Crackers get their man

It’s lifestyle politics, stupid

Américan militarism turns Iraq into a bloody mess

‘FREE’ MEDIA LOOKS THE OTHER WAY

By MC12

In a report on a news conference held by Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, Reuters quoted him as saying that “hundreds and hundreds of insurgents” killed or captured in Fallujah, but “hardly any, if any, civilian casualties so far.”(1)

In a report from an “embedded” reporter in Fallujah, the Washington Post quoted an American sergeant as saying, “It’s a great thing blowing stuff up” and pointing to a 155mm round for his cannon. “Three of these and I can take out a whole building. As long as no civilians are out there, we’re doing all right.”(2)

Surely an independent media would point out such obvious lies. Instead, Reuters went on to talk about wounded American troops, and the Post went on to talk about how cool the cannon was.

Amerikan troops, and the Post went on to talk about wounded nurses and patients, medical staff said.”(3)

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Civilian deaths are reported here and there, but they are not part of the main narrative of the American press. In a separate story we have a quote from a man saying “I saw a man carrying my son Mustafa, who is 14 months old. He was bleeding, with his left leg amputated, and then I looked for my wife and found her wounded with multiple fractures in the arms and legs. I used to sell sheep in Fallujah, and now I am a jobless man staying in hospital with a handicapped child and dying wife.” The Iraqi Red Crescent spokesperson is quoted as saying, “There’s no medicine, no water, no electricity,” and describing a situation where “a woman died after miscarrying in a refugee camp where no doctor was present. A boy died of a snake bite and then I looked for my wife and found her wounded with multiple fractures in the arms and legs. I used to sell sheep in Fallujah, and now I am a jobless man staying in hospital with a handicapped child and dying wife.”

A Scottish newspaper reported: “Fallujah residents today claimed US jets had destroyed a clinic that had been continued on page 3...

The fascists captured Comrade Gonzalo, but Marxism-Leninism-Maoism Gonzalo Thought is free!

On September 12, 1992, fascist Peruvian police captured the greatest revolutionary of our hemisphere, Comrade Gonzalo, the leader of the PCP (Communist Party of Peru). The alleged appearance of Comrade Gonzalo in a Peru courtroom November 5 2004 is a bittersweet reminder of the twists and turns of revolutionary struggle in Peru.

Beloved by the people of Peru, President Gonzalo was not personally able to bring Peru a happy ending in its story of revolution. It remains up to the masses of Peru to bring the reality of revolution into being. The study of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism-Gonzalo Thought is essential for revolution in all of Latin America.

When the fascists arrested Gonzalo, conservative estimates put the percentage of Peru under PCP control at between 25 and 40 percent.(1) By that time, the PCP had coordinated far more armed struggle than Fidel Castro ever had. In a handful of small battles, Fidel Castro came to power in Cuba. The PCP showed how a thorough revolution could sweep Latin America under more difficult conditions.

Though the PCP did not overthrow the fascist regime before the capture of Gonzalo, the success it did have was still the greatest revolutionary success in the hemisphere since World War II. MIM has spoken with academics who cannot imagine what sustained revolution in Peru for 12 years. There is no theory for it in the academic world, but in Marxism-Leninism-Maoism-Gonzalo Thought we was hit by a bomb, killing many doctors, nurses and patients, medical staff said.”(3)

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Letters

Ex-soldier sees the light

I’m a 39 year old First Nations combat vet who has finally seen the light. I grew up in Occupied First Nations land surrounded by poverty, alcoholism, and racism. As a young person it was made clear to me that the only way to escape was to join the military and make a career of it. So, at 17 I joined the military of the country that had tried to have a devastating effect on my people, just so I might escape. Over a 12 year career I participated in many conflicts against people who were just like my people. I fought and killed people who refused to give in to the demands of the American empire. I saw more poverty than I ever knew existed. These people still resisted. Year after year all over the world I saw many people who were just like my people trying to survive yet still resisting. I related to the resisters more than the empire I served. I felt I was betraying my people and myself. I was the Native scout that was used against other Natives. I remember talking to my clan mother about the guilt and shame I felt. She suggested I leave the military and find a way to help the people not just here but all over the world. I tried to find a philosophy that matched what I thought was the correct path in life. After trial and error, I finally found Maoism. The only answer to the problems of the world is through truly International efforts to bring down the system of oppression that destroys people, cultures, and the earth: the system of capitalism.

—First Nations Veteren

Dump the spectating, get off your asses

Dear MIM:

Those were some good comments about the idiotic phenomenon of commercial spectator sports [our article in the last MIM Notes on the shooting death of a Boston Red Sox fan].

The very term “spectator sports” seems like an oxymoron. It’s really quite pathetic to see an entire region of the United States get worked up into a frenzy over the supposed virtues of its local team—only to see that team repay the devotion by pulling up stakes and moving to Albuquerque for an extra two bucks per year. That stuff is also very heavily subsidized by local and state governments, which constantly find themselves shell out for a new stadium in order to keep the monopoly capitalist in town. They should tell the damn team to get lost and instead use some of their funds to build more parks and athletic facilities for the people, who wouldn’t have so much time for raising hell after large commercial productions if they took part in sports themselves. Amerikkkans need to put down the remote control and get off their asses anyway.

—HC123

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 oppression of our oppressors 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 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.

MIM Notes

The Official Newsletter of The Maoist Internationalist Movement

ISSN 1540-8817

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

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

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What is MIM?

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

A few reflections on Yasser Arafat’s death

By MC12
10 November 2004

The first substantive comment on Arafat that we can find MIM making is from MIM Notes 23, on April 28, 1986: “MIM would like to ask various long-standing cheerleaders of the PLO: who are they waving the flag for now? Nothing could cause greater disorientation than hitching one’s cart whole-heartedly to this opportunist-led organization. Arafat has done everything short of taking an Israeli saber to his own head to appear pro-Israel and anti-American. Arafat, as a leader of the Palestinian people and as a leader of the PLO, is a revisionist nationalist. He has been a disappointment to MIM and his people alike.”

PLO’s recent history is worth reviewing. It was MIM that encouraged a new wave of solidarity with the Palestinian people. It was MIM that passed the resolution that created the ANSWER Coalition. It was MIM that allowed the ANSWER Coalition to take a lengthy detour into parasitism when it started calling for money for jobs, healthcare, and unions of all things, instead of for war. The bit about the unions made us laugh the hardest—as if now funding labor bureaucrats, who are paid out of the superprofits, is reform! Arafat and the PLO took a lengthy detour into parasitism when they started calling for money for jobs, healthcare, and unions of all things, instead of for war. The bit about the unions made us laugh the hardest—as soon funding labor bureaucrats, who are paid out of the superprofits, is reform!

The ANSWER demonstration at the Westwood Federal Building, claimed a crowd of a few hundred took part. For the most part, the LA organizers did a better job of keeping the focus on Iraq than did the organizers of the San Francisco demonstration on the same night (see accompanying article). The better signs were homemade—calling for an end to the “illegal occupation” and for support for the “brave fighters” in Iraq. MIM is all in favor of reminding the American people of the lesson the Iraqis gave to the U.S. military. The lesson is: technology alone will never subdue the will of a people to fight off an occupier. Amerika has many times the population of Iraq, and so can choose to keep throwing soldiers at the problem, but the Iraqis will exact their price for the suffering to the best of their abilities.

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San Francisco
9 November, 2004

International ANSWER sponsored an emergency rally to protest the U.S. invasion of Fallujah, Iraq, which brought out thousands of supporters. So far, the news reports are saying scores of civilians have been killed in the first two days of the attack. These numbers are sure to increase as the United States has bombéd medical facilities in Fallujah and reportedly arrested and detained medical staff. (1) One speaker at the rally told the story of a man who watched his child die from wounds caused by an explosion because he knew if he brought her to the hospital she would be killed. This is within the context of the recent estimate of over 100,000 Iraqi civilian deaths, making violence the leading cause of death in Iraq these days.

(2) With this imperialist analysis conducting by the U.S. military, we rally condemn the leadership (International ANSWER and associates) that ended up leading a march to all of the downtown hotels to support workers that are striking for a contract. ANSWER bailed those who are rightly outraged by the slaughter in Fallujah to join what became a rally for guarantees for the relatively wealthy (see below). Judging by the enthusiastic chants (“What do we want? Contracts!"), the crowd was more excited about the hotel struggle than the war in Iraq. However, the hotel strikers have not been able to rally a crew big enough to block Market Street in downtown San Francisco as we did this night. The loud chanting at the hotels may have happened because it was a break from the monotonous march and chant routine and not an indication that the crowd thought the hotel strike was a more important cause. While clearly in the minority, MIM and RAIL were not the only ones that seemed uninterested during the hotel stop.

The hotel workers make at least $8.00 an hour, which works out to a week for 50 weeks a year is $16,000 per year not including benefits. (3) They pay the lowest paid hotel worker in the top 12% of the richest people in the world. (4) The hotel workers have legitimate complaints regarding questions of job security and health care, both of which would be guaranteed under socialism. But these are questions that we can deal with after the rest of the world has food, shelter and clean water and certainly after we have put an end to mass genocide in Iraq, Palestine and elsewhere around the globe. Not only are these issues more pressing, but it is only the struggle of those who have nothing to lose that will lead us to a peaceful and equitable future.

Of course, the people leading the rally argued that the money being spent on war could better go to health care and fat contracts for workers in the United States. On the contrary, the demands of the hotel workers are the current economy amount to calling for more imperialist exploitation to pay them off; in other words more slaughter of Third World people. It is the chauvinism of Americans that allows them to think that the billions of dollars spent on war was wealth that rightfully belongs to us to a peaceful and equitable future. Until International ANSWER and 90% of the anti-war movement recognize the economic realities of imperialism, the struggles of the oppressed will continue to be used as window dressing for the struggle of the oppressors and oppressor wannabes. (5)

Notes:
2. 100,000 Iraqi civilians dead, says study. The Guardian. 29 October 2004.
3. indybay.org/labor/
4. www.globalrichlist.com
5. for MIM’s analysis of the economic realities of imperialism check out “Imperialism and its Class Structure in 1997”

A few reflections on Yasser Arafat’s death MIM looks at past statements on the Palestinian leader

Slaughter in Iraq is the real issue

Army personnel carriers show up at Los Angeles demo

Los Angeles,
9 November, 2004

MIM handed out about 100 copies of MIM Notes to a rush hour demonstration to protest the renewed American attack on Fallujah. The ANSWER Coalition, which called the demo at the Westwood Federal Building, claimed a crowd of a few hundred took part.
**U.S. prison population keeps climbing**

By MC12

Even though the official crime rate is still lower than it was in the 1990s, the number of prisoners continues to increase, because harsher sentencing rules introduced in previous years reduced the number of people leaving prison. The latest report from the Bureau of Justice Statistics shows that the mean time served for current prisoners increased from 23 months in 1995 to 30 months in 2002. So even with a slower rate of prisoners coming in, the population increases because fewer people are leaving.

The total number of prisoners in state, federal, and local custody was 2,085,620 at the end of 2003, up 2.6% over the previous year. The annual average rate of growth from 1995 to 2003 was 3.3%.

If the number of prisoners keeps increasing at a 3.6% annual rate, it will reach 3 million in 2014 and 4 million in 2022. If it grows at the slower rate of last year alone, it will reach 3 million in 2018.

As the population also grows, it’s important to look at the imprisonment rate, or the number of people out of every 100,000 that is in prison. That’s the number that shows how much the prison craze is impacting the internal Black and Latino colonies by removing whole segments of the productive population. The overall imprisonment rate increased from 601 per 100,000 population in 1995 to 701 in 2002, and 714 in 2003. The rate for Black men, however, was 3,405, compared with 1,231 for Latino men and 465 for White men. At the most extreme, the rate reached 9,262—or 9.3%—for Black men ages 25-29. At that age, Black men are 8.5-times more likely to be in prison than White men. Overall, the prison population in 2003 was 44% Black and 19% Latino.

One other number to watch is the number of prisoners under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which increased 12% from 2002 to 2003. More importantly, that number has increased by 186% from 1995 to 2003 (8,177 to 23,514). That shows the continuing reach and repressive capacity of the police-state border authorities, which are charged with regulating the flow of labor from the oppressed nations in the U.S.A.

The American injustice system and its prison operations are fundamental aspects of the national oppression of America’s internal colonies, and increasingly of non-U.S. citizens as well. The giant prison industry is also a source of construction projects and employment for the labor aristocracy, especially in white rural areas where many prisoners are located. To get involved with MIM’s anti-prison agitation—against censorship, control units, and the imperialists’ death penalty—visit http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/agitation/prisons.


*A few reflections on Yasser Arafat’s death
MIM looks back at past statements on the Palestinian leader
Continued from page 3...

programs of these movements was quickly sacrificed when they could no longer leverage Soviet support against the U.S. empire. When the ex-URSR collapsed, they had no one to lean on, so they quickly cut the best deals they could with imperialism, and declared victory.

Before the collapse of the ex-URSR, Arafat and Mandele were more likely to end up in the Soviet camp. That was how they played their hands. Now, to MIM that is not as big a difference as it is to some others, because we understand that the Soviet Union had become social-imperialist after the development of state capitalism in the 1950s. So this was a choice between imperialist powers. It is not inherently wrong to play one imperialist power off another, but revolutionary movements need to maintain their independence and self-sufficiency in such situations (look at formerly-Soviet-dependent Cuba, too). These guys were the two leaders supposedly representing the most visible unresolved colonial legacies post- WWII. These cases posed international political problems for imperialism in the neocolonial era, because they undermined the imperialist propaganda that the current era is “post-colonial,” the “former” imperialists having given up their colonies out of their own largesse or political savvy. So maybe it is fitting (from the imperialist’s perspective) that when these two guys finally gave it up, they got the Nobel Prize. The revolutionary aspirations of the people they represented were a major thorn in the side of imperialism. Which brings us to your final question: why do the masses put up with this? On that we urge you to take a longer view. In the long run, the masses do not put up with this. Developing revolutionary organizations and leaders takes time and requires capitalizing on the historical moment. Already in both Palestine and Azania (South Africa) there are growing mass movements which see Arafat and Mandela/Mbeki for what they are: imperialist running dogs. You won’t catch imperialist movements repeating these programs.

So while MIM does not know what happened November 5 in Peru, what we do know is that the approach described in Comrade Gonzalo’s books is correct.

The writings of Comrade Gonzalo are based not just on valuable and bloody struggle in Peru but also the experience of China.

Comrade Gonzalo led 12 years of the most successful People’s War in Latin America. Now it is also 12 years since the arrest of Gonzalo, but official unemployment in Peru is 10.1% according to the Miami Herald and expected to increase in the coming year. (2) According to BBC, a World Food Program “study found that up to 91% of children under age five in Peru were suffering from malnutrition. The area also has been struck by drought problems. The problem is always the same. While capitalism may be a “success” for whites in the united States and some other imperialist countries, most countries in the world share Peru’s fate. They are partners with Washington but make no progress in the supposedly successful capitalist system, which backs semi-feudalism in Peru. While Uncle Sam wars on the people of Iraq for their resources and Amerikans get richer on oil and military contracts, the people of Peru and most countries in the world suffer relentless oppression and exploitation. The wealthy American “success” stories are only 294 million people, while the rest of the world is over 6 billion people opposing u.s. imperialism. It’s been 12 years since the capture of Gonzalo and the people of Peru now know that capitalism is still a failure for them, just as it is for most of the world’s people.

Notes:
1. http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/mm/mm.php?issue=070

Continued from page 1...

have an answer of how to make revolution in much of Latin America. MIM never undertakes to answer a question without a thorough investigation. We can say we do not know about the man who appeared November 5 2004 in Peru but make no mistake: the man who appeared November 5 2004 in Peru, what we do know is that the approach described in Comrade Gonzalo’s books is correct.

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Comrade Gonzalo led 12 years of the most successful People’s War in Latin America. Now it is also 12 years since the arrest of Gonzalo, but official unemployment in Peru is 10.1% according to the Miami Herald and expected to increase in the coming year. (2) According to BBC, a World Food Program “study found that up to 91% of children under age five in Peru were suffering from malnutrition. The area also has been struck by drought problems. The problem is always the same. While capitalism may be a “success” for whites in the united States and some other imperialist countries, most countries in the world share Peru’s fate. They are partners with Washington but make no

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Marxism-Leninism-Maoism Gonzalo Thought is free!
Estimates of war dead in Iraq: 100,000 and counting

By MC12

A completely accurate count of war dead in Iraq is impossible. Even if you could count up all the reports of deaths made to the press and hospitals, as the iraqbodycount.org site tries to do, you miss many, as devastated families may sometimes be forced to bury loved-ones in the garden—if they can—before they flee the destruction of American bombardment.

And we don’t need to know the exact number of dead to know that we oppose this and all other imperialist wars of aggression. However, it is important to get a sense of the magnitude of the death and destruction, for purposes of public education and also for making strategic decisions. To that end, MIM welcomes the recent report in the journal The Lancet, the journal of the British Medical Association, which attempted a scientific assessment of mortality in Iraq before and after the most recent American invasion.

Researchers led by people at Johns Hopkins University selected a random sample of 33 residential locations in the country, and interviewed residents of a cluster of 30 households around each location. They asked people to list the births and deaths that occurred within each household, by date, for a period before and after the invasion. Using probability theory, if the population interviewed is a random sample, then the mortality rates from before and after the invasion can be extrapolated to the whole population, with a measurable likelihood that the estimates are correct.

They used Arabic-speaking medical doctors to conduct the interviews, and had a very high cooperation rate among the residents they interviewed. They also requested death certificates for a small number of cases to see if many had gone unreported. They had to make some adjustments from perfect randomness, to cut down on travel time and expenses, and because some areas were too dangerous to go, but they got pretty close, and did the best job we’ve seen under the current circumstances.

In 15 out of the 33 sites they visited, the researchers encountered households that had experienced at least one violent death, the majority of them noncombatants. Their survey locations included one area of extreme violence in Fallujah, which heavily influenced the results. When they exclude the Fallujah cite, they conclude with 95% confidence that the overall mortality rate in the country has increased by between 1.1-times and 2.3-times, accounting for 8,000 to 194,000 “excess” deaths, or deaths that would not have occurred at the mortality rate before the invasion. That makes the best conservative guess 98,000 excess deaths, most of them attributable to violence. That estimate is conservative because it excludes the Fallujah site, thus excluding one area where many people were killed.

A population-based survey is a good way to estimate war dead, especially in cases where the news media is restricted from moving around and their output is so controlled by the aggressor in the war.

This information puts the recent round of the Iraq war on the scale of other major American acts of aggression, and far outdistances any acts of so-called terrorism perpetrated against Americans.

Critics of the study either dismiss statistical methods out-of-hand or nitpick small problems in the design or result without having an alternative at hand. These critics expose themselves as apologists for the war in Iraq and supporters of the status quo.(2) MIM supports the use of statistics, even while recognizing the drawbacks in particular studies. We do not “make the perfect the enemy of the good”—especially when the alternative is just making shit up. That might work if you’re trying to win a popularity contest, but not if you’re trying to make revolutionary change to eradicate war, hunger and poverty.

Notes:
1. The Lancet study is available with free registration at http://www.thelancet.com/journal.

Amerikan aggression in Afghanistan to blame for kidnapping of Filipino

In Afghanistan the U.$. occupation has given rise to armed struggle by the Afghan people. We now have a report below of a hostage-taking, this time Filippin.

This particular hostage-taking is the responsibility of Uncle Sam both because the Philippines is a U.$.-puppet regime that is in the “coalition” and because U.$. violence has caused the Afghan people to strike back. We say there is a general difference between U.$. hostages and third World hostages. In Iraq and Afghanistan, U.$. contractors are there to make money from the occupation—and those contracts will be so lucrative that we can classify the contractors as exploiters profiting from the oppression of Iraqis and Afghans. In the case of third World contractors or UN workers, the general economic position is not as clear.

There is always the risk that innocent people will be mistaken as running dogs of U.$. imperialism, but as some Filipinos have pointed out, the Filipinos ran that risk till they ran the U.$. lackey regime off the islands.

CPP statement on hostage-taking of Filippino UN worker in Afghanistan

November 3, 2004

The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) joins the Filippino people in calling for the release of a Filippino UN worker Angelito Nayan and other hostages currently being held in Afghanistan.

The CPP holds the U.$. government, principally, and the Arroyo regime responsible for the fate that has befallen Nayan. The Afghan people and resistance groups have been driven to carry out such unacceptable methods of struggle by the viciousness and barbarity with which U.$. imperialism has conducted its war of aggression against Afghanistan and suppressed the Afghan people’s freedom and human rights.

The unjust and murderous U.$. war of aggression against Afghanistan has dealt widespread destruction and grave suffering on the Filippino people. The thinly veiled U.$. neocolonial rule of Afghanistan has fired up the Filippino people’s desire for national freedom.

The Arroyo regime is condemnably blind to such support for imperialism in its war of aggression against Afghanistan and Iraq.

In the final analysis, it is its acts of servility to U.$. imperialism that has put Angelito Nayan and other Filipinos like him in harm’s way.

Amerikan militarism turns Iraq into a bloody mess

Continued from page 1...

receiving casualties after US forces seized the city’s main hospital, where rebels had been holding medical staff and patients had been killed at the Popular Clinic in a central district, they added. Sami al-Jumaili, a doctor at the main hospital, said: “There is not a single surgeon in Falluja. We had one ambulance hit by US fire and a doctor wounded. There are young, some of them civilians in their homes who we can’t move. ‘A 13-year-old child just died in my arms.’ Doctors said at least 15 civilians had been killed since the assault on Falluja began.”(6)

But the products of Amerikan journalism schools blantly quote generals saying there are “hardly any, if any, civilian casualties” without even offering the contrasting evidence. And other media show brave-looking Amerikan troops going building to building (actually much of that footage is from training grounds), they spend a lot less time talking about the Amerikan practice of leveling parts of the city, known as “softening up the location.” They asked people to list the births and deaths that occurred within each household, by date, for a period before and after the invasion. Using probability theory, if the population interviewed is a random sample, then the mortality rates from before and after the invasion can be extrapolated to the whole population, with a measurable likelihood that the estimates are correct.

In 15 out of the 33 sites they visited, the researchers encountered households that had experienced at least one violent death, the majority of them noncombatants. Their survey locations included one area of extreme violence in Fallujah, which heavily influenced the results. When they exclude the Fallujah cite, they conclude with 95% confidence that the overall mortality rate in the country has increased by between 1.1-times and 2.3-times, accounting for 8,000 to 194,000 “excess” deaths, or deaths that would not have occurred at the mortality rate before the invasion. That makes the best conservative guess 98,000 excess deaths, most of them attributable to violence. That estimate is conservative because it excludes the Fallujah site, thus excluding one area where many people were killed.

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Crackers get their man

Continued from page 1...

our candidate “none of the above” won more votes than Bush total, we cannot infer from that that whites are a majority progressive. If we asked people to vote for any of their choices but forced them to vote, a large portion would still vote for BuSh. Bush proved that he could eat into our candidate’s support and combined with the Kerry war-mongering vote, even excluding some declutted youth and oppressed nationalities, our candidate “none of the above” clearly lost among the whites, so call this a concession speech.

If we assume our candidate received 100% of the non-whites who can’t vote (and that’s not true, because some are definitely lackeys taken from other countries as rewards for serving as puppets, the Republicrats have been able to amass approximately 119 million to 93 million.

What one might think is that new voters are voting with some delusion of changing the status quo. One might think that’s why they bothered to register for the first time. That turns out to be true with over 60% of 18-24 year old voters who did vote for Kerry,(5) because BuSh did politicize some people and caused others to compromise themselves to vote for Kerry. However, the new-voter effect was not overwhelming, which means that we cannot put the “deluded” label on a large portion of the new voters. The new voters also came to the polls to vote against gay marriage and preserve the status quo. Meanwhile the repeat voters hardened and increased in their support for BuSh, going for BuSh 50% to 45% for Kerry according to NBC. Democrats who think getting people into the electoral horse race helps people politically obviously do not see that trend.

Voting for BuSh in this election is a very clear action. The president and the media pounded home their message. Sometimes we Marxists find the exploited in a condition of “false consciousness,” where the exploited inefly pursue their own interests and simply do not know what is going on. That is not really the correct paradigm in this case when as many well-publicized wars are going on as the United States is involved in. We as Marxists cannot say simultaneously that the capitalist class is using the media and then also say that the whites do not know BuSh is carrying out a war in Iraq. We have to let go one of those assertions. Paying for the wars and then voting for BuSh, failing to organize demonstrations and sending children to war—are these actions that have to be distinguished from the concept of mere consciousness, unless we are to fall into a Trotskyist trap making the entire goal one’s mental state of political purity as opposed to action.

It is not just that false consciousness is blocking tens of millions from recognizing the capitalist vanguard pulse. 360 million people just took action for BuSh, who is a very clearly defined political quantity.

The mark of the white nationalist “left” is that it denies that those who voted for BuSh and all his wars are stabbing the oppressed nationalities in the back. The white nationalist “left” makes elaborate excuses for the whites of this country—boiling down to a verbally crafted dreamstate carefully nurtured—as if everything were a matter of debate and not bombs, missiles, and tanks.

At a more local level, Alabama whites also took action, with a majority voting to keep language in the Alabama constitution that requires segregation of schools and polling places. History will not be from voting. The governors and ex-governors of Alabama told the crackers it was time for change, but the Christian Coalition said changing the constitution would raise taxes—a complete falsehood and the thinnest of disguises for racism. The Christian Coalition has many lackeys from it is not “moral values” holding together their political coalition, but in fact racism and a total lack of integrity.

Even if a recount shows that the Constitution should in fact remove the language, it won’t change the fact that a majority of whites have stablished segregation in the Alabama constitution.

The same jack-ass Chief Justice of Alabama who lost his job for illegally putting a stone tablet with the 10 Commandments in the court opposed changing the Constitution in the name of progress and justice.

“There were 688,927 votes against it, and 685,508 votes for it(6) as we write this. It’s also another reason why we have to be for a strong central government—dictatorship of the proletariat of the oppressed nations. Left to themselves, the Alabama whites would still be segregated in society which is what happened with the de-parasitizing stage of the dictatorship of the proletariat of the oppressed nations is necessary for humyn harmony.

That’s not all for Alabama. The crackers also elected a Confederate activist to be the Supreme Court justice. New judge Tom Parker hands out mini-Confederate flags and associates with the League of the South.(6)

Anyone who follows that and can’t make a judgment on U.S. whites needs to take some Geritol and get a gonads implant. The white nationalist “left” (with the inclusion of most whites among the oppressed nationalities) can make excuses for anything. What it is is adjustment to the powers-that-be, the cracker labor aristocracy imperialist alliance. Instead of hiding what happened in Alabama, the duty of the progressive forces is to make the whole world know the extent of the white attack.

While it is true that within U.S. borders the truth is in the minority, that is no reason not to hold out and allow the rest of the world to batter the crackers into their senses. On the global scale, they are a tiny minority, even smaller than the number of people who voted for BuSh or Kerry, but there are 6 billion people in this world. The overwhelming majority of the world hates BuSh and the

American wars and an increasing majority of the world is learning to hate Amerika outright—and that is what gives us for change in Amerika real hope. The election of Bush as opposed to Kerry will help to strip away global illusions about Amerika. For this, we do not celebrate, because by raising the stakes and with a little luck for the international proletariat, whites may not get a second chance to back down into a Kerry-Clinton “equal opportunity exploitation” routine.

Of the 114 million voters counted so far, 57% voted for BuSh and Kerry, who is a descendant of “Ivan the Terrible.”(7) The voters we most want to cut some slack for are the first-time voters for Kerry, especially the youth voters. Youth went overwhelmingly for Kerry, at least 56% according to NBC exit polls. Even in Alabama, the majority of youth supported Kerry while 63% of the state went for BuSh in the largest victory margin in Alabama presidential elections in 20 years.(8) The youth saw the issue of the status quo and alternative parties. It’s very hard to say anything good about 113 million voters for BuSh and Kerry, who is a descendant of “Ivan the Terrible.”(7) The voters we most want to cut some slack for are the first-time voters for Kerry, especially the youth voters. Youth went overwhelmingly for Kerry, at least 56% according to NBC exit polls. Even in Alabama, the majority of youth supported Kerry while 63% of the state went for BuSh in the largest victory margin in Alabama presidential elections in 20 years.(8) The youth saw the issue of the status quo and alternative parties. It’s very hard to say anything good about 113 million voters for BuSh and Kerry, who is a descendant of “Ivan the Terrible.”(7)
How to fight for change
Learning assorted lessons about money and demographics

by PIRAO chief 3 November 2004
MIM did not run anyone for office, but we can learn something from the sidelines looking at the 2004 elections.

MIM expenses vs. Democrat expenses

It looks like the Democrats outspent the Republicans for the first time in recent history. The total campaign spending of the new Congress in 2004 was $1.8 billion. (1) Democrats spent $250 million themselves and friendly organizations spent another $70 million on radio and TV ads just for the presidency. (2)

That’s about $6 per voter that Kerry had to spend for him. In reality, the figure is much higher, because only 17 states really had any competition and ad buys. Even within those 17 states, the ads can only target a certain minority of “persuadable” voters. The true cost per voter persuaded is probably more than $50 per voter, maybe much more.

MIM estimates that delivering MIM Notes to five people for two years costs less than $6. We believe we could deliver MIM Notes to the entire public for two years for less than what Democrats just spent on Kerry.

This difference is that MIM engages people on the issues and builds an offensive in a certain direction, which lasts whether or not individuals fail or succeed in their bids for office. Ads for a Kerry detract or do little to contribute to political consciousness and if the candidate loses, the waste is even greater.

The other difference is that MIM Notes is connected to what the campaigns call a “ground game.” Radio and television commercials aim at a fleeting impact. In contrast, MIM efforts can focus 100% on driving up the truth quotient in politics—with no watering down. For all these reasons, we think there is no comparison in the effectiveness of MIM on the one hand and Move-on.org or the like. If the people can be moved politically, the politicians will follow.

There are many people in MIM circles who work more cost effectively than any shoe-string operation of the Democratic Party. One reason is that we have no professionals. The proletariat has this relative advantage in the majority-exploiter countries in being able to fight desperately but without stooginess and pampering.

Money talks

In Congress in 2004, the turnover rate compares unfavorably with Politburo in any era of the Soviet Union. “The winners of a handful of congressional races are still unknown [as of November 2], but one thing is certain: Money won big in the 2004 elections.” (1) In 96 percent of House races and 91 percent of Senate races that had been decided by mid-day today, the candidate who spent the most money won, according to a post-election analysis by the nonpartisan Center for Responsive Politics. The findings are based on figures reported Oct. 13 to the Federal Election Commission. (2)

Demographics and polls

The embodiment of another lesson we need to learn is Karl Rove. He is in charge of Bush’s political intelligence and ultimately he is the one who made Bush president in both 2000 and 2004. Today, candidates do not put their energies into learning to debate better. Kerry won all three debates according to polls, but he lost the election, because the Republicans are the equals of the Democrats in having basic appeal to small exploiters.

It is a beginner’s mistake in politics to assume that the more rational-appearing candidate will win. People like Karl Rove...
It's not really politics; It's the lifestyle, stupid

"I want to bring back the aloha spirit, who told me to learn it. That's when you're out on the ocean and you're paddling for a wave and you see someone else is already up riding it, you know what you do? You pull out.

You step back and you let him go. You people have this thing called sharing, it's called caring, it's called working together for the common good."  "(1)

—Donna Frye, the apparent winner of the San Diego mayor's contest via write-in vote

The media is approximately treating an important question by talking about the cultural divide between the South and Rocky Mountain "red states" on the one hand that voted for BuSh and the two coasts of "blue states" that voted for Kerry. We need to push into that deeper, because the key is understanding that issues have nothing to do with politics; and that is a major reason why progressives always seem to be overly intellectual to the voting public.

One of the questions that the bourgeois political consultants pose over and over again in American politics is whether Democrats should get religion (2). This serves as a rationale for why they lost in 2004 and why Gore picked Lieberman in 2000. The surface truth to this is that evangelical Protestants voted 3 to 1 for BuSh and the largest single bloc of voters (21%) said "moral values" is their number one issue, with Iraq falling to fourth place.

Within bourgeois logic, the Democrats should split themselves into two parties, with the new party taking up religion and based in churches, but able to work with Democrats on non-social issues. Within a two-party system, attacking Religion will not do well. (3) If Republicans with a different party to contend with. Yet, most Democrats are so much in love with Republicans and wedded to "lesser evil" thinking that they would not think of splitting into two parties; even though they have nothing to lose at the polls.

The whole question of theocratic politics should be a clue that electoral politics is a dead-end. When we work within the confines of the electoral system, it's only rational that we get stuck on such questions and that the reactionaries feed them to us non-stop. That has to be taken into account when people like Howard Dean draw activists into their system.

The religion "issue" is another example of how Americans are in their vast majority, anti-political. 2400 Catholic priests are now in a database for sexual abuse of children accusations, but donations to the Catholic Church increased, while Clinton had oral sex with an adult and Congress impeached him. So it's important to rational and progressive Democrats to look at this and not take "moral values" literally. When we hear "moral values" we should hear more along these lines: "I like the people, I know who go to church every week and I like my friends who go to the same church. Our lifestyle is more important to us than our political affiliation. We're all Republicans and like each other, the public we are familiar with." That's why, if you go to those people with a Democrat who says s/he is also Baptist, it's not going to work. It worked for Carter, because he was a born-again lifestyle decided their identity was more similar to Carter's than Michigan Republican Gerald Ford's. Had Carter run against another southern rural white Christian, the outcome would have been quite different as we see in Bush vs. Gore, where Gore lost his home state. BuSh moved around brush on his ranch while Gore sat in Washington DC.

It's not really the issues, but the lifestyle. The pre-political voter has to decide that the candidate is one of the people from his/her lifestyle. It's such a joke that America has made itself that Kerry's wife, who is against the death penalty, is the biggest thing against him in the heartland. Increasingly, Republicans realize that Democrats are single winnies living in cities while they themselves are married church-goers of the rural areas. When they do meet Democrats in the rural areas, the Republicans do not get along with them. The issues do not matter.

To think of this from a reverse angle, the true outlet for the pre-political should be in church dissension and splitting. They should be getting up and going over to Clinton's church to denounce whoever raised him to be in Lewinsky's dress. They should be fighting their neighbors whose lifestyles they don't like, but instead, they take that to the government. A Kennedy recently took up city politics because he got a ticket for his hedges. It's all lifestyle clutter filling the system. If issues make a difference, it's a small plurality.

As H.W. Edwards proved, the white gun ownership issue is really a labor aristocracy thing completely detached from its original Liberal intellectual history around 1776. Historically, gun ownership was something for those who could afford it, the founding fathers intended but to keep the government honest the way the peasants in Europe did, or her own lifestyle on his or her own piece of the economy with each persyn having his or her own lifestyle. It's all lifestyle clutter filling the system. If issues make a difference, they don't.

Now in the first place, for all the social-democrats taking bourgeois democracy at face-value, those exit poll numbers on the moral values voters bloc are important. The entire economy came behind the candidates, no other issue. The election was a referendum on the moral values of the American people. The understructure was the economy with each persyn having his or her own lifestyle.

That's not to mention that when people say "economy," they are talking about a variety of different things that may not be what social-democrats have in mind.

All this is to point out how dogmatic social-democrats have to be to look at the polls and not learn a lesson: BuSh was indeed the first president since Herbert Hoover to have a net loss of jobs during his term. The difference between the Clinton years and the Bush Sr. and Bush Jr. years was incredibly stark to anyone who looks at facts. Moreover, Ohio lost 10% to 20% of its jobs to Bush. That's all true, (but we would never emphasize it because it's not pointing to a road forward) and the population even heard it on major media to the tune of $320 million in radio and television ads. Media outlets on Wall Street such as Bloomberg also admitted the facts. The facts were everywhere. OK, social-democrats, so if we make democracy at face-value, it's time to learn a lesson about the white-working class does not float many boats. In the last 60 years of U.S. history, it's never been put this clearly to us by the facts themselves; though, MIM has been telling you for a long time that your white-working class strategy is not going to bring progress. All this dreaming about the white-working class rising up on economic issues and taxes is pure reformist dogma. If social-democrats cannot see that now, they are as stupid as the people who think they voted against Gore for Monica Lewinsky's stained dress.

Fundamentally, elections are not a rational process, but because they are a divisive and irrational process what ends up asserting itself is raw white nationalist interest. The lifestyles are so divisive and break people down into such small groups, that the only group interests that it can share is the most base big ones such as race/nationality—and choices that lead to that are all conscious. For example, one "issue" that elected BuSh is gun ownership. It's another example where an "issue" has a guise, in this case the Second Amendment of the Constitution. The crackers who own guns have no idea about the revolutionary ideas of the founding fathers, else these same crackers would not be complaining so much about "liberalism" when all the founding fathers wrote the Constitution and Bill of Rights were Liberals and wanted gun ownership for Liberal reasons.

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To think of this from a reverse angle, issues and how few among issues-matter is a pretty major disadvantage one has to be aware of, who raises the 2nd Amendment or hunting and both Lenin with the "vanguard party" theory and the founding fathers with the Constitution and Bill of Rights were Liberals and wanted gun ownership for Liberal reasons.

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we have now is a residual fear from that, but large groups of people are making a mistake in assessing the impact.

Over and over again we hear in Americak the sense of wonder that BuSh did not unite the country after 911. Even as the television commentators praised BuSh, they raised this question and wondered. The one theory for that is that BuSh is not the caliber of leader to be able to pull the country together. Local leaders have learned this from the Democratic Party mantra. Republicans did not really have an answer for that, but they did not have to. The reason again is that the Democrats only tapped into underlying lifestyle divisions with their question. That is why to all bourgeois Americans, the red states and blue states stayed pretty much the same in 2004. The question of why there is no post-911 Amerikan unity or global unity is a big question of why there is no post-911 Amerikan unity or global unity is a big clue. The fact that 150,000 young Americans have their asses on the line in Iraq and the plurality of voters still felt that there was the underlying belief that the war was wrong. The larger underlying belief that the war was an issue that had to be raised to prominence, which is that there is no violence to raise an “issue” to prominence when the candidates have the luxury to decide the elections for an incumbent president. These kinds of people should be organized and that’s why we recently suggested to some other lifestyle individualists that they cease calling themselves Leninists and instead call themselves freedom fighters. Hence, we should take the quote at the top of this article seriously. Every word is the word of an American winner, a concentrated expression of American ideology. The surfing appeal is obvious, but the metaphor will appeal to stodgy middle-class people who are too old to be surfing, because underlying it is a middle-class sense of space and civility—not to worry, not some communist idea about “sharing.” For the settler economies, the Frye metaphor works. Each individual should have his or her own wave. There is very little that we can do as communists to win in American politics, but getting Democrats to take up religion. The underlying assumption of incremental progress through the Democratic Party is wrong. It’s not religion or gun ownership “issues” that are going to break the impasse for progressives, but staying inside the electoral system inevitably leads to such conclusions.

Notes:

Florida in 2000 was bad enough, but the fact that given four years, Amerika still could not arrange fair elections is utterly self-condemnation and proves that MIM was correct all along that the uSa was never a free country. Aside from Democrats campaigning hard to keep Ralph Nader off the ballot, the wide discrepancies between exit polls and the final vote tallies raise the possibility of fraud: either Democrats tampered with the polls, or Republicans tampered with vote counts, or both. It’s important to acknowledge this possibility—especially considering the United States has tried its hand at electoral fraud abroad—without overlooking the very real appeal George BuSh has for tens of millions of Americans. We discuss exit polls, vote tampering, and how to tell who’s defrauding who on our elections webpage: http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/elections/index.html

How to fight for change

Continued from page 7...

can predict how large groups of voters are going to vote, no matter what those individual voters may think of their “free will.” By knowing just race, marital status and religion—Republicans can easily find places where 75% or more of voters will vote for them. In fact, Karl Rove studies much more than that. The way Stalin studied the demographics of each district the Nazis invaded or that the Soviets claimed for themselves. In fact, within their own logic, the imperialists are catching up with Marxism on the study of demographics. In order to secure victory would be expected for an incumbent president. Nonetheless, there was both a youth vote and first-time voter effect that threatened to wipe the president out. Karl Rove countered with Ralph Reed and the Christian Coalition, who literally parked their bus in front of the Red state. The enemy studies reams and reams of polling data, being careful never to show their candidate doing it. This study at the county and precinct level has given the enemy some knowledge. In each state and county, they know how their candidates have done in the past and they can even determine what might have changed. For example, Karl Rove attributed Al Gore’s victory in 9 Iowa counties to his riverboat tour in those counties.

Self-defeating goals

There is a minority of progressive Democrats which needs to think hard about whether MIM is right that they are currently supporting a white nationalist or her own wave. For Kerry’s part, winning the debates did not really have an answer for that, but they did not have to. The reason again is that the Democrats only tapped into underlying lifestyle divisions with their question. That is why to all bourgeois Americans, the red states and blue states stayed pretty much the same in 2004. The question of why there is no post-911 Amerikan unity or global unity is a big clue. The fact that 150,000 young Americans have their asses on the line in Iraq and the plurality of voters still felt that there was the underlying belief that the war was wrong. The larger underlying belief that the war was an issue that had to be raised to prominence, which is that there is no violence to raise an “issue” to prominence when the candidates have the luxury to decide the elections for an incumbent president. These kinds of people should be organized and that’s why we recently suggested to some other lifestyle individualists that they cease calling themselves Leninists and instead call themselves freedom fighters. Hence, we should take the quote at the top of this article seriously. Every word is the word of an American winner, a concentrated expression of American ideology. The surfing appeal is obvious, but the metaphor will appeal to stodgy middle-class people who are too old to be surfing, because underlying it is a middle-class sense of space and civility—not to worry, not some communist idea about “sharing.” For the settler economies, the Frye metaphor works. Each individual should have his or her own wave. There is very little that we can do as communists to win in American politics, but getting Democrats to take up religion. The underlying assumption of incremental progress through the Democratic Party is wrong. It’s not religion or gun ownership “issues” that are going to break the impasse for progressives, but staying inside the electoral system inevitably leads to such conclusions.

Notes:

Amerika: Banana republic

Continued from previous page...

How to fight for change

Continued from page 7...

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Amerika: Banana republic

Florida in 2000 was bad enough, but the fact that given four years, Amerika still could not arrange fair elections is utterly self-condemnation and proves that MIM was correct all along that the uSa was never a free country. Aside from Democrats campaigning hard to keep Ralph Nader off the ballot, the wide discrepancies between exit polls and the final vote tallies raise the possibility of fraud: either Democrats tampered with the polls, or Republicans tampered with vote counts, or both. It’s important to acknowledge this possibility—especially considering the United States has tried its hand at electoral fraud abroad—without overlooking the very real appeal George BuSh has for tens of millions of Americans. We discuss exit polls, vote tampering, and how to tell who’s defrauding who on our elections webpage: http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/elections/index.html
Seven Deaths in Oregon Medical Unit in 2004

Greetings! I received your letter, thank you.

I don’t know what was going on because I have no one in this state to turn to for information but Sunday (10/03/2004) we were denied the Oregonian newspaper. With the Oregonian and the modgivers, I don’t know what they didn’t want us to see.

As for the hunger strike you inquired about, I don’t know what happened because I was in IMU at the time. What I heard was that everything went well and there was unity, but, since I’ve been out of IMU, I have learned that most of those around me are not to be believed. The issues they do raise concern things about which my five year old granddaughter would ask. The important issues concern being shown respect from those over you, the way your loved ones are treated when they come to see you, the way your comrades are beaten and abused in DSU and IMU, and your medical treatment. These issues and those like them aren’t mentioned, but being able to wear red gym shorts in the day room is. Go figure!

There have been seven people who died in this unit so far this year who would be alive today if they had received proper medical treatment. Their names will still be listed at the end of this letter. To my knowledge, there has been no mention of these comrades’ deaths in the public media other than what I have tried to get out. Their deaths are a witness to the inhuman treatment by SRCI medical field staff and their perpetrator’s refusal to treat those who come to see you, the way your loved ones are treated when they come to see you.

The orderlies that work in the medical unit here, whose job it is to sweep, mop, clean beds, pans, etc., are being made to sit and monitor and wait on the terminally ill and other patients. These people have no training in the medical field! There is a comrade here who hurt his knee very badly almost two weeks ago. When taken to the medical unit, the nurses on duty sent him back to the complex where he lived without proper treatment. Now, two days ago, a doctor finally saw him and declared that they will have to do surgery on his knee. The list of medical maltreatment goes on.

Fallen comrades:

Hicks
Heath
Mathews
Gray (Died in the infirmary)
Belts
Jenkins (Died in his cell)

— An Oregon Prisoner, October 2004

RAIL responds: We mourn the deaths of the fallen comrades listed above and will list them on our upcoming re-release of the Imperialist Death toll available online at www.imperialismkills.org. This project is a peoples’ account of the millions of deaths caused by imperialism each year and we welcome any and all submissions to make this accounting more complete.

If comrades are organized enough to lead a united hunger strike that is a good sign. It is up to the more politically advanced leaders to guide that organization into more productive avenues. While those leaders may not care about what color shorts they have to wear, we should also recognize the progressive character of united resistance to even the simplest forms of repression like controlling the way inmates dress. This is where the mass consciousness is at in your facility than build from there.

We were unable to determine the cause for the news block out on October 3, but welcome further information on this if anyone knows what happened.

Struggling in solitary in Louisiana

Dear family in the struggle,

Because I am a Communist at heart, mind and soul, and because of my efforts to resist the oppression through legal forums, kourts, I have been deprived of over 300 days good time and compelled to spend over 600 days sleeping, lying, sitting, practically living on a concrete slab, in a small cell only 6’ x 7’ having no time out but 10 minutes to shower. I have spent at least three and a half years in “isolation” (extended lockdown).

But I will never give up, nor cease to struggle. I am a product of revolutionaries, who are willing to die for our cause.

— A Louisiana prisoner, October 2004

Virginia Control Unit

I greet you from a super-maximum security prison lockdown 23 to 24 hours a day in what is called the control unit. All the windows at the prison are treated so we can’t see out. The side of the doors are sealed with a black strip that has screws in it. There are short chains on the doors at the top. A padlock could be inserted to reinforce the doors. A padlock can be used on the food port used for feeding and cuffed prisoners. The food is put in a solid steel box that has a handle on each side. The guards lift the latch to the food port, he have to push open the aperture, reaches in and get the tray. The guard lifts the box upward to close the food port and moves to the next cell.

We are confined to social isolation and sensory deprivation. Social isolation is being cut off from normal contact with people and interactive methods with them that are conducive to humanism. The majority of our contact is with sadistic guards who do not react. They are trapped too. Why? When most people have the authority to wield power over people this becomes an intoxication that knows no bounds – a fixation to hurt people and release one’s aggressive pent-up nature.

Sensory deprivation is a loss of receptive input that is crucial to our nervous system. Without these elements producing positive contact with processes to one’s equilibrium and metabolism you are treading on dangerous negativity. This is a method of psychological and emotional impairment, in other words, torture.

Prisoners are viciously beaten by guards while chained hand and foot. Prisoners are slammed into walls, floors, steps, tables and outdoor yard cages. Prisoners are denied sufficient diet, showers, and so called recreation in dog-run cages when we don’t cringe and bow down to their terrorism. Prisoners placed in chains in a cold cell in only under shorts, no other clothes allowed, for 48 hours or longer; all personal items taken, mattress, sheets, and blankets too; prisoners placed in five-point restraints, strapped spread-eagle to a steel slab in only underwear for days; prisoners gassed, broken bones, shattered teeth. This is guard-on-prisoner violence.

— A Virginia prisoner, May 2004

RAIL responds: Publicizing the oppression of prisoners in the American justice system is an important part of our central task, and we urge prisoners to make contributions to this work such as this report. One beef: In the long run, those working as prison guards will be better off under a socialist system in which people don’t demean their own humanity by participating in the oppression of others. However, for strategic purposes we should not consider prison guards “trapped” in the same way that prisoners are. They can—and should—refuse this work, suffering at most a loss of wages as a result.

Studying in KS Supermax

I currently have over two years in solitary confinement Supermax segregation for my efforts to organize the people. They gave me down here under so-called gang activity. I’m currently trying to organize our fellow comrades, many of whom are Aztlán and natives of this land. Here we are locked down 23, usually 24 hours a day. I just recently acquired the library porter job for this cell house. Now I have more access to the other comrades.

We have caged single person dog runs for yard five days a week for close to 45 minutes. I need to develop a program for body and mind that is sufficient and enables us to talk and work out. I believe, as do others, that you must work both the mind and body developing good work habits for the people. These comrades in here only respect militant ways that are for the people, they will only acknowledge and accept discipline.

— A Kansas prisoner, 20 October, 2004

War on Terror

Censorship of MIM

I know it’s been very long time since you have heard from me, but the reasons for not keeping contact are that:

After the 9/11 incident, I was put on Mail Watch (meaning they were reading my letters). So I had to stop receiving your papers because they start to give me problems about “those kind of papers”. Which will open people’s eyes to what’s happening in the world today!

The second reason was because I was working on my cases, trying to free myself from this hell hole!

So I would like to receive your papers again, and I have someone who wants to write to you too. Please start sending him your papers so we can build on what’s happening in today’s world.

— A New York Prisoner, August 2004

Censorship victory in California

Here is the complete 602 enclosed [for the censorship of MIM Theory and the Mao essay]. The other one’s at the Director’s level review. The sergeant met with me on the issue and we came to an agreement that MIM Theory’s were no threat, nor MIM Notes pages. He said he could not find MT numbers 7 and 9 you forwarded, but he reimbursed me with some useful novels which I immediately trashed. As you know it’s been on again off again. It’s okay now as he informed me to contact him directly next time there are any problems.

— A Corcoran prisoner, November 2004

MIM adds: we have been fighting increasing censorship this year in the

MIM on Prisons & Prisoners

MIM seeks to build public opinion against America’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.
California Security Housing Unit Prisons, including Corcoran and Pelican Bay. With this potential resolution in Corcoran, along with a recent letter from the Warden of Pelican Bay agreeing to follow their rules and allow our publications into the facility, the hard work of our comrades behind bars and on the outside can get involved. More info can be found on our prison website: 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 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 the 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 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

Decir 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 búsqueda 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 Tea Party deciden 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. Cuanto más luchan los iraquíes y los afganos, menos eficaces serán los mercenarios que lleven a cabo reclutamientos.)

Los imperialistas jugarán las cartas de la “guerra mundial” para poder llevar la Liga Árabe, una asociación de lacayos gobiernos (Irak). 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 demoler al público estadounidense que Bush “hizo el intento”, y de darles a los senadores Clinton y Lieberman las excusas que necesitan para respaldar diseños más agresivos. Es posible que Inglaterra sea uno de los pocos países que se nieguen a contribuir muchas tropas a los imperialistas estadounidenses. Un 66% del público electoral inglés se opone a las divisiones de la fuerza en Irak. (4) Millones de británicos festejaron el 15 de mayo el fin de la guerra en Irak (reclutas no entrenados, las divisiones que se nieguen a contribuir muchas tropas a las fuerzas armadas en Irak) resultan en el máximo grado posible mediante la organización de una resistencia a la guerra. No tarden en oponerse al imperialismo: la vida que Uds. salven puede ser la suya.

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