Minutemen:
Enemy of the proletariat

San Diego next target for fascists

BORDER PATROL
RANK AND FILE:
EXPLOITERS AND
ENEMIES OF THE
PROLETARIAT

By HC116
April 21

Minuteman Project co-founder and Civil Homeland Defense Corps leader Chris Simcox has reportedly set his sights on San Diego, where the U.S.-Mexico border is already tightly controlled, and even the U.S.-Canadian border (Idaho, Michigan, North Dakota, and Vermont). (1) The Sacramento Bee reports that an organization called Friends of the Border Patrol has independently undertaken to “secure” the U.S.-Mexico border in California and plans to patrol the border this August. (2) On TV the other day, Friends of the Border Patrol chairperson Andy Ramirez, from Chino, called on “retired military, retired law enforcement, and citizens of the State [California]” to patrol the border, like the Minuteman Project has done. The pig-wannabes’ focus on Kanada is ostensibly to stop terrorists from coming into the United States, but the self-styled border patrollers are more likely to cite chauvinist economic reasons for strengthening U.S. borders, at least in private when they aren’t giving their canned statements to the media. (3)

The fascist activism going on at the U.S.-Mexico border in different places has roots in U.S. labor aristocracy petty-bourgeois exploiter discontent. However, the ongoing “close, er, secure the border” movement is also based in extremely chauvinist and imperialist elements of finance capital. Chris Simcox himself has been scheduled to “testify” before Tom Tancredo’s Congressional Immigration Reform Caucus. (4) Congress is currently considering an act, attached to an important supplemental spending bill for the wars against Afghanistan and Iraq among other things, prohibiting driver’s licenses for undocumented persons and making it legally easier to extend and build more fences on U.S. borders, the California-Baja border in particular. The Minuteman Project has done. The pig-wannabes focus on Kanada is ostensibly to stop terrorists from coming into the United States, but the self-styled border patrollers are more likely to cite chauvinist economic reasons for strengthening U.S. borders, at least in private when they aren’t giving their canned statements to the media. (3)

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The Minuteman Project is organized from only the top-down. “Minutemen” are the lie to the opportunist line that fascism is “villainism” expresses the awesome power of the labor aristocracy, and puts the lie to the opportunist line that fascism (by HC116)

REAL ID Act imminent

By HC116
May 2

The U.S. Senate is still considering a bill that would, among other things, prohibit undocumented persons from receiving driver’s licenses on pain of withholding federal funds from insolvent state. (1) The REAL ID Act also makes it easier to build fences on U.S. borders, particularly the California-Baja border, by allowing that “the Secretary of Homeland Security shall have the authority to waive, and shall waive, all laws such Secretary, in such Secretary’s sole discretion, determines necessary to ensure expeditious construction of the barriers and roads under this section.” (2) In addition, the REAL ID Act would prohibit courts and others from ordering “compensatory, declaratory, injunctive, equitable, or any other relief for damage alleged to arise from any such action or decision.” (2)

H.R.418’s cosponsors from the House include Tom Tancredo, John T. Doolittle, Lamar Smith, Scott Garrett, J. D. Hayworth (AZ-5), Phil Gingrey, Virgil Goode, and Walter Jones—all of whom are Congressional Immigration Reform Caucus members and all of whom recently spoke approvingly of the fascist Minuteman Project. (3)(4) They joined Graham Barrett and Tom Price in lavishing praise on the Minuteman Project in Washington, D.C. H.R.418 cosponsors also include some Democrats, Collin Peterson and Lincoln Davis.

Appealing to the labor aristocracy, Graham Barrett said: “I hope the Minuteman Project has raised awareness around the country for the need to reform our seriously flawed immigration system. Illegal immigration adversely impacts our economy. It is a burden that needs to be lifted.” (2)

There were vigilante groups in these States before the Minuteman Project, and Civil Homeland Defense Corps isn’t the first group in Arizona to detain undocumented migrants while carrying firearms. The Minuteman Project, which includes pilots and aircraft, has more people and resources than ninety-nine out of a hundred distinct anti-imperialist

On the web: www.etext.org/Politics/MIM
Ward Churchill speaks, MIM petitions at Pomona College

April 25
Ward Churchill spoke to a mostly-local student crowd at the Claremont Colleges tonight, after running a gauntlet of the tamest counter-demonstrators MIM has ever seen. Four or five protestors carried signs saying things like “If you don’t love America: Why are you still here?” Which caused several people to wonder: did any of the “love it or leave it” crowd even understand what it means to be an indigenous person? A couple of Churchill supporters stopped to tell the America Firsters: “Ward Churchill was here before you were.” And MIM pointed out that part of the reality Churchill exposed is that anyone who doesn’t think American-style democracy is great can just wait till America invades their country to prove how wonderful our “free society” is.

Churchill addressed the issue of First Nations sovereignty in his talk, saying that what the dictionaries don’t report is that he is a true “conservative” — an advocate for the rule of law. In this he includes the 430-some treaties the U.S. has signed with various First Nations since the first white settlers landed, which add up to jurisdiction covering well over 50 percent of the U.S.-occupied land on this continent. This doesn’t mean indigenous people are going to “start building water-wing factories” so the U.S. people can swim back to wherever they came from: it just means the Americans are going to have to learn how to live under native jurisdiction if they want to stay on here legally.

This issue of jurisdiction on “U.S. soil” is part of Churchill’s larger point — the one that has all the “good Germans” in this country so pissed off — that the only way to provide security for the American people is to assure the world’s people that they have nothing to fear from the United States. In other words: when Americans can comport themselves like citizens of the world, maybe the rest of the world’s citizens will treat them as such. MIM agrees heartily with Churchill on this, and we argue that the only law that will matter in the quest for international peace is that imposed by the international proletariat on its current oppressors — the imperialists.

This is an important point for people here to reckon with. For example, one student told MIM that while Ward Churchill should be allowed to say what he wants as a private citizen, he “should not be trusted to teach.” When questioned about what makes this a matter of “trust” when Churchill has jumped through all the hoops necessary to become a tenured professor at a large university, s/he said that he is not “objective” enough. When people say this, they mean that college students need to be protected from radically progressive ideas. We have two answers for this complaint:

First, an objective presentation of the facts does not stem from taking all alleged authorities and “splitting the difference.” Reality is more one-sided than that. We live in a class society, and there is no humyn interaction unfettered by the oppression of some groups of people by others. The David Horowitzes of the world would have us describe this situation in polite, neutral terms. But find me a polite way of saying that Madeline Albright thought 500,000 Iraqi children’s lives were an okay “price” to pay for enforcing an American agenda in the Persian Gulf. Tell me how to say, with complete neutrality, that generations of Palestinian children have grown up knowing no national territory other than a refugee camp. “Objectivity” in this case just means pretending that these relations are somehow consensual. We can talk about how there were sanctions, and how children died, but connecting these two things as cause and effect is not okay with these bigots because tracing that straight line relationship would be making the usawks keep the reasons they are exploiting usawks. (Yes, that’s right: to the people who want to shut Ward Churchill up, saying something mean is a worse crime than genocide.)

Second, there is a whole world outside of academia, and it does not stop when the campus doors close. In this country students have the exorbitant privilege of being able to believe that it does. Most of the world is subject daily to the effects of U.S. militarism, and the people in this country are responsible for that. As Ward Churchill said at Pomona: “you are not exempt from the consequences of what you allow to be done in your name.” There is no exempting yourself from hearing the truth about war-crimes perpetrated in your name. If you choose not to hear the shrieks of the dying, well that’s your prerogative, until the next WTC attacks. But to try and shut up a person who is trying to stop that violence is downright criminal.

MIM and an ally collected 117 signatures, and very few refusals, on the petition to Demand Ward Churchill. We noticed that publicity for the event was sparse (one email message, forwarded widely, as far as we could tell), that a lot of people knew about Churchill’s case but had no idea the event was taking place, and that the event was not even announced on the college’s own website (where all other events happening in the same auditorium were posted). The college seemed to be trying to walk the line between opening a forum for those who wanted to hear Ward Churchill out, while making the event very quiet so as not to attract too much controversy or violence.

Any negative political effects of this action can be laid at the feet of Colorado’s Governor Owens, Chancellor DiStefano and hysterical propagandists like David Borensztein. MIM and an ally orchestrated this witch-hunt that has resulted in over 100 death threats to Ward Churchill. We have to give the Pomona College administration and security credit for not interfering with MIM’s petitioning or with other peaceful demonstrators, but it is not a good sign that the state of Colorado has succeeded in shutting down Ward Churchill’s message to this extent.

What is MIM?

The Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM) is the collection of existing or emerging Maoist internationalist parties in the English-speaking imperialist countries and their English-speaking internal semi-colonies, as well as the existing or emerging Maoist Internationalist parties in Belgium, France and Quebec and the existing or emerging Spanish-speaking Maoist Internationalist parties of Aztlán, Puerto Rico and other territories of the U.S. Empire. MIM Notes is the newspaper of MIM. Notas Rojas is the newspaper of the Spanish-speaking parties or emerging parties of MIM. MIM upholds the revolutionary communist ideology of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism and is an internationalist organization that works from the vantage point of the Third World proletariat. MIM struggles to end the oppression of all groups over other groups: classes, genders, nations. MIM knows this is only possible by building public opinion to seize power through armed struggle. Revolution is a reality for North America as the military becomes over-extended in the government’s attempts to maintain world hegemony. MIM differs from other communist parties on three main questions: (1) MIM holds that after the proletariat seizes power in socialist revolution, the power of the working class should be transferred to the hands of the masses, while the party assumes the role of a vanguard. (2) MIM agrees with Marx and Engels in the concept of the dictatorship of the proletariat. (3) MIM agrees with Marx and Engels in the concept of the dictatorship of the proletariat.
City investigates alleged Churchill supporter

By an HC
April 25

The City of Longmont in Colorado has been investigating one of its employees who allegedly defended Ward Churchill during an interview with KHOW radio talk show hosts Dan Caplis and Craig Silverman. Caplis and Silverman are the Denver radio duo who have disturbed Churchill’s essay “Some People Push Back” and other speeches, engaged in personal attacks against Ward Churchill, and been instrumental in whipping up public opinion in favor of violating Churchill’s civil rights. The Longmont employee’s interview with the two radio hosts happened in early March. At least one City representative initially said that the City was investigating what the employee had said on the radio. “We did indicate there was an investigation started regarding the KHOW radio interview you participated in as well as make potential impact that interview had on the City of Longmont.”(1) Later, the City said it was just investigating whether the employee’s particular use of a City cell phone at work violated a rule—even though the City explicitly permits the use of both telephones and e-mail for personal use on the employee’s own time.(1)

Many workers, who use e-mail or the phone at work, use e-mail or the phone for personal use even against company rules. The Longmont employee is right to say: “If I was on that radio show talking about nursery rhymes, I can assure you that there would be no investigation right now.”(2) The City is taking advantage of a rarely enforced rule in workplaces to threaten Spagnuolo’s job. Spagnuolo has already been suspended with pay on April 1. MIM itself does not think much stock in tailing the reactionary media to get on their shows, but the Caplis and Silverman show happens between 3 PM and 7 PM on weekdays. That’s when many people work or are driving home. Spagnuolo stuck out his neck to talk on the Caplis and Silverman show, and now his employer is trying to take him down for it. As MIM has pointed out before, “free speech” in oppressive society is a myth in every sense.

The idea that the ongoing witch-hunt against Ward Churchill is against all dissent or every single critic of Bush is also a myth; although, the oppressors may choose to expand the kinds of dissent they single out for attack and commit other civil rights violations. The witch-hunt targets Ward Churchill for his particular ideas in an essay. Now, Longmont threatens Spagnuolo for making similar statements to “Some People Push Back.” Spagnuolo is reportedly a pacifist—and MIM prefers consistent pacifists to pseudo-pacifist hypocrites who don’t militantly oppose their own country’s violence—but he tells it like it is when it comes to the pigs:

“In essence, Mr. Spagnuolo told Caplis and Silverman that in his opinion, when police officers act as oppressors in any given community, they get what they deserve from that community and can become targets of the oppressed. Mr. Spagnuolo was bated and badgered by Caplis and Silverman, but never advocated violence or death for any policeman. He simply stated, in essence when violence occurs against police officers, it is frequently a result of their own behavior.”(1)

Spagnuolo, an activist who has worked on indigenous and other issues—and in so doing has drawn the wrath of reactionaries—is probably closer to the proletarian class position than the vast majority of Americans and even most Americans calling themselves “radical.”

The few Euro-Americans who do support Ward Churchill’s right to speak the truth are proof that MIM is not being “too hard” on Americans when it tells people to take collective responsibility for imperialist militarism and genocide.

Last Friday, April 22nd, Spagnuolo’s attorney tried to get the federal u.s. district court in Colorado to grant a temporary restraining order against the City of Longmont’s investigation. Judge Phillip Figa said that practices like the City of Longmont’s justifications after the fact, like over-extended themselves. The City suspended their employee for one thing, backpedaled, and came up with justifications after the fact, like Spagnuolo’s allegedly attending a Ward Churchill rally during his own time. It’s a pattern that Ward Churchill himself is familiar with. Now, a court has signified approval for the witch-hunt in the case of Spagnuolo, and effectively helped the City to prepare its defense against Spagnuolo’s pending lawsuit against the City.

"Without ruling on the merits of the lawsuit, U.S. District Judge Phillip Figa denied Spagnuolo’s request for a temporary restraining order to halt the investigation while the suit proceeds. . . . Spagnuolo’s lawyer David Lane contended the investigation into whether Spagnuolo misused city resources was launched in bad faith. Testimony indicated city community services director Karen Roney knew Spagnuolo was off the clock when he did the radio interview; that city policy allowed Spagnuolo to make personal calls on a city cell phone; and that Spagnuolo was allowed to spend his lunch hour how he chose, including attending Churchill’s 5-minute speech in Boulder, Lane argued.”(5)

Notes:
11. “Glenn Spagnuolo testified about his Italian heritage (his parents are from Italy) and how he learned about the history of indigenous peoples in this continent. He talked about a sense of shame when he found out that some Italians in Denver were celebrating Columbus and how he worked to approve the pro-Columbus Italians and was rebuffed.”
13. “The Columbus Day case and Chivington Drive campaigns have sort of painted a target on my back,” said Spagnuolo. "If you talk about history from the viewpoint of the oppressed instead of the oppressors, certain people get upset. This investigation is just the latest skirmish. First it was Glenn Morris, then Ward Churchill; now it’s my turn.”
The Minuteman Project was led in large part by Chris Simcox’s “militia,” Civil Homeland Defense Corps. An Associated Press article recently implied ex-Marine, Californian Jim Gilchrist led the Minuteman Project as its chief organizer. (4) Yet, the same article reveals Gilchrist, the Minuteman volunteers who have led the way are the good citizens who have joined the efforts of Civil Homeland Defense and who have succeeded in assisting the Border Patrol with locating over 5,000 people entering our country illegally. . . . Experienced HomelandDefense volunteers (CHD) will be mentoring groups of novice border watchers who are here for the first time. CHD volunteers will consult, guide and share experience with new volunteers. CHD volunteers will continue to work in every way possible that will augment the effort (http://www.minutemanproject.com/Donations.html).

Minuteman Project organizers claim that the Minuteman Project has been a success: “Gilchrist pointed to a drop in Border Patrol apprehensions in the area as proof: The agency caught about 2,500 illegal immigrants in the area as proof: The Minuteman Project has contributed to this situation by going easy on the labor aristocracy and the imperialists. The opportunists who see repression of undocumented migrant proletarians as murderers for the REAL ID Act to please the labor aristocracy working with the imperialists oppose the policing of the U.S.-Mexico border, which already kills migrants, heightening the repression at the border, and forcing oppressed nationalities to cross illegally in Texas.” (3)

Previous MIM articles have pointed out that the Minuteman Project was led by Chris Simcox’s “militia,” Civil Homeland Defense Corps. An Associated Press article recently implied ex-Marine, Californian Jim Gilchrist led the Minuteman Project as its chief organizer. (4) Yet, the same article reveals that Civil Homeland Defense has always played a large leadership role in the Minuteman Project: since Jim Gilchrist was going to leave Arizona on Wednesday, “[v]olunteers [of the Minuteman Project] now in Arizona or coming through April 30 will fall under the auspices of Civil Homeland Defense, another illegal immigrant monitoring group that Simecox has operated in Arizona for years, Gilchrist said.” (4) The Minuteman Project itself says on its Web site: “The volunteers who have led the way are the good citizens who have joined the efforts of Civil Homeland Defense and who have succeeded in assisting the Border Patrol with locating over 5,000 people entering our country illegally. . . . Experienced HomelandDefense volunteers (CHD) will be mentoring groups of novice border watchers who are here for the first time. CHD volunteers will consult, guide and share experience with new volunteers. CHD volunteers will continue to work in every way possible that will augment the effort (http://www.minutemanproject.com/SP.html).”

Minuteman Project organizers claim that the Minuteman Project has been a success: “Gilchrist pointed to a drop in Border Patrol apprehensions in the area as proof: The agency caught about 2,500 illegal immigrants in the area during the first half of the month; agents apprehended nearly 7,700 during the same period last year.” (5) Yet, the Border Patrol in Tucson “attributed the drop to U.S. agents and the increased presence of Mexican police and members of Grupo Beta, a Mexican government-sponsored organization that tries to discourage people from crossing illegally and aids those stranded in the desert.” (2) MIM is not going to disagree with the Minuteman Project on that point. They have indeed successfully terrorized undocumented migrant proletarians from even stepping foot over the border. The proletariat of the oppressed nations will condemn the Minuteman Project as murderers for supporting the policing of the U.S.-Mexico border, which already kills migrants, heightening the repression at the border, and forcing oppressed nationalities to cross illegally in Texas. “I blame it on the corporate barons,” Gilchrist thundered. “Not just the huge ones, but the smaller corporations who know they can get desperate workers to work for literal peanuts to do the same work American citizens would want twice the salary. They laugh all the way to the bank. They’re professional slave traders, just like in the Southern states back to the Civil War...I do not like these capitalist pigs.” (6)

The comparison OC Weekly makes between Gilchrist and so-called anti-capitalist Leon Trotsky, as opposed to Stalin, is more apt than Gustavo Arellano realizes. Trotskyism, rife with opportunism and subjectivism, has the potential to degenerate into openly fascist politics. Gilchrist and Simecox are both “Trotsky.” The media portrays undocumented migrants at the U.S.-Mexico border as terrorists, but the labor aristocracy knows what’s really going down. The social-democrats and social-imperialist theorists do the spade work of theory to protect the white so-called working class and the Minuteman Project is the practice.

Notes:
San Diego next target for fascists

From 1...

than President Bush on undocumented migrants; although, Bush’s “guest” worker proposal is itself an imperialist machination reminiscent of the old Bracero Program.(5)(6) Other Democrats as well have Republicans have criticized Bush’s policies on undocumented migrants, but have offered no alternative that does not repress undocumented migrants. Yet, some people still lump KKK with Bush and say that neither are tough on undocumented migrants.(9)(10) So, it is possible to speak of another split in the imperialists. There are fascists and crypto-fascists throughout these divisions. The Minuteman Project and its allied organizations are a concentration of incipient fascism. International considerations, rather than some mythical union risks that the public may decide to cut the border patrol and let the vigilantes do the job for free. The Border Patrol “rank and file” consists of Euro-Americans, honorary white people / nation traitors, and others. AFL-CIO, CLC, openly panders to chauvinism and says 18 years. 8% said 17.

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11. “REAL ID would impose new unfunded federal mandates on state motor vehicle agencies to enforce federal immigration laws. The REAL ID Act does nothing to protect us — if fact, it undermines the guidelines for reform recommended by the 9/11 Commission. Instead, REAL ID prescribes a series of unworkable, rigid, unfunded federal mandates that could delay or disrupt new driver’s license security measures adopted by the states as a result of the 9/11 Commission. . . We need Congress to focus on real reform, not band aid fixes that do nothing to advance our goals to have an immigration system that is safe, orderly and legal.”


3. http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/F?c109:3...

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Marla Ruzicka, 1977-2005

18 April

The death of Marla Ruzicka, who the mainstream press reports was in Iraq using American money to find homes for war orphans, is another bloody testament to the need to halt the march of the U.S. war machine. MIM mourns the death of this California womyn who chose to risk her life mitigating the suffering her government extracts from the Iraqi people, and we make this plea to the people in America who are appalled by this “senseless” loss:

If the death of a white American womyn means more to you than those of the hundreds of thousands of Iraqi victims, think for a minute about why. Then do something about it. Whatever your motives, do something to stop this war.

According to the New York Times and The Guardian, as Ruzicka’s car happened to be near a convoy of foreign contractors when a car bomb struck that convoy on April 16, MIM does not have independent confirmation of these facts, but we take them at face value for the purposes of this article. This death “by chance” is no different from the hundreds of thousands of deaths that have bloodied the hands of American people in this war, except for two things. First, because she was an aid worker with a poignant story as a one-womyn orphan rescue agency. And second, because Ruzicka was an attractive white womyn who sought popularity with reporters to get her work done more effectively. Many more people will hear about her than they do about individual Iraqi victims.

The poignancy of Ruzicka’s story will harden some Americans in their opinions against “terrorism” and for “pre-emptive war.” These are the people who will not wrap their heads around the fact that when Iraq has been under 14-years of daily bombardment by the united snakes, the Iraqis are left no choice but to fight back with the means they have available. MIM is willing to face the hard possibility that for many of these hardened Americans, there is not to be any awakening to the grotesque reality of imperialist war.

The people who look at Marla Ruzicka’s story and become hardened in their views against the Iraqi people are the same people who would have backed the Confederacy in the American Civil War, or stood with Marie Antoinette against the French peasants. They cannot understand this simple fact: no country can export military invasion, occupation and genocide for hundreds of years without having some of that violence eventually come home.

Altruistic death to perfume an imperialist war machine is a waste of altruism. People like Marla Ruzicka should be in charge of society as a whole through participation in leadership in a vanguard party. Instead she played second-fiddle to war-mongers with no long-term plan for species-survival. The waste of altruistic efforts by the U.S. government makes this story all the more tragic but true.

Marla Ruzicka chose with open eyes and generosity to risk her life trying to alleviate some sufferings caused by her own government. None of the uncounted number of Iraqis killed since this war began (excepting those complorers and wamubes who are busy trying to ride the backs of the impoverished (occupiers) has had the liberty to make that choice.

Ward Churchill correctly pointed out in his now-famous “Some people push back” that all of us who enjoy the privileges of U.S. citizenship live in danger of the consequences of our government’s actions. Even those who reject this militarist government and devote their lives to anti-imperialist struggle live at risk, and must accept some guilt, for having failed so far to stop the biggest terrorist on the planet running amok.

Marla Ruzicka’s death is a costly lesson for someone like the person who stopped at our Los Angeles demonstration yesterday to talk about who is culpable for U.S.-imperialist crimes. Confronted with MIM’s account of the witch-hunt against Ward Churchill, this individual, who showed considerable sympathy with the international proletariat in some parts of his thinking, said: Well, maybe Ward Churchill shouldn’t be fired for what he said, but maybe just for being somewhat insensitive.

As MIM has said to countless Americans over the years: people are dying; the government you tolerate is killing them; the time for sensitivity was several hundred years ago! It’s time to wake up, America. The calendar says this is your day to get angry, and get busy smashing imperialism. You are already late.

See MIM’s Iraq web page at: http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/agitation/iraq/.

San Diego next target for fascists

From 5...

still portrayed as animals and inherently criminal

Minuteman Project co-founder Jim Gilchrist is a caricature of a fascist who, without any conscious worked-out theory of fascism, is driven by his petty-bourgeois leanings. “Part of me is conservative,” Gilchrist concedes. “And part of me is a left-wing wacko.” “(22) His so-called left-wing thinking is limited to criticizing corporations for hiring desperate undocumented migrants. It is subjectivist to deny the existence of large exploiter corporations. For fascism to grow out of this war, except for two things. First, because she was an aid worker with a poignant story as a one-womyn orphan rescue agency. And second, because Ruzicka was an attractive white womyn who sought popularity with reporters to get her work done more effectively. Many more people will hear about her than they do about individual Iraqi victims.

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Media Attempts to Slander People’s War in Nepal

by HC93
April 19

Numerous news sites online are reporting that revolutionaries killed 10 men for refusing to join the People’s Liberation Army in Nepal. Many others are calling the murders “indiscriminate.” Yet one version of the story coming out of India entitled, “Nepal: Maoist ‘People’s War’ turning against people?...” lets slip that the men executed were allegedly part of a vigilante group who had turned in 22 Maoists to the fascist government the day before. (1) This is almost the equivalent of executing 22 people struggling for the liberation of the masses of Nepal. The introduction to a recent Human Rights Watch report gives an idea of what it means to be captured by the state as a Maoist (or even under suspicion of being a Maoist):

“Policeman: “We kill them.”
RNA Soldier: “No, we take them to jail.”
Policeman: “Yes, we take them to jail and then we kill their asses.”

Conversation between Human Rights Watch researchers, a Royal Nepalese Army soldier, and a police officer about the treatment of detained Maoists, September 2004.

In the Nepali government’s war with Maoist insurgents, the number of enforced disappearances cases in which people are taken into custody and authorities then deny all responsibility or knowledge of their fate or whereabouts has reached crisis proportions. Over the last two years, the Nepali security forces have made Nepal one of the world’s prime locations for enforced disappearances.

According to the United Nations Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID), in 2003 and 2004 Nepal recorded the highest number of new cases of disappearances in the world. Nepal’s National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has reported 1,234 cases of “disappearance” perpetrated by security forces since May 2000.”

Those 10 men who were killed were reportedly a part of this terrorism, responsible for the disappearance and possibly the deaths of 22 revolutionaries. Yet, according to the bourgeois press their murder raises the question of whether the People’s War is for “the people.” Here the bourgeoisie has taken the language of the people and twisted its meaning. We define “the people” and “the masses” as the majority segments of Nepali society that are friendly to the struggle for the elimination of all forms of oppression (i.e. communism). (3) Given that definition of “the people” and what we know about the men killed, the idea of the People’s War being against “the people” quickly becomes silly.

If anyone is going to criticize attacks such as these recent killings by the revolutionaries of Nepal, then they must do so from the basis of reality and not rumor. The reality is that the people of Nepal live under a fascist u.S.-SuperShofunded government run by a king who claims to be a god incarnate. The reality is that there is a war between these fascist forces and those of the Maoists who are backed by the masses in their struggle for a society where food, clothes, shelter and health care will be guaranteed and classes, oppression and exploitation will be eliminated. The recent killings occurred in the context of this almost decade long war, part of a much longer history of class struggle.

“The object of war is specifically ‘to preserve oneself and destroy the enemy.’” (4)

When engaged in war, one cannot allow the enemy to imprison and kill members of one’s organization without consequence and expect to win. Therefore, to oppose the Maoist revolution in Nepal based on incidents such as the killings on April 15 one must either side with the u.S. fascists and their godking or they must uphold a truly fascist position in which violence against another human being is never justified. And if you choose the latter you still have to justify allowing the violence-ridden status quo to continue.

Mao X made the same point when americans criticized the Black revolution at home for being violent, “If violence is wrong in amerika, violence is wrong abroad. If it’s wrong to be violent, defending Black wimmin and Black children and Black babies and Black men, then it’s wrong for amerika to draft us and within 10 years... no more Toms in China... They set a good example... When they had the revolution over there they took a whole generation of Uncle Toms, just wiped them out. And within 10 years... no more Toms in China... When you see that you got problems, all you have got to do is examine the historic method used all over the world by others who had problems similar to yours. And once you see how they got theirs straight, then you know how you can get yours straighter.”

In his military writings, Mao Tsetung defined People’s War as a strategy available only to the revolutionary, pro-people forces of society, because only they could receive the mass support inherent to People’s War. If it were true that the Maoists in Nepal had degenerated to become anti-people, then the People’s War in Nepal would be over and the bourgeoisie would be celebrating. Instead, u.S. ambassador to Nepal James Francis Moriarty has made recent statements indicating a growing concern over the revolution in Nepal, “I don’t think any of us has enough insights into what exactly the Maoists are doing and thinking to say with any degree of certainty that... the tide has turned against them.” He continues, “The threat they represent is terrific. They have talked about collectivisation of agriculture repeatedly, about re-education of agriculture, about expanding the ‘revolution’-all this is basically a formula for an absolutely terrific totalitarian state in Nepal that also threatens the stability of the entire region.”

The recent reports of 10 men killed by the Maoists are unique thanks to the king-ordered censorship of the press, which blocks the reporting of any death tolls by the Maoists of the police or the Royal Nepalese Army. Despite recent major offensives, the only news being reported on these incidents is death tolls on the Maoist side. That is why we bother to take the opportunity to report on this one small incident above. The information that is left out of Nepal is limited and very regulated. But in their own lack of understanding of class struggle, the imperialists and their semi-feudal pawns in Nepal will continue to leak bits of information that are useful to the understanding of the international proletariat relating to Nepal for solidarity and inspiration.

Notes:
(3) Again on the subject of the “masses” in the imperialist countries: 2001 MIM Congress. http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/world-congress01.html

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 warprofiteering 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 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.
The role of Amerikan public opinion
Good cop/bad cop routine plays out in Nepal

While Amerikkans attack Ward Churchill for “terrorist-sympathizing” in connection to his speech on 9/11, these same Amerikkans are supporting George BuSh’s government that is delivering military aid to a regime in Nepal proven willing to use its airforce to attack its own people.(1) The “war on terror” reason given for America’s supporting a god-king in Nepal is that according his opponents is an organization referred to as the “Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist),” which is on BuSh’s official list as “terrorist.” As in the case of the fear-driven politics connected to Ward Churchill and 9/11, the “war on terror” in connection to Nepal does not stand up under scrutiny.

Even though Nepal teeters on the brink of Maoist revolution, the exploiters do not share a completely common agenda. No doubt mindful of what happened to other U.S. lackeys such as Saddam Hussein and bin Laden, the god-king Gyanendra of Nepal is driving a doomed but hard bargain — either that or he is loyally serving imperialists who may have secretly told him to give up pretenses of democracy in order to defeat the Maoists. According to a bourgeois paper, the god-king met with the Americans — or at least with India’s or England’s ambassadors now that they make a public stink of having cut off his military aid. Meanwhile the god-king met with the Amerikanists at least as recently as March 7.(2) That’s what makes it look like the god-king is flexing some of his own muscle.

Although MIM speculates on this point, it is a speculation based on much past history: it looks like the United States is the good anti-communist cop while England is the bad one. The United States is playing the role of loyal anti-communist statesman while England is playing Neo-Aristotle with Nepal’s joke of a parliament and took complete power for himself, in the open. England is playing the role of dictating harsher terms in exchange for imperialist aid, harsher terms more pleasing to petty-bourgeoisie European ears resentful of the god-king’s open abandonment of democracy.

With Tony Blair coming under scrutiny again for legal advice prior to the recent phase of the war on Iraq,(3) and semi-fascist Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi having to make noise about pulling Italian troops out of Iraq because Americans killed an Italian secret service agent,(4) BuSh is in a relatively better public opinion position to pay the price for supporting a theocrat who has abolished any semblance of democracy. That has to do with the fact that the American petty-bourgeoisie is much more vicious and globally assertive than the European one — especially when it comes to communism. The proof of that sort of point is that Berlusconi did refer to Italian public opinion in his discussion of the reasons for making noise about pulling out of Iraq. If BuSh can kill Italian secret service agents, then the deal between the Italian and Amerikan exploiters must be no good, even from an Italian exploiter point-of-view.

The fact that Nepal’s god-king Gyanendra meets with BuSh cronies but no one else is regime exposes the U.S. role in Nepal and globally in the “war on terror.” It shows that the United States is the main problem. The god-king abolishes parliament and courts, puts a military censor on the press, imprisons all other politicians, including the most bourgeois and semi-feudal, and there is still one reliable friend — Uncle Sam.

The risk to BuSh of killing the god-king and putting in a new lackey less likely to damage what is left of the tattered u.s. image is the time it will take to find another god-king to placate the religious minority and “secular” Nepalese. The majority of Nepal wants some kind of communist government, it may not be a simple matter to dispense with the support of the hard-core theocratic minority — and hence the god-king’s bargaining leverage with the imperialists. Then, too, every time the impotent lackeys of the god-king meet with the other present and future lackeys see that. There is even a danger of copy-cat killings if Uncle Sam murders Gyanendra.

The nature of diplomacy under capitalism with its competitive property interests is secrecy. In the case of Nepal, the imperialists need to know who should play good cop and who bad cop. On the other hand, it is also possible that even the English, Indian and U.S. players involved do not know the full extent of each other’s moves, because of differing interests in the “war on terror.” BuSh has been calling an organization named the “Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist)” “terrorist,” so any divergence in “war on terror” agenda also could play out in Nepal.

The imperialists would no doubt like a quick fascist victory over the Maoists followed by “democracy” for the remainder of the country left after the bloodbath. However, powerful imperialists do not always get 100% of what they want even in small countries like Nepal.

We Maoists in England and the United States cannot do anything directly to stop the imperialists’ secret maneuverings for fascism and monarchy in Nepal. We cannot shake the imperialists directly, but we can shake their props, the petty-bourgeoisie, already concerned about “democracy.”

Not only does the official “war on terror” stand exposed as opposed to “democracy,” but also, another petty-bourgeoisie shibboleth is going down the drain thanks to the imperialists — the vaunted idyllic nature of places like Nepal, pre-Mao Tibet and fictional Shangri-la. Bloodbaths, airstrikes — and agitation by the citizens of those countries — do not fit in with the image needed by a large portion of the professional classes seeking a spiritual escape from the daily capitalist grind of greed.

Examples of the liberal petty-bourgeoisie’s needs in connection to Eastern mysticism are found all over the United States. Here is one example of how tickets sell for cultural performances with Tibetan themes: “‘Holiday in Tibet’ is a multi-cultural festival honoring the wonder of Spirit through music, sacred writing and dance. The program also features celebrated violinist Aaron Meyer along with his band on a magical Holiday journey presenting traditional Holiday music ranging from Native American, Latino and Hebrew to Northern European, Mediterranean, oriental and Russian. With Tibet as the last stop on this magic carpet ride, the evening will come to a dramatic close with an unforgettable multi-performance tribute to the people, the culture and the indomitable spirit that is forever Tibet.”

It’s not just that the ad ends “forever Tibet,” but also the main featured song of the presentation is titled “forever Tibet.”(5)

The Buddhists encourage Amerikanists to sacrifice the people of Tibet and Nepal as mere figments of the imagination lower than the quest for spiritual tranquility: “if you have inner peace, the external problems do not affect your deep sense of tranquility. You are happy regardless of circumstances.”(5) So if the god-king bombs the people of Nepal to smithereens to keep his property, the Americans looking for a cover for their capital-worshipping life will go of the grabbing the god-king of Nepal and others like him.

That’s what happens when spirituality becomes separated from material life. In one place, we have money-grubbers and in the other a spiritual “tranquility” to cover for money-grubbing.

The liberal portion of the petty-bourgeoisie especially resident in college towns and the “blue states” thought religious harmony was “forever” in those Eastern mystical places — so the risk would be that some might awaken to realize that god-king Gyanendra’s airstrikes on his own people cannot be necessary or something is wrong with the initial picture of timeless spiritual unity. If the people practicing these spiritual ideas do not have “tranquility,” it might stand to reason we cannot get it by imbibing Buddhism in American coffee houses either. Right now these liberals say “Free Tibet,” but the risk is that they may flip-flop to say “Free Nepal!”

For that matter, today, even the Dalai Lama does not believe there should be a theocratic government. According to his own writings, he does not believe there should be another one after him.

MIM is looking forward to debating the petty-bourgeoisie on both Tibet and Nepal together. Nepal shows us the Dalai Lama stayed in power in Tibet, just like people everywhere the people still would have wanted a secular government, and with a majority of exploited peasants and workers, the chances of the government’s being communist were always high. Hence, Americans should give up on their insistence that people of the East live under theocratic repression opposed to the economic interests of the majority. Fighting the economic interests of the global majority is no way to discourage terrorism.

Notes:
Florida attacks abortion availability for minors

By HC116 and mim3@mim.org, May 6, 2005

The Florida legislature today passed a bill, CS-HB 1659, that would require doctors to notify the parent/guardian of a minor before the minor aborts her pregnancy. (1) Referring to a November ballot proposal to amend the Florida Constitution, the act itself says: “The Parental Notice of the Termination of a Minor’s Pregnancy Act of 2005 is necessary to protect the fundamental right of parents to choose whether or not to have children free from unnecessary government interference and to comply with the mandate of the citizens of Florida.” (2) The Florida Senate passed the act yesterday. The House has sent the bill to the Florida Governor.

It is necessary to point out that this is not just a Bushy thing, and it is basically nothing new: the u.S. Supreme Court ruled on parental notification for abortion before the Roe v. Wade. Most States in the United States already require either parental consent or notification for minors’ abortions. The Florida act requires only notification, with some exceptions including medical emergencies or a history of child abuse “by a family or household member.” This actually gives minors some leeway compared with requiring parental consent, but then the minors have to deal with their parents’ objections and hostility.

MIM recognizes three strands of oppression in the world: nation, class, and gender, which includes the gender oppression strand: the principal contradiction in the Euro-American nation today is in favor of people’s Making it further necessary for the oppressor nation—HIV and money. MIM’s line does not preclude changing the methods for oppressive purposes is harsh, invasive and monopolized by adults, and is a condition of exploitation of children and violence against children.

Interestingly, Florida’s parental notification bill is accompanied with a new Food and Drug Administration guideline apparently prohibiting men who have sex with men (within five years and regardless of protected/unprotected) from being anonymous sperm donors. (3) The guideline seems to have been in the making for years, since as early as 1999. (4) Unscientifically, the FDA focuses on the heterosexual/homosexual status of sex, rather than indicators of child abuse. HIV and money in favor of people’s “right” to choose between the lives of WIMMIN—especially those outside the national boundaries, and what the lower life expectancy of people, has rarely the same supply of donor sperm.

MIM’s line does not preclude changing reproduction practices in order to end the oppression of WIMMIN. Artificial insemination does not itself end patriarchy, and MIM is not chauvinists who worry about ways to increase the population growth rate of the oppressor nation. However, artificial insemination is a way to have biological reproduction without sex in this patriarchial society where all sex is rape socially; no practice of sex in patriarchal society is completely separate from power relations. If it were possible to have biological reproduction without necessitating even individual females to be part of biological reproduction, women would have the same reproductive technology. It is another reason that socialism is important for cooperation under capitalism in questions of blood and sperm.

Just from the viewpoint of increasing the population growth rate, the gender oppressors are behaving in a contradictory way or in contradiction with the FDAs guidelines. MSM’s and other HIV risk groups need to cooperate under capitalism in questions of blood and sperm.

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In the process, the FDA guidelines not only preclude changing the way men donate sperm, but also the research and making them vulnerable but raises the specter of eugenics against gay persons with their “gay” blood. For almost two decades, the FDA has prohibited men who have (had) sex with men (since 1977) from donating blood. This reinforces the higher life expectancy grounds not even distinguishing between protected and unprotected sex for any type of sex, heterosexual or homosexual. Now, it tries to prohibit sexually active gay men and other men who have sex for the purpose of donating sperm. Contracting HIV through artificial insemination is practically unheard of regardless of heterosexual/homosexual sex. “Currently, 15 women are known to have been infected with HIV via artificial insemination using sperm from anonymous donors [in five different countries]... All but one of these cases is from the U.S. and occurred before the availability of HIV antibody testing.” (5)

Limiting gay donation of blood and sperm is a political approach to solving a problem where money is lacking for scientific research. There are for biological reproduction using sperm from Haitian that separate HIV from sperm that comes from HIV-positive donors. (5) Yet techniques to use HIV-positive blood and sperm cost money and time. This is another reason that socialism is important to healthcare and the battle against anti-gay chauvinism simultaneously. Under capitalism there is “good reasons” to prevent gays from donating blood and sperm and MSM and HIV in favor of people’s “right” to choose between the lives of WIMMIN—especially those outside the national boundaries, and what the lower life expectancy of people, has rarely the same supply of donor sperm.

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Under Lock & Key

News from Prisons & Prisoners

This herding and over-crowding has and is causing tension and frustration among inmates that are forced to follow this practice using this shower area. Nearly a year ago a riot incident occurred behind this same control unit, Classification D2, on March 2004, six inmates who were three whites and three Blacks, engaged in a brutal battle over shower access. This violent incident escalated into racial tension that infected the whole institution and caused other alterations that almost instigated a full fledged riot. The WSP administration has been showing total institutional indifference for years over the WSP’s shower procedure. It is not only an unhygienic practice, but also a severe security issue that bolsters victimization, sexual assault and homosexual rape that has been an epidemic in the WDOC system. The use of this type of communal shower system fosters tension and belittling behavior.

This problem could be immediately remedied by releasing only 16 inmates at a time to utilize the 16 shower heads at 10 or 15 minute intervals. For a permanent remedy the shower area should be reconstructed and modified for individual shower stalls to relieve congestion. This is the only state facility that has communal showering.

These upgrades and changes in a new shower procedure and modifications is in the mans of the WSP administration budget for what they don’t pay for now they surely will be paying for later at a much higher cost. We, the inmates confined at WSP, have to endure this daily forced congestion of showering. We are already addressing this matter through the appropriate levels of complaint to exhaustion only to receive no relief. We are also seeking outside support and help on this issue in the form of letters of complaint to the appropriate levels of

Misuse of the shower equipment fosters tension and belittling behavior.

As important for our educational and agitation work on self-criticism under a future constitutional right to access the courts. The full letter that follows describes the extra-legal sentencing that in the security classification system that further violates due process.

In writing to report a change of address, I believe my sudden transfer was due to my efforts to organize inmates to file grievances and lawsuits when our rights are being violated. I was also writing for help from outside organizations.

— a Kentucky prisoner, 20 April, 2005

[I have filed many grievances over issues of safety and hygiene for prisoners who are disabled in this Department of Corrections.]

The warden has even told the safety officer not to give me Safety Violation Forms [so I won’t be able to file any more grievances].

— a Texas prisoner, 15 February, 2005

CO prisoner sends $3.70

What can you give?

I’ve seen some papers speaking about your annoying me with calls to ‘support the bourgeoisie’... I believe them only in being anti-Western because of this institutional oppression of the masses. I am
incarcerated in Colorado and I was informed about a free subscription newsletter that you offer. If I can be honored, I would like to receive this newsletter. A struggle without sacrifice is nothing. So if you or cannot send the newsletter, I would like to donate these 10 stamps to your cause.

— a Colorado prisoner, April 4, 2005

Same tactics in Amerikkkan and Iraqi prisons

I have been a prisoner here at Georgia State Prison—AKA “The Bottom”—since June 2001. I have been confined to SMU (Special Management Unit) on high-max for false and fictitious write-ups for assaulting an officer and confined to a 5’ by 8’ cell with reinforced solid steel doors with padlocks on tray slots. We are unable to flush our own toilets from inside the cells, and have to depend on security guards to flush toilets “every two hours” from walkway behind our cells. To deprive us of sleep sometimes toilets are flushed only once on each eight hour shift, which leaves feces and standing water in the toilets. Also, to participate in one hour outside recreation, shower, or go to sick-call we have to strip completely naked and are required to: open our mouths, hold hands above our heads, lift testicles, turn around, and lift left and right feet to expose soles, and bend over at waist, take both hands and pull buttocks apart to expose anus—all this or be required to perform various activities or face physical force from Correctional Emergency Response team as harassment.

The practice here in the SMU by requiring us to bend over at the waist or face force, frivolous write-ups for assaulting an officer and intended to degrade prisoners. The same tactics that are used in Iraq are first used here in Amerikkkan prisons.

— A prisoner in Georgia, January 2005

Conditions in California SHU

I am in CCI, Tehachapi Security Housing Unit (SHU). I’ve read what other comrades have said about where they’re at in the SHU, and thought I’d write about my experience. Well, from how we are given the cold shoulder and treated around here, it would break a person’s mind down real fast. The first thing that blew me away was, we only get 1/2 a bar of soap every two weeks, not a bar. Two pads of socks, 2 shirts, 2 socks, 1 jumpsuit, 2 blankets and 4 sheets. We turn out laundry in of boxers, 2 shirts, 2 socks, 1 jumpsuit, 2 blankets and 4 sheets. We are given the cold shoulder and treated prisons.

We are refused above activities or face physical force, refuse to keep comrades in the SHU ignorant. I have been a prisoner here at Georgia State Prison—AKA “The Bottom”—since June 2001. I have been confined to SMU (Special Management Unit) on high-max for false and fictitious write-ups for assaulting an officer and confined to a 5’ by 8’ cell with reinforced solid steel doors with padlocks on tray slots. We are unable to flush our own toilets from inside the cells, and have to depend on security guards to flush toilets “every two hours” from walkway behind our cells. To deprive us of sleep sometimes toilets are flushed only once on each eight hour shift, which leaves feces and standing water in the toilets. Also, to participate in one hour outside recreation, shower, or go to sick-call we have to strip completely naked and are required to: open our mouths, hold hands above our heads, lift testicles, turn around, and lift left and right feet to expose soles, and bend over at waist, take both hands and pull buttocks apart to expose anus—all this or be required to perform various activities or face physical force from Correctional Emergency Response team as harassment.

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Lack of Outdoor exercise

Outdoor exercise at High Desert State Prison is limited to 1 hour to 3 hours every week. However, this is not always the case. If you’re at the top and ready to be validated as a gang member, you can get out of the SHU. This is just one of the many things that can happen while in here with mental problems. Well, from how we are given the cold shoulder and treated around here, it would break a person’s mind down real fast. The first thing that blew me away was, we only get 1/2 a bar of soap every two weeks, not a bar. Two pads of socks, 2 shirts, 2 socks, 1 jumpsuit, 2 blankets and 4 sheets. We turn out laundry in of boxers, 2 shirts, 2 socks, 1 jumpsuit, 2 blankets and 4 sheets. We are given the cold shoulder and treated prisons.

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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 “evil empires” being “intimidating” and “transforming” the Free World, the US has been more than doubling its prison population. Since the late 1970’s, it has been growing at a rate of over 5% per year. Supposedly “hard-line” Bulgaria of the Soviet bloc of the 1980s, the imprisonment rate was less than half that of the United States. In the Soviet Union, the imprisonment rate was 1.5 per 10,000 people, while in the United States it was 12 per 10,000 people. This means that the United States has more than 10 times the number of prisoners per capita than any other country in the world. Even though the United States only has 15% of the world’s population, it has 31% of the world’s prisoners. This is due to the fact that it has the highest imprisonment rate in the world, with 1 in every 300 people in prison. (2)

In 1997, the United Nations World Commission on the Death Penalty reported that the United States had the highest number of executions in the world, with 1,049 executions in 1995 and 1,066 executions in 1996. The United States also had the highest number of executions per capita, with 0.3 per 100,000 people, compared to 0.0 per 100,000 people in other developed countries. (3)

In conclusion, it is clear that the United States is the leading prison-state per capita in the world. This is due to the fact that the US has the highest imprisonment rate in the world, with 1 in every 300 people in prison. As the United States continues to grow as an imperial power, it is likely that the number of prisoners per capita will continue to increase. (4)

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 taking on, 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 on articles, letters, 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 prisoners or cells in prisons that lock prisoners up in solitary or small group confinement for 22 or more hours a day with no congregate dining, exercise or other services, and virtually no programs for prisoners. Prisoners are placed in control units for extended periods of time. These units cause both mental and physical harm to prisoners.

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

2. Ibid., 1992 report
4. Figure of 51.2 percent for state prisoners there for non-violent offenses. Abstract of the United States 1993, p. 211.
Frak: Las elecciones son una fase en la ocupación yanqui

Por: Carlos Varea (*)

La Junta Electoral iraquí presentaba finalmente el sábado 13 de febrero los resultados de las elecciones para este sábado, que dan un resultado de 5.4 millones de inscritos, con un 91% de participación. Algunos escasos en la Asamblea, ellas la del Partido Comunista (Unión del Pueblo, con dos y una lista de seguidores de Al-Malaki), el Partido Independiente de los trabajadores, con un 75.4% de los votos y que tiene asignados 71 escaños. A la Asamblea se han presentado de la 13 de febrero de 2005: 11. Escobar, J. “The Roving Eye. The Shi’ites’xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx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