I, II, III) wishes to attend their one hour of recreation, they inform the officer who does the recreation list as he passes their cell. When recreation is running, those prisoners who signed up are then handcuffed and/or belt chained according to which floor (level) they are on. Once the cell is opened, he then proceeds down toward the company entrance, wherein the prisoner must face a blank wall with hands up on the wall (if only handcuffed) and allow two officers to conduct a patfrisk. One waves a metal detector wand over the front and back of the prisoner's body and their shoes. The other officer then proceeds

to conduct the actual patfrisk.

There are three blocks: A, B and C. There are three floors on each block and four companies on each floor, totaling 252 prisoners in each block and 756 prisoners in this facility under twenty-three hour lock down in their cell. Of the twenty-one prisoners in each company, a minimum of ten prisoners per company is being sexually molested—their testicles, buttocks and/or penis is being caressed and/or grabbed by the patfrisk officer—each and every day of the week. Out of this ten prisoners per company, at least two prisoners every three months are being physically assaulted by correction officers for allegedly raising off the wall. I say "allegedly" because in most instances, the prisoners didn't raise off the wall but the particular patfrisk officer and their surrounding officers had it on their agenda to assault and brutalize that prisoner by claiming the prisoner came off the wall.

All of this is taking place right before various and numerous video cameras. These video tapes will show the patfrisk officer yanking a prisoners pants up so high and so violently that you can see the prisoner jump from the amount of force being used, as his pant seams cuff his testicles and the crack of his buttocks. These video cameras will show the patfrisk officers patting a prisoner or rubbing a prisoner's buttocks at the conclusion of the patfrisk. These video tapes will show the patfrisk officer pulling the waistband of the prisoner's pants away from his body and momentarily just standing behind the prisoner—looking at his buttocks. These video tapes will show the patfrisk officer reaching around the front zipper area of a prisoner's pants and grabbing the prisoner's penis. These video tapes will show patfrisk officers conducting illegal patfrisks that are contrary to New York State's Department of Correctional Services Directive #4910 Section III, B, governing patfrisk procedure, as well as violating penal law and the 8th and 14th Constitutional amendments.

A flood of grievances have been submitted and filed on this issue against these sexually deviant correction officers—for years. However, Superintendent Michael McGinnis and Director Thomas G. Eagen of the Inmate Grievance Program never see or find any violations or wrong-doings by any correction officers. Therefore, our attempts to redress is being subverted from the Superintendent of this facility down to the grievance supervisor of this facility, Jeff Hale, and his boss, Thomas G. Eagen.

Prisoners are afraid to leave their cells. As a result, prisoners are confined to their cells for twenty-four hours a day—deprivation is deprivation, be it by order or by terrorism. Our mail is being withheld, throw away or confiscated under trumped up charges of correspondence violation. Nurses refuse to provide medication refills, all in the supportive retaliation on behalf of the correction officers. Showers are purposely shortened or items that are not allowed in your cell but are supposed to be in your shower pail turn up missing. Being set up for contraband in your cell or being falsely accused of threatening an employee is commonplace. All of this and

more is the result of prisoners grieving and objecting to being sexually humiliated and terrorized by correction officers in this facility.

If you were to obtain copies of the filed grievances in the past five years against correction officers J. Castleberry, D. White and W. Ellis, among many other officers, you will easily see a pattern and history of sexual abuse and molestation against prisoners: physical violence and assaults against prisoners. You will also see that the superintendent of this facility, Michael McGinnis, never finds any of these officers guilty of committing any wrong-doing. Thus, he supports and encourages the continuation of such sexually deviant behavior by correction officers against prisoners and ongoing acts of violence against prisoners guised as subduing prisoners. The grievance director in Albany, New York, Thomas G. Eagen, and the head of the C.O.R.C. never finds fault or wrong-doing by any New York State Department of Corrections officers or

### 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.

employees for such inhumane and criminally violative acts.

It is my hope that this letter will assist you in shedding light on what is really happening inside these prisons in the United States—contrary to President Bush's claim that such savage brutality by the upholders of the law (prison guards) is not tolerated in this country.

— A New York Prisoner, June 2004

## NY State Uses Plexi-Glass to Control Prisoners

In addition to the conditions of solitary confinement, one of the most sadistic and torturous methods that New York prison officials use against inmates is plexi-glass shields. These are transparent plexi-glass and are used to cover a prisoner's whole cell door so that he's incapable of breathing if the ventilation isn't functioning. The shields, coupled with the lack of space in a cell—48 square feet—works a hardship on inmates' health. In the company I'm in now, the CO's use plexi-glass shields for any minor thing: talking loud, indecent exposure and calling them names, among other things. This is how CO's control prisoners.

— A New York Prisoner, July 2004

## Texas update: God Don't Like Liars

My lawsuit about literature mailed to prisoners being denied under false pretext that it was written "solely" to cause prison disturbances was dismissed. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice had filed a motion for summary judgment. In my response, I proved that their claims that the literature was denied because it could cause fights or riots because it has the word "nigger" in it is contradicted by the facts that there are books in the prison libraries that have the word, and phrases and sentences of the same type in radio and television shows and newspapers and letters admitted to prisoners. The judge granted the defendant's motion, ruling the three publications named in my suit were "racially inflammatory."

Meanwhile, my anti-4 Stepping project has not produced any positive results yet. I have written to 8 Prison Ministries, sending each a write-up explaining that the TDCJ's use of a "lead row" prisoner is a vestige of the slave drivers and violates TDCJ rules and state law. Only two Ministries responded, and they said all they can do is pray for us. I wrote them back and let them know that is not all they can do — and that "God don't like liars."

—A Texas Prisoner, May 1, 2004

## California guards retaliate for court settlement

It seems like ever since the Castillo case [which settled out of court winning some concessions for SHU prisoners in California] finished up these cops have begun to be extra petty around here (at Pelican Bay State Prison). They are writing people up like crazy. They've even begun to take our yard and showers as well. For those of us who they can't label as "gang members" in order to keep us back here, they just claim that we're what they consider "program failures." That allows them to give us indeterminate SHU sentences. We are also no longer able to even pass a magazine, newspaper, or anything for that matter, to any other inmate! But we expected these bastard pigs to intensify their oppressive campaign against us. They fail to realize just how strong and determined one can be in the pursuit of justice, equality, and every other things, we the downtrodden lack.

I also want to say we also scored a minor victory with respect to restitution. They are no longer going to raise it to 55%, they are going to leave it at 33%. I guess for a few more years. For those of us who get \$10, to \$15 a month from our families, this is good.

— a California prisoner, August 2004

Torture in SHU causes mental illness

Prisoners are subject to an extraction fire extinguishers full of O.C. pepper spray, sprayed into the small 8 by 10 cell through a slot in the door. After spraying two and sometimes up to five of those huge canisters, five to seven staff members get attired in helmets, padding for knees and elbows and thick gloves and the door is opened and they charge in with a shield commence to twist your arms, legs, hands and ankles and to put virtually all they're bodies on top of you.

Afterwards you are rinsed off with water and then placed back into the cell or a management cell with no bunk, no shelves, and sometimes no toilet. You are given no linens, not even clothes to put on for 72 hours. Your body burns all over from the pepper spray. To go to sleep you ball up in a fetal position or simply spend the nights pacing the floor. The cells are often filthy so when you sit down you risk contaminating your rectum.

Men who receive this treatment over long durations become disturbed. Blood sport fights have been staged and some have been shot by guards upon being involved or defending themselves. If one is ever accused of attempting to pull away in the handcuffs while being un-cuffed you get put on triangle restriction. Then a huge triangle bar is attached to the handcuffs and if you pull forward they

pull you back with such force sometimes to jerk and break your arms or seriously dislocate them.

They have these metal/iron mesh cages that resemble small booths and you can be left standing in them for hours. In these SHU chambers you get showers every two days. They are only five minutes and then water can be turned off. For recreation you are sent to 8 by 10 mesh cages year round for 10 hours a week. No additional clothing is provided for the cold months. You go out even when it rains in just boxers, socks and t-shirts.

On an average torturous day you are subjected to Reduced Environmental Stimulus (R.E.S.) and sensory deprivation cutting off (sight, sound, sense, smell, and taste). Your bed area in the SHU unit is composed of concrete slabs, you are provided a thin mattress and sometimes it is cut into three sections. There are no windows and when there are they are painted shut. On the inside there are no mirrors so you're denied a look at your own image. At meal times you get just enough food for a bowel movement. Food is always cold.

You can be subject to taser shocks and hog tying when being extracted. I've also observed concussion grenades being used. Upon leaving the cell you are subjected to incessant cavity searches, every time you leave. There are constant loud noises from slamming tray ports and flushing toilets which are idled high and noises from P.A. system. During the night you have count checks where a flash light is shined right in your face, periodically every 2 hours.

Upon being subject to this year in and year out, some get put on medication which causes them to sleep all day just after breakfast until dinner. One has anxiety attacks, gets paranoid, asocial, and some sexually sick. The treatment I've described causes torturous shattering of men's and women's and even children's minds. Those who don't believe torture is happening in America just as in Iraq are naively and sadly misinformed.

— a California prisoner at Corcoran, July 2004



## Join the fight against the injustice system

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Facts on US imprisonment

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

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

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

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

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

2. Ibid., 1992 report.

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

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

5. Atlantic Monthly December, 1998.



## La resurrección de un viejo legado revolucionario

*Habla el Partido Noble Young Lords*

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

El MIM aprovecha la oportunidad para publicar la entrevista con Pablo Pueblo, uno de los líderes del Partido Noble Young Lords (NYLP). Llevamos muchos años colaborado con los fundadores de esta organización y conocemos la solidez de la teoría y práctica revolucionarias detrás de su trabajo. La formación del NYLP es un paso hacia adelante para el movimiento revolucionario dentro de las fronteras estadounidenses, y una culminación de años de duro trabajo y lucha por parte de Pablo Pueblo y otros líderes. Consideramos al NYLP una organización fraterna que respalda la revolución cultural en China, que se opone al revisionismo postestalinista y que reconoce correctamente el hecho de que la mayoría de trabajadores euroamericanos constituyen una pequeña burguesía objetivamente no aliada con la revolución proletaria. En la actualidad, el MIM es un partido multinacional. Sin embargo, el MIM reconoce el hecho de que durante ciertas épocas las fuerzas vanguardistas de nacionalidades oprimidas tienen la necesidad de partidos vanguardistas compuestos por gente de sus propias naciones. El MIM reconoce su derecho a formar partidos separados como parte de la lucha de las naciones oprimidas por su autodeterminación. En nuestra opinión, la validez de movimientos compuestos por una sola nación ha sido comprobada a lo largo de la historia comunista.

*... viene de la edición previa.*

WB: ¿Qué tan importante es la afiliación del MIM con el NYLP?

PP: Diríamos que el MIM ha sido INTEGRAL para nuestro desarrollo. Muchos de nosotros descubrimos el materialismo dialéctico y el centralismo democrático gracias al MIM. Los conozco desde mi época estudiantil y siempre he respetado su onda. Permíteme cambiar de tema para retomar algo que mencionaste hace un rato.

WB: Adelante.

PP: Comparaste el NYLP/LNNA con otras organizaciones lumpen. Hay que aclarar que a pesar de que el NYLP/LNNA se compone mayormente de elementos lumpen, desde luego en la actualidad hemos superado la táctica de hacer guerra en la calle. Nosotros distinguimos entre organizaciones lumpen y partidos de vanguardia. El MIM es un partido de vanguardia y nosotros también lo somos. La diferencia es un compromiso político 100%. La diferencia no tiene nada que ver con el ego, sino con la práctica.

WB: Hablando de organizaciones lumpen, ¿crees que tu previa participación en otra organización controversial afectará tu prestigio como líder socialista legítimo?

PP: En un momento dado antes del NYLP, pensé que una creación de otra organización implicaría una traición de mis previas

afiliaciones. Pero conforme iba madurando, me di cuenta de que esta visión no era más que un subterfugio psicológico. Si profeso una lealtad más que nada hacia los pueblos oprimidos del tercer mundo, entonces mi deber y mi derecho consisten en servirles de la manera más avanzada posible. Esto significa que si en la actualidad soy parte de una organización que funciona a base de tácticas parciales o que se ha vuelto sectaria, y si me niego a unirme a un miembro o una organización cuyos servicios a los camaradas de naciones oprimidas son más avanzados, entonces ESTO SÍ QUE ES UNA VERDADERA TRAICIÓN a nuestro pueblo. Ningún revolucionario jamás debería permitir que una identidad sea más importante que “La Lucha”. Nosotros sabemos que lo que hacemos es correcto. En cuanto a la controversia, le debo reparaciones a mi pueblo por crímenes trágicos cometidos por ignorancia, a causa de una mentalidad neocolonial, de modo que una parte de mi dedicación surge de la redención. Las calles pueden joderlo a uno. Pero una enorme razón por la que yo hago esto, por la que nosotros hacemos esto, es el amor que sentimos por la Fuerza de Color y la esperanza de verla un día libre de cadenas imperialistas. Lo jod\*#@\* de esta historia es que hay personas más educadas y con más recursos que nosotros, y nosotros aún seguimos esperando que ellas asuman el liderazgo de la lucha. ¿Qué carajo vamos a hacer?... ¿Vamos a esperar a que tengamos 50 años? ¡Claro que no! En este sentido seguimos siendo bien chingones. Nos prepararemos para hacer el trabajo renunciado por “la mayoría de los que de hecho están preparados”. Eso es lo que hicimos. Conseguimos que esto pasara. Nuestra mente y nuestros corazones están dedicados 100% al servicio y al aprendizaje de las masas a la larga.

WB: Qué profundo. Tienes carisma.

PP: Ya lo he visto antes, Bear, así que déjame aclararte una cosa. No se trata de “mí”. No me interesa promover un “culto a la personalidad”. Estoy hablando por mí, por Beto Puñala (nuestro Ministro Nacional de Defensa), y el resto del Comité Central Nacional, así como por nuestros miembros. El encabezar el partido no es más que una función, una pieza en el enorme mecanismo comunal que se está construyendo a nivel internacional. El NYLP es una pequeña pieza que forma parte de un rompecabezas de resistencia más grande. Si se me permite acudir a mi “carisma” para promover las metas del partido, pues que sea así, pero un líder tiene que entender que el/ella no es más que una función. El/ella no constituye la revolución, sino que forma parte de la misma. Tráeme a un campesino tercermundista o a un obrero que trabaja en una maquiladora, y te enseñaré qué tipo de hombres y mujeres deberían alabarse. ¿Quién carajo soy al lado de ellos?

WB: ¿Ves a lo que me refiero?

PP: ¡Vete al diablo! (se ríe).

WB: No, ¡tú vete al diablo, Cabecilla!

PP: Ah, ¿estás evocando mi posición superior al llamarme “cabecilla”? (sonríe).

WB: Mira, como sabes, soy de origen indígena. Quizás entre los que están leyendo esta entrevista haya gente que se identifica con este movimiento pero que no son mexicas, boricuas o latinos de ninguna manera. ¿Cuál es la postura del NYLP en relación a otras naciones aplastadas por el imperialismo, como por ejemplo los indígenas americanos?

PP: Bueno, no nos importan sus problemas (silencio incómodo, sonríe). Pero hablando en serio, el Partido comparte la aserción de Mao Tse Tung que el nacionalismo es un internacionalismo aplicado. Queremos enfocarnos en naciones latinas para que el efecto entero de nuestros esfuerzos y recursos de hecho pueda crear y mantener una división entre los rangos del enemigo. Si desde el principio gastamos nuestros esfuerzos y recursos en una serie de problemas dispersos que forman parte de una gama más amplia de intereses nacionales, entonces nuestro impacto será menos tajante. Una vez que establezcamos una red de conexiones estable, podremos actuar como una base sólida para los futuros intereses internacionales compartidos por otras naciones oprimidas. Hemos discutido seriamente la necesidad de reforzar nuestra base, cuanto antes mejor, con el fin de acelerar el proceso de formación de bases gemelas, por ejemplo el NYLP/Naciones Indígenas de Norteamérica, etc. Lo mencionamos en el MCP.

WB: ¿El Manual Compendio Político (MCP) es considerado su primer manifiesto, no es cierto?

PP: Es un motor sin gasolina. Está a punto de ser publicado.

WB: ¿Dirías que es un Volvo o un Ferrari?

PP: ¿Cómo crees? Ningún socialista va a comparar literatura revolucionaria con productos imperialistas. Si tuviera que usar una analogía, diría que es un vehículo militar que sirve para cualquier terreno. Nosotros no le damos la prioridad al aspecto físico ni a la velocidad; lo que nos importa es la estabilidad, la duración y la eficiencia.

WB: A lo que me refiero es que como autor...

PP: Yo no soy el autor, fui el editor y el director del proyecto. Los miembros del partido y el CCN me dieron su confianza escogiéndome para que escribiera la mayoría de las leyes, la legislación y los protocolos, pero también me ayudaron el Pantera de Allah, G. Good, Kulclan, Beto Puñala, MIM y Don Pacho. El MIM, ALKQN [All Mighty Latin King and Queen Nation- La Toda Poderosa Nación de Reyes y Reinas Latinas- SLALA] y NAIM, así como el YLP y el BPP [Black Panther Party- Partido de la Pantera Negra], sirvieron de modelos.

WB: No creo que un manual corporativo

podiera haber sido escrito con tanto éxito.

PP: Nos sigues comparando con productos u organizaciones capitalistas. Eso está mal, güey.

WB: Reconozco el error. Como sabes, no me considero un socialista, sólo un anti-marrano, de modo que mi conocimiento de este campo deja mucho que desear.

PP: Entiendo. Te voy a escribir cartas para recordarte de vez en cuando que en el corazón de cada persona circula sangre “roja”...y que en el tuyo también debería circular. Pero entiendo tu punto de vista. Pienso que la mayoría de la gente no espera que los argumentos de los inmigrantes y los caribeños tengan mucha lógica. De modo que cuando ven este tipo de manual exhumado de las calles sucias y del cementerio de los vivos que son las cárceles, están impresionados. Pero para nosotros es perfectamente normal, son temas de conversación que se discuten todo el tiempo. Sólo que no nos dábamos cuenta de que personas como Mao y Lenin habían elaborado teorías científicas a base de nuestra experiencia. Una vez que nos dimos cuenta de esto, sabíamos que teníamos que elaborar claramente y esperar a que la semilla diera frutos. El Manual Compendio Político no es ninguna obra maestra, pero a nosotros- y espero a los que lo comprenden- nos servirá de sostén, al igual que un esqueleto que sostiene el cuerpo mientras éste funciona, ¿entiendes? No estamos promoviendo un producto con defectos.

WB: Bueno, Pueblo, gracias por tu tiempo. Estoy seguro de que el movimiento se beneficiará de la participación de revolucionarios como tú.

PP: Gracias, Bear. Oye, antes de irme quiero agradecer a varias personas cuya ayuda nos ha sido útil como un soplo de viento fresco. ¿Te importa que sea en español?

WB: Adelante.

PP: Quiero enviarle saludos y gracias por su apoyo a Dona Carmen, a nuestro hermano C. Maroma el amante de las turistas de Machu Piccu, Keila la heroína de los hermanos condenados, Ailene la Sabrosa, y Dense A.; sangre de mi sangre. Saludos especiales van para Gloria, madre de un general. Invitamos a que todos Uds.- estudiantes rebeldes, camaradas encarcelados que buscan un portavoz de sus intereses comunes, y todos los revolucionarios potenciales (como el camarada Nafi)- nos ayuden con el crecimiento del Partido y que se conviertan en Noble Young Lords. Por cierto, para nosotros la palabra “Lord” (“Señor”) es de género neutral, de modo que invitamos a que todas Uds.- Hermanas Lord- también nos ayuden en esta lucha.

Si Uds. desean ponerse en contacto con el portavoz del NYLP/LNNA Maldito Green Eyes, comuníquense con: NYLP/MIM, PO Box 40799, San Francisco, CA 94140. E-mail: NYLP@mim.org, atención- M.G.E.