Candidates deny need for draft

Hate republicans? US partisan divide not so serious after all

The I Hate Republicans Reader: Why the GOP Is Totally Wrong About Everything
Edited by Clint Willis
Thunder’s Mouth Press, 2003

Despite having the right title, the book is not about hating Republicans, not even slightly. Oh sure, the various articles lambaste Republican weeniesmisms of the last 25 years, but it is still a case where each Democratic writer “doth protest too much.”

Willis’s book seeks to win the non-existent minds of a public too oppressive and greedy for even the mild considerations of corporate power in this book. Some of the articles are medium to medium-heavy fire at Republican positions but many other articles are passionate little skirmishes generated to entertain a public too complacent to handle much more than an anagram or Quakerism. These skirmishes typical of Democratic Party activism bring to mind the quote “His mind is organized like a factory-outlet store—everything scattered around and nothing worth more than $49.95.” (p. 265)

As we have pointed out before, “hate” should be reserved for something to be destroyed. It was correct in US history to hate slavery and fight a war to make it unthinkable. It was not until after that war that white children grew up not seeing Blacks as slaves. Change came first and the corresponding attitudes later.

The cartoon writer for the book says to “hate the sin” and “love the sinner” in reference to Republicans. Others say to distinguish the leaders from the little old ladies in the suburbs. In fact, in the whole book, there is not a single article about how to destroy the Republican Party—only articles about how to win debate contests. That’s why it cannot be taken seriously as “hating” Republicans.

At the very minimum, truly hating Republicans, even within the bourgeois two-party logic of Amerika would mean supporting a third party to replace the Republicans. As of September, 2004, we can see for example that Democrats are busy keeping Ralph Nader off the ballot; hence, Democrats are in no way qualified to say they hate Republicans. They fully intend to share power with them rather than implementing a strategy to sweep them into the dustbin of history, and this divide not so serious after all.

Continued on page 4...

Candidates George W. Bush and John Kerry agreed in their debate September 30th on the most important single issue facing the president in the next four years. Kerry called it “nuclear proliferation” and Bush said it was “weapons of mass destruction in the hands of terrorists.” They are both talking about how nuclear weapons may end up in the “wrong Hands,” and Kerry even admitted that U.S. nuclear testing may itself aggravate the situation. Our idea of the “wrong hands” is opposite of theirs, but MIM welcomes these imperialists to the world of serious politics: nuclear proliferation is not a bad choice of subject.

It’s just that Kerry, Bush and like-minded imperialists can in no way solve this problem as MIM can. As Prohibition of alcohol proved and the failed “war on drugs” proves now, black markets are a part of capitalism. Where supply is tight, prices go up. Where there is a ban, the profit margin increases.

Nuclear proliferation is inevitable under capitalism thanks to the same logic of profit for weapons sales, liquor, pornography, cocaine and everything else. Thanks to capitalist motivation, scientists may even invent something new for sale as a weapon of mass destruction before someone becomes the proud new owner of a black market nuke.

Under socialism, we do have law enforcement to crack down on individual transactions just as under capitalism. Such law enforcement is bound to fail on occasion under any system. Not all criminals are caught.

The advantage of socialism is that should a black market transaction...
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 possible 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, capitalist 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 a 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.”


Average Monthly Combat Fatalities in Afghanistan

A sharp reader pointed out that the chart we published to go along with our story “No end in sight to Amerika’s ‘war on terror’” (MIM Notes 307, pp. 1, 5) failed to convey the magnitude of the difference between the number of civilians killed in the initial bombing raids on Afghanistan and the number of American troops killed in combat; it also failed to clearly show that far from declining, the number of combat casualties has risen in the last year. Here is a reformatted chart using the same data, which—because a well-painted picture should be worth 1,000 words—we publish without comment—except to ask readers to keep this chart in mind the next time they hear some hired talking ass on FOX News or CNN say that Amerika has reduced the body count. A few numbers to think about: 10,237 (2001), 3,379 (2002), 2,749 (2003), 3,617 (2004). A much larger body count is that of civilians of all nationalities, and that of the Afghan security forces who are not counted in the above table. (Source: http://pubpages.unh.edu/~mwherold.)

IMPERIALISM KILLS MILLIONS

http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/mil/imkills.html
‘Land of the free’ censors Korea

Media knows nothing about northern Korea

There is a bothersome trend in the US media to talk about northern Korea as if they really knew anything about it. We hear standardized propaganda stories about starvation in northern Korea along with admissions that the speaker did not see anything in northern Korea to back the story. Recently, Jonathan Watts writing for the “alternative” weekly Boston Phoenix (and the English Guardian before that) joined the chorus.

Watts is typical in that he admits he did not get to go where he wanted in northern Korea while at the same time knowing generally that the United States is still at war with Korea—the model for Iraq where an occupation goes on forever. The basic facts didn’t stop Watts from writing a story how Koreans are “paranoid” about American intentions—shortly after Bush called Iran, Iraq and northern Korea the “axis of evil.”

The independent, anti-imperialist journalism of John Pilger

www.johnpilger.com

review by MIM, September 2004

John Pilger appears to be an independent journalist based in Britain who contributes to many mainstream publications including the New York Times, The Guardian, The New Statesman(1), the Daily Mirror, and BBC broadcasts. We say he appears to be independent because many journalists and publications claim to be independent but in reality represent the interests of whoever is financing their work behind the scenes, frequently making them mouthpieces of one imperialist or another. Pilger’s work is, for the most part, anti-imperialist and so it is unlikely he’s being paid to do this; in fact it’s pretty remarkable that he gets published in such mainstream press.

One article on Pilger’s web site that MIM likes a lot is a piece he wrote for the New Statesman in August of 2004 entitled, “Bush v. Kerry: The Fake Debate.” In it he points out that more wars have been launched by so-called liberal Democratic American presidents. He notes “Although few liberal-minded voters seem to have illusions about John Kerry, their need to get rid of the ‘rogue’ Bush administration is all consuming.”

But Pilger points out “The multilateralism or ‘muscular Internationalism’ that Kerry offers in contrast to Bush’s unilateralism is seen as hopeful by the terminally naive; in truth, it becoms even greater dangers.” And he points out that as Bush alienates former allies it is possible he will more quickly lead to a destruction of the system that is crucial to America’s hegemony.(2) MIM calls this increasing inter-imperialist rivalry, something that revolutionaries can take advantage of to advance our struggle.

Pilger concludes this article: “The real debate is neither Bush nor Kerry, but the system they exemplify: it is the decline of true democracy and the rise of the American ‘national security state’ in Britain and other countries claiming to be democracies...”(2) We agree that the real debate should be about the system, not the lesser of two evils. But this statement also sums up where Pilger and MIM differ. Pilger sees a history of true democracy somewhere while MIM sees a history of class struggle that we are fighting to lead to true democracy and freedom only after capitalism has been overthrown. Elsewhere Pilger points to the dangers of “globalization” while MIM attacks imperialism as the system that has globalized the world economy.

The imperialist system is the real source of exploitation and oppression of the majority of the world’s people.

Pilger’s work (available on his web site) includes informative pieces on the war in Vietnam and America’s deceptions and destruction during that war. He has a section on East Timor describing the imperialist complicity in the Indonesian invasion and massacre of that country.

There are also useful sections on Iraq and Palestine. Pilger focuses on repression and terror perpetuated by the U.$., Britain, and Australia. During the 2000 Olympic games in Sydney Pilger took the opportunity to report on the oppression of indigenous people by the Australian government.

Shut down the control units!

United Front to abolish the SHU September report

Continuing our regular protests the first Saturday of every month, the United Front to Abolish the Security Housing Units (SHU) was out on the streets again September 4th. Protesters took to the streets to denounce these torture isolation cells that hold prisoners for years at a time. The SHU in California is just another name for a prison control unit, something that exists in prisons across the country as cruel, but not unusual, punishment particularly targeted at politically active prisoners.(1)

In Oakland the Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM) and Revolutionary Anti-Imperialist League (RAIL) were helped by the annual Art & Soul Festival, which brought larger crowds by our table than usual. We were armed with quarter-sheet fliers on the SHU for those who wouldn’t stop, and had a constant stream of people willing to sign the petition and discuss torture in prisons. In two hours we gathered over 50 petition signatures. As usual in the predominantly Black downtown Oakland, people were generally aware of what’s going on in US prisons and were quick to sign.

One 13 year old girl whose father is in prison stopped at our table to find out what we were doing. When she heard we were protesting torture in California prisons she quickly signed the petition and told her sister to sign as well. Later she brought by several friends to sign the petition and hear about the issue. It is not only those in prison who are affected; their wives, children and other family members on the streets also suffer. With the high lockdown rate of Black men, it is no surprise that we find tremendous sympathy to our SHU protest among Black women and youth like this one.

In San Francisco RAIL comrades protested the SHU from 12 PM to 2 PM downtown. Half-way through the protest, another United Front comrade, whose son is being held captive by the California Youth Authority, came by to help with the petitioning. Progress was slow at first and many passers-by seemed apathetic. Comrade Castillo about conditions in the SHU which shook a lot of people. People stopped (despite of the busy movement by the crowd) to read it. The fact sheet was also distributed. We had some excellent discussions with people.

This month we also learned of retaliation by the California prison guards in the aftermath of the court settlement of the Castillo case which challenged SHU conditions and classifications.(2) The settlement won some reforms for SHU prisoners. The guards in evidence and informs to classify prisoners as gang members, evidence that the prisoners cannot review or challenge. The Castillo settlement will give prisoners more access to challenge their classification, but still leaves much leeway for the California Department of Corrections (CDC) to give out indeterminate SHU sentences with fake evidence. Several prisoners have reported increased brutality by the guards, and attempts to manufacture and distribute “proving” gang membership to keep prisoners in the SHU longer.

The CDC recently attacked Jose Luis, who has been the focus of an on-going campaign by the Barrio Defense Committee (an organization in the United Front to abolish the SHU). The CDC is using informants to accuse Jose Luis of gang membership, setting him up to linger in the SHU indefinitely. Like many other SHU inmates, he suffers serious physical health problems from his long-term solitary confinement. It is cases like this one that make it clear why we can’t just reform the conditions in the SHU and the system used to put prisoners there.

Notes:

1. www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/agitation/prisons/controlofunits
2. www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/sfbyan/july22shu.html
Hate republicans? U$ partisan divide not so serious after all

is reason enough by itself to sweep the Democrats into the dustbin of history with the Republicans.

Questions that need answering in a true “I Hate Republicans Reader” would be: 1) How to overcome the money advantage of the Republican Party in its political campaigns without competing like Democrats do to be Republicans Lite. 2) What are the issues proven statistically to win away Republicans in the suburbs and rural areas to something new — or at the very least, to cause them to cease political activism.

To understand U.S. politics as it exists, one does have to read books like this one, where the passion is often in the personal details about Republican or Democratic lives — this one having stained Monica Lewinsky’s dress, that one having avoided serving in Vietnam through connections pertaining to the National Guard (not the way the National Guard is today). It’s a lot of petty stuff that sells newspapers and generates TV viewership — the kind that generates fanatics around the world. Give people some freedom of the press and what do they do with it? They create something that wonder, “Gawk at Geraldo, Monica Lewinsky and O.J. Simpson, 24/7.”

Those of us not just salivating for another round of insults about Gennifer Flowers or Bush’s lack of a brain deserved more in 414 pages. We deserved to be shown evidence of what works and does not work in campaigns toward progressive goals. Without that scientific political element on how to be effective all that accumulates is political frustration.

The closest that we got to something useful along these lines was from Greg Palast, who showed the readers not how to defeat Republicans, but how Republicans win — by voter profiling. Republicans literally won the Florida election in 2000 with computer programming to wipe disproportionately Black voters off the voting lists. We did not learn how the Democratic Party or anyone else is going to defeat such maneuvers in the future. To this day, what we hear is that Kerry has lawyers prepared to go to any state. Yet, given the political apathy that created the situation where Florida does not have sufficient people to staff its own polls, replacing that solution to solve the voter profiling problem is tied up with raising political consciousness generally. Places like Florida are ripe with people in love with Oliver North-style coups against democratic governance anyway.

In addition to wiping out Democratic voter suppression via computer, Republicans also stacked the Supreme Court with its partisans who found it unnecessary for Florida to conduct a correct election. Again, contributor Alan Dershowitz and others told us the problem — but not how to solve it. The fact that Amerika cannot run an election and that the Supreme Court does not care is itself very indicative — but disempowering.

Bridget Gibson writing on democraticunderground.com showed how the corporations known as the media are funding the Republican Party — Fox, AOL/Time Warner/CNN, GE/NBC and Disney/ABC. (p. 105) Moreover, Paul Begala tells us that Enron was the largest contributor to George W. Bush’s political career. (p. 165) Most of the writers do not tell us which corporate donors fund the Democrats and why. That is why a socialist perspective is necessary to get that big picture.

Ralph Nader’s and the Greens’ solution is that everyone can get an equal say in politics if we downsize corporations. That will level the playing field they think. In contrast, we at MIM believe it is part of capitalism to succeed through growth of large corporations and their influence/ bribery of government officials — the more influence, the more successful in business. Breaking up mega-corporations into smaller ones only starts the process anew. Hence, the real solution is to realize that global-sized organization is here to stay, but the only choice is whether it is profit-directed or socialist-directed. We do not seek to get involved in gathering campaign contributions from mega-corporate donors. That is their game. We need to seek power in a different political system entirely that does not play to the strengths of the fat-cat donors.

On the question of race, the book has three good exposures of Jesse Helms, Trent Lott and Bush by Ernest Fungurso, Nate Hardcastle and Paul Begala. On the other hand, these amount to fewer than 20 pages while the section on “incompetence” is over 50 pages.

The question of Republican incompetence is perhaps the easiest way to differentiate a communist view from a Democratic one. Incompetence only matters if the goals are good. If the goals are bad to begin with, there is no reason to complain about incompetence. Bush’s incompetence may in fact speed revolutionary victory. In contrast, the Democratic Party schtick boils down to trying to do a better job oppressing Iraqis, Saudis etc. or whatever else the bourgeoised soccer mom of the suburbs is thinking that day. The incompetence routine is also why the Democrats can go to the same corporations as the Republicans to hit them up for money. The question of “incompetence” within the current political system is corporate-speak.

On the question of civil liberties, we appreciate that this book did not back down in front of the Patriot Act furor; even though Kerry co-wrote the Patriot Act. Stanley I. Kutler and some other Progressives have even managed to get the facts onto monopoly capitalist TV — that Lincoln voted to censure the president over the Mexican war and president Theodore Roosevelt considered it treason not to criticize a president just because it was war time. (p. 328)

We would add that apparently some of the Liberal founders of the United States such as Jefferson regarded criticism of the government as so important that they would even consider MIM “patriots” for criticizing. One critic of MIM at Fort Bragg (home of the US Army’s Special Forces) also wistfully compared us with most of his colleagues who he says do not care about politics at all.

Hence, the question comes down to what is a patriot. Some have told us it is the apathetic who are unpatriotic while people such as MIM who care about politics and put our resources into standing up to power are in fact patriotic. Such a definition cuts to the core values of alleged “Americans.”(1) If it is “treason” not to criticize, and it is patriotic to engage in politics, because that is how America defined itself originally, then communists are “patriots” and Nixon’s “silent majority” is un-American.

MIM does not use the word “patriotism” the way some Liberal founders of America did. Patriotism has come to mean greedily putting one’s nation above others. Of course, we would say that Americans benefit from MIM-style internationalism, but we would also say slave-owners benefited from ending slavery. At a practical level, we know that slave-owners as a group resisted the end of slavery, in some cases to the death. Likewise American patriots in their millions are resisting changes needed for democracy. MIM adherents for being involved in politics and civic duties has the downside risk of evading nasty and ugly conflicts.

In the end, MIM shares the political Liberal, libertarian and anarchist goal of self-directed citizens consciously guiding their own futures through conscious political participation that may become apolitical in some distant day of the perfectly harmonious communist future. We believe the process of getting there is more like Lincoln’s Civil War than the preoccupation of the prosperous with Monica Lewinsky’s stained dress.

Karl Marx taught us to look at the groups called classes to understand how our mutual goal may realize itself in the future. Marx also showed us how internationalism is key to the realization of the goal of self-directed individuals living without coercion. Patriotism is useful only to special interests seeking weapons contracts, Iraq contracts or oil resources for a select few. Those American Liberal patriots still seeking the loveliest goals of Jefferson, Lincoln and Roosevelt minus the genocide and slavery should realize that their goals require an internationalist outlook.

We do not see any real “hate” in the “I Hate Republicans Reader” and that’s a shame. Corporate politics is an obscenity. The corporations and their government lackeys have every bit as much “totalitarian” surveillance and repressive power as the Big Brother socialists they condemn, but the goals of the corporate totalitarianists are greed and more greed — not universal peace, health care, housing, and education.

Notes:
1. See www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/wm/contouramericans.html.
Coercion was an essential part of the family unit prior to the economic prosperity and independence of wommin seen in imperialist countries today.

The United States is averaging 2.13 births per woman, enough to break even in population. The crypto-racists like Patrick Buchanan are concerned that within that white wommin have given up on Christian family like the Europeans. Apparently, having a Pope in the backyard is not good enough, so self-professed “counterrevolutionary” Patrick Buchanan has given praise to fascist Franco, the general in Spain who took power with help from Musolini and Hitler.(4) Yet, even there, the land of Franco has reached a point where more than half of the families will stand only more exposed. The MIM’s theory that leaves open the possibility that sex may disappear as non-sexual coercion of wommin disappears. It certainly seems that if desire is only the eroticization of power, when power disappears, desire may also. Already Japanese report having sex less than one third as much as Americans—36 times a year to 124 for Americans.(6)

The Japanese statistics raise the question whether Japanese men will be able to change a few cultural habits and then woo Japanese wommin again or whether there is a more profound trend, even more radical than that by Japanese and international standards. Right now it looks like the truth may very well be that Japanese wommin submitted for centuries as a favor to men and as a factor in peace at home. Now that wommin are OK economically in Japan without boyfriends or husbands, the romance culture goes out the window—no not in every case but on average. So now, Japanese wommin have lost interest in Japanese love, but money. It just so happens that in many cases, Japan is better to live with one’s parents apart from their parents, most perceive the eroticization of power, when power disappears, desire may also. The Japanese case definitely reinforces MIM’s theory that leaves open the possibility that sex may disappear as non-sexual coercion of wommin disappears.

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White nationalism on the horizon

The facts of population growth are pointing to serious cranky white nationalist outbreaks in the coming years. The strategy of Patrick Buchanan is out in the open in his book The Death of the West: “Only a social counterrevolution or a revolutionary war can turn the West around before a falling birthrate closes off the last exit ramp and rings down the curtain on Western Man’s long-running play. But not a sign of either can be seen on the horizon.”(1) In order to save “Western civilization” from population suicide, Buchanan has become the official theorist of the Amerikanika trailer trash. “Go Bubba, go! Get your honey to squeeze out another rug-rat!” Talk about the barbarians from within!

He has seen correctly that the demographic trend toward aging disproportionately affects the “imperialist” countries and that means the “white race.” Repeatedly he says that he has to admit that the Western culture he cherishes may be doomed.(1)

Buchanan does not give any reason for why he wants to preserve the white race or why Third World immigants from the Third World will not assimilate into Western culture. They move in and simply reproduce without changing or improving, he says. Of course he points to the 911 hijackers as an example of immigration, even though the white nation states have arrived by immigration too.(5)

Buchanan calls on the whites to go back to the Christian family to reproduce and do without all the disruption caused by immigration.(6) With their social services being higher than in the United States, the Europeans according to Buchanan are in deeper trouble than the Amerikans, and Buchanan claims to want to withdraw from Europe and empire generally. But he sees the writing on the wall and wants to give fascism a chance to rise again in Europe. In any case, Buchanan says Europe would have to allow in 1.4 billion Third World emigrants in order to maintain the present level of social-services in Europe in 2050.(7) For this reason, he says Europe is headed to being a “Third World continent.”

To all the short-sighted labor bureaucrats and labor aristocrats attacking NAFTA and GATT agreements because they allow third world workers to “steal our jobs,” MIM points out that Pat Buchanan and the KKK agree with you.

It is very clear that Buchanan intends to boost up the radicals in both the United States and social democrats to stop the stealing of “our jobs.” “As the Battle of Seattle showed, the passion and fire, be it laborite, Naderite or Far Right, were outside the hall in the street.”(8) As far as MIM is concerned, we’ve been down that road before of idiotic racist social-democrats paving the way to fascist victory. What Buchanan is talking about underscores the urgency of taking up the MIM line and only the MIM line in the imperialist countries. The rare internationalist social democrats who want reforms to open the borders, reduce tariffs on the Third World and internationalize any agricultural subsidies are our friends. The majority of social democrats are the conscious and unconscious instigators of fascism. They demand high levels of social services while undercutting the means for paying for them.

With luck, Buchanan is thinking that there won’t be enough workers to pay for social security, so the welfare state will come tumbling down. With bad luck from Buchanan’s point of view, taxes will go up very high to cover the welfare state, but at least the taxes will provide a deterrent to immigration these white nationalists think. Working for the Republican Party most of his life with a mantra of cutting taxes and big government, Buchanan has offered a glimpse of unity with the taxers if he can save Christianity and the racial composition of the imperialist countries. Perhaps there can be a major threat to pensions and a rise in taxes without a welfare state now than to face the economic and internationalizing the European social-democratic nationalism is the worst enemy. The racist social-democrat demands services while also opposing immigration, thereby creating the worst sort of economic crisis that plays right into fascist hands when the public becomes frustrated for social and economic reasons it does not understand.

As MIM has said in Imperialism and Its Class Structure in 1997 if there is one concession that makes sense to make to the labor aristocracy, it is their pensions in return for political quietude. The MIM line championing the Third World proletariat and opening the borders of imperialist countries—if carried out quickly enough—can provide a sufficient basis to pay a pension to retiring imperialist country workers. One has to let in immigrants now if they are to have security will be very much in doubt. It will be far better to handle some insecurities about jobs now than to face a crisis of social security and stupid white nationalists complaining about that and a sudden influx of immigrants later. The whites need to prepare themselves now for the MIM line on the Third World and stop borrowing money from the world to attack Third World countries, which are going to be providing the economic well-being of elderly whites if anyone does.

Instead of bowing to economic necessity, Buchanan makes it clear that he seeks to impose minority rule: “Western civilization and culture are superior. One-person, one-vote democracy is not an inivolate principle. . . . On a global basis it will not do. With 4 percent of the world’s people and 30 percent of its economic wealth and military power, Americans should be the last people on earth to be babbling nonsense about the equality of nations.”(9)

If the species survives weapons of mass destruction and environmental destruction by 2050 and socialism does not as Buchanan would have it, there will be a competition in reformed internationalism instead of nationalism. More advanced countries will realize that it makes sense to get along with large numbers of people including peoples who are having many children. The narrow-minded will fall by the economic wayside.

Notes:
2. Ibid., e.g., p. 84.
3. Ibid., p. 37.
4. Ibid., e.g., p. 70.
5. Ibid., p. 235.
6. See for example Buchanan’s call for religious war to stop gay marriage: http://www.theamericancaucus.org/patyesvirginia.htm
7. Ibid., p. 22.
8. Ibid., p. 240.
9. Ibid., p. 246.
So why not get involved in the ‘culture wars’?

According to Nixon and Reagan servant Patrick Buchanan, lifestyle politics and culture warfare have succeeded where Lenin failed in his direct assault on capitalist state power and organization. At the same time, Buchanan makes the case that demographic and cultural changes will end up being truly revolutionary.

So our readers may wonder: why not get on the sex-drugs-and-rock’n’roll bandwagon? If Buchanan is afraid of the lifestyle revolution, then it cannot be all bad.

However, MIM starts from the premise that lifestyle is not politics. What Buchanan is talking about happens because of underlying economic and demographic factors. Preaching about them does not work.

The advance of technology is responsible for some changes. It is futile to preach against contraception such as the pill or the “morning-after pill.” In such matters the language of “choices” is bound to triumph.

It is also backward to lust for the days when a mother could be sure more than half her children would die before growing up just from the normal course of infectious disease and hunger. Trying to undo these changes will only produce insane social movements akin to Hitler’s—doomed no matter how determined.

When winnin started going to college en masse that created a basis for temporary sexual relations before career and family settled in. To oppose college because of that is also backward and hopeless. People want to be more educated. While other people are having fun in society, it is also impossible to see any value in discriminating against gays.

MIM would not favor any censorship of the arts or media including pornography that Buchanan could come up with under capitalism. It would inevitably aim at the proletariat and oppressed nationalities while campaign contributors would obtain monopolies in pornography production, just as now the “oldest profession” is tied up with bribery of municipal governments everywhere.

Nonetheless, we oppose pornography under socialism and for party members we expect monogamy. We’re also for banning reactionary artistic works, not just as bad influences on children but for all of society. The key is that this must be done without any eye toward profit or business competition whatsoever and of course that means socialism.

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For MIM campaign against pornography or the愚蠢 movement is not a story of culture and passing it on through the generations. It is about economic and social organization first of all. If the mode of production is advanced, the culture built on top of it will be too. In fact, Buchanan’s ideas are throwbacks to more economically and technologically backward days—not days when cloning and test-tube babies are already on the horizon. For that matter if Buchanan is so sure that Western culture is so superior, it will find a way to transmit itself to other peoples.

In the struggle toward socialism or to adjust to future changes, the labor aristocracy of the West has a choice. It can continue with its Pavlov-dog type response backing nationalist politicians like Buchanan because of past economic rewards for backing wars for plunder or super-exploitation of immigrants or the labor aristocracy can realize that the bad ole’ days for winnin are gone. There is no reason winnin should be baby feet. There is no shortage in rich countries and there is no shortage of population in projections up to 2050. What is important is not to produce more people but for the existing people to enter into harmonious relations.

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

Continued from page 1...

succeed, there is no place to spend the money. Large cash transactions are criminal under socialism. It is the fact that capitalism makes so many luxury goods and properties available for cash that makes the black market attractive. It is especially funny to see people like Donald Rumsfeld complain about northern Korea selling nuclear commodities while he is heading up agencies pumping out millions of dollars of capitalist propaganda to northern Korea and elsewhere.

To those who say the economy would collapse without the same motivations of luxury goods and property available to the rich, we would ask them who they are kidding. They should see what will happen to the economy when a few nukes go off in a few cities. If we all had to live under economic conditions similar to Stalin’s Soviet Union, before we mastered improving living standards under socialism, it would still be better than the current capitalist alternative which guarantees nuclear and other disasters, as even one of the world’s top investors named Warren Buffet has already admitted.(2)

Notes:
1. The New Statesman claims to be socialist at best is just a liberal mouthpiece for the left wing of the Labour party and some liberal revisionists using the term “socialism.”

Pilger

Continued from page 3...

government, describing the apartheid-like conditions and repressive legislation.

On September 16th Pilger published an article in the New Statesman entitled “The most important terrorism is ‘ours.’” In it he condemns American and British terrorism in Iraq, Israeli terrorism in Palestine, and Russian terrorism in Chechyna. Reporting like this makes a valuable contribution to anti-imperialist struggles around the world. MIM takes things further, not only exposing imperialist terrorism, but also supporting national liberation struggles around the world, and stating clearly the need to overthrow the corrupt and rotting system of imperialism in the struggle towards communist society.

Notes:
1. The New Statesman claims to be socialist at best is just a liberal mouthpiece for the left wing of the Labour party and some liberal revisionists using the term “socialism.”

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.

Spreading what?

From a protestor at the Republican National Convention 2004. Anyone who thinks the United States can spread freedom needs to think again.
We can only say that Kim Il Sung’s line is too close to Brezhnev’s for us to think that he avoided the fate of countries with that line implemented.

Candidates deny need for draft

Continued from page 1...

the weapons inspections in Iraq had helped Bush attack Iraq later. These weapons inspectors were supposed to be doing their job and instead Americans used them to prepare an invasion better. People like Watts should be talking about how America’s treatment of Saddam Hussein is likely to make future cooperation with proleleen internationalist weapons inspections more difficult generally. Instead, Watts and others play a lazy and self-indulgent blame-the-victim game.

No media freedom

As Arnold Schwarzenegger proved in his speech to the Republican National Convention, it is possible to tell Americans anything in about Soviet tank tackle (3) and they will believe it. He even proved that it was possible to whitewash Austrian Nazis such as his father with his plausible about “Soviet tanks” which drove his father’s party from power.

Schwarzenegger also rehabilitated Richard Nixon, who Schwarzenegger excised as the first to steer him to the Republican Party. Jumping on the bandwagon, Rush Limbaugh and Sean Hannity on the radio gave Schwarzenegger their “conservative” blessings and said his speech was not at all “moderate” – modern or tender. By the time Schwarzenegger lived in the British occupation zone, at a time when it was hard to travel out of zones, but we do not doubt that his father told him the British were Soviet agents or some such similar Nazi story—exactly proving why the German and Austrian people needed to be occupied in the first place. Hitler’s feelings that non-Nazi Austria was in the hands of Jews and “socialists” may explain why Schwarzenegger calls Austria “socialist” even when no politicians calling themselves “socialist” are in power—including when the “Terminator” left Austria. If it is possible to say such things about Austria, it goes without saying that writers such as Cecil Adams writing in February 2004 are going to use northern Korea as a reference point for discussion of the prison state. Without any facts or references to facts, it is possible to assert in the United States as Cecil Adams does that northern Korea is maybe the worst prison-state in the world. Likewise, when northern Korean Kang Chol-hwan escaped to the “West,” he threw out some made-for-TV and newspaper lines of the type that Americans eat up by reflex, Schwarzenegger-style. “If you don’t want to believe us, go to the North (northern Korea—ed.)” (3) If only it were that easy.

Kang Chol-hwan said this despite the fact that it was illegal by American and southern Korean laws for Americans and southern Koreans to go to northern Korea. Southern Koreans had been invited repeatedly to visit the “North,” only to face the threat of prison and torture in the “South.” So, for a propagandist to tell people “to go to the North” and “see for yourself” is just plain stupid. Maybe such a line “go see for yourselves” was appropriate in one context somewhere in the Cold War, but repeating the slogan with assurance that it will conjure magic effects in other circumstances is reminiscent of the Pavlov dog. The Cold War weapons contractors receiving Pentagon largesse no doubt have the same Pavlovian response as Kang Chol-hwan and his intended American audience. They hope the incantation leads to massive profits on weapons systems somehow.

The media and people have no reason to trust Kang Chol-hwan given the Americans’ and southern Koreans’ sorry record criminalizing travel to northern Korea. It was not until September 1999, (4) that the United States allowed its own people to take up trade, business and travel with northern Korea. Even commercial air flights to Korea were illegal. Then, bone-heads like Kang Chol-hwan who departed from northern Korea to southern Korea in 1992 wonder why no one believes the American story about Korea.

The simple fact is that it was against the law for the citizens of the “land of the free” to go to northern Korea and many a southern Korean youth suffered torture or death for talking about the idea of visiting northern Korea. The difference between genuine Soviet dictatorships and the West is that Soviet dictatorships did not ban travel and then brag about having “freedom.” Kang Chol-hwan had 238 pages of space to point out somewhere that the southern Koreans and Americans could not travel to northern Korea to “see for yourself”—thanks to American and southern Korean regimes. Nowhere did he actually inform his reader of that basic fact.

In fact, when Kang Chol-hwan landed in southern Korea, the longest serving political prisoner in the world was still in prison in southern Korea—there since the Korean War. His crime for which he was still being held was refusing to renounce communism. That is all. Renounce it verbally and the prisoner Kim Sun-Myung would have gone free. Instead he served 45 years before his release and was lucky that his mother still survived to see him.

When Kim Il Sung died in 1994, the US puppet regime arrested dozens of southern Korean students for wanting to visit northern Korea. The New York Times of July 15 1994 reported that prior to the arrests, there were still four people languishing in prison for visiting northern Korea before. Again, this was going on well after Kang Chol-hwan made his statement about just going to visit northern Korea.

This is not to mention so-called cases of “espionage,” when the only evidence was that a Korean visited northern Korea. Amnesty International took up that cause as well and opposed the torture by the US puppet regime. An example would be the case of Kim Chang-ho years after Kang Chol-hwan’s deflection and flippant remarks about visiting northern Korea.

Continued on next page...
‘Land of the free’ censors Korea

In 1995, Yu Chong-sik received an extra three years tacked on to his 20 year sentence served. The reason was praise of northern Korea according to Amnesty International. Kim Song-man received a death sentence commuted three years later for passing leaflets out to northern Koreans in Europe. His total sentence was 13 years served in the U.S.-puppet regime’s prisons.

According to Amnesty International, the US puppet regime may have fabricated a 1982 visit to northern Korea to imprison Lee Jang-hyong for 14 years till 1998. His case was otherwise completely murky with no evidence available.

Even today, after the lifting of many restrictions, the Treasury Department requires that U.S. citizens obtain permission before spending dollars in northern Korea.(5) As for Kang Chol-hwan, he went through a southern Korean control process. Even in 2003, higher-ranking defectors than Kang Chol-hwan face travel restrictions—by the southern Korean Yankee puppet regime. An October, 2003 report by anti-communists at the freekorea.net said that Hwang Jang-yop had defected from northern Korea six years previously and still did not have the freedom to travel—even to or within the United States. (6) A German attempting to visit Hwang Jang-yop was denied—in the United States by the United States, not to mention other Koreans trying to visit Hwang Jang-yop.

The anti-communists trying to “free” northern Korea to enjoy such “freedoms” admitted that the restrictions on Hwang Jang-yop were political—on account of his strategy of drawing attention to northern Korea’s alleged “plight.”

The black market

MIM cannot say it knows much about northern Korea. We know its political line, because we read it and we know the US role in occupying Korea.

With regard to the political line of northern Korea, it is too similar to Brezhnev’s for us at MIM not to notice. Thus we suspect that northern Korea is not unique in the world and has gone the same corrupt way as the revisionist bloc led by Brezhnev against Mao. Specifically, the Kims leading Korea never endorsed Mao’s theory of continuous revolution or the thesis on the bourgeoisie in the party in particular.

In fact, we would cite Kang Chol-hwan as proof that the battle between socialism and capitalism is not over. Famine occurred at the same time as a huge increase in the black market, according to Kang Chol-hwan himself. The question then arises: did the black market and corresponding bourgeoisie in the party cause the famine or did the famine cause the black market? That’s all presupposing there was a famine. Kang Chol-hwan says he does not know for sure how extensive hunger problems were and talks of figures ranging from one to three million people involved.

The bourgeois critics want us to believe that socialism failed and produced a black market which is alleviating conditions instead of making them worse. In Kang Chol-hwan’s book Aquariums of Pyongyang,(7) there is actually no evidence to this effect. What we see instead is corruption of party officials followed by economic hardship.

Kang Chol-hwan even admits that in the 1960s he was doing rather well materially and had reason to believe that the southern Korean regime was improving. In the 1960s, Kang Chol-hwan “had a refrigerator, washing machine, vacuum cleaner, and even the most sought after of all luxury goods: a color television set.”(7) These facts lead us to wonder what would have happened had Kim II Sung launched a struggle against the bourgeoisie in the party as Mao did.

It’s hard to know how much is true from reading Kang Chol-hwan, because this supposedly heroic defector admits that he made up stories about people in order to get them punished in northern Korea. If we decide to take him seriously at all about economics, then he points out that by the time police arrested his family, the police were taking 90% of the arrested family’s wealth for themselves.(8) That would surely be the sign of capitalism, not socialism.

Even more directly, Kang Chol-hwan admits that he had sudden black market success at his prison camp and then the food situation seriously deteriorated for people. He does not say so, but MIM reads between-the-lines that the black market bourgeoisie like Kang Chol-hwan had succeeded in corrupting the system to such an extent that the people suffered. Kang Chol-hwan’s grandmother came to see the regime as similar to Hitler’s (9) but if so, it would be the class struggle by people like Kang Chol-hwan which made it so. His motto became “man’s limitless capacity for vice.”(10)

As of 1987, Kang Chol-hwan said he found no evidence of starvation.(11) Instead, his family became ever bigger grafters. He admits he sabotaged the system of northern Korea by passing leaflets out to northern Koreans using the word “sabotage.”(12) In echoes of China’s Great Leap, when the worst starvation happened after the move to private responsibility systems in farming had already been completed, Kang Chol-hwan tells us that after he became a great elder, people started to abandon collective farms and put their efforts into private plots,(13) famine came calling. If he and the peasants are indicative, then famine came about because of capitalism, not the earlier successes of the class struggle.

“... This wild trend toward privatization—or appropriation, if you prefer—explains why peasants are now having an easier time procuring food than workers who live in small towns, where famine has struck hardest.”(14) That sounds very typical of capitalist logic to us—not from the supposed “socialist” system, but when the country was facing malnutrition, Kang Chol-hwan objected to the state’s practice of discarding use of land for cemeteries,(15) a problem also found in China.

In any case, Kang Chol-hwan is only one person. MIM would never make a general statement about conditions in Korea based on him. We can only say that Kim II Sung’s line is too close to Brezhnev’s for us to think that he avoided the fate of countries with that line implemented. If Kang Chol-hwan is right that: “It’s clear: North Korea is a total sham. Officially, it outlawed private business, but in the shadows it lets it thrive.”(16) then MIM is right about the facts in northern Korea as well. It’s exactly what a Maoist would expect from a situation where the alleged communist party does not lead a struggle against the bourgeoisie in the party.

Notes:
2. This is a basic fact of history. http://www.cnn.com/2004/ALLPOLITICS/09/03/schwarzenegger.ap/index.html
8. Ibid., p. 29.
9. Ibid., p. 101. There would be some backing for this idea in northern Korea’s favoring eugenics and Kim II Sung’s destruction of Stalin’s theory of nation.
10. Ibid., p. 160.
13. Ibid., p. 175.
15. Ibid., p. 102.
16. Ibid., p. 196.

Did you know?
There are more than 200 back issues of MIM Notes available on the MIM website? Not only can you browse more than 15 years of the newspaper, you can also keep up with the very latest on MIM agitation campaigns, prisoner news, all the latest on the US war, and much more. MIM’s website is an indispensable tool for the revolutionary movement. Get involved!
Oregon can’t address mentally ill

News from Prisons & Prisoners

I was recently placed in segregation for an alleged assault. I can’t really say much, but it was some stupid shit, the result of the imperialists failing to provide health care to the people with mental problems. Instead of giving them the help they need, in a proper setting, they instead send them into the prison system to punish them for their condition. Under their own “laws” these practices should be seen as “cruel and unusual” punishment because the integration of should-be mental patients with average prisoners such as myself is not only a conflict of interest in terms of so-called rehabilitation, but also creates a dangerous environment.

For example, how can the paranoid delusions of a known schizophrenic inmate be considered reliable information to place another prisoner in segregation?

But as always, the imperialists will get what they pay for. They probably believe that by the use of segregation of mental patients in the general population, they can maintain control by methods of divide and conquer. But as we’ve seen in the past, every time they try to stop the problem they only create a disease. People outside this state would probably be surprised to see the extreme absurdity they call the Oregon DOC. For a state that until recently only had one area code, they got so many minority kids in this state to fill up with mostly minorities, so they started locking up their own people. Now the prison population up here is over sixty to seventy percent white. They got the mandatory minimum law up here that gives mandatory seventy-month sentences to first time offenders for shit like fist fights and targets kids as young as 15. There’s not even minority kids in this state to fill up with mostly minorities, so they started locking up their own people. Now the prison population up here is over sixty to seventy percent white.

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relief. From this day on, I assure you that these guys who have decorated themselves in blue uniforms must stay away from me. I will go straight above these Rumsfieldians because they are the ones who are giving out orders. They know every day about so I will go over their heads. I won’t write to them anymore. They never remedy any situation when it comes to prisoners.

I request a serious investigation into this serious matter. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

A New York Prisoner, June 2004

Lawsuit challenging Cal SHU moves on

I have an important update, as we recently reported in MIM Notes about the difficulties we were having in attempting to bring challenge to the conditions as they exist at this particular kamp, and specifically here in the SHU.

The Eastern District had been blocking our efforts by making the process very strict, however after filing a third amended complaint in January of 2004. Just last week, August 8, 2004, Judge Snyder finally allowed us to proceed on all the grounds raised, so we want to thank all who are called in and sent letters and faxes to the Judge urging her to allow us to proceed. We passed but only one small hurdle. We’ll continue to need your support if we’re gonna be successful in our efforts. Letters of encouragement, legal support if we’re gonna be successful in our efforts. Letters of encouragement, legal support if we’re gonna be successful in our efforts.

Take off the Chains

As the blood drips from the side of my mouth. With a handful of my hair, he pulls as his coworkers edge him on. Shut the fuck up is all I hear, as the flurries of punches and kicks become one with my face. This is rehabilitation in the land of the free, and they say they don’t torture convicts like me.

But what the fuck is chaining us to a wall and then pretending they’re Rocky or confusing us to the darkness of a cage under lock and key? Take off the chains.

Do they live in a fantasy, to say they don’t torture people like me, then why do the beatings still happen after the chains are locked on me? And yes the visions and thoughts will last forever within me.

My screams and krys are unheard to the world, But if heard... My screams and krys would break down these walls.

And I am only one, could you imagine us all, standing strong as one mass on top of these walls?

One body and one mind is how we must fight, cause just think about the brother or sister that will get a beating tonight. Take off the chains... It is time to unite, cause now our screams must be heard. And this is why I write. For I “the Fallen Angel” speak nothing but the “T.R.U.T.H.”

We must break away the chains to make a change for our youth...

Washington IMU repression

I have been locked up for 28 straight years; the past few on “state tour” being shipped back and forth between Intensive Management Unit (IMU) facilities.

There are four levels in IMU. Level 1 is a sanction and for those who receive infractions while in IMU. Everyone starts at Level 2 (no radio or TV, nor allowed a newspaper or magazine subscription). Level 3 allows one magazine or newspaper subscription; level 4 allows two magazines or newspaper subscriptions. Also, the person on Level 3 is allowed a radio; on Level 4 given the choice between radio or TV.

I am the sort of person they kept and continue to keep on Level 2. Various excuses at different times are given (I have not had an infraction for some time!) The present excuse is because I do not attend monthly review hearing (in writing I am given the choice to attend or not.) I do not attend because of being too busy with writing in reports I said things I never said.

Prison officials may restrict reading material in punitive segregation, although most cases upholding this practice have involved short periods of time.

Gregory v. Auger, 768 F.2d 287, 289-91 (8th Cir. 1985) - inmates in disciplinary detention could be deprived of all but first class mail of a “personal, legal or religious” nature where detention was limited to 60 days; cert. denied, 474 U.S. 1035 (1985); Daigre v. Maggio, 719 F.2d 1310, 1312-13 (5th Cir. 1983) - ban on newspapers and magazines in segregation held as applied to an inmate who served 10 days; Pendleton v. Housewright, 651 F. Supp. 1354, 1366-68 (S.D. Tex. 1983) - deprivation of publications except for legal and religious material and solitary confinement upheld as applied to an inmate who served 10 days);

However, the above refers to punitive or disciplinary segregation. They have me on administrative segregation. I request a serious investigation into this serious matter.

Walls of Mass Destruction

Take a look and see why these walls were made,

To reach in our minds and start to invade To strip our minds of hope and dreams With loneliness which this place brings Sometimes you wonder who you can run to when you’re full of anger, But a rec yard full of strouts Strangers who could care weather you’re here or there, Who don’t speak much, but just stare Now once you’ve realized that who, what’s, whens and why’s,

You’ll start to see through your eyes That these are walls of destruction, Which need reconstruction Only now you can reconstruct the walls with your mind By putting the mistakes behind Educating, and setting goals, so that you may achieve A better world that will set you free So know that for every problem has a solution And the solution is: Revolution.

-- A California prisoner, July 2004

Facts on U$ imprisonment

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

That means 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 of that of the United States.

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

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

2. Ibid., 1992 report
4. Figure of 51.2 percent for state prisoners there for non-violent offenses. Abstract of the United States 1993, p. 211.

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 and activate the campaign 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 harm to 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 information to our 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?
Bush reitera lo mismo: Es posible un aumento de tropas en Irak

Escrito por mim3@mim.org y mousounya

Traducido por Célidas de Estrada para la Liberación de Azaín y América Latina

El 24 de mayo, Bush salió en la tele con fin de preparar al público para las semanas y los meses que tocan en Irak. “Nuestros comandantes han estimado que menos de 115,000 tropas resultarían suficientes en este momento del conflicto”, dijo Bush. “Dado el reciente crecimiento de la violencia, mantendremos el actual nivel de tropas-138,000- por el tiempo que sea necesario”.

“Si los comandantes necesitan más tropas”, dijo Bush, “las mandaré”. (1) El mismo día el senador demócrata Joe Lieberman se puso del lado del presidente diciendo en el CNN que la guerra en Irak era “una prueba generacional”. En vez de señalar que el gobierno y, hasta cierto punto, el imperialismo estadounidense, Lieberman declaró que habría más ataques en el suelo estoniano si las tropas no se quedan en Irak.

Mientras tanto, los senadores Hillary Clinton (D-NY) y Lindsey Graham (R-SC) hicieron un llamado abogando por unas “fuerzas militares más amplias”. Hillary Clinton expresó dudas en cuanto al financiamiento de las mismas pero dijo que no había otra opción. (2) Es posible que Graham vea la guerra como una oportunidad de trabajo para los blancos jóvenes rurales de su estado, ya que Carolina del Sur ha perdido muchos puestos de trabajo, pero se niega a implementar cambios.

Los más ecosistemas alrededor del tema de torturas de los prisioneros en Irak y Afganistán significan que otros imperialistas como la ONU están en una mejor posición para negociar. En este momento los gobernantes estadounidenses están tratando de aparentar flexibles ante el público. Nosotros pensamos que esta apariencia se dirige más que nada hacia la opinión pública estadounidense, y no tanto hacia otros líderes estatales.

La diplomática de Hillary Clinton, Madeleine Albright, dijo que apreciaba el reconocimiento del valor de la ONU por parte de Bush el 24 de mayo. El hecho de que Bush esté dispuesto a fomentar las ilusiones de la población electoral demócrata indica que existe una unidad hipocrita.

El MIM anticipa la introducción de un servicio militar obligatorio después de las elecciones a menos que los iraquíes u otros luchadores del Medio Oriente obtengan una enorme victoria militar o a menos que haya una desesperada lucha radical en contra del servicio militar obligatorio durante los meses que vienen. Por el momento parece que la posibilidad de sacar a EE. UU. de Irak es mejor que nunca. 1) Bush está “recibiendo palizas” a nivel internacional, pero, por otro lado, en EE.UU. 2) Bush y Blair aparecieron ante la ONU buscando una bendición para la ocupación. Hay que enfatizar que si bien es cierto que EE. UU. están recibiendo palizas militares y latigazos verbales por parte de la opinión pública internacional, y que pronto Bush se enfrentará a las elecciones, es posible que dicha búsquedas del apoyo de la ONU tenga como su meta una consolidación de la opinión pública estadounidense con respecto al tema del servicio militar obligatorio. A los imperialistas les gusta decir que ellos “hicieron un intento” con la ONU y fallaron, de modo que necesitan implementar un servicio militar obligatorio. (Desde nuestro punto de vista, no importa si el Senador Sam desde arruinar el país mediante gastos de déficit para expandir las fuerzas militares o implementar el servicio militar obligatorio. De cualquier manera el imperialismo estadounidense está condenado a ser parte del basurero de la historia. Cuan mucho luchan los iraquíes y los afganos, menos eficaces serán los mercenarios que llevan a cabo reclutamientos.)

Los imperialistas jugarán las cartas de la mano. Otra carta podría ser la Liga Árabe, una asociación de lacayos gubernamentales árabes. El 23 de mayo, los lacayos árabes sugirieron la idea de mandar tropas a Irak como parte de la fuerza internacional respaldada por la ONU. (3) Un milagro diplomático llevaría tropas árabes a Irak, y Bush podría lanzar un grito de victoria para las elecciones de noviembre.

Nosotros pensamos que es muy probable que todos estos esquemas se implementen con el fin de demostrar el “público estadounidense” que Bush “hizo el intento”, y de darles a los senadores Clinton y Lieberman las excusas que necesitan para respaldar desfiles más agresivos. Es posible que Inglaterra sea uno de los pocos países que se niegan a contribuir muchas tropas a los imperialistas estadounidenses. Un 66% del público electoral inglés se opone a que se manden ni siquiera 3000 tropas más a Irak. (4) Los imperialistas estadounidenses carecen de personal militar hasta tal grado que no son capaces de continuar sus operaciones ofensivas contra Irak, Siria o Corea del Norte. Cuatro hechos sobre los movimientos de tropas enemigas y la “estructura de sus fuerzas” demuestran porqué la capacidad militar de los imperialistas ha llegado al extremo, dada la ausencia de un reclutamiento militar obligatorio.

En primer lugar, las tres divisiones (alrededor de 50,000 soldados) recientemente retirados de Irak están clasificadas como “no preparados para luchar”. (5) Hasta que no se reemplace o se rearme su armamento, en lo cual se tardarán unos cuantos meses, estas tropas no estarán disponibles para su uso en el extranjero. Estas divisiones han sido reemplazadas por reservistas y guardias nacionales. Con menos entrenamiento y un armamento inferior estos soldados serán menos eficaces.

En segundo lugar, el enemigo ha tomado la decisión de retirar sus tropas del Corea del Sur para mandarlas a Irak, y no es que los soldados del frente coreano obtengan una “auténtica” experiencia de combate. (6) La desesperación del enemigo es suficiente para que éste arriesgue un frente (Corea) por otro (Irak).

En tercer lugar, EE. UU. han empezado a buscar miembros de la Reserva Individual, en otras palabras, soldados que durante los últimos ocho años han estado en servicio activo o pasivo. Están sujetos a la posibilidad de una movilización a base de aviso, aunque no están pasando por un entrenamiento junto con la guardia activa o unidades de la reserva pasiva. (7) Si bien los funcionarios frecuentemente se han negado a dar de baja a personal militar en servicio activo de acuerdo con el programa “paremos las pérdidas”, una carta dirigida a la Reserva Individual sugiere que el paso que el gobierno puede dar para incrementar el número de tropas, si se evita la introducción del servicio militar obligatorio.

En cuarto lugar, EE. UU. también están planeando mandar a Irak sus unidades de entrenamiento de la fuerza de oposiciones (“OpFor”). (8) OpFor son los mejores soldados de las fuerzas militares. Su trabajo consiste en entrenar nuevas unidades de acuerdo con los estándares más altos. La presencia de estas unidades en Irak significa que los reclutas recién entrenados no tendrán ni idea sobre cómo pelear, de modo que logros a largo plazo (algunos de los mejores soldados de las fuerzas armadas en Irak) resultan en pérdidas a largo plazo (reclutas no entrenados serán aplastados como moscas el año que viene, y sus compañeros fastidiados o indispuestos a luchar terminarán matando a oficiales).

Estos cuatro hechos indican que EE. UU. no tienen el personal adecuado para llevar a cabo sus planes, lo cual implica la introducción de un servicio militar obligatorio después de las elecciones, independientemente de que fácin imperialista obtenga el poder estatal. El servicio militar obligatorio no es más que otra forma de operación de los jóvenes, aún en países imperialistas. Los imperialistas estadounidenses se han dado cuenta de que no obtendrán apoyo material de los imperialistas alemanes y franceses, y ni siquiera de la ONU. Los socios de un crimen con derechos iguales se respetan a sí mismos. Así que EE. UU. implementarán un reclutamiento obligatorio: los problemas presupuestarios apuntan a la misma posibilidad.

El capitalismo promociona una actitud de “vivir en el momento”. Este hecho envenena el razonamiento capitalista en cuanto a la guerra. Esta es una de las múltiples razones por la cual el MIM tiene confianza estratégica en la posibilidad de Los imperialistas siguen cometiendo errores en esta guerra (9) debido a una sobreestimación de su poder y no pueden admitir la verdad: el hecho de que su imperio está construido sobre el sudor y la sangre de la mano de obra tercermundista robada por los imperialistas.

Sin considerar el insano tratamiento de los prisioneros y los abusos de los civiles documentados en previos artículos de MIM Notes, está claro que nuestros enemigos están extendidos más allá de su capacidad y están cometiendo errores. Si se suman sus cálculos erróneos de fuerzas militares y sus atrocidades contra el pueblo de Irak, se obtendrá un resultado claro: los imperialistas perderán la guerra en Irak. Cuanto antes sea la derrota, mejor para todos nosotros.

Estos hechos confirman la predicción del MIM de que los países imperialistas desesperadamente necesitan de recursos tercermundistas, terminarán expandido más allá de su capacidad e involucrándose en difíciles guerras por recursos tercermundistas. El enemigo está cometiendo graves errores diarios. Pero nuestra victoria no será rápida: desafortunadamente, los imperialistas matarán a muchos proleterios antes de que sus errores estratégicos se manifiesten en sus propios países. Tenemos que minimizar nuestras pérdidas hasta el máximo grado posible mediante la organización de una resistencia a la guerra. No tarden en oponerse al imperialismo: la vida que Uds. salvan puede ser la suya.

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