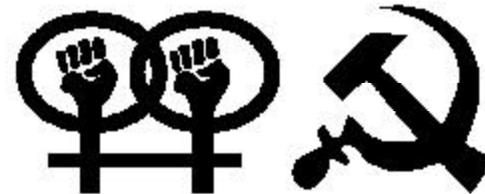


MIM Notes



March 15-31 2005, N° 316 The Official Newsletter of the Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM) Free

Media continue to spread lies about Churchill's indigenous identity

March 5, 2005
by a contributor

Despite retraction of one news story by a Honolulu newspaper that said Ward Churchill was not a native North American (see below), the news media and thugs from the Internet continue to focus on questions relating to Ward Churchill's indigenous identity and persist in misrepresenting what Churchill has said about his indigenous identity. For instance, an individual nicknamed "roothog229," in a blog post appearing in Google News search results for 'Ward Churchill' as of today, completely misses the mark and calls on the Cherokee Nation to dissociate themselves from Churchill, but Churchill has never claimed to be enrolled in any of the three U.S.-recognized Cherokee tribes.(1) Churchill has never claimed to be fully enrolled in any tribe, only saying that he is an associate member of the Keetoowah band of Cherokee, a membership that was never revoked according to "UKB historian and former tribal secretary" Ernestine Berry.(2) But these people lying about what Churchill has said pretend to be defending indigenous people. Oh-so-concerned, the white nationalists supposedly defending other nations' bloodline purity do not



Churchill

bother to do any research at all. On The O'Reilly Factor, March 3, 2005, Bill O'Reilly repeated his lie about Churchill "using his questionable data in getting his job in the first place and in sustaining an academic record."(3) O'Reilly, like others, evidently does not know what "unenrolled" means on Churchill's résumé and is obscuring the University of Colorado's responsibility for hiring Churchill in the first place. The University of Colorado should object to O'Reilly's making them look so incompetent: the critics of Ward Churchill make it look like University of Colorado does not really know what "unenrolled" meant, and did not bother looking into what "unenrolled" meant. Moreover, Churchill explicitly says and clarifies on his résumé that his

"tribal heritage" is "Creek/Cherokee (unenrolled)"; although, he would not have been unjustified in saying that his nationality or "ethnicity" was indigenous without any qualification.

The National Ledger, which has repeatedly published blog-like articles appearing on Google News in what appears to be a sustained effort to attack Churchill's character, repeats the lie that Churchill is a "fake Indian college professor."(4) There is absolutely no evidence for this claim. Even if we indulged the blood quantum argument, there is no evidence showing that Churchill knew he had no indigenous blood quantum, which he does. By other criteria, such as community recognition, Churchill is of First Nation ethnicity.

Others, such as Hawaii Reporter editor and president Malia Zimmerman, have recently insinuated that Churchill is lying about his indigenous identity, saying that he "ducks the subject" of "his claims to be an American Indian."(5) Zimmerman has also spread KHOW and Michelle Malkin's lie about what Churchill said at a bookstore in August 2003, in quotes taken out of context from three hours of

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Glimpses of globalized fascism



Gonzales: 'Can't control' outsourced torturers.

BUSH, BLAIR AND OTHERS SIDESTEP PROCEDURES

A spate of executive branch abuses of power in the united States and England has raised the specter of classic fascism. It seems that this time around, a difference in strategy is the international component of repression.

Ahmed Omar Abu Ali

If future historians look back on the united States, there is a danger that the case of Ahmed Omar Abu Ali may be considered a turning point. On February 22, a federal indictment charged Ahmed Omar Abu Ali with supporting Osama Bin Laden's Al-Qaeda organization and with organizing an attempt to assassinate President Bush.

The criminal charges are not novel in u.s. history, but the way the executive branch handled Ahmed Omar Abu Ali prior to the charges appears to trample on the supposed previous norms of the u.s. government. As the whole world knows, the united States staged an invasion of a country in 1983, allegedly to make sure that its own citizens were safe in Grenada. It turns out that nothing had happened to U.S. citizens in Grenada. The concern for medical students was a ruse.

Yet according to no less a pro-Bu\$

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Honolulu paper retracts attack on Churchill Pivotal chief had less Cherokee blood than Ward Churchill

by a contributor and
mim3@mim.org
February 24 2004

The Keetoowahs formally verified that Ward Churchill is "at least 3/16 Cherokee Indian by blood." This quantum accrues strictly from his lineage through his mother. "I was asked if I wanted to try to document my father's [Creek] side of things," Churchill recalls, "because he was at least as much Indian as Mom. But he's dead now. I never knew him, and I don't know my relatives on that side. So I just let it go. I make the reference in my self-

identification out of respect, but I've never claimed the quantum because I don't believe in [quantum]. To me, it's no different whether I'm 3/16 or 3/8. You don't measure identity by either pounds or percentage points unless you're some kind of Nazi." (Source: <http://www.coloradoaim.org/why.html>)

A tiny victory has been won in the Ward Churchill media struggle. The Honolulu Star-Bulletin at about 9:30 AM EST initially reported Churchill as denying he was an Indian without any qualification (Craig Gima, "Churchill attacks essay's

critics," February 23, 2005); actually, even with the Star-Bulletin's distortion, he only denied being a full member by the rules set by one

particular indigenous organization's bureaucracy.

The Honolulu Star-Bulletin has posted a correction.

A blog post ("Ward Churchill confesses," "Posted by Al Barger on February 23, 2005 05:44 PM") appearing in Google News repeated the Star-Bulletin's mistake. On the same page, "Shawn" began defending Churchill at "February 23, 2005 07:08 PM" and posting links to "Identity politics and the dirty work against Ward Churchill."

The Nation Ledger at about 2:45 AM EST also repeated the Star-Bulletin's mistake in "Ward Churchill Admits He's not an American Indian" (February 24, 2005).

Colorado Daily at about 2:30 AM EST published an article repeating the same mistake and even further distorting what Churchill said (Jeannette J. Lee, Associated Press Writer, "I am not"

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People of New Paltz speak for Ward Churchill

Over 100 petition signatures collected

New Paltz, NY

A firefighter and a firefighter's son were among over 100 signatures on a petition calling for the witch hunters of Ward Churchill to be held responsible for their actions. New Paltz is the home of the State University of New York, New Paltz, a university in a similar position as the University of Colorado, where Ward Churchill is a tenured professor.

The support for the petition in New Paltz is overwhelming. There was one youth strongly upholding the media perpetrated attack that Ward Churchill is a "fraud," because supposedly "he is not an Indian." When told that the Honolulu newspaper responsible for the original story retracted, the youth persisted. A womyn also declined signing and argued saying that Ward Churchill should have used less emotionally charged language.

As MIM wrote in its article about "Talking Points," there was also one persyn opposed to our petition who opposed the Allied bombing of Dresden but did not take a consistently pacifist position either. As predicted by MIM, that discussion took longer than other ones.

MIM informs activists that it is necessary to have the necessary statistical knowledge of Amerikan views in order to know which views to address and when to tell people that their own views are rare and that the main problem is the one that sees Amerikkkan civilians

as the only innocent citizens in the world or maybe only Amerikkkan, British and I\$raeli ones—another common position. Even professors who do not study public opinion for their profession are likely to have spoken with large numbers of students and have a relatively better idea of the common constellations of views. Ward Churchill knows the inconsistencies in his audience's views and how to bring them out.

Another critic said that Ward Churchill wanted to "wipe the United States off the face of the map." Our newly trained petition activist retorted: "Have you been down South? They're talking about the Confederacy every day and no one says anything about that." This was not enough to win the signature, just "I'm going to have to think about it."

Told that Ward Churchill has been called a "terrorist-sympathizer" and "traitor," few people seemed impressed. Larger than the number of people disagreeing with the petition was the number of people who not only agreed with the petition but also agreed with Churchill. The quick and stunning success in New Paltz shows that the longer the enemy attacks Ward Churchill the more chances will come out to demolish the mythology created by the Bu\$h media spectacle about 9/11.

Petitioning is not always smooth sailing

College Park, MD

The petition drive for Ward Churchill started at College Park, Maryland at the end of February but proved that not all campaigning is smooth sailing. The first attempt netted only seven signatures, all from prospective Black students; even though the University of Maryland is brimming with 30,000 students.

There was no one opposed to the petition drive for Ward Churchill, but the majority of people would not respond at all. One young male said, "I don't want to get involved, but nice Banana Republic bag." Banana Republic is a popular clothing line and the comment indicates the self-satisfaction of the shopping culture, and a social group MIM sometimes refers to in theory terms as the "gender aristocracy."

The people of the dedicated shopping subculture generally serve as a self-satisfied prop of the status quo, but at

times this group of people clashes with the interests of the imperialists. For example, the imperialists attempting to recruit new soldiers with any real world message about "freedom" or "terrorism" will also stumble in their efforts with the shoppers. If the corporations slip something into their subculture, the shoppers buy it, but any open appeal for extra political exertion fails with the pure gender aristocracy.

MIM's advice for people who stumble in their campaigns is that at particular moments, people in particular locations may be preoccupied. That's important for us to know, but we are sure that at College Park, there is a way to get around the difficulties. It may require effort in time and place not exactly the same as the first effort. Even so, the score at College Park was still 7-0 for Ward Churchill.

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MIM Notes

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What is MIM?

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

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

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

Nationality still matters: Italians say No to U\$. global empire

On March 4, U\$. forces in Iraq assassinated an Italian secret service agent and wounded an Italian newspaper reporter at a checkpoint. The agent had just secured the release of the Italian newspaper reporter Giuliana Sgrena, who liberation forces in Iraq were holding hostage.

The news would be unremarkable except that Italy has 3,000 troops aiding the united States in the occupation of Iraq. So in the guise of “friendly fire” something has happened that resulted in the death of Nicola Calipari.

The initial U\$. military explanation was that the Italian car was speeding up to a checkpoint. Only the most hardened Bu\$h-league voters were buying that and then those of us in Amerikkka had the privilege of seeing an even better excuse

in the media—that Amerikkans at checkpoints in Iraq were shooting up everybody, so the Italians should not take particular offense. As if to play to such a peanut gallery, the Bu\$h administration announced a simultaneous investigation of how coalition ally Bulgaria had one of its own shot in friendly fire too.

Ordinarily the explanation that Amerikkans just shoot everything that moves at checkpoints and other places in Iraq would have to have some plausibility given the normal mass murdering ways of Amerikkans, but MIM would be remiss not to point out something more. We should understand in a mission like this one where the Italians go to negotiate with the Iraqi liberation forces is that we can be sure that the Amerikkans cleared it first. Italy

would not attempt this and risk Amerikan fire by going secretly.

Two measures of how powerful the forces opposed to U\$. empire are are the diplomatic measures Italy has had to take to appease its own people. First, it refused the initial U\$. explanation at the diplomatic level. Then, Italy demanded punishment of the aggressors and exposed that the united States knew of the whole mission.

According to the ex-hostage Sgrena, the shooting looked like a u\$. “ambush” and she offered two possible explanations: 1) that her paper *Il Manifesto* was anti-war; 2) that the united States had a problem with Italy’s policy of allowing ransom payments in hostage situations.

We join with the Italian people in demanding imprisonment of the perpetrators of this assassination. At the

same time, we remind Italians that the kernel of truth in the Bu\$h league propaganda is that murderous checkpoints exist in both Palestine and Iraq.

This case is proof that the exploiters themselves are at risk in their own system. In a global system of private property, each faction of exploiters keeps secrets from the others, partly through the organization of states. Contrary to some globalization and Kautskyist ultra-imperialism theorists, the Italian people are not going to take the Nicola Calipari case lying down as a price of living in a united exploiter empire. The whole idea of a peaceful world of united exploiters has never worked in history and it’s not going to start working now.

Note: http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2005-03-09-italy-hostage_x.htm

AmeriKKKan “generosity”

U\$A abolishes juvenile death penalty, pats self on back

March 3, 2005

Associated Press Writer Gary Tanner is reporting that a 14-year-old male high school freshman has been charged with shooting his womyn school bus driver in Tennessee.(1) Already, a “public defender” Jack Lockert is attributing the act to mental illness: “We obviously feel like he has severe mental issues. He’s an A and B student and had never been in trouble before.”

The idea here is that a student who gets good grades should be well-adjusted, and if they so defy the stereotype of the well-behaved, studious student, then they must be mentally ill. Typically, children’s good behavior is not put in the context of their being disciplined under the patriarchy, and deviations from good behavior are viewed as manifestations of psychological, individual problems, rather than the group oppression of children and their gender socialization, for instance. For this increasingly popular view, we can thank folks like DemoKKKrat Tipper Gore, who chaired the June 1999 White House Conference on Mental Health, which promoted the products of the psychopharmaceutical industry. Gore opposed the stigma against “mentally ill” individuals, but did nothing to challenge the pro-psychiatry and pro-therapy notion of mental illness itself. Gore has gone as far as comparing children’s “mental illness” symptoms to broken arms, which surely need medical attention.(2)

In Tennessee, “Community members” are shocked at the alleged “murderer,” who apparently has “mental issues.”(3) Supposedly, the only thing the bus driver did was “discipline” the student for using some tobacco—and profanity. We at MIM Notes could likewise make assumptions about the driver—that she was a serial rapist of children for example. This would give adults a taste of their own medicine—what it’s like to make assumptions. One thing for sure, we do not believe the media selling

newspapers on this story when it says that the suspect is just crazy. We also have no respect for defense attorneys leaping up to pin the crazy label without investigation.

If the story about tobacco and profanity is true, then it is true that imperialist decadence has found its way into Amerikan children. The callous murder would be an example of a system’s problem, not occasional “craziness,” as if this were an individual problem, when not all countries have nearly the problem with street crime murder and state-organized mass murder known as war.

The School Bus Information Council, in a press release, says that the killing was, while maybe a response to disciplining, still a “senseless end to a life marked by caring for others.”(4) The School Bus Information Council has taken advantage of the incident in order to uphold Joyce Gregory as a “responsible adult” who was just doing a laudable job—driving children to school.

All children should be grateful. Out of the goodness of their hearts, responsible adults drive you “kids” to school for only \$10-\$20 an hour plus benefits to do so in 2002 (School Bus Fleet Magazine). They’re not as parasitic as millionaires. So, just sit your asses down on those seats and shut up. Oh yeah, and school is good for you, so just take it.

“The big yellow school bus is emblematic of our freedom, mobility and confidence that our children are safe and secure.”(4)

Since oh-so-oppressed Amerikan school bus drivers everywhere have so conspicuously raised the issue of mobility, let’s not forget that busing is one of the most obvious manifestations of the control of children’s mobility. In fact, “the big yellow school bus” is emblematic of adults’ mobility and children’s relative immobility.

In January 2002, a Pennsylvania Christian school bus driver Otto Nuss,

armed with a rifle, drove his passengers against their will to Washington, D.C.: a freak manifestation of children’s differential mobility in patriarchal society.

Supreme Court abolishes juvenile death penalty

The fourteen-year-old Tennessee school bus shooting suspect would not have been eligible for the death penalty anyway, in Tennessee or elsewhere in the united States, but there is an interesting confluence between the representation of the suspect as a mentally ill individual and the representation of juveniles on death row as being mentally inferior.

On Tuesday, March 1, 2005, the Supreme Court banned the death penalty for juveniles throughout the united States. This moves more than seventy people off of death row, most of whom are Black or Latino. In principle, MIM favors the death penalty until the distant day of communism when everyone will be a pacifist. However, in practice in the capitalist countries, we favor a moratorium on the death penalty, because we have seen that for example the united States cannot apply it without racism.

Since 1988, the death penalty had already been prohibited for individuals younger than sixteen, but now the Supreme Court has banned the death penalty for persyns convicted for crimes that they allegedly committed when they were younger than eighteen. In MIM Notes 294, we reported that the United States executed six juveniles in the 1990s, compared with 0 for Saddam Hussein. We have no doubt that such unfavorable comparisons were a factor in the Supreme Court’s decision. The average persyn in Amerika has tolerated the death penalty for juveniles just fine for decades, but a more progressive influence on the united States than its own alleged working class is international public opinion.

MIM would applaud the Supreme Court decision as a belated matter of opposing

the repression of youth in patriarchal society, as well as the repression of oppressed nationalities, and oppressed people in general. In June 2000, the 74 offenders on death row, convicted for crimes committed when juveniles, were 63% oppressed nationalities (roughly).(6) 80% of their “victims” were adults. 64% of their victims were white. Disturbingly when mitigating evidence is so important in death penalty sentencing, “in most cases, Lewis and colleagues found that the inmates and their families did not want to acknowledge past abuse [by their family and others in this patriarchal society] or mental illness.”(6) The Supreme Court’s decision is especially crucial after some, such as former California Governor Pete Wilson and former New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson, have supported the death penalty for offenders as young as fourteen and younger.

So, it is strategically useful to encourage and pressure the oppressors to be consistent with their view that children are inherently incompetent and vulnerable. At the same time, however, resisting repression under the imperialist-patriarchy does not mean accepting the oppressors’ reasons for abolishing death penalty sentences for juveniles. Notably, the reasons have nothing to do with national oppression or the patriarchal oppression of children. On the contrary, the Supreme Court’s distinctions between adults and children reinforce patriarchal ideology, and the Supreme Court also reinforces psychology (see MIM Theory , no. 9, Psychology and Imperialism , <http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/mt/mt9.html>).

In the slip opinion of the Court and after noting a tendency of individual states to either abolish or otherwise refrain from using the death penalty, the Court says that juveniles, like the mentally retarded,

Media continue to spread lies about Churchill

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audio publicly available on the Internet (<http://www.radio4all.net/proginfo.php?id=7592>).⁽⁵⁾ These files, which have long been on the Internet, are not “tapes,” and they were not “obtained” by Dan Caplis, Craig Silverman, or any other persyn.

In a racist, Ann Coulter-inspired fashion, blog thug Ralph Kinney Bennett, appearing in Google “News” search results, repeats as fact the lie that “li’l Injun that could” Churchill is a “pseudo-Indian.”⁽⁶⁾

A Pacific News Service writer pointed out recently that the idea of blood quantum has been used to attack indigenous people and even to deny resources to individuals who have an indigenous blood quantum, but who cannot join Uncle Sam-recognized tribes.⁽⁷⁾ Honorary white oppressor David Yeagley, on FrontPageMagazine.com, builds up an argument that could actually prove that Churchill has an indigenous blood quantum: some actual First Nations people refused to register themselves as such with the U.S. government, but then he makes a ridiculously simplistic argument about how Churchill “advocates the non-existence of the Indian race” because he doesn’t believe in measures of “Indian blood.”⁽⁸⁾ In actuality, Yeagley’s argument is the equivalent of Uncle Sam’s not recognizing Italians as Italians. What gets left out is that nation-formation of

Italian ethnicity is not left up to Uncle Sam, but Italians.

In Ward Churchill’s 1993 *Indians Are Us? : Culture and Genocide in Native North America*, for example, Churchill writes extensively on misappropriations of indigenous culture. Churchill does not say that a white persyn should be able to declare him/herself native whenever s/he wants. In fact, it is David Yeagley who threatens the existence of the indigenous population in North America by defining “native” in such a way as to make the number of indigenous people decline over time on the basis of blood quantum. Yeagley talks about a dilution of indigenous blood, but there is no scientific basis for saying that blood quantum by itself determines nationality. Genocide is the destruction of peoples, not specific genes.

Where the “blood” of a people is sufficient to sustain a strict blood-related approach to enrollment in a nation, MIM does not oppose a small First Nation’s using blood criteria— and this is an exception MIM makes for only the smallest nations in the world. In particular, the idea that someone would marry into the dominant culture and then expect to receive tribal benefits may in fact be not very helpful to First Nations. On the other hand, writing off a couple that is half white or three-quarters white may also be sacrificing that much native “blood,” so thanks to the white man’s genocide, there

is no easy answer for small First Nations. The truth is that there are some strict bloodline First Nations approaches in North America and most are not. Most of the time, the choice of spouse and other questions can be handled as a cultural question, not a bloodline one. If a persyn has gone to the First Nation’s own schools instead of the white man’s schools, that persyn makes a good spouse for culture-building purposes, not because of bloodline. In the choice between a white who just so happened has gone to First Nation schools and a full-blooded “native” who abandoned First Nation schools and other First Nation ties, blood is subordinate to culture. Even having hundreds of years of native ancestors is no perfect guarantee that someone will not completely abandon First Nation culture and take up 110% assimilation into imperialist empire.

There is also a class question in assimilation. In Taiwan, the imperialists have managed to buy off so many people, that contrary to the situation of the 1949 generation, many do not consider themselves Chinese anymore. Many Taiwanese today would rather be the 51st state of the United States than Chinese, because of underlying economic influences. It goes without saying that if Uncle Sam can exert that kind of influence from so far away on Taiwan, there will be those natives who also take the sugar-coated bullets of empire.

Interestingly, about one hundred Uncle Sam-recognized tribes have “no minimum blood quantum requirement for enrollment.”⁽⁹⁾ Apparently David Yeagley is such a bloodline purist that he would encourage these tribes to adopt a specific blood quantum requirement—even when there are not enough “full-blooded” people to sustain the tribe’s existence.

In 1985, the Canadian government amended the “Indian Act” (Bill C-31). Among other things, the amendments allowed First Nations to determine the criteria for membership in their own tribes. Between June 1985 and May 1992, First Nations adopted 236 membership codes, only 13% of which included blood quantum criteria. While the changes to the “Indian Act” had the effect of increasing total band membership, some bands were restrictive, fearing that federal funds would be spread too thinly if there were more members.⁽¹⁰⁾

Estimates of the indigenous population have varied wildly based on U.S. government definitions of who is native. According to J. Matthew Shumway and Richard H. Jackson:

Clearly, the number of individuals who are of Native American ancestry has been repeatedly underenumerated in the federal censuses of the population. When the census first began to compile figures for American Indians, the tallies were much lower than even the lowest estimates of pre-Columbian times and reached a low of 250,000 in 1890. . . . The greatest population increase occurred in 1960 after the Bureau of the Census adopted self-identification: Native American population rose to almost two million in 1990, a 455 percent increase in forty years.⁽¹¹⁾

A cursory look suggests that there is still a huge difference between the Uncle Sam-recognized indigenous population and the total indigenous population. Recently, the population of 96 (of 108 total) U.S. Government-recognized tribes in California was 51,385 persons.⁽¹²⁾ But in 2000, there were 333,346 self-identified “American Indian and Alaska Native” (Census 2000 Summary File 1) persons in California. So, Ann Coulter and David Yeagley, exactly how many “li’l Injuns that could” are there?

Notes:

1. roothog229, “Ward Churchill and the Cherokee Nation,” March 4, 2005, <http://roothog229.redstate.org/story/2005/3/4/115935/1899>
2. Eddie Glenn, “Controversial professor claims ties to UKB,” February 4, 2005, www.tahlequahdailynews.com/articles/2005/02/04/news/top_stories/aaaaaaprof.txt
3. Transcript 030306cb.256.
4. “Ward Churchill and Bill Maher, a Cute anti-American Couple,” March 5, 2005, http://www.nationalledger.com/scribe/archives/2005/03/ward_churchill_7.shtml
5. Malia Zimmerman, “Ward Churchill Saga Continues,” March 4, 2005, <http://www.hawaiireporter.com/story.aspx?3f60971d->

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Honolulu paper retracts attack on Churchill

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Native American, says Churchill,” February 24, 2005).

The AP article and the Honolulu Star-Bulletin article (in addition to the emotional blog posts appearing on Google “News”) both contributed to the confusion between blood quanta and indigenous identity.

Rocky Mountain News at about 2:45 AM EST reported on the Honolulu Star-Bulletin’s correction (Charlie Brennan, “Hawaiian newspaper misquotes Churchill : CU prof did not back away from Indian heritage claim,” February 24, 2005).

The main problem here is the white man does not sit down with indigenous issues long enough to have a sensitive understanding of the problems created by the genocide of First Nations. Then all the various uninformed media outlets repeat each other.

There is a huge debate among First Nation people about blood and culture issues. The majority of self-identified indigenous people do not live on a “reservation,” which could also be called First Nation territory that needs expanding.

Now if the media had sufficiently informed people, with the correct line, they would not be seeking to take advantage of delicate divisions—especially when the original topic of discussion was 9/11.

As an Indian Country writer Scott Richard Lyons explains, it turns out that Ward Churchill has 50% more Cherokee blood (3/16 vs. 1/8) than Cherokee Chief John Ross, who fought against Andrew Jackson and was an absolutely pivotal chief in Cherokee history. Lyons said, “Unlike the fullblood ‘Treaty Party’ who signed the illegitimate agreement with the Americans, thereby paving the road we now call the Trail of Tears, the light-skinned Chief Ross is fondly remembered by many Cherokee today as a great leader who fought hard against the ethnic cleansing that eventually took place.” So naturally there’s an argument that action speaks louder than blood, and as far as that goes, Ward Churchill has strong ties to his community within Colorado borders. The Colorado AIM (American Indian Movement organization) recognizes him, while the federal one does not.

So we should try to understand this carefully. The current rules of the band he is affiliated with would not have recognized Cherokee Chief John Ross. As MIM has explained in other articles before this dispute, there are good reasons for that. There are also drawbacks, but the main point is that it’s a difficulty because of the genocide wiping out 90% of the full-blooded indigenous people. For the white media to yell out screaming

“Hah, you First Nations have problems with your blood quanta!” is truly obscene. So now they want to lynch a man based on the fact of changing bloodline rules made difficult by the original North American invasion by the white man. The white man creates the problem and then fans it so there is infighting.

Sadly, not all indigenous people thought through the attack and counter-attack logic inevitable in all this. Why they want this discussion in the white man’s media is beyond MIM. We can only think that they are afraid for their federal grants, because influential Republicans orchestrated the attack on Ward Churchill and Republicans are in charge of grant money in the Congress. Surely his indigenous critics knew that friends of Ward Churchill would counter-attack and this would open a whole can of worms.

MIM to media: Slow down. It ain’t that simple! We’re quite sure that Ward Churchill would be accepted in other First Nations and could even receive benefits. He chose to affiliate with one band that rejected him as a full member by 1/16 of blood. All these news outlets clamoring have not changed one thing. The facts are what they have been all along. You stupid media outlets have not uncovered anything new. He’s an associate member, not a full member, but Chief John Ross would not have been one either.

Glimpses of globalized fascism in Bush and Blair

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source than Fox News,(1) on June 9, 2003 Saudi Arabia arrested and detained a U.S. citizen with no Saudi charges. Then according to Fox News yet again, the same citizen appeared in U.S. courts in a “surprise,” because the U.S. government had never admitted to anything in the meantime. In other words, even according to the Fox News account, the U.S. Government allowed a foreign country to detain one of its own citizens for some length of time, probably more than six months and perhaps a year and a half; yet the United States did not declare war on Saudi Arabia to get its citizen back.

Circumstantial evidence seems to back the claims of Ahmed Omar Abu Ali and 600 petition signers. Not only was he willing to show the signs of torture in Saudi detention, but also the U.S. federal indictment against him cites his activity from 2002 against him. In other words, the u.s. authorities claim to have known something about the defendant in 2002—prior to his arrest by Saudis.

Next if we check no less a pro-government source than the U.S. government itself,(2) we find that yes indeed, Saudi Arabia did hold Ahmed Omar Abu Ali until February 2005. “News reports quote family members of the defendant as saying they believe he was held for an extended period of time in Saudi Arabia so that abusive interrogation methods could be used against him that would be illegal in the United States,” said Voice of America.

Apparently the executive branch of the u.s. government forgot about “innocent until proven guilty” and allowed Saudi Arabia to torture Ahmed Omar Abu Ali. Later, the executive branch did some spin by saying Ahmed Omar Abu Ali had previously said he was fine in Saudi Arabia, without saying when he said so.

Far from exerting itself to keep Ahmed Omar Abu Ali from being held in Saudi

Arabia, it appears that the executive branch by-passed the court system to inflict punishment on Ahmed Omar Abu Ali. The abolition of the normal workings of cross-conflicting institutions is one of the tell-tale signs of fascism. There is no need to send the army to dissolve the court system when it’s just as easy to send the army to by-pass the court system.

If the courts do not rebuke the executive branch and give Ahmed Omar Abu Ali restitutive justice, it will be the same as if fascism prevailed. That is true whether the courts find him guilty eventually or not. If the courts abolish their own role in protecting citizen rights through outsourcing to Saudi Arabia, only the people can restore the balance against an abusive presidency.

Notes: 1. <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,148338,00.html> 2. <http://www.voanews.com/english/2005-02-22-voa52.cfm>



Lynne Stewart

In the case of Lynne Stewart, an Amerikan jury in February dissolved the role of the judicial branch in cases concerning terrorist clients. Lynne Stewart is an attorney, who has represented high-profile clients accused of heinous acts. The jury found against her for conspiracy, defrauding the government and aiding terrorists for her conversations with Shiek Omar Abdel Rahman, who has a 65-year sentence for bombing conspiracies and soliciting

crimes.(1)

In the past, the notion of “attorney-client” privilege protected both attorneys and clients so that they could plan their court cases. In this case, the added element is the attack on free speech.

Buying into the “homeland security” and Department of Justice reasoning since 9/11, jurors allowed that an act of speech might be a message to or from terrorists that is illegal. Obviously, the idea that the Constitution is the highest law of the land was not foremost in their minds. They bought into the idea that the government could limit her from reporting in June 2000 that her client opposed a certain cease-fire in Egypt that may have involved an organization called “Islamic Group.”

The court allowed the prosecution to play a videotape from Osama Bin Laden and others talking about spilling blood to release Shiek Omar Abdel Rahman. The prosecutors even accused Lynne Stewart of wanting an Islamic regime in Egypt.(2) MIM is familiar with this sort of reasoning regarding speech used regularly in u.s. prisons to prohibit prisoners from receiving reading materials except those approved by the governor-appointed officials.

We are willing to concur with Andrew C. McCarthy,(3) a federal prosecutor in the 1995 terrorism case against Shiek Omar Abdel Rahman that previous Supreme Court decisions and the Clinton administration played a role in the Lynne Stewart case. That is not what concerns us here. Obviously, if five justices on the Supreme Court decide there should be no Supreme Court and no attorneys for defendants or convicts, we can say the “Supreme Court ruled,” and maybe even followed its own precedents, but we cannot say that ruling was constitutional. Even the judicial branch itself cannot abolish its own role legally. The ultimate authority is logic in the hands of the people.

Notes: 1. <http://www.zmag.org/content/showarticle.cfm?SectionID=43&ItemID=7267> 2. <http://www.nynewsday.com/news/local/manhattan/ny-stew0211,0,6034020.story?coll=nyc-manheadlines-manhattan> 3. <http://www.nationalreview.com/mccarthy/mccarthy200502230740.asp>

Martin Mubanga

The British executive branch is also trying to circumvent the normal rights of the British people. In January 2005, British citizen Martin Mubanga returned from the U.S. prison at Guantanamo Bay (Cuba). He had been there 33 months.

What is more spectacular than the ill-treatment once denied but now increasingly documented at Guantanamo Bay just as it was at Abu Ghraib is that the British government itself was involved in the secret kidnapping of its own citizen to avoid handling the case in England. A British military intelligence (MI6) agent

provided the evidence against Mubanga that the Pentagon now says was flawed.

The Martin Mubanga case and many others seem to point to a new world government in formation where national governments kidnap their own citizens and others for detention at new facilities in a legal limbo. In this way, Blair does not have to send police or the army to shut down the English court system. He just sidesteps it.

For now, the participating governments put up a show for public opinion about wanting their own citizens back from these secret prisons; yet in secret, they are actually partaking in the kidnapping and detention of their own citizens outside the legal systems of their home countries.

The British Guardian well explained the attitude of the British government toward its own citizens: “Last night a Foreign Office spokesman said he could not comment on the activities of British intelligence or security agencies. He said Mubanga’s ‘transfer to Guantanamo Bay is a matter for the Zambian and American authorities.’”(1) Ordinarily in the previous history of national rulers, when one country kidnaps another’s citizens, it is a cause for war. Now it is something deferred to Zambian and American authorities.

Fitting into the same pattern is the belated admission of the British government that its own senior lawyers played a role in drafting interrogation rules for the infamous Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq.(2)

The political climate allowing for these occurrences comes about as a result of economic globalization and the political propaganda from the “war on terror.” It would be far more honest for the Anglo-Saxon imperialists and their many co-conspirators to establish a world government and admit they don’t care about the governments in their home countries anymore. The political difficulties for the co-conspirators stem from the fact that exploiters always fight among themselves. In this case, various nations of exploiters are not yet accustomed to a shared world government.

Note: 1. http://observer.guardian.co.uk/uk_news/story/0,,1407040,00.html 2. http://observer.guardian.co.uk/uk_news/story/0,,1418624,00.html

Kudos to Igor Volsky

As we were writing this article, Igor Volsky published an article in the Marist College student newspaper titled “All the good torture jobs are being sent overseas,” thereby beating us to the point about outsourcing to Saudi Arabia. Volsky pointed out that no bureaucrats or civilians have faced a single punishment yet for Abu Ghraib.

It was good timing by Volsky—and let us add that not all the Abu Ghraib photos have been released yet (including those involving murder)—because a report to

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b3bf-43ca-b732-153c8bf69809

6. Ralph Kinney Bennett, “The Best Thing That Has Ever Happened to Journalism,” March 4, 2005, <http://www.techcentralstation.com/030405B.html>

7. H. Mathew Barkhausen III, “In Defense of Ward Churchill: A Legacy of Scapegoat-ism,” March 2, 2005, cificnews.org/news/view_article.html?article_id=dl1f4852463b3f1ee0974f79c7ddbd

8. David Yeagley, “Ward Churchill Exploits Indians,” February 28, 2005, <http://www.frontpagemag.com/Articles/ReadArticle.asp?ID=17172>

9. Russell Thornton, “‘He loves His white children most,’” Contemporary Sociology 19, no. 4 (1990): 577.

10. Megan Furi and Jill Wherrett, “Indian Status and Band Membership Issues,” February 2003, <http://www.parl.gc.ca/information/library/PRBpubs/bp410-e.htm>

11. J. Matthew Shumway and Richard H.

Jackson, “Native American Population Patterns,” Geographical Review 85, no. 2 (1995): 186.

12. “CSAC Fact Sheet on Indian Gaming in California,” November 5, 2003, http://www.csac.counties.org/legislation/indian_gaming/fact_sheet2.pdf

13. Ward Churchill, “The Crucible of American Indian Identity : Native Tradition versus Colonial Imposition in Postconquest North America,” January 1998, <http://www.zmag.org/ZMag/articles/jan98ward.htm>

14. Christina Berry, “Blood Quantum - Why It Matters, and Why It Shouldn’t,” http://happytrails_2.tripod.com/cherokeetrailsnewsletter/id45.html

“Launch a quiet protest against the reliance on blood quantum to measure Indian authenticity. The next time someone asks you what percentage Cherokee you are tell them that they are asking a rude question and don’t answer — because the answer doesn’t matter. Either you are Cherokee or you’re not.”(14)

USA abolishes juvenile death penalty, pats self on back

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are "categorically less culpable than the average criminal" ("Syllabus," p. 3). They follow this up with:

"Juveniles' susceptibility to immature and irresponsible behavior means "their irresponsible conduct is not as morally reprehensible as that of an adult." Their own vulnerability and comparative lack of control over their immediate surroundings mean juveniles have a greater claim than adults to be forgiven for failing to escape negative influences in their whole environment." ("Syllabus," p. 3)

Yet, a December 14, 2003, ABC News telephone poll shows that 56% of AmeriKKKans supported "the death penalty for [Washington Sniper Lee] Malvo if he is convicted of murder." Only

30% said "oppose." 7% said "depends."

A 1998 500-person telephone poll by the Sam Houston State University College of Criminal Justice Survey Research Program showed that 6.3% of Americans in Texas felt that a juvenile should be at least twelve "before they can be given the death penalty." 8.9% indicated "age 13." 5.6% said age 14. 12.6% said age 15. 25.6% said age 16. 7.8% said age 17. 25.9% indicated "don't know." In total, 33.4% said less than fifteen.

Another example of the same argument that minors are categorically incompetent:

"In recognition of the comparative immaturity and irresponsibility of juveniles, almost every State prohibits those under 18 years of age from voting, serving on

juries, or marrying without parental consent. . . . The second area of difference is that juveniles are more vulnerable or susceptible to negative influences and outside pressures, including peer pressure." ("Opinion of the Court," p. 15)

The Court makes another, strange argument, and one that has a direct bearing on mental illness. They say that the death penalty sentencing "system is designed to consider both aggravating and mitigating circumstances" ("Opinion of the Court," p. 18). Then, they say that it is difficult to determine mitigating circumstances (making sentences less severe) because of psychologists' self-imposed rule (the Court appears to be referring to APA's DSM-IV-TR, but this isn't clear in the slip opinion) "forbidding psychiatrists from diagnosing any patient under 18 as having antisocial personality disorder, a disorder also referred to as psychopathy or sociopathy, and which is characterized by callousness, cynicism, and contempt for the feelings, rights, and suffering of others" ("Opinion of the Court," p. 19). Let's be clear about this: the Court is implying that some juveniles on death row may have (had) "antisocial personality disorder" even though the great bastion of psychology the American Psychological Association itself says that no such thing exists for children. This is how badly the Court wants to defend psychology; it pretends like it knows better than the quacks at the APA.

The twisted thing about this is that Antonin Scalia's dissenting opinion, supporting the continuance of the juvenile death penalty, is the only one that acknowledges the competence of many

children:

"The APA brief [in *Hodgson v. Minnesota*], citing psychology treatises and studies too numerous to list here, asserted: "By middle adolescence (age 14-15) young people develop abilities similar to adults in reasoning about moral dilemmas, understanding social rules and laws, and reasoning about interpersonal relationships and interpersonal problems.'" ("Scalia, J., dissenting," pp. 11-12)

Whether children are categorically less competent than adults isn't really the issue for MIM's line. (Typically, it is only assumed, in a pre- or unscientific way, that children are categorically less competent than adults. But if it turned out that children were less competent than adults, that wouldn't justify the continuance of patriarchy or the forms and practices by which children are oppressed under patriarchy.)

The South Florida Sun-Sentinel reports Floridians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty Director Abraham J. Bonowitz as saying:

"Recent science has shown brain development continues into your 20s. We don't allow children to buy cigarettes, or buy alcohol or sign contracts. The only time we consider children to be adults is when they commit a horrible crime, then we want to punish them harshly." (7)

The Court has another reason, other than opposing repression, for banning the juvenile death penalty. They are embarrassed that the united States "now stands alone in a world that has turned its face against the juvenile death penalty" ("Opinion of the Court," p. 23). They fear

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Glimpses of fascism

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U.S. Congress whitewashing all bureaucratic and civilian authorities by Navy Vice Adm. Albert T. Church came out the same day as Volsky's article.(1)

Yes, Igor, but you should have pointed out that the new director of Homeland Security sworn in March 3rd is Michael Chertoff, whose last name means something like "son of the devil" in Russian.

Note: <http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory?id=567234>

Attorney General Gonzales provides the new slimy glue

The new U.S. Attorney General, Alberto Gonzales is providing the new legal and ideological justifications for the new global prison system. In cases where the united States turns over people to other countries, "We can't fully control what that country might do," he said.(1) He only said that the CIA and State Department ask for assurances from the other governments where the prisons are located. Gonzales admitted he does not know and has not followed up on whether other countries torture suspects despite assurances.(2)

At the same time, Gonzales made it evident for anyone willing to look that there is an ulterior motivation: "Once we put someone in the criminal justice system and they get lawyers, it makes it more difficult to get information." (2) The public should be clear that that is fascist ideology. The net effect is the same as if Bu\$h sent the army or FBI to break up a court proceeding so it could obtain "information" from a suspect.

Despite the move to a globalization of repression, the Bu\$h administration still plays to Amerikan public opinion to increase its leverage with other government players. An example is the just announced u.S. decision to withdraw from the Optional Protocol of the Vienna Convention on Consular Rights granting

citizens of other countries access to their embassies once arrested.(3) The reason given is that the united States wants to carryout death penalties against foreigners, even when they did not have their legal rights accorded through the Vienna Convention that the united States previously signed. The World Court has final say in those cases where the united States honors its past commitment to the Vienna Convention. The death penalty is much more popular in the united States than in most countries, so again, by playing to this unique aspect of Amerikan violence, the politicians make it clear that the newly globalized world order will be on u.S. terms.

On the other hand, while fascism against other countries' peoples is the u.S. norm, the strategy against u.S. citizens received a setback now that a court has ruled that the Bu\$h administration has no executive or war-making powers that enable it to hold u.S. citizen Jose Padilla in a military brig without charges, as it has since May 2002 in connection to an alleged "dirty bomb" plot as an "enemy combatant."(4) In the three years of the meantime, someone could point to the Padilla case as an example of fascism—since it appeared that Bu\$h used the military to sidestep the judiciary. The fact that the court eventually did play its role undercuts the argument that what we have is already classic fascism.

Notes: 1. <http://www.cleveland.com/news/plaindealer/index.ssf?base/news/1110286501204290.xml> 2. http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-gonzales8_mar08,0,3515182.story?coll=la-home-nation 3. <http://www.tdg.ch/tghome/> 4. http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-030705gonzales_lat,0,4963824.story?coll=la-home-nation

What is militarism?

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

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

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

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

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

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

Juvenile death penalty

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for the united States' being associated with "Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and China" (ibid.), who have allegedly executed juvenile offenders since 1990. (China, for one, has officially banned the execution of people who were younger than eighteen when they committed their offenses, and China, unlike the united States, has ratified the limited United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.)

"Only seven countries other than the United States have executed juvenile offenders since 1990: Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and China. Since then each of these countries has either abolished capital punishment for juveniles or made public disavowal of the practice. In sum, it is fair to say that the United States now stands alone in a world that has turned its face against the juvenile death penalty." ("Opinion of the Court," p. 23)

Justice Anthony Kennedy, who wrote the majority opinion, expands on these ideas and says that international opinion is a guide for deciding what constitutes "cruel and unusual punishments." In a dissenting opinion smacking of typical imperialist arrogance, Justice Scalia disagrees, pointing to examples of where foreign criminal justice practices disagree with Amerikan practices, and saying that "the Court should either profess its willingness to reconsider all these matters in light of the views of foreigners, or else it should cease putting forth foreigners' views as part of the reasoned basis of its decisions" ("Scalia, J., dissenting," p. 21).

But BBC News has reported Amnesty International USA Executive Director William Schulz as saying: "Now the US can proudly remove its name from the embarrassing list of human rights violators—that includes China, Iran, and Pakistan—that still execute juvenile offenders."(8)

Other news reports focus on the Supreme Court's decision's boost to the united States' image in the "international community": "The US has stood almost alone in the world in officially sanctioning juvenile executions, a 'stark reality' that can't be ignored, Kennedy wrote."(9)

The Galveston County Daily News emphasizes that the united States now joins other "civilized" countries which have banned the death penalty for juveniles.(10) So now the united States has covered its ass and given itself better moral credentials to wage imperialist war against the exploited and oppressed of the Third World.

Children are (mis)represented in an inconsistent, moral way

In the contemporary united States and several other English-speaking countries, such as the United Kingdom, the public typically views children in a contradictory,

seemingly incoherent way. They view children as either dangerous, vulnerable, or both. Connected with this is the notion that children are categorically incompetent, which actually supports both views of children. Supposedly, children are dangerous because they are irresponsible, and they are vulnerable because they are inept and in eternal need of protection, which translates in most people's minds into protection in the patriarchal family. So, it's not at all surprising that the Tennessee school bus killing suspect has been described as a "murderer" who committed an "unprecedented" "chilling" "criminal" act and insolently attacked what the yellow school bus is said to symbolize ("freedom"), while at the same time, on the very same day, the media portrays various juvenile offenders as being either mentally ill or mentally inferior—or both.

This does not necessarily mean that individuals are that nuanced when dealing with student violence. While some will focus on whether the Tennessee suspect is mentally ill, others will already be calling for the suspect's transfer to the adult/criminal court as a show of being "tough on crime."(11) Both of these two poles have a wrong view of juvenile offenses and crime in general.

For several different reasons, the whole criminal injustice system is self-contradictory when it comes to children. For one, the basis for the juvenile court is what is called the "rehabilitative ideal" (reflecting the notion of children as a still-developing group, deserving of a 'second chance' to become 'productive members of society', and so on), but people are already presuming that the Tennessee suspect may be incorrigible.

Exactly a month after the Columbine High School killings, the united States Senate passed by a large margin the Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Accountability and Rehabilitation Act in May 1999. A part of a larger pattern throughout the united States of "getting tough" on juvenile crime, the 1999 act contains, among other things, provisions making it easier to transfer children to criminal court and easier to house children with adults in facilities, provisions for mandatory jail sentences for recruiting for "gangs," and removes language from

previous legislation in a way that encourages states to stop addressing the issue of disproportionate "racial" minority detention.

A supposed "copycat" in Florida (where the juvenile death penalty was permitted, unlike in Tennessee), where another high school student allegedly shot at another school bus driver with a pellet gun, raises the question what new forms of youth repression will arise. (12) The media's depiction of the demise of idyllic white(-bread) Amerika school buses has the prison industry and prison guard unions drooling.

The shock expressed at a white "A and B" student shooting a school bus driver is particularly disturbing. For the white oppressors' media, oppressed-nationality school violence, presumably involving 'C, D and F' students, is not worth reporting except when it disturbs "communities" in white neighborhoods. Now that even white "A and B" students can commit heinous, senseless murders, the Amerikans are in a frenzy with no logical outlet.

Commentators are now worrying that with the juvenile death penalty gone, there will be less deterrence to violent juvenile crime. For the public, drugging children to prevent them from developing into delinquents suggests itself as a way to avoid having to deter crime.(13) This may mean even more children on drugs, which are a form of social control, as well as a form of repression.

Drugs or more parental monitoring and control—a February 10, 2002, telephone poll by Parade Magazine shows that 89% felt that "lack of parental involvement" was a "leading cause of school violence." 82% felt that "unstable home environment" was a leading cause.

Notes:

1. Gary Tanner, "Tennessee school bus driver fatally shot en route by student," March 3, 2005, /templates/index.cfm?template=story_full&id=965C95B7-0712-4BFB-AEE3-965A93113736

2. Tipper Gore, "Mrs. Tipper Gore's acceptance of the New York University Child Study Center Second Annual Child Advocacy Award - November 30, 1999," <http://www.aboutourkids.org/aboutour/articles/tipper.html>

3. NewsChannel 5 Network (WTVF

Nashville, TN), "Boy, 14, Under Arrest For Bus Driver's Murder," March 3, 2005, <http://www.newschannel5.com/content/news/9649.asp>

4. School Bus Information Council, "Statement on Shooting of School Bus Driver in Cumberland City, TN," <http://press.arrivenet.com/edu/article.php/605240.html>

www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/184748.pdf

5. Lynn Cothorn, "Juveniles and the Death Penalty," 2000, <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/184748.pdf>

6. 543 U. S. ____ (2005), Roper v. Simmons, March 1, 2005, [ch.net/7/257/2422/01mar20051300/www.supremecourtus.gov/opinions/04pdf/03-633.pdf](http://www.supremecourtus.gov/opinions/04pdf/03-633.pdf)

7. Peter Franceschina, "3 Fla. convicts spared death after high court ends juvenile executions," March 2, 2005, [Sun-Sentinel.com, s/local/southflorida/sfl-teenkillers02mar02,04639707.story?coll=sfla-news-sfla](http://www.sun-sentinel.com/s/local/southflorida/sfl-teenkillers02mar02,04639707.story?coll=sfla-news-sfla)

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9. AP, "Supreme Court outlaws death penalty for kids," March 3, 2005, <http://www.taipetimes.com/News/front/archives/2005/03/03/2003225257>

10. Heber Taylor, "It's time jurors had a real choice," Galveston County Daily News, March 3, 2005, <http://galvestondailynews.com/story.lasso?ewcd=95b11434401d8b8>

11. Leon Alligood, "Bus driver slain: Stewart County student shoots woman on bus loaded with kids," Leaf Chronicle (Gannett News Service), March 3, 2005, [w.theleafchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050303/NEWS01/503030306/1002](http://www.theleafchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050303/NEWS01/503030306/1002)

12. Associated Press, "Student charged with pointing gun at school bus driver," Tallahassee Democrat, March 3, 2005, http://www.tallahassee.com/mlid/tallahassee/news/breaking_news/11044221.htm

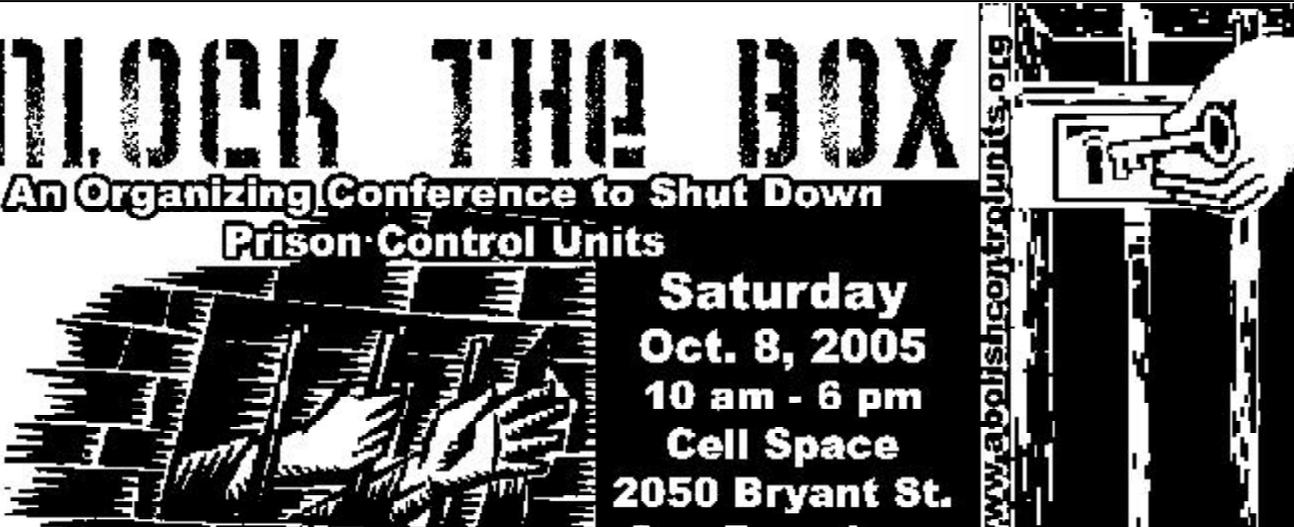
13. Peter Roger Breggin and Ginger Ross Breggin, *The War Against Children of Color: Psychiatry Targets Inner City Youth*, Monroe, ME: Common Courage Press, 1998.

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White lynch mob uses Churchill to deny biological warfare *Crackers in denial on smallpox warfare against natives*

Amherst, MA

There is no statue to Lord Jeffrey Amherst at Amherst College or the town it resides in in Massachusetts. According to the Town Manager—there being no mayor yet—there is also no exhibit. Yet, this small town in Western Massachusetts and Lord Jeffrey Amherst are in the news, because of a concerted reactionary effort to remove Ward Churchill from a tenured professorship at the University of Colorado.

Typical of the slander and libel campaign against Ward Churchill is a statement by “Chad Fairbanks” at the website “Free Republic,” which is a website of military veterans often in the top five for all political websites in terms of website popularity in the united States—thanks to a band of hard-core but aging crackpots who wanted a nuclear exchange over the Vietnam War. Writing to “fuquadukie,” “Fairbanks” said, “The man is a chronic liar, a poseur, and intellectually dishonest (see his claims of government smallpox epidemics against indians done deliberately, for instance) and has done more to harm American Indians than any other white man in recent decades.” (1) As of almost a month later on March 8, there is still not a statement anywhere in the Free Republic thread acknowledging the documented cases of whites’ giving indigenous people smallpox infected blankets. It is Lord Jeffrey Amherst who left behind documents describing this effort and providing the world the first glimpse into biological warfare. Another thread on the “Free Republic” said much the same irresponsible thing without rebuttal or mention of the real history of the united States again referring to Churchill for: “making up the story about smallpox blankets.” (2)

The Free Republic is also an excellent example of the kind of social forces involved in attacking Ward Churchill. There are 26.4 million veterans in the united States, more than one in seven voting age people. (3) Although not all veterans are pathetic reactionaries like the Free Republic, it is true that as the founding fathers predicted, having a large standing army builds a professional self-interest in society—a special interest. When a professor attacks the u.S. military for using biological weapons on indigenous people, there is a risk that more than one in seven voting age people will take it personally and then lobby for his removal. In a society with one in seven hundred as veterans, the risk would be virtually non-existent.

The Ward Churchill case is an excellent example of why democracy for the white trash is not a good thing. The white trash does not favor civil liberties or it would be for prosecuting those responsible for conspiring against Ward Churchill—so that misuse of the word “democracy” to mean liberty is out of place. For the white

trash, democracy means political equality and that everyone’s “opinion” is as good as everyone else’s, and this in a wide range of things that the white trash deems somehow fuzzy. This same white trash would not be caught dead saying that their opinion of how to check for colon cancer is as good as anyone else’s. Nor would they claim to know how to put together a NASCAR vehicle in a competitive event, but let politics come up and any ignorant slobbery will do: “My daughter is a tenured professor and I would fire her in a heartbeat just for some of the nutty ideas she has. But that’s just me. I should have taken her to the woodshed more often when she was little. Back then she seemed like a pretty reasonable sort. The university education twisted her mind and it got worse when she married a flaming liberal who is worse than she is. There’s no hope of ever convincing either of them that they are brainwashed. They truly believe that they are more intelligent than the great ‘unwashed’. Their elitism and arrogance makes me ill.” (1)

We should be clear that this is not some kind of radical proletarian attack on the class structure. Quite the contrary, it is a religious defense of the class structure, an attack on the Enlightenment itself. These reactionaries want more church and advertising brainwashing and less brainwashing by professors. Then they wonder why American educational standards do not compare internationally while u.S. colleges are one of the few export industries.

In these rabid threads opposing Ward Churchill there are no attempts at factual argument. That is not the point. The real point of Free Republic chauvinists like chauvinists across the united States is that only U.S. civilians are innocent and things like the documented use of biological warfare against indigenous people are matters of opinion, not fact.

To be sure, there are those who dispute Ward Churchill’s particular accounting of one small pox outbreak in 1837. The ultra-right loonies are using that academic dispute the same way they are using the bloodline “fraud” idea. They assert something, only to take it back, while knowing full well that most of the infotainment press will report the simple version. So, a Honolulu newspaper publishes that Ward Churchill is not an indigenous persyn. A thousand white trash outlets follow suit, and only a few retract when the original does. Even readers of those outlets that do retract may not notice the retraction. The cumulative effect is the Big Lie. Likewise, in the smallpox outbreak of 1837 controversy, some scholars say some things and a thousand media outlets repeat it as if all the incidents of smallpox infection given by whites to natives were handled in just the one Ward Churchill controversy.

The David Horowitz types of the world stir up first year students quoted as

follows in a major Colorado newspaper: “‘Ward Churchill made up stuff that never happened,’ said Michael Drost, a freshman in international affairs. ‘Students would be expelled for academic dishonesty; why not a tenured professor?’” (4)

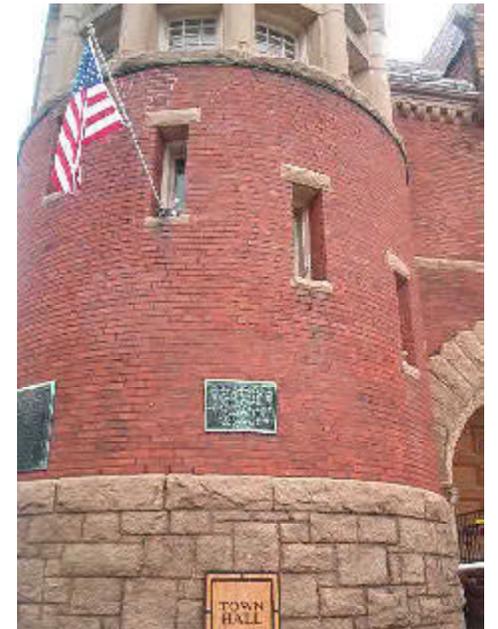
So it goes with the small pox blanket story. In reality, the best one could say for the critics of Ward Churchill, if one reads the fine print, is that they are saying one story of whites’ giving natives smallpox infected blankets is not true, while two are already definitively documented. Yet, the political purpose in the press is evident white genocide denial. The story goes that Churchill “made up” the small pox story—without mentioning historical incidents before the one Churchill was talking about, ones already proved. Now there are over 100 Internet links with Ward Churchill’s name, the phrase “made up” along with smallpox infected blankets but excluding Amherst’s name. That’s the Big Lie technique in action. It eliminates not just the 1837 small pox infection, but the definitively deliberate infections before it. The Big Lie technique obliterates that Ward Churchill was merely extending on what was already known, not “making up” something heard about for the first time.

When we dig down deep into the weenies’ lunacy, we find that they are referring not to an academic paper, but a legal briefing Churchill wrote and later expanded upon and included as documentary evidence in a book. We note that none of the idiot scribblers actually said anything successfully contesting the point of the brief: “Churchill made the argument that protesting the parade was tantamount to combating genocide, and was thus his legal duty under international law” (5)—and that’s in the words of the Brown paper against Churchill being cited occasionally and remotely by the McCarthyists as their touchstone.

Interestingly, while these same whitey genocide-deniers are saying that oral evidence should not be accepted, it is quite obvious that it IS accepted even in the white man’s court. So, the point remains that oral history would count as part of Churchill’s duty in court—a point left out by the inconsistent.

Even the quote of Churchill from the McCarthyists’ beloved paper (5) shows that Churchill himself did not say the documentary evidence for the 1837 small pox infection was as good as for earlier biological warfare by white settlers. In fact, as Brown himself has admitted, his paper has not yet faced peer review, as of now in 2005. (6) In other words, the reactionaries are whipping up first year students in Colorado to call for firing Ward Churchill on the basis of a paper that has not faced peer review yet. That’s clearly sidestepping normal procedures, a part of discrimination.

It’s all obviously discriminatory extra



Amherst Town Hall

academic review of Ward Churchill’s work; even though he received tenure in 1991. It’s clearly motivated by a speech he made. The genocide-deniers did not win their struggle on academic grounds so now they stir up a political witch hunt against one man and seek to scapegoat him for all their anti-intellectual, anti-tenure and anti-education frustration.

Most of these lynch mob activists oppose Mao, but he politicized education while these same lynch mob activists would claim education is not political. When Mao had the Cultural Revolution, education across-the-board had discussion and struggle involving the public. Here in the united States, the new McCarthyist counterrevolution targets one man in a conspiracy against civil rights and in alliance with genocide-deniers. That’s the difference. We Maoists apply principle across-the-board. McCarthyists apply it only to suit their militarist and genocidal agendas.

The other difference is that in any Maoist government, the state will pay for education. The cheap bastards degrading education in Colorado and the rest of North America by extension are up in arms at the University of Colorado’s paying Ward Churchill’s salary, when the state only pays 7% of the school’s annual income! (7) The rest comes from students paying to attend. So much for the loony reactionaries’ respect for free enterprise! There’s no consistency needed when the first priority is denial of white genocide.

Notes:

1. <http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-news/1341755/posts>
2. <http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-news/1339464/posts>
3. <http://www.suntimes.com/output/elect/cst-wns-kerry05.html>
4. http://www.denverpost.com/Stories/0,1413,36~61~271_8487,00.html
5. <http://hal.lamar.edu/~BROWNTF/Churchill1.htm>
6. http://www.insidehighered.com/insider/a_new_ward_churchill_controversy

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“Little Eichmanns” and the bombing of Dresden

Talking points for the Ward Churchill campaign

A German poll came out in February showing that a relatively large portion of German youth thought the World War II bombing of Dresden by the Allies was wrong. 27% of Germans under 30 called it a “bombing holocaust.” Yet among those over age 60, only 15% said so.

The use of the term “holocaust” draws a deliberate and snide comparison to the Holocaust of Jews, and thus we doubt that many of those 27% are principled pacifists. The international proletariat opposes the German neo-Nazis who commemorated the Dresden bombing February 13 2005. We are not surprised that the hard-fought results of the “collective responsibility” movement in 1945 and 1946 are eroding in Germany as older people die and younger people live in a still decadent imperialist system, which could yet give rise to another internal fascism.

Dresden city officials taking the correct approach commemorated the bombing while emphasizing: “the contributions of citizens and institutions in Dresden to war-mongering, National Socialist oppression

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7. http://www.dailycamera.com/bdc/cda/article_print/0,1983,BDC_2448_3536907_ARTICLE-DETAIL-PRINT,00.html

Addendum

People of Amherst not pleased with reactionary spin on smallpox

Over 50 people of Amherst have signed the petition for Ward Churchill and launching a criminal investigation into the conspiracy against his civil rights. Everywhere people expressed amazement at how the discussion of smallpox warfare against natives had been so grossly simplified and obliterated. In Amherst, MA, “the story of the smallpox blankets” is not associated with Ward Churchill.

Some town residents simply said, “why don’t they check with a historian?” Town officials advised the same thing.

For reference: Web links

Lord Jeffrey Amherst’s letters on biological warfare against natives:

http://www.nativeweb.org/pages/legal/amherst/lord_jeff.html

Not just one, but two separate u.s. officers documented as involved:

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/smallpox1.html>

British army used smallpox against American revolutionaries:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/war/coldwar/pox_weapon_01.shtml

and the crimes committed — for example on the Jewish inhabitants of the city.”

On February 13, 1945, hundreds of British bombers killed tens of thousands of Dresden residents in a raid. Even if the wildest propaganda stories are true though, the total civilian deaths were small compared with what happened at the hands of Nazi Germans.

The February 2005 commemorations in Dresden demonstrate again why the MIM line is correct. Without the theme of “collective responsibility,” there would be no way to oppose the neo-Nazis wanting to gear up for more wars and World War II revenge. It was a huge advance to get the German majority to accept responsibility for countless oppressive actions in the Nazi period. That lesson needs to be learned and extended.

The only possible alternative would be a militant pacifist approach, but people able to take such an approach are less than 1%, especially in the number one rampaging country today, the united States. Before trying to criticize Ward Churchill from the peace angle, would-be critics should check whether they are consistent pacifists themselves. Then even if they are rare members of that infinitesimal minority of consistent pacifists, that MIM calls pacifist-anarchists, would-be critics should look at survey data or interview a few hundred people to realize how unlikely it is that such a view will prevail at this time, within the imperialist system. The “collective responsibility” movement in Germany showed that it is possible for people to own up to their responsibilities for making predatory wars, much more than we see in the united States today.

The problem is that for those raised in a society of violence such as the highest stage of capitalism known as imperialism, it is not yet possible to take a political stand consistent with the immediate cessation of all violence. The political tools for that are lacking to the public thanks to the imperialist system’s culture and upbringing of children. A much more plausible advance and serious contribution to peace is only possible through “collective responsibility.”

Too often, the petty-bourgeoisie picks and chooses from pacifism instead of taking up consistent pacifism and this is actually one of the major obstacles in our work. By picking and choosing, these petty-bourgeois activists who have not studied the overall public opinion situation (something Maoists call having “rational knowledge”) come up with strange and highly individual conglomerations of reasons to criticize Ward Churchill, while his position is actually simple and consistent. Individualists with their own spiritual and psychological reasons for everything and their own individual experiences as the ultimate touchstone, hold back the anti-militarist movement in

Amerika. They don’t realize that we have to be able to relate to hundreds of millions of people consistently to be able to build something that is going to work, build unity and move forward.

The united States illustrates the problem by the number of people who say the World Trade Center bombing victims were innocent, but the Dresden victims were not. That would be the most common single opinion in Amerika today. It’s at the root of our global political difficulties.

We at MIM are tired of these hypocrites risking our lives with backward nationalist ideologies that are never going to work. If northern Koreans can get nukes, anyone can and it’s about time the Ann Coulters, David Horowitzes and other unreconstructed McCarthyists of the white trash figured it out. We did not hear them calling Dresden city officials at the 2005 commemoration speaking of collective responsibility (essentially admitting Germany was composed of “little Eichmanns”) “quasi-traitorous” or “anti-German” and “pro-terrorist,” though several times more German civilians died in Dresden than American civilians did in the World Trade Center.

Too often petty-bourgeois critics focus on their own inner spiritual questions when they take to political activism, and this results in criticism of Ward Churchill who is actually advancing a more consistent and advanced line of ethics than 99% of the public. The bottom line is that people who think the bombing of Dresden and Hiroshima was right cannot turn around and complain when anti-American fighters also bomb civilians. In fact, even those of us who are consistent pacifists or Maoists cannot complain, because as of yet we have not been effective, so we must join in collective responsibility and not think that our own inner spiritual purity is good enough.

The people complaining about the World Trade Center obviously do not know or don’t care about the CIA office destroyed there and the ex-French secret service in charge of pursuing Bin Laden killed in the World Trade Center or they would have realized they cannot complain about what the U.S. military commanders called “collateral damage” in killing civilians in Iraq. Christians upholding the golden rule cannot believe only American civilians are innocent. Only uber-patriotic scum believe that and they’re going to get us all killed. Maybe if Amerika were not so wrapped up in military bases, there could actually be a place where people could live and not become “collateral damage” in the event of a conflict.

If the bombing of Dresden were right, then so was the bombing of the World Trade Center. Unfortunately, given the public opinion situation in Germany then and Amerika now, reality is on Ward Churchill’s side, not the anarchist-

pacifists’. Had the anarchist-pacifists had any clue how to get something done, Ward Churchill would not have needed to say what he did. If the bombing of Iraqi citizens was right and the killing of 500,000 Iraqi children through sanctions was right, then like the participants of World War II, we should not be shocked by retaliation.

Most people in the world are concerned about the loss of civilian lives everywhere. It’s only the war-mongers—the Coulters, Horowitzes, Bu\$hes—who are saying that American civilian lives are innocent but no one else’s civilians are. The imperialist war-mongers must be removed from power, before the world’s northern Koreans teach us all a lesson.

Note: <http://portal.telegraph.co.uk/opinion/main.jhtml?xml=/opinion/2005/02/10/do1001.xml&sSheet=/portal/2005/02/10/ixportal.html>

Talking points

Passer-by: What’s that?

Activist: It’s a petition for Ward Churchill, a professor at the University of Colorado. He’s in the process of being fired for a speech about 9/11.

Passer-by: What did he say?

Activist: He called Americans “little Eichmanns.”

Passer-by: Who was Eichmann?

Activist: He was a Nazi.

Passer-by: But those World Trade Center people were totally innocent.

Activist: We believe we are little Eichmanns and have to take collective responsibility.

Passer-by: How can you say that about the World Trade Center victims?

Activist: Did you favor the bombing of Dresden in World War II?

Passer-by: What?

Activist: The German city. The Allies bombed civilians in Nazi Germany.

Passer-by: Why?

Activist: They said it was making industrial contributions to the war.

Passer-by: Yes. [Pointer: This is the single most common white trash view in Amerika, combining the view that German civilians were worthy of bombing but Amerikan ones were not.]

Activist: So you only think American civilians are innocent?

Passer-by: How can you make that comparison?

Activist: Ward Churchill pointed out that 500,000 Iraqi children died from U.S. sanctions and that was admitted by Secretary of State Madelaine Albright. We’ve been engaged in countless wars since World War II. We can’t be surprised by the World Trade Center.

Passer-by: No, I think the bombing of German civilians was wrong. [Will come up more often in more advanced places.]

Activist: Ok, I see you are consistent then. Are you a pacifist?

IL Prisoner reaches out to youth

I have recently learned about your movement through a comrade here with me. Your agenda and goals caught my eye [as they match up with] the political work and ideas that I reflect on daily.

The type of political work I'm interested in is community organizing and exposing this vicious, corrupt and hypocritical system. I have been in this concentration camp for 12 years. I came in here at the age of 15, and I am going on 28 this year. I have a few more years left.

As for the free books program, I would like to take part in that if possible. In return I'll work in any political position that you would need me to. I'm very much interested in learning about Mao and Marxism-Leninism. I would like to start a prison outreach program for inner-city youth centers on the real politics of the real prison system. I would like to tell the youth the proper steps to secure and protect their rights against bogus frame-ups and swine abuse. There are so many things I would like to do, and I know through you and your political education and organizing, my ideas can become a reality. Thank you for your continuous work and political education to awaken people to the beast.

— an Illinois prisoner, February, 2005

MIM responds: We are happy to get this letter from a prisoner who knows what kind of organizing s/he wants to do, and wants to use Under Lock & Key as a venue for doing it. Our pages are always open to activism that is both anti-prisons and anti-imperialist. That's what we're here for, and that's just the sort of work the Free Books for Prisons program is designed to promote.

Revolution and democracy are the same thing

I was given your info by a friend that saw I was into politics. This is a new thing for me, I've always taken politics for granted. When I was out I voted, but I did not understand the whole political machine. I'm starting to now, but I think first I need to understand what a democracy truly is. So can you help me out on that? Is revolution a political subject?

— an Illinois prisoner, January, 2005

MIM responds: Living in Amerika, it's easy to become confused about what democracy is. The literal meaning of democracy is rule by the people (from the Greek, demos), which can be understood as majority rule. Of course in practice in this country, less than half the eligible people vote for a selection of pre-screened representatives of the bourgeoisie, who then pursue hegemony over the majority of the world's population on behalf of this country's majority bought-off population (which is actually just a small minority of the world). Under this system called imperialism, revolution by the international majority to overthrow the rule of the minority is the only genuine democratic movement available.

Mao saves IL prisoner from pig incitement

As for me, I'm preparing for my release from prison within the next 11 months. Reading, studying and practicing MLM among other subjects of revolutionary interest, and getting my physical exercise on. Of course, I continue to experience "pigs" trying to bait and goad

Under Lock & Key

News from Prisons & Prisoners

me into committing acts that will either extend my stay in prison or have me executed by gunfire. If it was not for the things I've learned from in-depth study of Mao, especially concerning War, I would have self-destructed and the enemy would have destroyed me.

— an Illinois prisoner, January, 2005

Institutional slavery - Tool of oppression

There is a popular saying that comes to mind 'Slavery isn't dead, it's just changed form.' Racism is now widely institutional across Amerika. There are so many brothers and sisters incarcerated in Amerikkka's prison systems held under the iron hand of the corporate elite. Many comrades have been captured in the struggle. Third World minorities are and have been targeted from all angles in Amerika nationwide. We (USW) recognize this as an act to finance corporate Amerika economically, at the expense of the underprivileged of course.

Millions of tax dollars are being used to build these concentration camps under the guise that it makes our world (society) safer. These prisons are built relatively clean in a sterile prison environment that only conceals a more pernicious type of confinement. The use of sensory deprivation, the use of mind controlling drugs, the use of behavior modification techniques, being given numbers (CDC #) like cattle. We are being treated as products instead of human beings. All this to bring about the deterioration of the prisoner in whole or in part.

The constant use of strip searches is not designed to ensure security because you are being watched 24 hours a day. They are used to humiliate someone probing into their body cavities is an act of rape, an act of complete dehumanization. It is done by prison staff and prison guards in an impersonal and very cold cruel and calculated way designed to destroy your self esteem. Instead of rehabilitating those incarcerated they are destroying people's minds and creating monsters for tomorrow.

You take a man, put him in a cage, deny him any right, any ability to grow. There's no teaching. There's no educational programs, there's no social programs, the only program is lock em up. So when these people in jail go home, they'll be a problem again. Where's the rehabilitation? Amerika loves to continually tell the world how they're doing something - we're taking care of the problem. Instead what you've done is created a problem that you cannot solve. The Amerikkklan criminal justice system is a farce, a fraud there's no correction being done. What is being done is corruption. Prison has become a booming money system, as well as an instrument to further oppression.

Prison is modern day slavery that effects not only one domestic group, but many third world minorities across the U.S. Comrades, we need to wake up and realize that we are up against a white power structure whose purposes are more political and economical than anything. Many Blacks and Latinos, as well as low class whites, make up the prison

system's population. Amerika is functioning on imperialism. We are being labeled criminals, urban terrorist, social failures. The majority incarcerated come from poor families, broken homes, dysfunctional environments. Many are unable to find work due to the high unemployment rates in many areas of this country has become a breeding ground for hopelessness, anger and despair. All the traditional mechanisms for empowerment, opportunity and self-improvement have been closed.

Comrades, we are in the midst of a grand economic experiment to build more prisons and lock more people up because Amerika. The white power structure makes sure their power and jobs are secure through institutional slavery.

Comrades, one of the most important things we must do while we are under lock and key within these concentration camps is to practice self growth: we must build our minds, bodies and spirits daily. We must maintain our resistance toward the European imperialist structure through our discipline and unity from within these prison walls as well as outside these prison walls. We must liberate ourselves by uniting through struggle to overthrow the hand of the oppressors.

We must wake up and realize what's going on comrades. We have the opportunity to empower ourselves through political revolutionary unity we must first want to grow. We must want our liberation. Once we come forward and embrace the struggle and work with our comrades towards overthrowing this oppression, only then will we realize that our freedom comes from within us. Our freedom can neither be given or taken by anybody, except ourselves. Comrades, let's work towards freeing our minds of the ignorance that pledges it. In times of struggle, resistance comes naturally.

- A California prisoner, December 2004

Prisons divide prisoners

This system in CA can be considered a success by the "state's standards." We see "economic soldiers" in Iraq, but we also have "economic prisoners," inmates scooped up from particular areas around LA, etc. In the B-prisons I've been housed at (lastly here), inmates sit into gangs/groups from these areas.

Even though these inmates come from low economic areas the courts now put restitution on inmates, which the system collects from anybody sending him money. First 22%, then 35%, soon 55% of any money sent to the prisoners. Phone calls are outrageous. I don't even call home.

You would think that Blacks/Mexicans/Latinos and poor whites would band together to "make change" but now-a-days that is a fantasy. At 180 prisons, (not only are we very separated by different yards) but also, those who don't work or go to school, only come out of their cells 2 hours a day, 3 times a week.

But the main organizing challenge is inmates from particular gangs/groups have their own philosophy which is not politically

based. Yes, independent minded individuals may click together, but the yards are composed of area-people, area gangs, economic prisoners from such areas, and the prisoncrats are aware of that and how to control things by that knowledge and experience.

And without being able to pinpoint certain acts by inmates, the fact remains that this system has produced a "snitching-tell-all" type of inmate whereas no level of trust exists among no one. Concealing and verifying matters can absorb one's time, if one indulges in such prison concerns.

These scattered prisons, "war zones" in various areas of CA has put forth a strange mixture of inmates with conduct unexplainable.

So when you have un-political inmates, who were actually living lives trying to be "minor capitalists" in this unbalanced system, what do you have?

In my unstudied opinion, we have reached a point in this city and state, even the nation where it looks like the system will be not be turned back around easily, if at all. Even in the prison/parole world, the prison guards

MIM on Prisons & Prisoners

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

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

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

and parole officers are in the same "union" which would explain the high violation rate (job security). Even Gov. Terminator got slapped by their combined powerful hand, which they protected their CDC 4 billion dollar yearly budget, which grows yearly.

When you have so many prisons, prisoners, then you can conclude that a large section of society has been locked up, and even the prisoners see that running such institutions take a lot of lock-downs and confinement because maybe this many people were not meant to be locked up in so many hidden institutions scattered around the state, for purely job creation and other state and government reasons.

— a prisoner in California, February 2005

MIM responds: We agree with this comrade's assessment of the divisions that exist among prisoners, but we also see that imprisonment is a politicizing event for many people. And the brothers and sisters in United Struggle from Within, working with MIM's support and labor on the outside, are slowly building greater scientific thinking and struggle behind the bars. We need to unite the un-political groups and show them that we can unite in fighting the oppression behind bars. In this way we will build a movement to take on the Criminal Injustice System.

Horrible conditions at new SHU in California

Back in June 2004 a lot of us that were in the ad-seg in D-upper facility, were moved over to Z-unit "new ad-seg." This unit is designed like a SHU. Since we have been here, we have been deprived of a lot of things. This place was not even ready to be opened yet. The heating/air conditioning was not fixed yet. Our law library only had a very small number of books. And they took all our stuff and said we are only allowed one book, one magazine and one newspaper just like the Corcoran SHU. When we were in the ad-seg in D-upper there was no limit to how many books/magazines that we could receive. So we had to send them home or donate them.

Even though they treat it like a SHU, we are not allowed what is entitled to us as SHU inmates: TVs, radios, shoes, etc. They only come by once a week for haircuts. No razors even when we shower. But the CDC Title 15 states we should get haircuts three times a week. To top it off, now that it has been snowing, they cut our yard. And when we do get it, they only give us an hour and a half, starting from when the first man leaves the cell. The reason they say is that the toilets are turned off so we can not flush them for the pipes are frozen. So no more three hours, three times a week. Yet when we were over in D-upper ad-seg we would stay out there three hours, three times a week. And the K9s would lock the toilets so they would not flush. Now

where's the justice?

Now they cut our law library to once a week and each section has a designed day, only five slots available for eight sections with eleven cells each. All are double bunked. So if everyone wants to go, it could be a few weeks.

Right now there is a 602 [formal complaint] on the food, heating and property conditions. But each one keeps getting shot down. A lot of us SHU inmates have been waiting on a bus to the Bay and yet it is said that Pelican Bay is not taking any indeterminate SHU inmates at this time. Yet even though we are SHU inmates they refuse to give us what we have coming and are not even trying to transfer us out of here any faster. Hopefully some thing will be done and soon. For this is unjust for all who are back here.

- a prisoner at High Desert State Prison, January 2005

Bush government is wolf, sheep's clothing

I am a prisoner here in Pelican Bay SHU. I am extending my cordial regards to all like minded revolutionaries who stand against capitalists and imperialists. I received your missive and it was embraced. Your missive contained a lot of sound views and collective goals. I am not much of a writer, however I will strive to learn and do my part to contribute to your newspaper and keep MIM abreast to grievances against C.D.C for any injustices and misconduct.

My condolences to all the families and victims enduring hardships from the tsunami in Asia. My heartfelt sympathy to those who live in poverty around the world struggling to survive. Bush and his cronies quickly began sending the U.S. military muscle to establish a foothold in the region of southeast Asia, and exercise their capitalist strategies to export wealth and also give their freedom sermons to the natives there.

The U.S. wants to win people's minds for their so-called "war on terrorism." Bush and his regime are the wolf in sheep's clothing. The hidden motive of the U.S government is to use humanitarian propaganda to gain from the tragedy in Asia and plant spies for the war on terrorism. The U.S. will negotiate loans with Asia to keep the poor in perpetual debt with the U.S. government. The people who will feel the burden of Asia's debt years from now will be some of those orphaned by the Tsunami.

On American so-called world news, Bush has used his poker face to deceive the American public to give donations. Most the donations Bush requested will probably never reach Asia but go to help Bush pay for the war in Iraq. Bush is bamboozling the tax payers. The Bush regime doesn't care about Asia, Bush and his regime bombs innocent

civilians all the time in Iraq and other places, so what are the U.S. reasons for wanting to help Asia? The U.S doesn't even care about its own troops! Bush deceived Americans by saying that invading Iraq was a "just war". His reason for war was weapons of mass destruction. None of those were ever found.

When the so-called world news showed the U.S. government announcing their contribution to the tsunami hit area of Asia, the world criticized the U.S government's greediness. The greediness of the U.S is typical, after all the money and wealth and land the U.S acquired was stolen and came from murdering people of color. Just like the land stolen from Native indigenous people. This is why it is in the U.S government's nature not to give, it is in all the history books.

— a prisoner in California, February 2005

Poetry

I live within stone walls surrounded by tall towers.

Guns aim down but I'll never be tamed.

I was grown in cages so I am full of hate.

This rage ticks with time...chains bind my

body but not my mind or soul, I

am in control.

My mind is sharp as the razor wire.

With time to burn here in solitary I learn

revolutionary study.

Revolution is the solution to wipe out

capitalist pollution and

imperialist institutions.

Like many I was born in poverty, from the

slums to prison living

conditions created a time bomb that ticks-

soon to be released and unleash

the wrath on the dysfunctional capitalist

society who confined me and

tried to blind me by hiding history and keeping

us minorities in poverty

and in prison.

The sun is rising.

It's a new day - time for uprising, we are no

longer the minority but the

majority.

The rich are few but the poor many.

The sun is demanding retribution -the blood

of the rich.

We must remember our ancestor's the

Cuauhtemoc.

The Mexican honored the sun god,

Huitzilopochtli.

With the capitalist Spanish blood we must

follow the path of armed

struggle.

Zapata refused to live on his knees but choose

to die on his feet

fighting.

When the rich give us nothing but poverty

or a prison cell, we should give

them hell!

by a prisoner in California
February, 2005

Join the fight against the injustice system

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Facts on US imprisonment

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

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

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

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

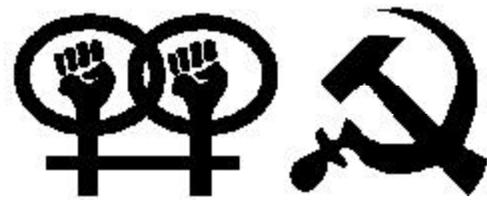
Notes: 1. Marc Mauer, "Americans Behind Bars: The International Use of Incarceration 1993," The Prison Sentencing Project, 918 F. St. NW, Suite 501, Washington, DC 20004 (202) 628-0871 Reference: SRI: R8965-2, 1994

2. Ibid., 1992 report.

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

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

5. Atlantic Monthly December, 1998.



Irak: Las elecciones son una fase nueva en la ocupación yanqui

Por: Carlos Varea (*).
www.eldiariointernacional.com

La Junta Electoral iraquí presentaba finalmente el sábado 13 de febrero los resultados de los comicios celebrados en Irak el pasado 30 de enero. Los resultados se ajustan a lo previsto, esencialmente un reparto de los 275 escaños de la nueva Asamblea Nacional entre las formaciones asociadas a los ocupantes y que han formado parte de las instancias previas instauradas por EEUU y Reino Unido tras la invasión de Irak, primero del Consejo Gubernativo y, a partir de junio de 2004, del denominado Gobierno Interino, presidido por Iyad Alawi [1].

El número oficial de participantes en los comicios ha sido fijado finalmente en 8.456.266 votantes, sobre un total de inscritos de 14,7 millones, es decir el 59%. De los 20 millones de potenciales votantes se habían inscrito para poder hacerlo 14 millones, según fuentes oficiales, es decir el 70%. Calcúlese el porcentaje final total de participación: en torno al 42%.

Lo más relevante es que la coalición, si no exclusivamente shi'í (incluye formaciones de otras comunidades y confesiones), si articulada en torno a la figura del gran ayatollah as-Sistani y las dos principales formaciones confesionales shi'ies (el Congreso Supremo de la Revolución Islámica en Irak, CSRII y ad-Dawa), la Alianza Unida Iraquí (AUI), ha obtenido, según declaraciones propias, menos votos de los esperados: 1,9 millones. La AUI ha logrado así el 47,6% de los casi 8,5 millones de votos emitidos, el 60% de ellos en Bagdad (donde votó el 51% de los inscritos) y el resto en las nueve provincias del sur del país, donde el promedio de participación fue del 72% [2].

Hay discrepancias en la asignación del número de escaños, pero la AUI contará según el reparto de la Junta Electoral con 132, es decir carecerá de mayoría absoluta en la Cámara (fijada en dos tercios) pero será la fuerza principal. Efecto colateral inevitable de la estrategia de desmantelamiento confesional y sectario del Estado iraquí seguida por la Administración Bush, este hecho solo atenuará parcialmente la poderosa irrupción de Irán en el escenario interno iraquí, dada la estrecha relación con este país que mantienen tanto la propia jerarquía shi'í iraquí (as-Sistani es iraní), como las dos formaciones principales de la lista vencedora, el CSRII y ad-Dawa (que incluso combatieron al lado de Teherán durante la guerra irano-iraquí).

La siguiente lista más votada ha sido la de la coalición —de los otrora enemigos— Unión Patriótica del Kurdistan (UPK, de Talaban) y el Partido Democrático del Kurdistan (PDK, liderado por Barzani), la denominada Alianza Kurda, con el 25,4% de los votos y que tiene asignados 71 escaños. La tercera es la del actual primer ministro Alawi, la Lista Iraquí, con el 13,6% de los votos y 38 escaños. La cuarta más votada es la encabezada por el actual presidente interino del país, Ghazi al-Yawar, sunní, que contará con cinco escaños. Al-Yawar probablemente ha recogido el limitado voto de las provincias centrales del país, con un porcentaje mínimo de participación en la de al-Anbar (con capital en ar-Ramadi y donde se localiza Faluya), el 2%, y máximo en la de Salah al-Din, con el 29%. Las provincias caracterizadas como de “mayoría sunní” por los medios de comunicación suman siete millones de iraquíes, un cuarto de la población total del país.

Otras siete candidaturas se reparten el resto de escaños de la Asamblea, entre ellas la del Partido Comunista (Unión del Pueblo, con dos) y una lista de seguidores del clérigo Moqtadar as-Sadr (lista Nacional Independiente, con otros dos), quien se desvinculó de la lista promovida por as-Sistani, pero que, respetando el liderazgo religioso de la jerarquía shi'í (al-Marja'iyah, integrada por cuatro ayatollahs), no llamó al boicot activo de los comicios [3]. Esta lista de seguidores de as-Sadr ha recibido su apoyo mayoritariamente en la provincia de Maysan, donde el porcentaje de participación ha sido el máximo estatal, como en el Kurdistan, del 85% [4]. Tras las elecciones, as-Sadr ha pedido un calendario para la retirada de las tropas de ocupación [5] y

probablemente espera canalizar de nuevo a su favor la oposición mayoritaria a la presencia de los ocupantes entre el electorado shi'í a medida que se evidencia que la Asamblea y el nuevo gobierno, como ya se ha adelantado, no pedirá a EEUU y demás países ocupantes el fin de su presencia en el país [6].

Una situación de interinidad

Estos resultados electorales, se les otorgue la fiabilidad que se quiera (las denuncias de irregularidades han sido muchas, particularmente en la disputada ciudad de Kirkuk [7], que la coalición UPK-PDK reivindicará como capital de un ampliado Kurdistan iraquí), prefiguran un panorama político en Irak para el próximo año complejo, que habrá de resolverse con un reparto equilibrado de cargos entre las tres listas más votadas, en una atmósfera que no pierde su carácter de interinidad.

Así, el nuevo parlamento habrá de estar constituido para el primero de marzo y habrá de abordar la formación de un nuevo gobierno y la redacción de una nueva Constitución basada en la denominada Ley Administrativa Transitoria, un texto provisional aprobado hace ahora un año que, según el calendario establecido por la Autoridad Provisional de la Coalición antes de su disolución en junio de 2004, habrá de someterse a referéndum el 15 de octubre. Tras ello, se convocarán nuevamente elecciones generales el 15 de diciembre para elegir otra nueva Asamblea y un nuevo gobierno, ya por cinco años.

La Administración Bush sin duda participará activamente en lograr un acuerdo entre los triunfadores en lo que respecta a la designación de los cargos de primer ministro y presidente del país. Alawi ha procurado en estos días —con visita a Irbil incluida— que los partidos kurdos le apoyen en su intento de mantenerse como primer ministro, haciendo valer para ello su carácter de puente —“shi'í laico” [sic]— entre las dos listas más votadas. La alianza UPK-PDK postula a Jalal Talabani, líder de la UPK, como presidente del país. Por su parte la coalición ganadora ha insistido en que quiere para sí el cargo de primer ministro, designando para éste a Ibrahim al-Jaafari, máximo dirigente de ad-Dawa y actual vicepresidente del país [8]. Presentado como un moderado por medios occidentales, al-Jaafari, exilado en Irán desde los años 80, pertenecía a la denominada “rama londinense” de ad-Dawa, más proclive que la parte de dirección del partido asentada en Teherán a asociarse a los planes de EEUU y Reino Unido de invasión de Irak.

Fuentes kurdas avanzaban un acuerdo preliminar por el cual la Alianza Kurda finalmente apoyaría a un primer ministro de la lista shi'í y no a Alawi, a cambio de que la presidencia del país se otorgue a Talabani [9], un hombre con muy buenas relaciones con Irán, Turquía e Israel.

Las líneas de mayor tensión entre la Alianza Kurda y la Alianza Unida Iraquí de as-Sistani es la reivindicación federalista de la primera y la imposición de la ley islámica como exclusiva fuente de legislación en la nueva constitución de la segunda, ya expresada abiertamente tras los comicios [10]. La posibilidad de acuerdo, aquél derivado de la presión estadounidense y del sometimiento a la lógica de los ocupantes de unos y de otros en esta nueva etapa de dominación, que cabe imaginar como caracterizada por una división territorial de facto de Irak, mientras se ajustan para 2006 los acuerdos sobre la presencia militar indefinida de EEUU y Reino Unido y la privatización de los hidrocarburos. En suma, la gestión y reparto en clave neocolonial del crudo iraquí.

Por su parte, las formaciones que llamaron al boicot de las pasadas elecciones en Irak, agrupadas en el Congreso Fundacional Nacional Iraquí, han emitido un comunicado el 14 de febrero al término de una nueva reunión mantenida en Bagdad. Entre las formaciones y personalidades reunidas se encontraba un representante de Moqtadar as-Sadr, junto a la Asociación de Ulemas Musulmanes y formaciones laicas y nacionalistas (incluido el Partido Baaz). El comunicado, avanzado por Al-Jazeera, exige de la comunidad internacional “[...] un calendario internacionalmente garantizado para la retirada de

las tropas extranjeras” y fija las dos condiciones de su participación en un “[...] proceso de reconciliación nacional y redacción de la [nueva] Constitución”: que se ponga fin a la designación de cargos según “[...] criterios religiosos, raciales o étnicos” y “[...] el reconocimiento del derecho del pueblo a resistir” la ocupación. El comunicado declara como “ilegítimo” el gobierno iraquí que surge de unas elecciones que son caracterizadas como “fraudulentas” y con limitado grado de participación popular.

Continuidad de la presencia extranjera

Debido a este carácter de interinidad de las nuevas instancias iraquíes surgidas del 30 de enero, no se espera que EEUU discuta con el gobierno iraquí que ha de ser ahora constituido el denominado Status of Forces Agreement (“Acuerdo sobre el estatuto de las fuerzas [extranjeras en Irak]”) [11], es decir, un calendario de retirada parcial y escalonada de las tropas de ocupación y la formalización de su presencia definitiva en el país por medio del establecimiento de hasta 14 bases militares estadounidenses y británicas, asociadas —se afirma— a puntos neurálgicos de extracción, producción y exportación de crudo y gas iraquíes [12]. En cualquier caso, todas las declaraciones más recientes de miembros de la Administración Bush y del propio presidente coinciden en el mantenimiento de la presencia de las tropas estadounidenses más allá, cuando menos, de este año 2005, máximo cuando se confirma lo poco que avanza el proceso de formación y adiestramiento de los nuevos cuerpos de seguridad iraquíes, hasta el punto que el Pentágono ha renunciado a dar cifras concretas sobre esta materia [13].

Mandos militares estadounidenses han reconocido que el nivel de violencia el día de las elecciones fue muy superior al inicialmente admitido, entre 200 y 300 ataques, cuando el vicesecretario de Defensa Wolfowitz limitó el número de acciones a ocho ataques suicidas [14]. El segundo mando del Comando Central de EEUU, el general Lance Smith, ha señalado que la actividad insurgente se mantiene tras las elecciones en niveles similares a las semanas anteriores. En diciembre murieron en combate 55 militares de EEUU (58 en diciembre) con una distribución territorial amplia, a los que hay que sumar otros 52 fallecidos en “incidentes no hostiles” [15]. Desde el 1 de mayo de 2003 han muerto en combate 1.019 militares de EEUU. En el transcurso de los primeros quince días de este mes han muerto en combate al menos 15 militares estadounidenses.

Además han muerto por la actividad insurgente 10 británicos, un italiano (en Nasiriyah el día 19 de enero) y ocho ucranianos y un kazaco (todos ellos en la provincia de Wasit). Los militares británicos murieron el mismo día de las elecciones por el derribo de un avión de transporte C-130 a 30 kilómetros al noroeste de la capital, una práctica que empieza a preocupar a las autoridades de ocupación por su carácter creciente y porque los insurgentes estarían utilizando misiles relativamente sofisticados tierra-aire SAM y MANPADS (Man Portable Air Defense Systems), provenientes de arsenales clandestinos del ejército iraquí [16].

Tras las elecciones, mandos estadounidenses indicaban a la cadena CNN que el Pentágono ha elevado hasta entre 13.000 y 17.000 la cifra oficial de insurgentes (antes limitada a 5.000), en su mayoría, según los oficiales, militantes o cuadros militares baasistas; menos de un millar serían seguidores de az-Zarqawi.

Escándalos petrolíferos

Nada parece indicar que el nuevo gobierno iraquí se salga del guión establecido por EEUU y Reino Unido. Sobre el terreno seguirán los más de 40.000 asesores civiles y militares estadounidenses que, impuestos por Paul Bremer y designados para cinco años, supervisarán igualmente cada una de las decisiones —si es que cabe calificarlas como tales— de las nuevas instancias iraquíes [17].

Al igual que en la faceta securitaria, no cabe imaginar que el nuevo gobierno iraquí altere la intervención de EEUU en la gestión de la renta petrolífera. El actual ministro de Finanzas —antes

mencionado como candidato del CSRII a primer ministro—, Adil Abd al-Mahdi, se manifestaba partidario el pasado mes de diciembre, durante una visita a Washington, de la aprobación por el nuevo gobierno iraquí de una ley de privatización del sector petrolífero que permitiera a las compañías extranjeras invertir —y ser por tanto propietarias— en cualquier tramo de la explotación energética del país. Contratos en esa línea ya estarían siendo aprobados de manera encubierta en estos meses durante su gestión al frente del ministerio, incluidos aquellos por valor de 450 millones de dólares para la explotación de los yacimientos de Suba-Luhais y Hamrin [18].

Lo cierto es que las alharacas y fuegos de artificios lanzados con motivo de las elecciones del 30 de enero han permitido tapar el escándalo del informe presentado ese mismo día por Stuart Bowen, Inspector General de EEUU para la Reconstrucción de Irak, relativo a 8,8 mil millones de dólares obtenidos por la venta de crudo durante los 14 meses de mandato de la Autoridad Provisional de la Coalición (APC) y cuyo destino se desconoce, además de un cifra indeterminada de hasta 800 millones de dólares (de ellos, al menos 500 millones también procedentes de la venta de crudo iraquí, el resto de fondos del Pentágono) otorgados a mandos militares estadounidenses para actividades de emergencia sobre el terreno y sin necesidad de ser justificados [19].

(18-02-2005).

(*) Carlos Varea es coordinador de la Campaña Estatal contra la Ocupación y por la Soberanía de Irak, CEOSI (www.nodo50.org/irak)

Notas:

1. Véase el texto de Carlos Varea en Rebelión del 4 de febrero de 2005, “Tras las elecciones en Ira: No perder el hilo”: <http://www.rebellion.org/noticia.php?id=10986>.

2. Según datos oficiales iraquíes.

3. AFP, 4 de febrero de 2005.

4. Financial Times (edición electrónica), 10 de febrero de 2005. En esta provincia los seguidores de as-Sadr habrían llegado a un acuerdo de control de la seguridad con los militares británicos.

5. AFP, 4 de febrero de 2005.

6. El mismo martes día 1 de febrero, el actual presidente interino de Irak, Ghazi al-Yawar, dejaba bien claro que “[...] carece absolutamente de sentido” una petición por parte de las nuevas instancias iraquíes de una salida de las fuerzas de ocupación “[...] en este caos y con este vacío [actual] de poder” (Associated Press, 1 de febrero de 2005). Al-Yawar indicó que “[h]acia finales de este año podríamos ver una reducción del número de fuerzas extranjeras”. De igual tenor se han manifestado otros responsables iraquíes, entre ellos, el ministro interino de Defensa, Hazem Shaalan. Más significativa sin duda es la posición mostrada poco después por quienes supuestamente son los ganadores de los comicios: Mohammad Juzai, uno de sus portavoces de la jerarquía shi'í, ha confirmado que ésta no solicitará la salida de las tropas de ocupación por el momento, según informa The Washington Post el 3 de febrero.

7. IslamOnline.net y agencias, 12 de febrero de 2005. Las denuncias parten de organizaciones árabes y turcomanas que afirman que estas comunidades no han podido votar.

8. Al-Jazeera, 16 de febrero de 2005. Al-Jaafari ha desplazado al candidato del CSRII, el actual ministro de Finanzas, Adil Abd al-Mahdi.

9. Reuters, 13 de febrero de 2005.

10. The Jordan Times, 9 de febrero de 2005.

11. Escobar, J. “The Roving Eye. The Shi'ites' Fautian Pact”, Asian Times (www.atimes.com), febrero de 2005.

12. Al-Moktar, S. “Oil in the election”, Al-Ahram Weekly Online, febrero de 2005.

13. The Independent, 13 de febrero de 2005.

14. UPI, 9 de febrero de 2005.

15. Datos oficiales recogidos en Iraq Coalition Casualties Count.

16. India Daily, 9 de febrero de 2005.

17. Phyllis Bennis, UFPJ Talking Points 29: “Reading the elections”, 1 de febrero de 2005.

18. The News Standar, 8 de febrero de 2005.

19. The Guardian, 8 de febrero de 2005. Otros 1,4 mil millones de dólares fueron transferidos también por la APC de Bremer al gobierno autónomo del Kurdistan in que se conozca su destino final.