Afghanistan, forgotten invasion

ANTI-AMERIKANISM
RISING, NO REALLY?

Rulers notice where world is headed
See the article where we told you our readers where things were going back in 2003(8).

Imperialist rulers have come to a terrible realization, that anti-Amerikanism really is on the rise and will scuttle their fine plans regarding “terrorism,” something they never imagined possible on 9/11. Both British and U.S. officials have had to make admissions, just as Blair is leaving office in England and as elections in November loomed in the United States.

Was it MIM Notes you were reading or did the Los Angeles Times just say that “Anti-Americanism is providing a glue.”(1) It seems that facts are getting harder and harder to cover up, even in the government mouthpiece media.

“When people in largely Muslim nations were asked whether they approved of ‘U.S.-led efforts to fight terrorism,’ 82% in Turkey and 50% in Pakistan. The results in some European countries were similar. In Spain, 76% of those surveyed said they did not approve; in France, it was 57%.”(1)

Seeing the poll numbers, poor prime minister Tony Blair in England complained about “mad anti-Americanism” even in imperialist continental Europe.(2)

Meanwhile, Bush’s poll numbers in September have risen points on the strength of falling gas prices in the United States.(3) It goes to show the lack of reality among those who believe that targeting Bush in particular is accomplishing anything for internationalism.

[This article was written on 19 September 2006. Readers should not take the Dems’ mid-term victory and Rumsfeld’s subsequent sacking as an indication that Americans have now taken up principled, internationalist opposition to the war in Iraq or forced the U.S. government to make concessions of any great use to the international proletariat. The Dems mostly disagree with Bush on tactics and strategy, not principle. Democratic House Leader Pelosi tapped John Murtha for a key leadership role. Although Murtha has taken a public stance against the occupation of Iraq, he—like many Dems—voted for the resolution that authorized the 2003 invasions. As a ranking member Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, he represents elements in the U.S. military who—far from opposing American imperial interests—think Bush’s policies harm the U.S. ability to win the war in Iraq or its mostly NATO allies started the attack on Afghanistan with bombing. Soon there were over 10,000 U.S. troops in Afghanistan. In October, 2006, NATO took over command of troops in Afghanistan. On October 28 2006, NATO’s commander leading the occupation said there was a “mistake” that killed 70 Afghani citizens. Today it is five years into the occupation, but there is no report of any communist resistance to the U.S. occupation. This is a fact much different than what happened in Mao’s China.

The Japanese imperialists followed up the Manchurian Incident in 1931 to take over the government of the Manchus province of China. The people there were a mix of nationalities and the Manchus nationality had ruled the last dynasty of China as an ethnic minority above the majority Han people.

In contrast, in Afghanistan, there was similar division by rule of warlords but also a major division between the Taliban and Northern Alliance. The war for Afghanistan in 2001 immediately extended to all of Afghanistan.

The war in China focused in one province until 1937 when Japan invaded the rest of China. Between 1931 and 1937, Chinese nationalism steadily built up. The self-proclaimed leader of China Chiang Kai-shek put his energy into defeating the communists and left Manchuria to Japan. This was to be his fatal mistake. He had spent all his years trying to exterminate all communists and the Chinese people noticed.

On December 12, 1936, Chiang Kai-shek’s own generals kidnapped him and forced him to form a unified front with Mao to fight for China. In the background, Stalin put pressure on Chiang Kai-shek as did the implicit Japanese versus U.S. imperialist rivalry.

Today, there is no such maneuvering in Afghanistan that MIM is aware of. In 2006, we have had our critics claiming to be Maoist point to documents from 1998 opposing the Taliban—three years before there was a U.S. invasion, and thus totally irrelevant. Yet such Afghan documents against the Taliban still have circulation today, because such circulation conforms to the wishes of U.S. imperialism and its lackeys. There has not been a single report of a communist attack on NATO forces in Afghanistan in five years of total occupation.

In contrast in China, major fighting...
The ‘war on terror’ fraud
Phantom in Peru justifies U.S. military aid

The Center for International Policy: Colombia Project explained the situation not just for Colombia and Peru but all of Latin America as follows: “Though only Colombia and Peru have groups on the State Department’s list of foreign terrorist organizations, the word ‘terrorism’ appears frequently in the aid request’s description of U.S. programs in each country.”

“Argentina understands the importance of cooperation against terrorism. U.S. Antiterrorist Assistance programs brought Argentine officials to the United States for valuable counter-terrorism briefings and training.”

“Principal U.S. interests in The Bahamas include: combating financial support for terrorism.”

“‘In order to ensure that Bolivia does not become an active transit point for international terrorism, we have also stepped up cooperation with the Bolivian military, customs, immigration, financial institutions, police, and other organizations to ensure better Bolivian control over its long, sparsely inhabited borders.’”

“The government of Brazil, along with those of Argentina, Paraguay, and the United States, has formed a working group to combat the threat of terrorism in the tri-border area.”

“Recognizing the increasingly intertwined nature of narcotics trafficking and terrorism, the Congress approved expanded authorities to allow United States support for Colombia’s unified campaign against both of these scourges.”

“FMF [Foreign Military Financing] will train Dominican forces capable of responding to terrorist threats.”

“For the principal U.S. interests in the seven countries of the Eastern Caribbean are preventing and combating transnational criminal activity against the United States, including terrorism.”

“Foreign aid will help the government of Ecuador with the ‘disruption and interdiction of narcotics trafficking and terrorism.’

“International Military Education and Training (IMET) funding will enhance the Honduran military’s ‘capabilities in the war on terrorism.’

“FMF funds in Panama will augment the government’s counter-terrorism, security programs and maritime interdiction.”

“Programs in Peru ‘will lower the risk of instability in areas facing the quadruple threat of cocaine cultivation, narco-trafficking, terrorism and minimal central government presence. Challenges to this effort will be the budding alliance between the narco-traffickers and the Shining Path.’”

“‘One of the principal U.S. interests in Suriname is ‘stemming the flow of illegal drugs and migrants to the United States, transnational crime, and international terrorism’; ‘Transfer of grant EDA [Excess Defense Articles]... will assist the Surinamese military in developing and sustaining regional inter-operability and a viable counter-drug capability, as well as in combating terrorism.’”

“IMET funding will ‘send Trinidad and Tobago Defense Force personnel to U.S. Military training courses to support counterterrorism.’

“None of Venezuela’s challenges—strengthening democracy, fostering economic development, combating narcotics trafficking, or fighting terrorism—can be addressed in isolation.’ The United States will use its ‘dipломatic resources’ to press for Venezuelan action against narcoterrorism.”

Thus, the picture is that all aspiring military aid receivers play up the latest buzzwords in Washington, DC. It could be difficult to justify putting Peru into second place in military aid for Latin America without the alleged PCP.

The U.S. State Department’s web page on Peru does not mention “terrorism” in the description of U.S. programs. (5)

There is more substantial talk of drug trade on that web page. Hence, we can say the U.S. Government itself knows better than to hype the PCP as one of 44 terrorist organizations.

What is MIM?

The Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM) is the collection of existing or emerging Maoist internationalist parties in the English-speaking imperialist countries and their English-speaking internal semi-colonies, as well as the existing or emerging Maoist Internationalist parties in Belgium, France and Quebec and the existing or emerging Spanish-speaking Maoist Internationalist parties of Aztlán, Puerto Rico and other territories of the U.S. Empire. MIM Notes is the newspaper of MIM. Notas Rojas is the newspaper of the Spanish-speaking parties or emerging parties of MIM. MIM upholds the revolutionary communist ideology of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism and is an internationalist organization that works from the vantage point of the Third World proletariat. MIM struggles to end the oppression of all groups over other groups: classes, genders, nations. MIM knows this is only possible by building public opinion to seize power through armed struggle. Revolution is a reality for North America as the military becomes over-extended in the government’s attempts to maintain world hegemony. MIM differs from other communist parties on three main questions: (1) MIM holds that after the proletariat seizes power in socialist revolution, the potential exists for capitalist restoration under the leadership of a new bourgeoisie within the communist party itself. In the case of the USSR, the bourgeoisie seized power after the death of Stalin in 1953; in China, it was after Mao’s death and the overthrow of the “Gang of Four” in 1976. (2) MIM upholds the Chinese Cultural Revolution as the farthest advance of communism in 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.
Protest at California prison demands end to lockdown

September 30, 2006

MIM joined family members of prisoners and other activists outside the walls of California State Prison, Solano to protest the lockdown, denial of visits, and the brutal and unhealthy conditions at that prison. In the second protest since August, protestors gathered at a busy intersection on a road next to the prison because they were kicked off the prison property by the Solano County Sheriffs Department during the first protest.

Many prisoners at Solano have been on lockdown for the past several months. Living in conditions equivalent to control units or Security Housing Units, where they get no visits, no exercise, no canteen, and no telephone calls. Some families have not seen their loved ones for three years. The lockdown appears to be targeted at Mexican prisoners who are, by all accounts, the only ones that have done nothing to even violate prison rules. Many of these prisoners are organizing themselves to fight this repression and called on family and friends to help with the battle. The Barrio Defense Committee, based in San Jose, California reported that they are the outside in support of these prisoners.

After the first protest on August 19, family members were allowed in for a visit and a few prisoners were released from the lockdown. But after a few weeks the prison administration announced another lockdown, claiming that they were responding to a “prison riot.” Family members at the protest did not have any information about this supposed riot – their loved ones behind bars had not reported any disturbances. The tactic of allowing a small concession did work to draw them in before the real demonstration on September 30 saw smaller attendance than the one on August 19, notably absent were some families who had gained admittance for at least one visit.

The Warden at Solano, Tom Carey, claims the lockdown is in response to a “gang” problem. But prisoners report that the guards released white supremacist prisoners to the yard to instigate a fight with Mexican prisoners, to justify the lockdown. Further, prisoners report lack of medical treatment and family members who did get in to see their loved ones during the brief respite from the lockdown report that the prisoners look very skinny and unhealthy.

Two protesters, the parents of a prisoner at Solano, told of the three years it has been since they have seen their son. Another woman came out with her mother and her kids, and talked about her son who has withdrawn and seems both physically and mentally unhealthy after a long time in isolation. A man whose brother was locked up on his third strike explained that he would be out at the protest even if he was allowed to visit that day because he knows that the prison needs to do a lot more than allow just one visit.

Individual family members got no response from the prison after calling and writing the prison on their own to protest the lack of visits and inhuman conditions faced by their loved ones. The demonstration in August did lead to some improvements for the prisoners in force of mass protest, we can win some victories. The key here is unit struggle – we can bring a greater force and louder voice against the injustice system by organizing ourselves and working together.

The protest was held in front of a middle class residential area, across the street from the expansive prison. As one activist with the Barrio Defense Committee pointed out, the residents need to take a stand against this prison that is part of their neighborhood. She also called on the residents of the outside in support of these prisoners.

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Consistently those honking in support of the demonstration were Black or Mexican, and those yelling “kill them all” or giving us the thumbs down were white. Several people driving by yelled “this is Amerika” or something similar, presumably to refute the mostly Mexican crowd of protesters. This led to a confrontation with some of the demonstrators about whether or not there is an issue of nation here. On the one hand, some people wanted to force the public to accept them as citizens of this country who should not be brutalized and oppressed. They also pointed out that prisons affect a lot of white people, even if it is disproportionately Mexicans and Blacks locked behind bars. But these people recognized that fundamentally it is impossible to get away from the question of nation when the criminal injustice system is targeting oppressed nations both on the streets and for lockdown and additional oppression behind bars. And it is because of the importance of this question of nation that one activist held up a Mexican flag at the demonstration.

MIM firmly puts forward the importance of national liberation struggles as a part of the battle against the criminal injustice system. We need to see that prisons are being used as a tool of social control, primarily targeting oppressed nations within u.s. borders. We also can not distance ourselves from our brothers and sisters who are not legal residents of Amerika. Many of them are locked up and then deported, screwed twice by the illegitimate injustice system and then the illegal borders. Fighting for the right of families to visit prisoners is just the first step in a larger battle for liberation from imperialism.

The conditions being protested at Solano mirror what we see at prisons across the country. Further, in fact, across the United States. In 2006 we have heard from prisoners across the state:

From Calipatria: “Currently Latinos here in Calipatria prison are on lockdown. We have been for almost a year. We get no program at all. Our mail is read and held back. Our books are not given to us. We can get no visits (only 1 hour behind glass for by appointment visits). As far as beatings, just recently a few inmates (4) were in boxers and sandals. They got into an argument with a cop and the outcome was the inmates were beaten down. One black inmate was beaten from the back of his legs to his head. There were 9 more inmates were cell extracted and beat. As far as access to the legal library we must have a court deadline. Those of us who wish to research our cases before going to court cannot.”

From Corcoran: “The prisoners here at Corcoran are deprived of adequate medical and mental health care. The medical policy is that once you turn in a health care service form you are supposed to have a face to face interview with the nurse. But here it takes prisoners 2 to 3 weeks to see a physician. We have 2 flushes per hour. This play is cruel and screaming all night because they are not receiving proper mental health care. In March staff deliberately set two prisoners up to assault one another.”

From Kern: “We have no access to a phone to talk to loved ones, and I haven’t seen the library clerk but once in the time I’ve been here. They have cut off the means of educating, using the excuse that it is a reception yard. I still haven’t found an honest answer if we can have books sent in or not. Most days we run 23 hours in the cell, 1 hour out. Twice a week yard is for 1.5 to 2 hours. Wednesday is 24 hour lockdown. I’ve been here 15 minutes for breakfast and 15 minutes for dinner. North Kern State prison medical situation is horrible. It takes between two and three weeks to be seen if that happens at all.”

From High Desert: “HDSP has recently installed timers on the toilets all owing only 1 flush per hour. Lunch and dinner are 2 flushes per hour. And there is no toilet paper or napkins. North Kern has the worst conditions in the state of California and in fact across the United States. In 2006 we have heard from prisoners across the state:

HDSP adminstration. However, reprisal was immediately taken by HDSP in the form of lockdown and searches to smash any further resistance. Annually since arriving at HDSP on 2-12-03, Black inmates were subjected to extended lockdowns for allegedly plotting to assault corrections officers. However, assaults never occurred, isolated or orchestrated. HDSP segregation unit (Z unit) where I am currently housed, keeps inmates from transferring by fabricating rules violation reports (false) to keep inmates (usually Mexican) in BMU. Once inmates are housed in BMU, they are on no work, no privilege status. HDSP will then force inmates to send all of their personal property home. Moreover, inmates will then have to reorder all appliances at CDC and pay imposed restitution by CDC of 44%.”

From Lancaster: “Each day of this prison confinement it becomes more blatant that we have been, and still are, subjected to modern day slavery as well as these klancaster prison guards constantly and consistently subjecting the prisoners to all kinds of psychological warfare, intentional de-humanizations, unlawful brutality and deprivations of the most basic human needs (e.g. medical, cell cleaning supplies, adequate foot attire, etc). I’ve personally witnessed on numerous occasions, prison guards over stepping their bounds of authority by using chemical agents (MK-9 O.C. pepper spray) on incapacitated/mentally ill administrative segregation prisoners who suffer from severe bouts of dementia (e.g. schizophrenia). The use of such chemicals by these corrupt prison guards is for retaliation, terrorist tactics and sadistic cruel and unusual punishment. The prisoners are left in the cells and sometimes all of their water is completely shut off. These intentional atrocities violate the universal declaration of human rights. I am appalled at the sight I see each and every day. But I continue to fight for justice for those who can not defend themselves.”

These are just a few examples of the injustice system that is violating prisoner’s humyn rights and destroying humyn beings through isolation and torture throughout California (and across the United States). Join MIM to fight the criminal injustice system, and the entire imperialist system that requires these prisons.

Notes: There was some media coverage of the event, including a decent story on KPFA which can be accessed at www.kpfa.org http://www.kpfa.org (6pm news of September 30, 2006).
More grassroots fascist action in San Diego

By a correspondent

September 26, 2006

Conscious national struggle is still percolating in San Diego. Large mobilizations around migrants and white-nationalist attacks have centered around official Congress activity, and lately there has been little. The migrant movement is experiencing problems throughout North America, but locally a weak Maoist movement is partly to blame for the movement’s sporadic and limited intensity and scope. Left-wing white nationalists and Latino comprador bourgeois dominate the migrant movement, but there is room for improvement of the proletarian-led united front that has yet to be tapped. There is a broad progressive nationalist tendency encompassing different groups, and one organization is saying some interesting things, however. More on that later.

The mayor of National City, which has a mostly Chicano and Mexican population of more than 60,000 people and a large Filipino population, announced a few weeks ago that he wanted to make the city a so-called “sanctuary city,” where local police aren’t allowed to actively enforce federal immigration law. The local police union, an organization of the white labor aristocracy blue, responded negatively. (1)

Last Saturday, the 23rd, Minuteman Project spin-offs and fans, Save Our State and other grassroots fascists, made up of settler labor aristocracy so-called workers and their parents, protested at the civic center. What they were there to protest were the mayor’s words and what was actually a largely symbolic action in the face of the white nationalist onslaught; what this really was, was a settler demonstration in support of continued occupation of oppressed-nation land and higher living standards for U.S. citizens, particularly whites. As even some in the mainstream media and one activist pointed out, National City was already a sanctuary city in all but name. Many people clearly understood that the protest by the anti-migrant activists was a brazen attack. Dozens of people, mostly Latinos, Latin American and indigenous people, and some Asian-descended people, from National City and throughout San Diego gathered on the opposite side of the street to protest the Minutemen. Some of the fascists and lackeys held signs specifically aimed at Spanish-speaking people.

The local white TV media played it up like there was going to be a riot in National City. Then there was the usual bullshit involving police: concentrating on the angry dark-skinned people, protecting the fascists and giving them a cover for various attacks, allowing fascists to come over to the other side to take pictures and not the other way around, etc. Counter-protesters were confined to a space despite being greater in number than the fascists. Counter-protesting activists reported that prior to this there had been an increase in repression related to protest pens in the area, and a police tactic using crowds around people being arrested as an excuse for repression. One fascist came over to the counter-protest side to take pictures of children, to intimidate them and their families and undoubtedly for material to put in their racist and white nationalist propaganda.

As another anti-migrant fascist action, this event was just another blip among incessant petty-bourgeois white “worker” activism against migrant proletarians and oppressed nations. It is more of an insult after injuries. Escondido, for example, elsewhere in San Diego County, moved to make preparations to deny undocumented migrants housing, and cities have passed or are trying to pass legislation to restrict day laborers. Outside Escondido City Hall weeks ago, white people held signs with messages such as “will work for rent.” In tune with the fascists, settler nation “leftists” continued to talk about white people’s rent problems. This writer could have passed on commenting on this particular protest, but it presents an opportunity to talk about a few things. One is related to security. The others have more to do with politics and strategy.

Some of the anti-Minutemen/fascist/racist protesters expressed concern about Minutemen coming over and taking pictures. The white media journalists with identification and expensive equipment milling around are obvious. Yet, there were many others taking pictures and videos that didn’t appear in any projects, or show up on web sites or even on blogs and MySpace pages days later. Some people have not fully understood the political coconut problem. There is a lot of picture-taking going on that can’t be accounted for. Some people who look like friends are actually pigs or anti-migrant activists. Photographers who are going to take pictures should blur faces and put them in a progressive context, or don’t take them. Otherwise, they are giving the pigs a cover.

One person at the protest tried to reason with the Minutemen, asking them who is fighting in Iraq. This played into imperialist manipulations trading citizenship for military service and using citizenship to buy off select people. The correct orientation is counter-recruitment and opposing military recruiters’ targeting of Latino youth on an internationalist basis, not trying to persuade fascists that you are more patriotic than them.

One “progressive” web site’s report on the protest focuses on the liberal and settler nation “socialist” presence at the protest. The report is obviously more concerned with giving Euro-Americans and their institutions credit for their role in the protest than examining the ideas and direction of the migrant movement and the struggles that are shaping it. The white-nationalist “Left” is willing to suppress and obscure the national struggle and anti-imperialist class struggle surrounding the migrant movement. One group the report didn’t mention was Unión del Barrio, whose paper was distributed at the event. Unión del Barrio does not claim to be Maoist or communist, but its paper was more correct than many alleged Maoists and communists, and so-called leftists, who either don’t recognize the existence of any separate or partitioned non-white nation inside U.S. borders or take an openly neo-colonialist approach to that.

The September 2005–June 2006 issue of ¡La Verdad! is interesting in light of recent statements by supposed communists and anti-communists defending the integrationist multiracial or multinational working class idea in the context of the migrant movement. The English version of one article in this issue problematically talks about “the working class” and “the rich ruling class” in the United States in an ambiguous way that has the potential to obscure how the Euro-American majority directly benefits from imperialist exploitation. Another article, on the mass protests and demonstrations last spring, locates the origins of the protests in a national struggle and opposes attempts to mold and control the protests as just a civil rights movement, but supports a minimum wage increase. (3) Looking at flows of wealth, even the current federal minimum wage is possible only because of the exploitation of Third World workers. On the whole, though, there is no discussion of a white working class specifically in this issue, only a white population benefiting from Third World labor. In fact, Unión del Barrio’s Principles of Unity point to “the ever increasing overt and violent expression of racism by the masses of the U.S. white population.”

The most interesting article in this issue is a reprint of a statement “originally written and submitted to the International League of People’s Struggle, Second International Assembly in Eindhoven, Netherlands on November 10–14, 2004.” It is a clear indication that representatives of the ILPS took a white-chauvinist position on the migrant movement (6) despite being informed of a variety of progressive opinion within the united States on the subject.

Unión del Barrio’s statement puts migration and borders in the American continent in the context of the Mexican national liberation struggle and colonialism, identifies both the United States and Kanada as “illegal settler nations,” says that the wealth of the United States would not exist without past colonial plunder, and rejects the “immigrant” label as perpetuating the status quo of occupation. The real illegal aliens are the Euro-American settlers, and these and other European populations benefit from Third

To next page...
The struggle for Aztlán: five different possibilities

1) Status quo of direct U.S. imperialist control
2) Socialist Aztlán
3) Somewhat independent Aztlán
4) Imperialist Aztlán
5) Imperialist Aztlan
6) Re-unification with Mexico

The struggle for the liberation of Aztlán is inevitably tied up with class struggle. Four out of five possibilities for Aztlán’s future are still better than the status quo of U.S. domination. The one major exception is the possibility of direct re-unification with Mexico. The Hussein in Iraq.

Of course, MIM favors that MIP-Aztlan lead a proletarian class struggle for a Socialist People’s Republic of Aztlán. The key to that will be the formation of the party and its ability to distinguish itself from other bourgeois ideologies through arduous struggle.

Another possibility is that Aztlan become something like Mexico, were political rule is somewhat under Mexican control, but Amerikkans continue to own assets there. We call this lackey Aztlan. It is the normal fate of countries in the world to be run by U.S. lackeys. There is also an in-between fate in which the ruler shows a little spunk, like Chavez in Venezuela, Castro in Cuba or Saddam Hussein in Iraq.

We should consider the possibility of direct re-unification with Mexico. The advantage of this struggle is mainly its simplicity. We certainly regard as comradely any suggestion for re-unification with Mexico. Comrades internationally may find this easier to understand—“re-unification of occupied Mexico with Mexico.”

Additionally, the possibility of re-unification with Mexico is that Mexico is already a status quo itself of U.S. domination. With a focus on Aztlan, the proletariat can also raise new ideas without copying everything about Mexico. If there is an enthusiastic vanguard party and the participation of the lower English-speaking exploited Mexicans, Aztlan could end up being a socialist spark for itself and also Mexico.

In an intense crisis when the people have taken Aztlan’s future in history into hand it is hard not to think that the puppet leaders of Mexico would not sell-out the struggle. In other words, the Aztlan struggle by itself may inspire more activity by the oppressed masses than the Mexican compradors would support. At such a moment of likely open betrayal, it is important that Aztlan have its own identity. The people in Aztlan actually conducting the struggle may not agree with what the U.S. lackeys in Mexico decide.

One last possibility is that Aztlan could itself develop into imperialism. Such an assertion requires investigation.

In Quebec, the situation is that the French-speaking banks are the leading employers of the province. In fact, the banks there used to dominate all of Canada up through the 1970s when Toronto and then Vancouver took increasingly marginal roles.

Quebecois secession would in some ways be in the interest of Aztlan. The banks of Quebec, which might see the competition of other banks reduced. It would be a sort of reduced return to the status quo of old with Quebec banks on top again. MIM would theorize that Quebecois banks would want such a result only if their strategy of impoverishing the French-Canadians was not attractive enough as partners. Being in control of a national government gives the banks a chance to rewrite laws to their advantage. Perhaps they fancy that they would do a better job of international exploitation than Canadian banks.

In Aztlan, we cannot say that it is obvious that Aztlan banking capital would win the struggle. First of all, there is no Latino or Aztlan-owned bank of the monopoly capitalist sort that we are aware of. There are banks there, but they would have to be taken over by the Aztlan proletariat. This would depend on the mobilization level of the masses, and probably if people are that mobilized to take over banks that are not called “Californian” or “Texan,” then those banks would also come under socialist control anyway, and the point of an imperialist Aztlan would be moot. A likely possibility is that the Aztlan bourgeoisie would negotiate with Amerikkans or a Mexico-like situation where Amerikkans own things and rent out Mexican or Aztlan politicians.

When we do research on “Latino-owned banks,” we turn up an interesting article. What the bourgeoisie means by this concept turns out to be various. The first bank to turn up in such a Google search is actually owned by Spain(1).

Of course, it makes sense that Spain would have something of an advantage in the struggle for Mexican banking business. Nonetheless, the bank in first place in its appearance total business-wise is Bank of America. Bank of America is dominating in Aztlan and would have to be dealt with one way or another. Perhaps it would stay Amerikkans-owned in which case, we would not call Aztlan “imperialist” to have it. On the other hand, perhaps the people of Aztlan would find a way to buy out Bank of America branches (bourgeois Aztlan aspiring to imperialist status) or take them over (socialist Aztlan).

What we have to stress is that there is no guarantee in class struggle of a good outcome, but that is even more true of a one-working-class struggle involving reliance on oppressor nation majorities. Aztlan has a better chance of a socialist outcome than the united states has.

A similar situation occurs in South Africa. There whites owned everything. Nonetheless, the anti-colonial struggle was progressive no matter how bourgeois Mandela turned out to be. The reason is what South Africa was before the bourgeois Black revolution. Likewise, in most of the Third World there is no point in struggling to switch compradors, but taking Aztlan away from U.S. imperialism internally would be a great step forward for the whole world.

In southern California, this may come as a shock, but the Los Angeles Times says there is only one Latino owned bank.(2) Others coming on the scene are start-ups and past Latino banking attempts have ended in failure.

“Financial services for Latinos may mean money wires and store credit to many, but a group of wealthy Latinos says it is time to take banking for their fast-growing community to a more sophisticated level. Together with non-Latino investors they will soon launch Promerica Bank, the first Latino bank in 35 years in California, home to America’s largest Hispanic population and a powerful magnet for immigrants from south of the border.

“The bank’s creation coincides with a rise in Latino power, as an increasingly educated Hispanic community aims to prove its worth amid a crackdown on immigration, mostly from Latin America.

“But Promerica Chairman Maria Contreras-Sweet began thinking about the lack of Latino banks some years ago when she was California’s secretary for business, transportation and housing and responsible for banking regulation.

“There are about 40 Asian banks operating in California, and it occurred to me, why don’t we have more Latino banks operating in California when you look at the population?”, she told Reuters.

“The last census in 2000 showed one-third of California’s 34 million people are of Hispanic origin, compared with 12 percent nationwide. Los Angeles, which has a Latino mayor, has the largest Mexican population in the world after Mexico City.

“Thus, to MIM’s knowledge, it would be difficult to say that at this moment that Aztlan has an imperialist future in its own right. Certainly a certain economy and class structure is in place there now, but liberation would inevitably change at least some of those class relations.

[If you know more about the extent or viability of Aztlan banking, please rewrite this article and send it to the Web Minister, mim3@mim.org. Thank you.]

Notes:

San Diego

From p. 4...

World labor. Union del Barrio’s statement rightly observes, “Even the North American ‘Left’, from all ‘tendencies’ has historically attempted to make the struggle of rights for ‘immigrants’ and strictly a ‘class’ question.” MIM would go further than that and add that the class question and the national question are almost one and the same in North America. Not only is the principal contradiction between imperialism and oppressed nations, opposing class oppression means opposing the exploitation of oppressed-nation labor by the bourgeois U.S. and First World majority. The settler minority not only consists of oppressors; it consists of capitalist exploiters. This is the more complete material basis for the reactionary behavior Union del Barrio points out.

“In order to maintain this ‘docile’ labor force, the ruling classes of the imperialist countries have put into effect forms of low-intensity warfare against the ‘migrant communities’ (mass arrests, deportations, beatings, killings, and so forth). These military police operations have enjoyed the support (to one degree or another) from the most racist segments of the settler (white) population of the imperialist countries; and indeed, they voluntarily participate in this brutality in order to hold on to their high standard of living.”(4)
Sex and violence combine for war on Islam

The liberal media assault on Iran and Islam continued non-stop despite the coming elections November 7. At the end of October, the New York Press ran a newspaper called “The Sex Issue” with a naked womyn posing in the subway—this for a paper distributed free on the streets of New York City. Inside were war-mongering bars on Islam.(1) In case anyone did not notice, Democrats like their lives with both sex and violence, just like Hollywood movies.

Meanwhile, at the very same time, ironically other partisans in New Orleans are at the airport celebrating a victory over the terrorists there. (2) It may take a while to show up, but that strength is there for real, no matter what the Amerikkkans, Brits and other imperialist populations might have.

NOTES

3. Democratic Party pollster Zogby found 34% approval for Bush on August 16 2006 and 42% by September 28, www.zogby.com (It’s good to compare the polls of someone using the same method two times.)
8. www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/iraq/anti-americanism.html

Go to 9...

ANTl-AMERICANISM RISING, NO REALITY!

From 1...

predict its power abroad. Pelosi made sure to stress Murtha’s “strong voice for national security” when she nominated him. As for Rumsfeld, there is no indication yet that the administration is making even tactical changes in Iraq. Plus, seriously, we’re supposed to be excited that Robert Gates is now secretary of war? The former CIA chief, the guy who helped organize a bloody clandestine war in Nicaragua? The warmonger is dead, long live the warmonger! Be careful what you ask for, anybody-but-Bush people. Bush is trying to score some points in public opinion polls by pretending to do something while in fact doing nothing.

On August 30, a Washington Post columnist concluded, “rising anti-Americanism may in the end harm the U.S.’ own commercial and economic interests, not only by stalling businesses abroad, but back at home.”(4)

A Bush long-time favorite is Undersecretary of State Karen Hughes. “The anti-Americanism, the concern around the world … this ideological struggle, it’s not going to change” quickly, Undersecretary of State Karen Hughes said in an interview with The Associated Press. “It’s going to be the work of years and maybe decades.”

A report of all 16 spy agencies in the United States just concluded that the Iraq War increased the number of “Islamic extremists” or “terrorists” as the imperialists call them.(6) Bush found himself having to deny the intelligence report, just because of elections in November.

To top it all off, USA Today just reported that 61% of all Iraqis favor killing Amerikkkan.(7) Now we ask you readers, why were you listening to the Amerikkkans?(7) Now we ask you that 61% of all Iraqis favor killing the Amerikkkans there.

Even the State Department’s own poll of Iraqis show that two-thirds want Amerikkkkans out of the country immediately.(7) Nonetheless, puppet President Jalal Talibani opposes his own people and wants to keep the Amerikkkans there.

The imperialists had to admit that a rising tide of anti-Amerikkkanism has thrown them off their game around the world. They admit to losing in Darfur as an example, but they point to that to rally U.S. public opinion. In fact, the imperialists are losing battles around the world, because public opinion is tipping. In the United States and England, MIM is no where, but globally MIM’s opinions are at the cutting edge.

Amerikkkans cannot yet see why they should be in this global pattern. They understand this or that piece. What is missing is the overall theory of imperialism and how Amerikkkans have become bought off to the point of complacency against capitalism while the rest of the world has become more and more discontented. The increase in Amerikkkan militarism is the sure-fire guarantor to set off an increased response of the oppressed. But Amerikkkans themselves do not understand the social forces that impel them to gain the hatred of the world at this time. This is something like a splinter in the eye that will have to be removed when the Amerikkkkans have paid reparations and understanding something of the economic conditions of the rest of the world from direct experience, they will understand the political outlook of the rest of the world. This will require the joint dictatorship of the proletariat of the oppressed nations and the re-civilizing stage prior to the construction of socialism.

The lesson of anti-Amerikkkanism is the strength of the oppressed and exploited. The imperialists whipped up a frenzied campaign with World Trade Center photos in hand and opposition to “terrorism.” It seemed that no one could oppose them with such a seemingly neutral goal; yet, the rulers derailed themselves and the oppressed and exploited have responded to a global political campaign of anti-Amerikkkanism.

“terrorism.” It seemed that no one could oppose them with such a seemingly neutral goal; yet, the rulers derailed themselves and the oppressed and exploited have responded to a global political campaign of anti-Amerikkkanism. The Amerikkkans there, along with the Amerikkkans, Brits and other imperialist populations might have.
Internationalism does not mean there is no enemy
Migrant Movement Mis-leadership a Major Setback

by Railex

Despite decades of work by Maoists in north america, descendants of the oppressed, born and raised in the conditions they attempt to explain, mechanically apply economic analysis from semi-feudal and semi-colonial countries to conditions in the united States. On Labor Day 2006, the League of Filipino Students (SFSU) put out a statement for the day's migrant rights demonstrations. “The vicious imperialist interest of the comprador big-bourgeoisie is the primary force of exploitation for immigrants and workers in the U.S. and other countries...”

This statement is an example of the confusion being spread by those who do not distinguish between imperialism and oppressed nations. The compradors are the ones who sell their own people to the imperialists in search of profit. So to speak of compradors in what LFS recognizes as the “number one imperialist country” makes absolutely no sense. One might argue there exists a comprador bourgeoisie among the internal semi-colonies of the United States, but this is clearly not what LFS is referring to. Rather they seem to interpret internationalism to be the theory that conditions are the same all over the world.

International Solidarity is the righteous call to support the struggles of the oppressed nations for self-determination. It has often been the task of the oppressed nations’ diaspora to build such solidarity among potential allies within the nations that are responsible for the very oppression they are struggling against. In such relations of the oppressed nations to allies among the oppressor nations there is no necessity for reciprocity. It is the duty of any just minded citizen of an imperialist country to do all they can to stop the oppression and exploitation that their people are imposing on others. The oppressed owe them nothing in return.

We would be better off if we make reparations a requisite part of international solidarity. This would clarify the relationship between oppressor and oppressed nations. It is true that the whole world benefits from an end to militarism. But as long as we live under capitalist economic relations, militarism is inevitable anyway. So the idea that we can ignore the flow of wealth from the Third World to the imperialist countries and effectively combat militarism is incorrect. Overcoming chauvinist attitudes in the imperialist countries requires combat by material means—reparations—not just talk. Once imperialist country populations have the same means of production as the oppressed nations people, it will be easier to harmonize.

The League of Filipino Students goes on to pit amrikkans against the Third World for stealing jobs, further inflating the oppressor’s sense of entitlement and encouraging the very fascist anti-migrant and anti-oppressed sentiments the rallies are trying to combat. If you’ve grown up in the United States you know how amrikkans react to the idea of other nations stealing their jobs. The paragraph concludes that all “workers” are exploited and all need better wages, benefits and conditions. There is no call for reparations for the Filipino people who have been a source of wealth through the exploitation of labor and natural resources for americans for over 100 years. No call for the reparations of the stolen land of Aztlan. No call for reparations for the stolen lives in Iraq. But a very clear call for higher wages for american so-called workers.

The statement often reads more like a wish-list than an assessment of reality. LFS offers no evidence that there is “ever-growing dissent against US intervention and aggression in countries such as the Philippines” amongst americans. In fact, those who are now turning against the occupation of Iraq for their own narrow interests do so in a way that endorses continued u$ involvement in places like the Philippines where amrikkans troops aren’t dying every day. Americans are exposed to more political campaigning that criticizes certain aspects of the invasion of Iraq (such as “we should have sent more troops”) than any real opposition to u$ imperialism.

The Labor Day rally in San Francisco numbered thousands of people, but paled in comparison to May Day of this year. While May Day was a day of migrants, Labor Day was a lot of labor unions and white nationalist “socialist” groups. Perhaps the verdict is in for the current wave of the migrant movement in the united States, and it is destined for economism and special deals in league with the american labor unions. But organizations of youth that have sprung up in response to the migrant struggle offer hope for the future with a focus on land, self-determination and correcting a history of genocide by the very people many at the rally believed to be exploited themselves. Meanwhile, the continued influx of the proletariat into u$ borders can only push the contradiction between the exploited and the exploiters to the forefront again.

Communists are internationalists in that we support the struggles of all oppressed people against imperialism in the common interest of humynity. It does not mean that we support the interests of all nations. We take a clear class position in favor of the proletariat and the peasantry because it is only those who have nothing to lose but their chains who have ever done what it takes to build a world without exploitation or oppression.

Confusion is spread by those who do not distinguish between imperialism and oppressed nations.

What is internationalism?
From the MIM “Frequently Asked Questions” page, http://www.etext.org/Politics/MIM/qf

Internationalism is the ethical belief or scientific approach in which peoples of different nations are held to be or assumed to be equal. Internationalism is opposed to racism and national chauvinism.

We Maoists believe the nationalism of nations experiencing oppression of imperialism is “applied internationalism.” We oppose nationalism of oppressed nations directed at other oppressed nations, because the economic content of such nationalism is intra-proletarian conflict. We seek a united front of oppressed nations led by the international proletariat against imperialism.

“It must argue, not from the point of view of ‘my’ country (for that is the argument of a wretched, stupid, petty-bourgeoisie nationalist who does not realize that he is only a plaything in the hands of the imperialist bourgeoisie), but from the point of view of my share in the preparation, in the propaganda, and in the acceleration of the world proletarian revolution. That is what internationalism means, and that is the duty of the internationalist, of the revolutionary worker, of the genuine Socialist.”

V. I. Lenin, “What Is Internationalism?”

“CPN(Maoist)” announces disarming

The “Communist Party of Nepal(Maoist)” chose November 7th (U.S. elections) as the date to announce a plan to disarm the People’s War in Nepal. Of course, reminiscent of the terrible Chile slaughter of 1973, the BBC called the announcement an “historic” breakthrough for peace.” Rebels will supposedly gather in eight places while the UN holds their weapons.

On the whole, the media blitz justifies MIM’s Central Committee decision in May, where it announced it was not going to be tolerating parties in a thorough May, where it announced it was not going to be all over the place confusing people who may not focus long enough to do other than dismiss Maoism. Meanwhile the cpnm.org and KrishnaSen online had nothing to say. They have not had much to say in a long time, a sign of a dead vanguard, and especially in a country with supposedly as many revolutionaries as Nepal has.

Against MIM, there is much to say. The People’s War has gone on 10 years. Perhaps Fanon would say that the oppressor’s lid on the brain of the oppressed has been lifted long enough that it can indeed vote its way through a political swarm. Fanon says that ordinarily the violence of the oppressor is accommodated deep inside us and the way the lid on that comes off is not pretty.

So too against us is the idea that Nepal is only in the bourgeois stage of revolution. So perhaps the people of Nepal have found a new path to success, the Prachanda path. Maybe even Liberalism is strong enough in Nepal to get the job done.

The Nepali revolution had no national component as clear-cut as Mao’s where the Japanese imperialists destroyed previous China and allowed the creation of a new one. The temptation in these conditions to get a vote of legitimacy instead of a national war of legitimacy is strong.

We hope it is not true that the people of Nepal are giving up access to weapons. That would be fatal. MIM is not in Nepal and does not recruit in Nepal. There must be revolutionaries there with experience. Our hopes lie with them.

Phantom in Peru justifies U.S. military aid

From 1...
groups in the world.

History has gone in a terrible circle, so now in Peru president Alan Garcia is back after leaving office in disgrace universally
ated for ruining Peru in the 1980s. It seems there is no other way to deal with the united States, but that is another story. Also another story is that anyone with any remaining doubts should have realized that when Garcia came back, it was stupid for any Peruvians to have opposed the PCP in the 1980s and early 1990s.

While other self-labelled communist organizations conducting armed struggle are at the negotiation table and not on the State Department “Foreign Terrorist Organization” list, the PCP remains. The PCP has its own ideological beliefs that it would not exist without protracted People’s War from its very beginning—and the “three magic weapons.” Now the Maoist-led armed struggle is over, but the public has yet to piece together why the PCP is just a symbolic political placeholder on the State Department list.

The ghost of the PCP justifies U.S. and Peruvian military budgets. The regime there claims there are still encounters with men in the jungle—easy to imagine and hard to disprove. Yet the people closest to the PCP in its heyday show all the signs that it is a fraud, and therefore a U.S. aid by a desperate Peruvian ruling class.

The man given the job of doing the only public interview with the PCP’s leader known as “Gonzalo,” Luis Arce Borja openly pointed out that the struggle ended long ago.(5) Today, he runs a journalistic website for all of Latin America.

A well-placed translator and assistant of Luis Arce Borja, Adolfo Olachea found himself picked up by INTERPOL and released in Peru. Years before INTERPOL relocated him, Adolfo Olachea gave up his focus on Peru issues and turned his anti-war efforts towards English politics in general. If Peru were having a real armed struggle led by a real vanguard party, we doubt that Adolfo Olachea would have changed his focus when he lived in England.

Somewhat confusing in appearance, we know the so-called “Communist Party of Spain” is quite active in talking about the PCP.(6) We understand how some readers might look at that website and get confused about what MIM is saying. However, if we take a close look, it’s all about the “peace accords” that the PCP leadership in Prison is supposedly talking up even more than 10 years after their arrest. It would be best interpreted as some embassy workers from Peru setting up a website abroad or maybe Spanish intelligence trying to discredit homegrown communists. In any case, no matter the source of these documents, the mixture of the old documents from the original PCP that we at MIM distributed—includes by the “Communist Party of Spain” because of legitimacy obviously—along with newer documents

calling for peace.

It is the government almost nothing to run these sorts of websites while it also leaves the impression that there is some peace that has to be negotiated. Here we should also mention the loved ones of prisoners being taken advantage of by the U.S. and Peruvian governments. In the hearts of family of prisoners, of course there is something to negotiate. But “Foreign Terrorist Organization”? Please.

The best argument one could make against MIM is the “Sol Rojo” website(?)—as evidence that there is still some kind of PCP active. The Communist Party of Nepal(Maoist) is among those linking to this web page, if the www.cpnm.org is really the website of Maoists in Nepal.

At first the Sol Rojo had a hard time settling into an ideological groove. Now it is most definitely forever stuck in 1991-2 before the arrest of Gonzalo. At that time, the PCP was another version of the “Revolutionary Internationalist Movement” (RIM) that it belonged to but had not quite broken with.

Here again the formula is to take old PCP documents and rehash them over and over again. There are still a couple clues to this “Sol Rojo” is a phantom. First, the documents all still pledge utter loyalty to jefe Gonzalo, as if he were not in prison and as if we were still in 1991. Secondly, the documents do not have the scope that would indicate contact with a party—and Gonzalo would have considered that impermissible.

During the First Gulf War, when Bush Sr. attacked Iraq, comrade Gonzalo still free but on the run from authorities took time out to upbraid his American counterparts and hail Saddam Hussein by name in a statement. Gonzalo’s fake leaflets from a day that does not exist anymore. An example of what a party looks like is another one on the State Department list, the “Communist Party of the Philippines.” That party shows that despite coming from a poor country, people can issue opinions about current events internationally and struggle for theory in the Philippines. MIM does not agree with that party, but it is not a total phantom.

This brings us to the next point, on why the PCP is still on the State Department “Foreign Terrorist Organization” list. The only thing it does is perform a paid role for U.$. and therefore an “anti-terrorism” budget. In the “RIM,” the Sol Rojo web page is one of the better ones, but despite MIM’s waiting for it many years to develop, it never did. Several other organizations reputedly in the RIM have no web page. Pushing too hard will only prove to one as of this day that there are two links down for the alleged RIM section in South America (Colombia). Other web pages are also non-existent in the RIM. That there are parties standing by the “RIM” is the last thing it has managed to do is put forward the existence of a “CPI(ML)Naxalbari.” This is an attempt to get involved in Indian affairs, probably by trying to split the Indian exploited by taking advantage of those who do not know the PCP does not exist anymore.

“Sol Rojo” is not the PCP anyway and cannot claim to be. It is based in Europe and never tried to hide that. It also does not represent a connection to any real vanguard party in Peru. Scattered loved ones of family imprisoned, embassy workers and CIA—that’s about all that is left of the “PCP.” Even if there really is an armed struggle in the jungle somewhere, there is no party, no program and no ability to interact with international events. The government succeeds in creating a scatter-brained impression of Maoists with these phantom websites living as if in a hologram from 1991. The impression of a PCP lives on to give life to the fraud of “Islammunism” or some scaremongering to the government from the Chinese phony communist regime. It might upset some anti-Maoists to take the PCP off the list while anti-China organizations ARE on the list. There is another “leftist” organization on there for supposedly one killing sometime before 2000. In other words, it would not take much for Bush to drop all the “leftist” organizations on his list and focus on “Islamofascism” as he calls it. We’ve seen signs from Bush that he wants to unite the Amerikkkan left-wing of white nationalism to his war against Iran, Syria or Lebanon.

More than that, the PCP is in tune with the most value in legitimizing the “RIM,” which at the moment is openly preparing war on Iran in line with Pentagon and State Department orders. The oppressed know that comrade Gonzalo nearly came to power as a revolutionary communist in Peru. So “Sol Rojo” has little connection to the PCP in Peru, but that is another story. It has managed to do is put forward the existence of a “CPI(ML)Naxalbari.” This is an attempt to get involved in Indian affairs, probably by trying to split the Indian exploited by taking advantage of those who do not know the PCP does not exist anymore.

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Notes:
7. The English version is www.redsun.org

IMPERIALISM KILLS MILLIONS
http://www.imperialismkills.org
Sex and violence combine for war on Islam

From 6... coordinated assault linking Islam to rape. The same linkage occurred in Australia and the West generally where the media quoted two, three or four words without even the word “rape” and said the meaning was that not wearing a veil invited rape.

In all these claims made by the Liberals in the West, in all their fantasies about rape, they never provide any proof that the rape problem is worse in Islamic countries. What about this? What evidence? Yes. Did these people even check if Muslims use the same definition of rape? Not. Is it rational for Muslims to wonder if more repressive clothing decreases sexual contact including rape? Yes. Is it irrational to wonder whether the evidence? Yes. Did these people even check if Muslims use the same definition of rape? Not. All we heard from the Liberal press was that it is the responsibility of individuals not to rape. We did not hear anything more than that Liberal bromide. We heard no evidence that such a system is better than manipulating people not to rape.

MIM is for the dictatorship of the proletariat. We believe there is a way and more than one, to manipulate people into not raping. Currently people are being manipulated into raping, but it’s called “freedom.” By the way, we cannot distinguish themselves from what the Australian press is saying are sexual Liberals, choker activists.

The objective of slapping Islam on rape at this time is war and more war—as is obvious but denied by even the most far-out of the left-wing of white nationalism. Former New York mayor Ed Koch chimed in right in tune with the neo-conservative war offensive in the same pornographic New York Press issue with the naked woman on the cover.

“Nevertheless, there are many in the Western world who believe that the United States and its coalition partners should withdraw from Iraq and that such capitulation will somehow end Islamist terror or at least seriously reduce its intensity in the world outside the Middle East. Can we or should we abandon the West to its fate? From that moment, not only the Islamic kind of patriarchy, perhaps Americans are mostly comfortable with seeing winnin naked in the subway, but even if so, they should try to imagine people who are fighting real sexual oppression, like the people of the Islamic countries faced with the irroards of Western-style sex slavery and pornography. For every one million females comfortable enough to be the womyn standing in that subway photo, there would be at least five million females who would not be.

If gender conditions in Islamic countries are worse than in the West, the reason is that the West robs the Islamic countries of resources and labor. If economic conditions were better in the Islamic countries, the people there would see more eye-to-eye with better-off Westerners. Instead, the Islamic peoples fight desperately against gender oppression.

In Australia, students demonstrated against Taj el-Din al Hilaly’s comment. One association called itself a Muslim group, but said it was for “choice” and wearing the veil or not wearing the veil. (8) Thus some people from Muslim cultures in Australia are comfortable with the Western ways, and they falsely link the veil to the economic backwardness of Islamic countries. The veil and the Western lifestyle are not the cause of the problems of Islamic countries. It’s the other way around. The economic exploitation of Islam and other Third World countries leads to insecurity. Students in Australia should seek out the real underlying causes of economic problems, because just changing lifestyle, just watching more “Sex in the City”-re-runs is not going to do the trick.

MIM has tracked down a number of stories about Iran and winnim. The most glaring have turned out false or unrepresentative. Even MIM would not have guessed that most students in Iranian colleges are now winnim, (9) a change that occurred under the Islamic regime, not the pro-West Shah of Iran. Meanwhile, the Boston Phoenix also lost its feminist. Perhaps Amerikans are mostly comfortable with seeing wimmin naked in the subway, but even if so, they should try to imagine people who are fighting real sexual oppression, like the people of the Islamic countries faced with the irroards of Western-style sex slavery and pornography. For every one million females comfortable enough to be the womyn standing in that subway photo, there would be at least five million females who would not be.

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What Ray McGovery stands for: NION and more translators for CIA

Ray McGovery, the CIA officer charged with briefing presidents is now speaking for “Not In Our Name,” an organization led by the “Revolutionary Communist Party-USA” that speaks against the Iraq War. On August 10, 2006, McGovery told Jim Lehrer what he stands for by way of reference to Peter Goss’s appointment at CIA:

“This is his committee reporting that U.S. Intelligence has limited analytic capabilities and an uncertain commitment and capability to collect human intelligence. The panel found that the community is lacking in analytic depth, breadth and expertise and foreign language skills. Now, we all know that to have been the case over these last couple years.”

Ray McGovery also said Bill Colby was a good CIA director.

The realists and the propagandists are going to fight in CIA until the day CIA is gone. We don’t have to give realists space in supposedly revolutionary press, to comment without criticism, the way “RCP-USA” does. The CIA, State Department etc. have to participate in the anti-war movement, partly to spy on it and partly because there usually is a faction of imperialists that would rather fight other wars than the ones being fought. So, the bourgeoisie can join in a march against war in Iraq, because Iraq is hurting the united States too much and they would rather kill Afghans or Iranians as the case may be. Curious — McGovery is not only in the united front against the Iraq War, but also he is a leader within the “RCP-USA”’s NION. Another person openly recruiting in writing for CIA is Phyllis Chesler, another member of the united front created by the RCP-CIA.

Source: http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/fedagencies/july-dec04/goss_8-10.html

Afghanistan, forgotten invasion

From 1... against Japan took place right away. Japan also bombed Mao’s main base area. Such activities are a great blow to China’s nationalism.

Where are the communists fighting for national liberation of Afghanistan? The famous pro-Soviet communists that once ruled Afghanistan are now part of the U.S. puppet regime run by the Northern Alliance, also known as United Islamic Front for the Salvation of Afghanistan. Maoists are not showing up yet, and that speaks poorly for us after five years of U.S./NATO occupation.

[MIM Notes editor adds: The point we want to emphasize is that all statements and documents from some allegedly Maoist group should not be held up to discredit those non-Communist groups who have taken up arms against the American-led occupation.]

Note:
Under Lock & Key
News from Prisons & Prisoners

Peace between prisoners discouraged in California

In response to an article in the October Under Lock and Key about prisoner’s attempting to organize a peace summit at Pelican Bay prison in California, one prisoner wrote:

I have yet to hear of any of this, however, I did hear about the 2001 attempted peace treaty. Which of course was purposely sabotaged by CDC. The very last thing these bastards (CDC) wants is peace amongst the races here in prison. It is not in the material interest of the white middle class who work for CDC to have this violence come to an end. Any time an institution goes on lockdown, prison officials automatically get what’s called “Hazard Pay” which doubles their pay. So for every violent incident they (CDC) can provoke, they stand to profit from it.

It’s not only the CDC that stands to profit. Other outside organizations are also profiting from what the CDC has created. Organizations such as the Sheriff’s department and other police agencies. Which of course are staffed with middle class white americans. Every time an incident from in here spills out into our occupied communities, it is these organizations that come in and lock up everyone in sight, not to mention harass, beat and even murder us.

- a California prisoner at Pelican Bay, October 2006

Retaliation for reporting repression

It’s been a while since I’ve written but it is because I’ve been going through the motions of trying to get to the bottom of some unjustified write ups. I’m sure you remember I wrote you a detailed letter about the incident that occurred here at Pelican Bay State Prison (PBSP) that involved 160 prisoners. In that letter I also state that I expected retaliation for what I wrote.

Some days after that letter I was given another write up for “attempted manufacture of a deadly weapon.” Apparently guards found some scratches on my locker and figured I made them. I was stripped searched and nothing was found so I was taken to “contraband watch.”

It’s a small room. I’d say a 4 by 6 cell, with no sink or toilet. I was to be given 3 defecations within 72 hours as I’m being watched by a guard 24/7. I was left only in my boxer shorts and wasn’t given a shower. At 9am I was given a mat and a blanket that was taken from me at 6 in the morning. If I had to go I had to do it in an area on the door frame of the cell. The urine filled a small gallon that was rarely emptied by the guard and gave off a strong urine odor. If I had to defecate I would be wrist-chained and a makeshift potty with a bag taped to it was what I had to use as the guard watched me. Afterwards they’d take the potty and the bag and remove the waist-chains, but I was not allowed to wash my hands. If I needed a drink of water I had to ask the guard who would fill a small cup with a drink.

This was degrading and humiliating and what made matters worse was comments by other guards who walked by and explained how gross it smelled. This is aside from the guards complaints each time I needed to use the restroom.

Surprisingly I was not found guilty of the charges. But still the treatment of the “contraband watch” process is truly inhumane. Now I’ve been repeatedly asking for records, paperwork, findings, etc. of this incident but to no avail. I’m still in administrative segregation (the hole), for other write-ups. I’m supposed to go back to general population in November but really it’s up to the administration. Again I repeat that after this letter someone will be upset and might just decide to shut me up or try at least. I am almost sure of it and I will keep you up to date on things.

- a California prisoner, October 2006

Books for prisoners program essential for education behind bars!

I have read one of your many newspapers (MIM Notes) and I thought your publications were awesome indeed. The points you have expressed are right on point with so much relevance to this condition I find myself in. Very well, I will persevere these trials gladly to expose and bring down as many as possible. I can in this political, social and economic system of exploitation and oppression.

I will close this letter with the request of being place on your mailing list to receive your MIM Notes and ask if, you can send me some literature.

- a California prisoner, October 2006

Thanks for the education

Today I sit within the confines of one of the many dingy chambers of this steel and concrete dungeon of Corcoran’s Security Housing Unit hoping to extend the utmost respect to all those (male and female) who have taken initiative to position themselves on the front line to oppose the systematic design of oppression.

In extending my respects to all, I would also like to convey my heartfelt appreciation to everyone working at, working with and/or affiliated with Maoist Internationalist Movement for all that you do and the services you provide. Especially, in regards to prisoners. Speaking from personal experience I can say that in receiving and reading your newsletters, it’s both a major source of motivation and encouragement. To say that your MIM Notes have served me well does not cover any specifics, but I can say that your notes have been a potent ingredient towards my transformation: and your free books to prisoners program has nurtured and fed me like a baby at his mother’s breast. The books you have been so generous to send have taught me to respect and value the importance of an education. an education that has taught me that with knowledge comes enormous responsibility. The responsibility that arises from not just knowing the difference between what is said to be right, or wrong, testing an deciphering, truth and lies, but knowing and acting in accordance with what is consistent and progressive in the exercise of self determination and self defense.

Even today as I sit in the gulags in one of the most abused and repressive states in this country, being taunted and tormented by my sadistic captors, I’m not discouraged by either the dingy confines of this steel and concrete dungeon or the rough road ahead that I must travel. You see, I will persevere these trials gladly to expose and bring down as many as possible. I can in this political, social and economic system of exploitation and oppression.

I will close this letter with the request of being place on your mailing list to receive your MIM Notes and ask if, you can send me some literature.

- a California prisoner, November 2005

MIM on Prisons & Prisoners

MIM seeks to build public opinion against America’s criminal injustice system, and to eventually replace the bourgeois justice system with proletarian justice. The bourgeois injustice system imprison 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 in many cases the same literature will be allowed in to some prisoners, but not to others (the more politically active a prisoner is, the more likely they are to face censorship). Sometimes a protest letter from MIM will solve this problem (at least temporarily), but often we need help from others on the outside sending in protest letters while the prisoner needs to file appeals and ultimately a lawsuit. These battles can be time consuming but they are crucial to retaining our ability to work with and educate our comrades behind bars.

Fighting censorship in California

The following letter was written by a prisoner appealing censorship of literature sent to him and others by MIM and other book vendors.

Dear Mailroom Lieutenant:

We apologize for placing an issue of this small magnitude on your desk for
redress, but our attempts at rectifying the problem of our being denied books have met with disappointment. The mailroom, R&R and even Deputy Director D.L. Runnels have answered our inquiries with ambiguity. If answered at all. Books are very important to us in ASU [Administrative Segregation Unit] and to the realization of our rehabilitation: it’s unconscionable, what with all we know about life-transforming effects books and education have on people, that the above named offices and persons would permit with apparent indifference our deprivation of them (books).

In effort to reiterate the procedures and regulations set forth in the CCR 15, and applicable law, a memorandum titled “The process of standard mail and receipt of books,” dated February 13, 2006, by D.L. Runnels, Deputy Director, circulated through the mailroom and R&R, was generated to inform interested Lieutenants that book packages are not considered to be only special purchase; the mailroom is to process, like standard mail, incoming books from any book vendor that does mail order business (if ordered by third party) and; lastly, ASU placed inmates are allowed to receive and possess personal books, though the number of books may be limited. Neither the mailroom nor R&R are processing for ASU inmates incoming book orders, but instead are summarily returning to sender arriving book orders, and without explanation or the generating of an 1819 Denied Property Notice. We learn of the returns from our families, whom themselves were notified by the book vendor. Without a CDC 1819 Denied Property Notice, no grounds for 602 appeals can be proffered.

The egregious refusal of both the mailroom and R&R to properly process and deliver incoming third party ordered books not only lends to the further frustration of an already tenuous and volatile relationship between ASU inmates and staff, because it is believed the proscription on personal books for ASU inmates is punitive only and serves no legit penological interest, but is in direct violation of the rules. We respectfully request that since we are generally retained in ASU for extraordinarily long periods of time, you would intervene and rescind the unofficial policy at Lancaster of denying ASU placement inmates to receive book orders and instruct both the mailroom and responsible parties to adhere to the rules and regulations regarding the receipt of books as reiterated in the aforementioned memorandum.

- A California prisoner, October 2006

Corruption at Pleasant Valley

I am currently being housed at Pleasant Valley State Prison in Coalinga, CA. I guess I don’t make enough money to live in a luxurious cell suite so I am one of many stuck on the E-beds. Living on the E-beds really sucks but it’s much better than living in the gym day-care center. We have had our hands full with our shower program as well as staff. Staff hates us so bad, most of us just want to do our time and go home but there are a few knuckleheads here who don’t belong here and staff knows that.

We have been reading in the newspapers statewide that the prison system is under investigation. I am so glad somebody has finally taken an interest in our well being. Since this has all been happening we are getting less and less program and showers are harder to come by. It almost makes no sense to go to school or vocation because getting a shower right away is a thing of the past. The quality of food is at its all time low. I really doubt it has any if at all nutritional value. Our lunches are ridiculous.

We have a warden who was run off at Corcoran state prison for corrupt activities and now he is allowing it over here. How the hell do they get away with this? We have a tower Corrections Officer who has been run off everywhere he has been and now he is doing the same things here. This man is a real idiot. Everything they can possibly do to us to mentally abuse us they do. The Green Wall is alive here. These people are criminals and they get paid to be.

Many people here have got Valley Fever, some have died from it, it’s in the soil and they know it. We have tried to contact people on the outside but everybody is afraid of CCPOA. This is a mafia that needs to be stopped.

- A California prison, August 2006

The Prison of the Lost

Amidly drifting on this sea of wrath Barely aloft in humanity’s mass So easy to capsize into this sea of sorrow Living each day with no thought of tomorrow

Speakers scream throughout prisoners’ lair Shouting orders in a confounding blair Words are destroyed when given so loud, Enter our sunshine causing minds to cloud.

One day is like another, a sister or brother, An endless time with little choice of finding other

Love departs in shortest moment of trial Peace and joy flee too in its denial This steel cage is now your proper place

What is this hate? What is this quaking fear? Does one see another or view in a mirror? Walls of deception surround every head Are we still alive or already dead?

Buried like unwanted trash of yesterday Into stone crypt we are loathingly thrown away. What will we be if we ever depart But that part of death served a la carte?

- A California prisoner, September 2006

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 imprisoned.

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

Join the fight against the injustice system

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

Stop Censorship in Prison: Prisons frequently censor books, newspapers and magazines coming from MIM’s books 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?
Las manifestaciones estadounidenses de derechos migrantes en recientes días son rara vez que hagan eco en las pintorescas imágenes de un fuego de la gente. El fuego de las reencuadernaciones de los derechos migrantes en sucesos que han sido considerados como una emergencia, han sido utilizados para concretar en el debate legislativo y no han sido considerados como una emergencia, han sido utilizados para concretar en el debate legislativo.

La responsabilidad no cae solamente en BuSh o su administración, ni sus seguidores Republicanos por eso, pero BuSh ofrece poca esperanza en frente de los políticos y obliga más conservativismo que a si mismo. Recientemente BuSh ha reiterado su propuesta para estado legal temporal para ciertos trabajadores migrantes, BuSh quiere dar a representar como la voz de razón y moderación; sin embargo, sus propuestas y acciones de migración y línea fronteriza, el prohibimiento de más posibles migrantes y el hacer la vida más difícil para los migrantes en los Estados Unidos, demuestra que el no es ningún defensor de los derechos migratorios. Es más propuestas como las de BuSh de legalización temporal pueden ser echas compatibles con los enfoques y cruces propuestas de restricciones migratorias. BuSh es una voz de nacionalidad en el debate de reforma migratorio para los economistas Euro-Amerikanos, pero no ha echo nada para rechazar la mira represiva de este debate/esfuerzo. En el tramo de las cosas, BuSh está solamente creando algunas cosas para consideración en un movimiento anti-immigrante que está dirigiéndose hacia adelante salvajemente.

El movimiento anti-immigrante está fuera del control de BuSh, y no era su movimiento para comenzar, sino un típico movimiento reaccionario de la nobleza trajadora, construida por según trabajadores Euro-Amerikanos, y imperialistas más reaccionarios que BuSh.

BuSh no es ningún Salvador, pero el criticar nada más la administración de BuSh sobre HR4437 y propuestas similares es estar dirigiéndose al camino equivocado. Ahora, más que nunca, el nacionalismo Euro-Amerikanos en todas sus formas y manifestaciones debe ser criticado, no sólo el debe ser luchado. No debe de haber ninguna conexión mutua. Los demócratas y más a menudo los facistas Euro-Amerikanos han expuesto su cooperación y su papel en está ola de reacción anti-immigrante. Apressurando a los Euro-Amerikanos a que persiban su deber hacia los derechos civiles, derechos humanos, y la constitución (tomando la poca obligación que les sobra), es necesario urgentemente, pero también debe de haber lucha abierta contra el nacionalismo y la supremacía Anglo. De ésta manera podemos establecer una fundación para una lucha nacional liberadora para dar fin al imperialismo.

Invólvete en la revolución! Nullifica todas la fronteras ilegítimas!