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ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH SOVIET PEOPLE **VOL. 17 #1-SEPT. 2008**

286 QUEEN ST. W., TORONTO, ONT. M5H 2N4 (416) 977-5819 Fax: (416) 593-0781 E-Mail: MLUCAS3545@AOL.COM



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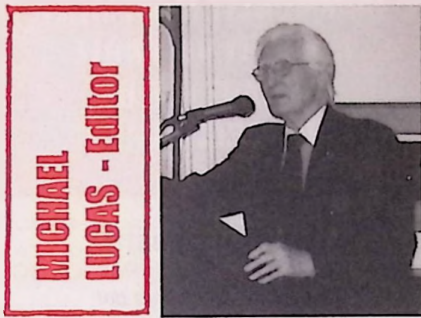
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**IN 1918 "HANDS OFF RUSSIA COMMITTEE" WAS STARTED IN CANADA BY DR. H.A. LOWRIE- FIRST CHAIRMAN**





It would seem that these two events are not interrelated with each other or will not affect the holding of the upcoming extremely important Conference on October 10-11-12 at the Friendship House in Toronto. Unfortunately this might have an effect on obtaining visas by our Soviet friends and by others from that part of the Caucasus. This volatile political situation might prevent guests coming also from Ukraine, Byelorussia, Romania and other countries from that part of the world.

As friends of Soviet People and dedicated to peace, we of course feel apprehensive as to what might transpire by the time of the Conference. Of course the situation is critical and there are many thoughts and opinions on what action the Russian government should have done to guarantee its integrity and the safeguard of the people who were part of the Soviet Union.

You will read many articles on this conflict and its consequences for the future of that volatile region. This is the tragic consequence of the dismemberment of the USSR; the establishment of raw and mafia-run capitalism that is ruining the people of former Soviet Union; that saw the exodus of millions of people all over the world; that see daily murder, robbery, traitorous actions by the preset leadership of the former Soviet Republics!

There is much that eventually Mr. Putin and Mr. Medvedev have to account for before the Soviet people when time comes for reckoning. Nice speeches by Putin and Medvedev are not enough to halt the appetite of the US-NATO New World Order, which follows in the footsteps of Nazi Germany. Imperialism is synonymous with Fascism! There

## INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL CONFERENCE AND THE CRISIS IN THE CAUCASUS

cannot be any other explanation!

Mr. Putin and Mr. Medvedev should realize the fact that former Soviet Union (*now Russia*) is completely surrounded by US military and missile bases. Even the New York Times and Wall Street Journal boast about this!

The reality is that the leadership of some of these former Soviet Republics, are now nothing more than just "**Banana Republics of US Imperialism**" – nothing more and nothing else! These so-called "*independent countries*" are used for their natural resources, for importing US goods and as cheap labor for the multinational corporate companies!

But in the Caucasus the question for hungry Uncle Sam is **OIL!**

**Yes the International Council Conference will go on as planned and it will be a great success, with 50 delegates from 14 countries taking part.**

Dear readers:

If you want to understand what is actually happening in the Caucasus, you cannot allow yourself to be swayed and depend only on the capitalist-controlled big-business media, because Georgia is right at the center of US imperialism's moves to absolutely control the oil-rich Georgian Sea region. Georgia is the gateway to Europe with at least two major oil pipelines passing through this birthplace of J.V. Stalin. Because of US imperialist plans, these pipelines rival the USSR-built oil pipelines that have been Europe's main source of inexpensive natural gas and oil.

Until 2005, the only pipeline from the Caspian oil center in Baku, Azerbaijan that the Soviets made into a world-admired facility was through USSR (Russia). When the USSR disintegrated under pressure from US imperialism and the internal traitors, in 2005 this Soviet Baku facility was taken over by British

**Petroleum and Uniocal** and it is now going not through Russia proper, but through Georgia to the Turkish port city of Ceyhan.

This British-US Corporation also owns the Baku-Tbilisi-Erzurum pipeline, which opened in 2007. Another pipeline goes through South Ossetia to the Georgian port city of Supsa. In this way the Soviet Union's oil which the Soviet people developed, paid for and were dedicated in helping the European countries, was once the most valuable resource that is now owned by Imperialist countries and marketed by US imperialist corporations and its allies. This is becoming a stranglehold over Russia's development and that of its former Soviet republics.

*US - Trained Puppet, President Mikhail Saakashvili of Georgia*





With Iraq's oil resources conquered, and Iran's under threat of invasion, blockade or outright invasion - US imperialism is determined to also control the former USSR Caspian Sea Oil Fields!

**Now, do you see the whole picture?**

The known reserves of Caspian Oil are larger than all the oil fields of Nigeria and Libya, thus putting these Soviet explored and built oil fields in the same league as the oil fields in Iran and Kuwait! In addition, there are tremendous reserves of natural gas throughout the former Soviet Caspian region.

It is a fact, as reported by Wall Street Journal, that Gorbachev, Yeltsin and Putin had allowed the following multinational corporations to set up in this Caspian Region:

**Atlantic Richfield, Chevron, Exxon, Mobil, Pennzoil, Philips Petroleum, Texaco and BP Amoco bought up these Soviet oil interests and drilling rights.**

A question begs to be asked as to which of these present capitalists and leaders of Russia got a good \$\$\$ taste for this traitorous sell out? And, where do you think that these billions of ill-gained profits are deposited? Of course in the offshore Western banks!

Whoever controls the oil and gas pipelines controls the destiny of the people in the Caspian region.

The upcoming International Council Conference will be discussing this situation, with the representative of Russia, Ukraine and Byelorussia present, representing the Soviet Society for Friendship and Solidarity with Foreign Countries Abroad. Editors of the Four NSC editions will also be present to discuss how best to help the Soviet patriots in their hour of need.

The people in the Caspian Region as well as in many parts of the world are suffering at the hands of US imperialism's many proxy armies. All of humanity must demand that US imperialism get out of the Middle East, the Caspian Region and close all their bases all over the world!!

**BACK TO THE FUTURE!  
BACK TO THE USSR  
AND SOCIALISM!**

## **PUTIN ON SOLZHENITSYN**

When that darling of the West Solzhenitsyn died in August of this year, here are the words uttered by Mr. Putin, also the buddy-buddy of Mr. Bush:



*"Together with the entire nation he lived through a great tragedy of repression by Stalin. He not only lived through it, but through his works and his entire life he inoculated our society against tyranny in all its forms..."*

Putin is putting into effect that *"the memory of Solzhenitsyn must be preserved and therefore all of his works will become an important part of the curriculum in all public, high school and universities in Russia."*

### **COMMENT:**

*We wonder whether Mr. Putin, a former KGB agent knows that Mr. Solzhenitsyn was a captain during WW II of an artillery battery and was cooperating with the enemy. He was arrested, demoted and sent to prison. Other countries during the life and death struggle would have sentenced him to death by a firing squad.*

*Yes, the Soviet Red Army was too lenient with this traitor, who admired fascism!*

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OCTOBER 10-11-12, 2008 AT  
THE FRIENDSHIP HOUSE IN  
TORONTO, CANADA!**

**YOUR REGISTRATION  
MUST BE IN BY  
AUGUST 31, 2008**





# NEWS FROM FORMER USSR

## ARE PUTIN AND MEDVEDEV FINALLY SEEING THE TRUTH?

News items from Nezavisimaya Gazeta – Moscow Times

Greed and unstoppable corruption in Russia is such that even Mr. Putin had this to say to the Russian Cabinet: *"The Russian government spends now over \$7 Billions Annually just investigating these private companies – internal and foreign for serious infractions, cheating, corruption, embezzlement and laundering of money. Russian authorities have to carry out over 20 million investigations each year. The expenses for all of this are staggering!"*

Mr. Putin – your crocodile tears are a bit too late. What you have sewn you shall reap!

Russian President Medvedev has denounced the plans of US to build missile defense shield in Poland and in the Czech Republic, blaming US for aggravating the situation. He promised that Russia would respond appropriately. He also accused the Baltic States of glorifying fascism and that they are *"shuffling history like a pack of cards."*

Very well spoken Mr. Medvedev! But as this NSC went to press Poland and the Czechs have signed this defense shield agreement. No use closing the barn door when the horses were already stolen!

## EVEN THE RUSSIAN BOURGEOISE WANT TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY!

According to the latest poll by Levada Center as reported last month by the Nezavisimaya Gazeta, over 50% of the "cream" of Russian newly-rich class in fourteen of the largest cities in Russia *"want to leave the country temporarily or immigrate permanently."* Less than 13% of those polled thought that things might improve and stabilize – but 59% thought that the situation would worsen at any moment.

An absolute majority stated that

they feel unprotected by the arbitrary behavior of the present Russian state officials, particularly the police.

## WHERE RUSSIA STANDS IN DOING BUSINESS

According to the mouthpiece of multinational corporations, Wall Street and US Imperialist ambitions *"Forbes Magazine"* ranked Russia 86<sup>th</sup> out of 121 countries on its list of the best countries for doing business with.

Kenya was 85<sup>th</sup>, Nigeria 87<sup>th</sup>, Tadjikistan 118<sup>th</sup>, Uzbekistan 196<sup>th</sup>, Kyrgystan 84<sup>th</sup>, Azerbaijan 82<sup>nd</sup>, Ukraine 75<sup>th</sup>, Kazakhstan 69<sup>th</sup>, Georgia 68<sup>th</sup>, Latvia 32<sup>nd</sup>, Lithuania 30<sup>th</sup>, Estonia 10<sup>th</sup>.

Denmark was rated the best while Chad was rated the worst. The United States was rated the 4<sup>th</sup>.

## RUSSIA: SAME GAME: DIFFERENT PLAYERS

*Gathered from Russian and foreign Internet news agencies*

Reuters' Russian-language edition quotes Prime Minister Putin saying that in his capacity as leader of Russian Parliament's dominant party *"United Russia"*, he will keep on holding his televised call-in shows like he did as President. While Dmitry Medvedev replaced Putin as president last May, Putin is letting everyone know in no uncertain terms that he will retain absolute control of Russia's political life.

In North Caucasus region the clashes are ongoing with Chechen fighters attacking and killing Russian troops and military outposts.

Mikhail Khodorovsky and his partner Platon Lebedev of the scandal-ridden ex-Yukos oil giant, are accused (*but this proven accusation is going on already for years*) are again accused of stealing of over **350,000 tons of oil - \$20.7 Billions plus another \$7.5 Billions between 1998-2004.**

But with highly paid-international lawyers, this is a game that shows that Putin and Medvedev are playing

a crooked game. You are not able to steal and transport 350,000 tons of oil without anyone in the Kremlin knowing about it!

Russian prosecutors have charged a skinhead fascist gang led by two teenagers with the murder of racist murders of 20 people in Moscow – this is according to British newspaper *"The Guardian."* The ring-leaders are Artur Ryno and Pavel Skatchevsky. Pavel proudly confessed that he had killed over 30 people, telling the police that: *"Present Russia and Moscow in particular, needed to be cleansed of foreigners who oppress the Russians. Russia is for Russians only, not for any other dark-skinned race."*

This gang usually videotaped their attacks and murders and put it on the Internet. They would finish off their victims by stabbing them in the back as their *"trademark"*.

People are demanding that the authorities take quick action against these fascist thugs and not allow this xenophobia to spread amongst the young who see no future for them in this crisis-ridden present day Russia and thus they are urged and supported to blame other races for their present economic plight and no future ahead that they can see.

It seems that the present leaders of Russia have learned well from British and American imperialists –  
**DIVIDE AND RULE!**

## WHY ARE JEWS RETURNING BACK FROM ISRAEL ?

With all the propaganda by Zionist Israel and US Imperialism urging and sponsoring Soviet Jews to immigrate to Israel after 1945 and the vicious Cold War propaganda, and during these many post-war years thousands of Soviet Jews decided to leave Israel, where they were considered as second class citizens and not the promised land, then they returned back to present day Russia, Byelorussia, Ukraine.

With the new capitalist class growing in Russia and Ukraine, and with embezzlers and crooks like



Berezowsky and many others, working hand-in-glove with the present regimes, they amassed billions of people's property and natural resources, and of course under the guiding hand of World Zionism and US Imperialism.

Now they are returning back to their former stomping grounds and spreading their wings.

Now in Dnepropetrovsk there are over 30,000 Jews living and with the help of World Zionism and their junior partners like the US Boston Jewish Community, which gave guidance and tremendous financial funding already for over 10 years.

This Dnepropetrovsk Jewish community is building a 400,000-foot Menorah Community Center and Synagogue worth close to \$200 millions, and it will include seven towers that give an impression of a terraced menorah. This will be the biggest Jewish structure in the whole world.

Here is the clincher – it seems that two local Jewish billionaires, Gennady Bogolubov and Igor Kolomoisky are funding this whole project.

In capitalist America it took millionaires like Ford two-three generations to amass their fortunes – how is it possible for these two Jewish businessmen to amass such a fortune inside 10-12 years? Just think about it!

***We have a suggestion: These two -Zionist crooks in Ukraine should give lectures to the Wall Street tycoons on how it's done!***

## ATTENTION ALL STAMP COLLECTORS

We have a large assortment of stamps from all over the world, ready to send you a packet for a donation to NSC.

**IN 2009 WE SHALL OPEN UP A  
\$40,000 FINANCIAL CAMPAIGN  
FOR THE FOUR EDITIONS OF  
NORTHSTAR COMPASS**

## ONGOING DEMONSTRATIONS IN UKRAINE!

Organized by the Progressive Socialist Party of Ukraine and other forces



Natalie Vitrenko head of PSPU in the center Police and clubs are ready.



May Day, Victory Day celebrations and demonstrations are held each year and holding the photo of J.V. Stalin is Tamara Yakubovska who is an avid reader of NSC and promoter of the International Council.



## US FUNDAMENTALIST SECT FUNDS PYRAMID FAITH POWER IN RUSSIA

*Taken from the Los Angeles Times*

US Imperialism's tactics, which utilize religious strife and religious funded and supported movements in former Soviet Union, have now embarked in Kozenki, Russia on Pyramid Power Faith Movement.

Near Kozenki you can see this Pyramid from many kilometers away, looming over birch forests and wild flowers fields and dachas being built for Russia's very rich and ruthless Mafiosi.

This pyramid is twelve stories high and gleams brightly under the sun and is constructed from very expensive and imported fiberglass. Promoted in the media and supported by the Orthodox Church that this pyramid will give energy to everyone that is a believer and it will

cure all sicknesses and cure the karma.

Promoted also is the idea that miracles happen when you come to this pyramid – like that of a sterile women who miraculously was impregnated after a visit. This pyramid has "mysterious" force emanating from its peak, healing all the ozone-polluted layer over Russia!

**Who is the rich mastermind and the so called "believer" of these miracles"?**

He is Alexander Golod, a Ukrainian defense contractor for US corporations and as a side-line has spent millions of dollars received from US Fundamentalist movements in order to build these "healing pyramids" all across the former Soviet Union. This "god in the making, Golod" stated that: "This Pyramid decreases hurricanes and typhoons and it seriously changes the physical and psychological conditions."

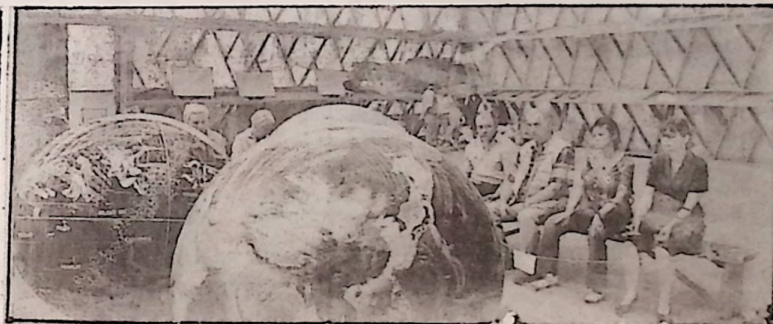
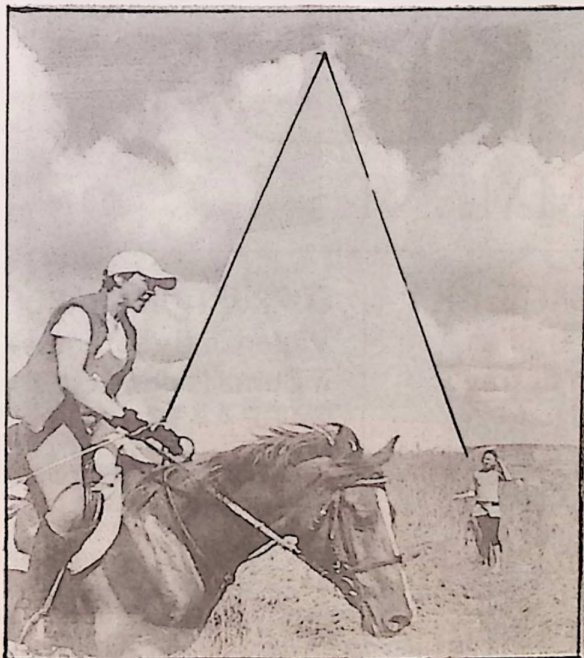
Because of the hard conditions of life in Moscow, many people are duped to believe in miracles and come here. This is a modern age "monastery" promoted and abetted by the Russian State and by the Russian Orthodox Church.

Visitors sit inside this Pyramid on benches and look at the three globes –one each for geography, topography and astronomy.

Church and religion is another tool of imperialism and the ruling class to keep the people subjugated and believe in miracles, instead of organizing and fighting against the injustices that are growing at an alarming rate in former USSR.

NSC has a suggestion:

*Putin, Medvedev and Bush should come here under this Pyramid and contemplate their faith when the people of the world will try them for their crimes against humanity! We're certain that they know the answer*



TO OUR SOVIET FRIENDS:

**ARISE YOU MIGHTY LAND!**



## DANGER OF PRO-FASCIST AND NATIONALIST POLICIES IN GEORGIA

**DECLARATION OF THE GEORGIAN PEACE COMMITTEE**

Once more Georgia has launched

into a situation of chaos and bloodshed. A new fratricidal war exploded with renewed strength on Georgian soil.

To our great disappointment, the warnings of the Georgian Peace Committee and progressive personalities of Georgia on the pernicious character of the militarization of the country and of the real danger of a pro-fascist and nationalist policy had no effect on the government.

The authorities of Georgia once again organized a bloody war, feeling the promised support of some Western countries and of regional and international organizations. It will take decades to cleanse the shame poured by our current holders of power over the Georgian people.

The Georgian Army – armed and trained by US instructors as well as Israel instructors, and using US armaments - subjected the city of Tskhinvali to a barbaric destruction.



These bombings killed Ossetian civilians, our brothers and sisters, children, women and elderly people. Over 2,000 inhabitants of Tskhinvali and its surrounding areas perished.

Hundreds of civilians of Georgian nationality also died, both in the conflict zone as well as in the entire territory of Georgia.

The Georgian Peace Committee expresses its deep condolences to the relatives and friends of those who have perished.

The entire responsibility for this fratricidal war, for thousands of children, women and elderly people, for the inhabitants of South Ossetia and of Georgia falls exclusively on the current President of Georgia, on the Parliament and on the Government of Georgia.

The irresponsibility and the adventurism of this Saakashvili regime have no limits. This President of Georgia and his team, undoubtedly are criminals and must be held responsible and punished.

The Georgian Peace Committee, together with all progressive parties and social movements of Georgia, will struggle to assure that the organizers of this monstrous genocide have a severe and legitimate punishment.

The Georgian Peace Committee declares and asks the broad public opinion not to identify the present Georgian leadership with the people of Georgia, with the Georgian nation, and appeals to all to support the Georgian people in their struggles against this criminal regime of Saakashvili.

We appeal to all political forces of Georgia, the social movements and the people of Georgia to unite in order to free the country from the Russian-phobic and pro-fascist anti popular regime of Saakashvili!

The Georgian Peace Committee –  
Tbilisi, August 11, 2008

**COMMENT:**

*The Executive Committee of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People and Northstar Compass has sent our support to the people of Georgia. We appeal to our readers all over the world to do likewise at e-mail:*

[pc\\_of\\_georgia@yahoo.com](mailto:pc_of_georgia@yahoo.com)

## WHY THE WAR IN THE CAUCASUS?

*Based on an analyses by Michel Chossudovsky – Global Research*

During the night of August 7, coinciding with the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics, President Saakashvili of Georgia ordered an all-out military attack on the city of Tskhinvali, the capital of South Ossetia.

The Georgian unprovoked aerial bombardment and ground attacks were directed against civilian targets, including residential areas, hospitals and a university. The capital was completely destroyed. There were over 1,500 deaths according to the

Russian and Western sources on the spot. Over 34,000 people from South Ossetia fled to Russia.

The importance and timing of this Georgian military operation must be carefully analyzed, because it will have far-reaching implications.

Georgia is an important US and NATO outpost on the immediate border of the Russian Federation and very close to the Middle East Central Asian war theatre. South Ossetia is at the crossroads of the strategic oil and gas pipeline routes.

Georgia never ever acts without the consent of Washington. Besides, President Saakashvili is a US proxy and Georgia is in fact a US protectorate.

**It is a cardinal fact that the attack by Georgia was very carefully coordinated by the US**





**military and NATO and given military aid by Washington!**

Georgian military were trained also by Israel as facts have been proven now. Contrary to what was conveyed by the Western media reports. This attack was anticipated by Moscow. These attacks were timed to coincide with the opening ceremonies of the Beijing Olympics, largely with a view of avoiding front-page media coverage of this Georgian military operation. Russian air strikes were at the military installations inside Georgia, including the Gori military base. The Georgian military attack was repulsed with a massive Russian show of military strength.

This attack was known and planned to fail by NATO brass - but the actual plan was to cause a humanitarian disaster rather than a military victory. The objective by Georgia was to destroy completely the provincial capital and to inflict as high a loss of life as possible. This was the NATO's brass plan right from the very start!

Both Washington and NATO headquarters in Brussels were acutely aware of what would happen in case of Russian counterattack. Was this a scenario that was planned to escalate into a broader conflict and an all out war?

Was this also a plan, that since Georgia has the third largest contingent of military forces (*all paid in American dollars* - Editor) in Iraq after the US and UK, with over 2,000 troops there - to get them flown back to Georgia in US military planes and expand the conflict?

**It is now a fact that US-NATO and Israel were involved in planning this attack!**

The war in Southern Ossetia was not meant to be won at all, leading to the restoration of Georgian sovereignty over South Ossetia. It was intended, with the help of Israel to destabilize this region while also triggering a US-NATO confrontation with Russia. Also, this was a combined rehearsal by US-NATO-ISRAEL war preparations in relation to the planned attack on Iran.

Israel's military advisors were and are working hand-in-hand in preparations of Georgian military in the attack on South Ossetia. Georgia received from Israel the SU-25 planes and artillery systems from Israel, besides supplying Georgia

with the Israel's Hermes-450 and Skylark unmanned aerial planes.

Israel is now part of the Anglo-American military axis, which serves the interests of the Western oil giants in the Middle East and Central Asia. Israel is an important partner in the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyham pipeline that brings oil; and gas to the Eastern Mediterranean. Over 20% of Israel's oil is imported from Azerbaijan and this pipeline is controlled by British Petroleum. This has dramatically changed the geopolitics of the Eastern Mediterranean and the Caucasus.

Turkey and Israel are now negotiating the construction of a multi-billion dollar energy and water project that will have control over the transport of water, electricity, natural gas and oil; both pipelines to Israel.

US is planning to have Israel be the dominant force in the Middle East, on behalf of the multinational corporations - in plain words -  
**THE ARMED BULLY!**

**FOR REVOLUTION AGAINST  
CAPITALISM TO BE A SUCCESS,  
THE FLAG MUST BE RED!**

## **Statement of the Central Committee of the United Communist Party of Georgia**

Georgia has been thrown into another bloody chaos! Fratricidal war on Georgian soil broke out with renewed force. The predictions of the United Communist Party of Georgia and progressive public figures of Georgia about the perniciousness of the militarization of the country, about the danger of the profascist nationalistic policy of the authorities, to our great regret, happened. The authorities of Georgia once more organized a bloody slaughter, sensing the support of some Western countries, as well as international and regional organizations. The disgrace, which the present authorities brought onto the Georgian people, will take decades to wash off.

The Georgian army armed and trained by American instructors, and using American weapons, subjected

the city of Tskhinvali to barbaric destruction. The innocent civilians perished under the bombing, the Ossetians, our brothers and sisters, children, women, and old men. More than two thousand residents of Tskhinvali and its surroundings perished.

Also were killed hundreds of Georgian innocent civilians both in the conflict region and throughout the entire territory of Georgia.

The Central Committee of the United Communist Party of Georgia expresses deep condolences to the families and friends of those killed.

The entire responsibility for current fratricidal war, for thousands of killed children, women and old men, for the residents of South Ossetia and Georgia lies with the current President, Parliament and government of Georgia. The irresponsibility and adventurism of the present regime of Saakashvili knows no bounds. The President of Georgia and his command are, undoubtedly, criminals and must be held accountable.

We, Georgian Communists and all progressive people of Georgia, will fight for strict and legal punishment of the organizers of this monstrous genocide!

The United Communist Party of Georgia asks the general public not to identify the present Georgian government with the people of Georgia and with the Georgian nation. It calls for support of the Georgian people in the fight against the criminal regime of Saakashvili.

We call all political forces of Georgia, public movements and the people of Georgia to be united for liberation of Georgia from the antinational, Russophobic, profascist regime of Saakashvili!

The Central Committee of the United Communist Party of Georgia, Tbilisi, August 11, 2008

Source: KPRF.RU, 13.08.2008

**INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL  
MEETING TO BE HELD ON  
OCTOBER 10-11-12, 2008  
TORONTO, CANADA.  
Send greetings/ ideas!**



# TO NEW HEIGHTS IN SOVIET ART

By **DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH**

From B.V. Sokolov, Molotov, "AST-PRESS KNIGA" Moscow, 2005pp.381-2

Translated from by Vijay Singh

Soviet people, small and great, own the name of Stalin and connect it with all that is best on earth. Life, happiness, peace and the creative embodiment of all that is best of our great people, our father, our leader. All spheres of human activity told and tell of the direction of the power of his genius, his luminous and clear intellect.



We people of art in particular keenly feel with bitterness the hard loss: from amongst us has departed the sage mentor, the caring friend, the thoughtful teacher. The recollection of the memories repeatedly arises in great detail of the moments when the Soviet composers had the happiness and good fortune to meet and speak to Joseph Vissarionovich. Again the resonance of his words, the full warm attention and deep sympathy come to mind. Joseph Vissarionovich not only indicated speedily, clearly and in simple terms the main aim but he also pointed out the shortest and

most true path to achieve it. In his counsel he spoke with deep care that in order for art to rise to newer and newer heights it must invariably in its content and form remain close, accessible and comprehensible to the people... This approach to art by the state was invariably felt by us from the advice of the close companions of Joseph Vissarionovich and in the wise decisions of the Stalinist Central Committee.

As people of the Stalinist epoch, we must from this time on in each of our own steps in our work, in our creative activity, check with the Stalinist compass. For the millions of our people the immortal name of Stalin signifies above all life and happiness, peace and creativity, the call to vigilance, and the conquering of any difficulties in the name of the great objective – the construction of communism.

Educated by comrade Stalin, Soviet artists devote all of their creative energy to fulfil the calls of our own Joseph Vissarionovich. His words: write the truth! – spoken in conversation with writers will always remain as a source of creative inspiration to all the army of workers in the arts: the composers and painters, producers and actors – for all who value the vocation of the artists of our own people.

## SAAKASHVILI WAS READY TO FLEE

By Vladimir Vorsobin

The information barrier in Georgia after Georgian troops attacked South Ossetia complicated the local population's ability to understand how the events truly unfolded in South Ossetia. For over two weeks during the crisis, the Georgian intelligence had maintained control over all foreign news sources that were there.

All Russian newspapers and Internet sites, plus Russian TV that were called "Enemy TV" were completely blocked. But last month the Georgian official propaganda was dealt a very serious blow, when the country's only Russian language

newspaper "Vecherniy Tbilisi" managed to get its issue out and published an interview with Georgian scientist, Ramaz Klimiashvili.

Klimiashvili charged that "Based on information obtained now from the Georgian Presidential Chancellery and the USA diplomatic sources based in Tbilisi, President Mikhail Saakashvili requested urgently that US send a plane for him when the Russian forces neared Tbilisi.

When this news began to spread, the government officials began to panic."

This Georgian political scientist said: "President Saakashvili wouldn't have launched a full-scale military invasion of South Ossetia without US consent. The Georgian people still do not know the full story yet as to what was going on... but with the US being involved here, then the guilt should be on the Georgian and US governments conscience."

## HERE IS WHAT SAAKASHVILI SAID ON AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup>...

"Most of South Ossetian people and a very large number of our own Georgian people want to return back to the days of Soviet Union and Socialism. We must stop this at all costs!

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### RUSSIAN JOKE ABOUT USA!

**Q:** Mrs. Smith, do you have a happy family?

**A:** Oh yes, I have 4 sons and a wonderful husband.

**Q:** Where are they now?

**A:** My youngest son, John is now in Iraq, the second son Mike is now in Afghanistan, the third son Bill, is in Kosovo, and the eldest son, Peter, is preparing to go into Iran.

**Q:** Where is your husband?

**A:** Oh, he is traveling around the globe with his lectures on: "How to stop the Russians from invading other countries."



# THE GREAT IN THE SMALL International Intrigue in a local conflict

by Lloyd Knutsen

In the beginning of August 2008, Georgian troops launched a surprise attack against the autonomous territory of South Ossetia. Their initial success was rapidly reversed as Russian troops drove them from South Ossetia and pursued them into the adjacent areas of Georgia. The conflict naturally gained enormous international media coverage with the press repeating the ludicrous assertions of Georgian President Saakashvili and echoing the ravings of US and EU leaders and diplomats. On the other hand, many interesting bits of information were buried in articles and commentaries of the mainstream media.

One of the most interesting questions concerns the makeup and sympathies of the Georgian government. Of particular note were the identities of the Minister of Defence and the Minister of National Integration (in charge of integrating the autonomous territories of South Ossetia and Abkhazia into Georgia). Georgian President Saakashvili revealed to a reporter of the Israeli daily Haaretz: "We have two Israeli cabinet ministers, one deals with war [Defense Minister David Kezerashvili], and the other with negotiations [State Minister for Territorial Integration Temur Yakobashvili], and that is the Israeli involvement here: Both war and peace are in the hands of Israeli Jews." The newspaper Haaretz identified minister Yakobashvili as "a former Zionist leader who speaks fluent Hebrew". He has been an advocate of the internationalisation of the peacekeeping operations in South Ossetia and Abkhazia, an aim which has now been adopted by the NATO-US-EU axis. Yakobashvili gave "credit" to the Israelis for the Georgian military's excellent performance(?!). As Haaretz reported: "...Yakobashvili credited



Georgian State Minister for Territorial Integration – Temur Yakobashvili



Georgian Defense Minister David Kezerashvili

Israeli defense companies with "enabling us to train our army and giving us the possibility to withstand the Russians..."

The Israeli online news service Ynet reported regarding Israel's aid to Georgia: "For (the) past seven years, Israeli companies have been helping (the) Georgian army to prepare for war against Russia through arms deals, training of infantry units and security advice." Ynet further reported, quoting the people they have interviewed: "Israel began selling arms to Georgia about

seven years ago following an initiative by Georgian citizens who immigrated to Israel and became businesspeople. "They contacted defense industry officials and arms dealers and told them that Georgia had relatively large budgets and could be interested in purchasing Israeli weapons," says a source involved in arms exports. The military cooperation between the countries developed swiftly. The fact that Georgia's Defence Minister, Davit Kezerashvili, is a former Israeli who is fluent in Hebrew contributed to this cooperation. "His door was always open to the Israelis who came and offered his country arms systems made in Israel," the source said. "Compared to countries in Eastern Europe, the deals in this country were conducted fast, mainly due to the defense minister's personal involvement." Among the Israelis who took advantage of the opportunity and began doing business in Georgia were former Minister Roni Milo and his brother Shlomo, former director-general of the Military Industries, Brigadier-General (Res.) Gal Hirsch and Major-General (Res.) Yisrael Ziv."

Davit Kezerashvili was a student in Israel and acceded to the post of Defence Minister with no previous experience in military affairs, his only qualification seeming to be his Israeli connections. "Shalva Natelashvili of the Georgian Labour Party criticized Kezerashvili's appointment, arguing that he "has never served in the army... doesn't even have the title of sergeant and has no clue about the armed forces." (Georgian Messenger, November 15, 2006)

The Western media quickly adopted its familiar stance of Russophobia. The press pictured hordes of Tsarist Communist Cossacks devastating peaceful Caucasian villages. Minister Yakobashvili went so far as to dredge up the old anti-Russian Cossack pogrom canard. "Yakobashvili said: "Today there was a Cossack pogrom against the local population. As a Jew that gives me a different feeling."" (Haaretz, August 14, 2008)

Ynet also published interesting information concerning the involvement of another Zionist politician in the Georgia-Ossetia conflict. Rabbi Leib Shteinman is a





Georgian Premier Gurgenzidze hosts a delegation of Rabbis from Israel in his office in Tbilisi. The present regime of Georgia has very close ties with Israel and the Zionist diaspora.

Lithuania based Haredi rabbi influential in the Jewish fundamentalist party Degel HaTorah a participating party in the Israeli United Torah Judaism coalition. According to Ynet, Rabbi Shteinman began his involvement in Georgian affairs when he was paid a visit by Georgian Prime Minister and banker Vladimir "Lado" Gurgenzidze. Ynet reports: "It all started last winter when a delegation of rabbis from the Vaad L'Hatzolas Nidchei Yisroel met with the premier in his office in Tbilisi, where they bestowed upon him a special letter from Rabbi Shteinman, who is considered one of the greatest rabbis currently leading the ultra-Orthodox public. In the

letter, Shteinman blesses Georgia, which he dubs "a kingdom of grace", and its people. Gurgenzidze hung the letter respectfully on his wall."

When Georgia precipitated the conflict with Russia and South Ossetia, Gurgenzidze again asked the Rabbi for a blessing. Ynet reports: "...following the premier's request for a blessing and the Jewish leaders' requests for orders, Rabbi Brook went to visit Rabbi Shteinman in Bnei Brak on Tuesday. The latter, despite being ill, agreed to see the guest and even granted Gurgenzidze's appeal, blessing the war-torn state. He also answered questions directed at him by the Jewish leaders in Georgia."

These quotes reveal merely one

segment of the Russia-hating lobby that lingers below the surface of "Western" Civilisation. Any crisis or stirrings of self-assertion on the part of Russia, in any of its historical forms, be it the Imperial Third Rome or the Soviet Union, will quickly bring these ingrained attitudes to the surface.

*Italics* – quote within a quote

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## BOOK REVIEWS

# The Courts of Honour in the Soviet Union

BY YURI YEMELIANOV  
Moscow - Russia

Despite the fact that 55 years that have passed since the

death of Joseph Stalin, the interest in his life and work does not abate in Russia. Almost every month articles and books dedicated to Stalin and the Soviet history connected with his activity are published. Stalin is constantly present in TV and Internet materials. Different aspects of Stalin's history are the subjects of heated discussions which reveal the divergent ideological and political positions of their participants.

The book 'Stalinist "Courts of Honour'. The Case of K.R.' by V. D. Yesakov and E. S. Levina (Moscow, 2005) is an example of a liberal approach to Stalin and his time. The authors claim that 'the Courts of Honour', which were set up in 1947, 'established the absolute dictatorial rule of the state in all spheres of the Soviet society'. The authors assert that Stalin's decision to set up 'Courts of Honour' reflected his arbitrary style of government and his suspicion of the intelligentsia.

What are the real facts and



what are the products of malicious fantasy in the assertions of Yesakov and Levina? The Courts of Honour really existed and came into being in accordance with the decree of the USSR Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party (Bolsheviks) issued on March 28 1947. The decree stated:

'In order to promote education of workers of the state bodies in the spirit of the Soviet patriotism, devotion to the interests of the Soviet state and awareness of their social duty, in order to fight against the acts which mar the honour and dignity of the Soviet working person, the Courts of Honour are set up in the Ministries and central government bodies...'

The decree also stated that the Courts of Honour would not deal with cases which concern criminal law and demand only moral judgement. After hearing of the sides the Courts should pass their decisions. If the accused were found guilty they might be censured or reprimanded. In case the hearing showed that the accused committed a crime related to penal law, the case would be transferred to the appropriate criminal investigation bodies. The decree was signed by the Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Joseph Stalin and the Central Committee Secretary Andrey Zhdanov.

It is obvious that the decree expressed grave concern over the moral principles and patriotic sentiments of some of the Soviet people. What was the reason for such a concern? One may think that such an anxiety was groundless. During the Great Patriotic War the great majority of the Soviet people displayed their patriotism and devotion to the socialist order. This was recognised by Stalin in a number of his statements made in 1941-1945. While explaining the reasons of the victory over Nazi Germany and its allies Stalin in his speeches on May 24, 1945 and on February 9, 1946 stressed the superior qualities of the Soviet system and patriotic sentiments of

the Soviet peoples. Immediately after the War the Soviet people, despite the heavy ravages caused by the alien invasion, displayed their readiness to implement the gigantic programme of restoration and further development of the economy put forward by the Communist party leadership. What then caused preoccupation over 'acts which mar honour and dignity of the Soviet working person'?

One should take into account that in the middle of the 1940s the Soviet Union was not the only country whose leaders felt that the War proved the superior qualities of their particular country. The end of the War coincided with the US bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The bombs which brought deaths and sufferings to half a million people were used in order to demonstrate to the whole world the US scientific, technical, industrial and military superiority. The fact that the USA had a monopoly over atomic weapons made the US business, mass media and political leaders believe in their ability to rule the world. A leading banker and the private advisor of all US presidents from W. Wilson to D. Eisenhower, Bernard Baruch, stated in 1945: 'Due to the might of its military forces, its superiority in economics, its resources and moral strength, brought about by the American way of life, America is able to establish its leadership over the whole world'. The owner of the most popular US magazines Henry Luce announced in 1945: '20th century is the American century... It is the first century, when America has become the dominating world power'. On the 27 of October 1945 the US President Harry Truman declared: 'We are the greatest national power on the Earth'. In April 1946 he said: 'The United States is the greatest power. There is none equal to us'.

And yet the existence of the Soviet Union, devastated by the War

but victorious, hindered the American march towards world hegemony. The US rulers began to prepare war against the USSR under the guise of friendly statements and gestures. While in October 1945 Truman continued warm correspondence with Stalin and asked for his permission to let an American artist come to Moscow in order to paint Stalin's portrait, the American generals submitted to the US President their first secret plan of using atomic bombs against the USSR.

In December the US Joint Chiefs of Staff issued a new secret directive N 432/d. It proposed to use 196 atomic bombs against 20 Soviet cities. The authors of the directive pointed out that the bombs should be used before USSR could build up its own strategic Air Force and atomic weapons. Later new and more devastating plans of nuclear warfare against the USSR were developed.

The preparation for war against the USSR continued with the efforts to weaken it materially and psychologically. Already in the end of 1945 the USA began to cut down commercial trade with the USSR. But the ban on US imports did not cover mass media materials. Truman's advisor C. Clifford wrote to the US President on September 24, 1946: 'We must send to the USSR books, magazines, newspapers, films and continue radio broadcasting as much as the Soviet government lets us do it'. This propaganda was to be used in order to undermine the devotion of the Soviet people to their socialist country. The experience of the Second World War convinced the US rulers that even in the case of devastation caused by atomic bombing the Soviet people would continue their resistance against invaders. Therefore it was important to break down the fighting spirit of the Soviet people by psychological means.

Soon the US government developed a broad programme of psychological warfare against the USSR. Since 1947 'Voice of America' began its constant

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broadcasting in Russian over the Soviet territory. Its political programmes constantly dwelled upon two points: 1) The USSR threatens other countries of the world; 2) The Soviet regime is unstable, its economy is on the brink of collapse, the Government is unpopular among the Soviet population and the opposition to it is growing.

The American plans took into account the traditional good attitude of the Soviet people to Americans. The Second World War increased the reserve of these good feelings since the USA was an ally of the USSR in the Anti-Fascist coalition. Though the Soviet people were upset by the fact that the Allies were slow to open the Second Front, they appreciated the goods sent from the USA in accordance with the lend-lease programme. Though the lend-lease programme contributed only mildly to the armament of the Red Army, the American supply of lorries, food and clothing was substantial.

Since the beginning of the War the Soviet people received also a good share of American propaganda and mass culture. In 1942 the US information agency started to publish its magazine 'America' which showed the brightest side of American life. At the same time the Soviet mass media did its best to introduce the Soviet people to American life. The publishing houses issued many books by American authors and their plays were staged in many theatres. Jazz melodies from America were quite popular in the USSR. One could hear often American songs in Russian translations over Soviet radio. Hollywood success stories were shown in Soviet movie-houses. The films about modern American Cinderellas who have become happy and prosperous overnight, bright pictures of an easy-going life, merry songs and melodies were in constant supply in the USSR and they were associated with US lend-lease products. Quite a good number of the Soviet people came to think of the USA as a fabulously rich country



where a human being may easily become happy and prosperous.

The cold war announced by W. Churchill in his Fulton speech on 5 March 1946 did not lead to immediate reciprocal measures on the Soviet part. In a number of his statements made during his meetings with US and British correspondents and political figures Stalin time and again spoke in 1946 about the need to develop relations on the basis of peaceful coexistence. At the same time the Soviet political propaganda tried to keep up the atmosphere of optimism thus playing down the deadly menace of atomic warfare threatening the very existence of the Soviet people.

Thus the Soviet people for some time were not aware of the transformation of their Western allies into mortal enemies. The Soviet soldiers returning home told stories of how they had met American soldiers as their friends in Germany and Austria. They did not know at that time that the Allies did not disarm large German troops so that they may use them against the Red Army in summer 1945. The Soviet people for a long time were not aware of the secret US plans to bomb the USSR and believed in the friendliness of the USA and other Western powers towards their country.

Stalin and other Soviet leaders began to warn the Soviet people, especially those responsible for mass-media about changes in the relations with the wartime allies and the need to display better judgement in the choice of materials for mass reading and hearing. This may be illustrated by the discussion which took place at the session of Organisation Bureau of the Party's Central Committee on 9th of August 1946. While discussing the work of the literary magazine 'Leningrad' Stalin said to its editor B. Licharev: 'In your magazine people walk on tip-toe before foreign authors... You develop in the Soviet people the feeling that they are second-rate folk, while the foreigners are the first-rate people. You make us believe that we are just ignorant pupils and they are our teachers. This is quite wrong'. (It is noteworthy that Stalin expected objections from Licharev. When the editor noted that he 'just wanted to remark...', Stalin interrupted him and said: 'Show your teeth when defending your position. Otherwise it would seem that you completely agree with my criticism'. Therefore when the poet A. Prokofeev resolutely objected to Stalin, the latter displayed readiness to proceed to discussion with the poet in the same spirit. This shows that Stalin wanted an open and honest exchange of opinion.)

The result of this discussion was a resolution of the USSR Communist Party Central Committee on the literary magazines 'The Star' and 'Leningrad' which criticised the 'worshipping' of foreign culture and spoke about the need to develop Soviet patriotism.

Yet lack of taste in the choice of foreign authors, gullibility, inadequate information and political education, were aggravated by other problems. As it is always the case the War which revealed the best qualities of some people, also demonstrated the worst features of others. The heroism and self-abnegation of the great majority of the Soviet people existed side by side with examples of



rapaciousness, selfishness and corruption. Some Soviet people were eager to gain personal profit in their business dealings with Americans sometimes at the expense of the interests of the Soviet country.

The first case which was tried by the Court of Honour set up in the USSR Ministry of Health concerned the transfer of written materials written by N. G. Klueva and G. I. Roskin to Americans. The manuscript was devoted to new methods of treatment of cancer. (Later it turned out that the authors grossly exaggerated the effectiveness of their method of treatment).

It must be said that at first the scientists realised the need to develop their medicine in the USSR without outside help and were eager to provide the Soviet priority in development of the much needed cure. Thus in December 1945 Klueva and Roskin wrote a memorandum which they sent to the Soviet Government. It stated: '1. We discovered and prepared a medicine which has no analogies in the world science. 2. The testing of the medicine goes too slowly and in disorderly manner. 3. There are grounds to suppose that the USA may use our methods and will overtake us in its preparation. 4. It will cause harm to the USSR...' The scientists urged the authorities to help them in promoting their discovery.

In 1946 Klueva and Roskin published some information about their work in a Soviet newspaper 'Moscow Bolshevik' and a popular magazine 'Ogonyok'. Soon the US Ambassador in Moscow B. Smith visited the medical laboratory where Klueva and Roskin worked and offered to organise a joint US-Soviet project to promote their method. After this visit Klueva and Roskin wrote a note which radically differed from their 1945 memorandum. Now the scientists welcomed Smith's proposals and agreed to cooperate with American experts in their laboratory.

Klueva and Roskin's note received the support of the Deputy

Minister of the USSR Health Ministry G. A. Miterev and the Academician-Secretary of the USSR Academy of the Medical Sciences, V. V. Parin. Both considered that it was possible to give to the Americans the medicine developed by Klueva and Roskin as well as their manuscript 'The biological therapy of cancer'... because their methods are 'imperfect and unfinished'. The two high officials wanted to present Americans things which they themselves considered to be of no use in order to produce good impression on American public. The two did not even consider the obvious frustration of the American scientists when they would learn that they were deceived in their expectations. Neither did they understand the obvious harm of such an act to Soviet prestige. While visiting the USA Parin presented American scientists with the book and 10 samples of the medicine. Later it was proved that Parin received about \$1800 from his American hosts.

Meanwhile most members of the Soviet government believed in the good properties of the Klueva-Roskin medicine. The information that what they consider to be a universal cure of cancer was delivered to the USA free of charge caused shock among high Soviet officials. They were sure that the USA with their superior technical and industrial base would become the first to produce a cure against cancer and the Soviet people would have to get this medicine only at a high price in dollars. Only then measures were taken to impose strict security measures upon the laboratory where Klueva and Roskin worked.

By that time there were revealed several similar cases when employees of the Soviet state easily shared with Americans information which was considered very valuable. On the one hand this was caused by the fact that most Soviet people were not aware of how seriously relations between our countries had deteriorated after the end of the War. On the other hand many of the Soviet people involved in such deals

wanted to gain something (Klueva and Roskin mostly cared for the development of their laboratory and did not gain anything materially for themselves). This was the principal reason for setting up the Courts of Honour.

The first session of such a Court was devoted to the case of Klueva and Roskin. After detailed discussion the Court announced its sentence: N. G. Klueva and G. I. Roskin were 'reprimanded'.

Miterev was also tried by a similar Court and received a similar sentence. Parin who got paid by Americans for the transfer of the information on the medicine was tried by a court dealing with criminal cases and received a prison term.

There were a number of other Courts of Honour which dealt with similar cases (in the Higher Education Ministry, Geology Ministry, State Control Ministry and others). By the end of 1947 the Soviet Navy admirals N. G. Kuznetsov, L. M. Galler, V. A. Alafusov and G. A. Stepanov were accused of the illegal transfer to Americans of vital information about a new type of torpedo. The Court made a decision to pass the case to the military college of the USSR Supreme Court. All of them except N. Kuznetsov were tried by the Supreme Court and received imprisonment sentences. Kuznetsov was demoted in his rank but in 1951 he was restored as an admiral and became the USSR Navy Minister.

Contrary to what V. D. Yesakov and E. S. Levina assert in their book the Courts of Honour did not establish the 'absolute dictatorial rule of the state in all spheres of the Soviet society'. The sentences of these Courts were mild (censure and reprimand). There were just several cases when the Courts of Honour asked for further criminal investigation of their cases. One should also remember that in 1947 the death penalty was abolished in the USSR. As the Courts of Honour were meant to be bodies of moral judgement only, they acted as such.

The case of Klueva and Roskin was used for the plot of a



popular play 'The Court of Honour' by A. P. Schtein which was staged in many Soviet theatres. The author tried to show that lack of patriotic feeling might lead some ambitious people to conclude shady deals with Western businessmen. The lessons of the Courts of Honour and propaganda campaign which followed them were made clear to the general Soviet public. Besides at that time the Cold War became a stark reality. There was hardly anybody in Government agencies who would treat representatives of the Western powers as persons from whom there should not be secrets and thus get involved in dubious dealings with them.

The Courts of Honour played a significant role in the mobilising of vigilance of the Soviet people at the initial stage of the Cold War. However the potential of the Courts of Honour was not used sufficiently. There was an attempt in 1948 to convene a Court of Honour in connection with the case of the USSR Minister of Transport I. V. Kovalev. He was accused of using state money for remodelling his personal country-house. But the charges were not substantially based and were soon dropped. Unfortunately there was not any other attempt to use the Courts of Honour apart from the cases of dealings with the Western countries.

Since the end of 1948 the Courts of Honour ceased to function. Thus the Soviet state failed to use fully what might have been an effective weapon to fight the decline of moral spirit which slowly corroded the Soviet society. These negative processes gathered momentum after the death of Joseph Stalin in 1953. The evils which Stalin and other Soviet leaders tried to stop by Courts of Honour and other measures developed. After the XXth CPSU Congress many Soviet people began to treat the Courts of Honour as 'aberrations' of 'Stalin's personality cult' disregarding the concrete historical realities which made them necessary. The growth of bourgeois sentiments was fostered by subtle

Western anti-Soviet propaganda and many believed it wholeheartedly. The spirit of the Soviet patriotism and devotion to the socialist principles of Soviet society gradually gave way to bourgeois values and surrender to capitalist ideology. This eventually contributed to the decline and fall of the USSR.

## ANOTHER OPINION ON GEORGIAN CONFLICT

### WHAT DID NEW RUSSIA ACHIEVE WITH GEORGIA?

Let's talk a little about South Ossetia and conflict with Russia!

US backed Georgia, which attacked South Ossetia – through their Georgian puppet on a string president. The idea of this attack was to kill and kick out the population of South Ossetia, concentrated mostly in the capital city and then annex all of South Ossetia into Georgia. Georgians have ruined the capital -in fact they have almost wiped it off the face of the earth – killing about 1,600 people out of 30,000 population.

They (Georgians) have fulfilled only half of their task.

Russia rushed into South Ossetia and beat back the Georgian forces and then on August 12<sup>th</sup>, this damned President Medvedev had announced that their task was achieved and started to withdraw the Russian forces. Achieved? **What was achieved?**

The US-Georgian troops will still be outside South Ossetia, ready to start again when US-NATO will start nuking Iran with its Israeli partner.

The status of South Ossetia and Abkhazia is the same "*occupied territory by Russia*", as President of Georgia claims. But, what about the corpses of 100 Russian soldiers killed?

**So, I ask – What for have these Russian soldiers died? What for have those 1,600 local people been killed? (Some of them were directly shot down by these US-Israeli trained soldiers!)**

Because at the end the situation remains status quo. What was this all about? Only to restore the status quo as it was before August 8<sup>th</sup>? To me, this is laughable!

When I watched this weak-kneed Medvedev before French Zionist President Sarkozy, I wanted to puke!

Maybe this was a dress rehearsal as to how Russia will react after NATO and Israel attack Iran!

It's a fact that this NEW RUSSIA is notorious for its betrayals – Chernomirins' Russia betrayed Milosevic and Yugoslavia; Putin's Russia betrayed Adjaria and has been betraying South Ossetia and Abkhazia for years. Now Medvedev's Russia has betrayed South Ossetia and Abkhazia once again!

Sorry, but for some days I have forgotten that this is not the great and formidable Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, but only this weakened and damned **New Russia!**

Blagovesta Doncheva  
The Balkans

## Unplanned Economy Washes Away Lives

Heavy rains have caused major flooding in areas of Ukraine, Romania, and Moldova resulting in the deaths of at least 30 people in Western Ukraine with many still missing. A top Ukrainian Emergencies Ministry official said logging could have exacerbated the effects of the floods. "I share the opinion that one of the causes of the disastrous flood in Ukraine was the uncontrolled cutting down of trees," Vasyl Dourdynets said at a news conference, as reported by Novosti. Unregulated logging has drastically increased in post-Soviet Ukraine. It is widely believed that one of the main reasons for the severe flooding seen in Ukraine, Romania, and Moldova in recent years is that deforested regions are less able to absorb water. In addition, nothing prevents water from rushing down the Carpathian Mountains in the event of heavy rains. The Ukrainian government allocated \$1.2 billion in flood relief with much of the funds coming from higher than expected value-added-tax receipts. Six regions were declared "emergency ecological zones".



## WHY THIS ANTI-STALINISM BY MINSK CITY COUNCIL?

Statement by L. Shkolnikov -UCPU

Ignoring many requests and demands from left-wing and communist parties in Byelorussia, to this time there is no monument erected to J.V. Stalin who was the Commander -in-Chief of the Soviet Red Army which liberated not only Minsk, but practically the whole of Europe from the fascist hordes and saved mankind from this brown plague.

This Hero City of Minsk with their present leadership is promoting anti-Stalinism and will not recognize the historical role played by Stalin and one of the main promoters of Byelorussian statehood!

We are ashamed of this situation here in Minsk that not only is there no monument erected to Stalin, but not even a street or a boulevard is named Stalingrad, while in Paris, France, there is a Stalingrad Boulevard which is visited by about seventy million tourists yearly.

We are asking the citizens of Minsk to demand that in Minsk their should be erected a monument to Stalin or a Boulevard to be named Stalingrad!

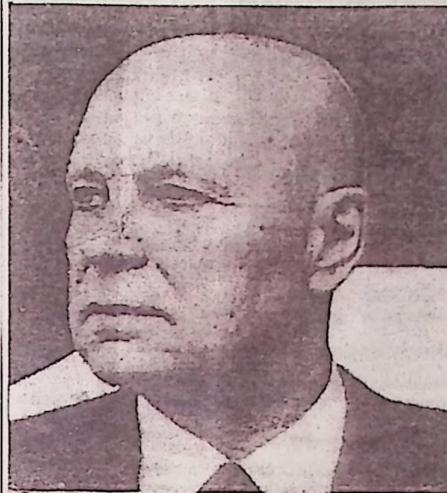
### COMMENT:

Why cannot President Lukashenko take a stand on this demand by the people of this Hero City of Minsk?

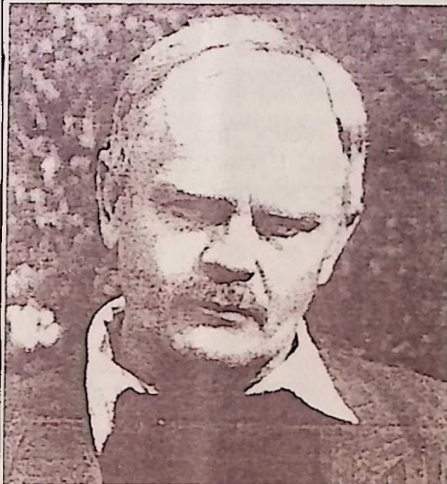
**PLEASE KEEP YOUR LETTERS SHORT AND TO THE POINT!**

## UNIFICATION IS TAKING PLACE OF THE CPSU / RCWP- RPC

From the "Word of a Communist"



OLEG SHENIN



V.A. TIULKIN

In an official announcement of this historic unity by the two Communist Parties that are struggling against the present bourgeois regime of Russia, the decision to join together in this struggle was taken at the CC CPSU May .14, 2008 in Moscow.

The leader and chairman of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) is Oleg Shenin and V.A. Tiulkin was elected as the First Secretary of the CPSU. V.A. Tiulkin was the head of the Russian Communist Workers Party- Russian Party of Communists before the two parties joined their forces together.

The entire Central Committee of the RCWP-RPC was elected into the Central Committee of the CPSU.

Oleg Shenin reported on the successes in Russia and other former Soviet Republics but also was very critical of weaknesses in the work of both parties and he put the emphasis to work amongst the youth and more closely be integrated with the growing class struggles and amongst the youth.

An urgent drive to establish CPSU in all former Soviet Republics and especially to start the process of establishing the Komsomol Youth movement all over former USSR!

### COMMENT:

Although many such attempts at unity were made since the dismemberment of the USSR, we certainly wish this present attempt success - it's long overdue!

The 3 delegates coming from Moscow to the International Council Conference will certainly report on this development, since some of them are members of the RCWP!



This cartoon from The Independent newspaper says it all: Bush goaded Saakashvili to attack and then Bush waltzed away whistling. Mission accomplished!



# INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## HUMAN RIGHTS CRIMES ARE HAPPENING IN GAZA

By JIMMY CARTER  
Former President of the United States of America

The world is witnessing a terrible human rights crime in Gaza, Palestine, where 1.5 million human beings are being imprisoned with almost no access to outside world either by sea, air, or land. An entire population is being brutally punished by Israel.

This gross mistreatment of the Palestinians in Gaza was escalated dramatically by Israel, with the United States backing, after election of candidates representing Hamas won an overwhelming majority of seats in the Palestinian Authority Parliament in the 2006 election. This election was unanimously judged by honest international observers as very honest and fair, including a joint team that I led from the Carter Center and the Democratic Institute.

Israel and the US refused to accept the right of the Palestinians to form a unity government with Hamas and Fatah and now, after the internal strife, Hamas alone controls Gaza. **Forty-one of the 43 victorious Hamas elected candidates who live in the Occupied West Bank**

**are now imprisoned by Israel, plus an additional 10 who assumed their positions in the short-lived Coalition Cabinet.**

Regardless of one's choice in the struggle between Hamas and Fatah within Israel's occupied Palestine, we must remember that the economic sanctions and restrictions in delivering water, food, electricity and fuel, are causing extreme hardships among the innocent people in Gaza – about **One Million** who are refugees.

Israel bombs and missiles strike the encapsulated area, causing very high casualties amongst both militants and innocent women and children. Prior to the highly publicized killing of a woman and her four little children, this was illustrated by the Israel's human rights organization B'Tselem 106 Palestinians were killed this year between February 27<sup>th</sup> and March 3<sup>rd</sup>

On a recent trip through the Middle East, I attempted to gain a better understanding of this crisis. One of my visits was to Sderot, a community of about 20,000 in southern Israel that is sometimes struck by rockets fired from nearby Gaza and I condemned these attacks. I met with both sides and urged that all military actions around

Gaza cease for an extended period.

They responded, and based on facts, that such previous actions had not been reciprocated, and it is also a fact that Hamas also insisted on a cease-fire throughout Palestine, including both Gaza and Occupied West Bank – but Israel refused to abide by this proposal. Hamas then made a public proposal of a mutual cease-fire restricted to Gaza, but Israel also refused this proposal.

Israel has colonized the West Bank, which is approximately 28.5% the size of Israel. But Israel's religious factions claim the right of Israel to colonize the land on both sides of the Jordan River. The State of Israel states that their 205 settlements on Palestinian land with over 500,000 Israeli settlers are necessary for "their security."

All Arab nations have agreed to full recognition of Israel if it will comply and abide by the countless key resolutions passed by the United Nations. But Israel has not accepted any of these UN resolutions passed since 1947 – with US and Israel voting against all of them.

But despite all the diplomacy and promises by Israel, Israel has established 9,000 new Israeli settlements housing units on the Palestinian lands and the number of roadblocks by Israel has increased, and stranglehold has tightened.

It is one thing for the other leaders of the world to defer to the United States on the crucial peace





negotiations, but these leaders of the countries of the world must not stand idly by while innocent people are treated cruelly, their land being taken away and then they become refugees in their own land!

**It is time for strong voices to be raised in the UN, in Europe, the USA, Israel and elsewhere, to speak out and condemn this human tragedy of the Palestinian people!**

COMMENT:

Yes, where are the voices of Russia and China – both with veto power?

## **OBAMA "DYNAMITING" CHANCE FOR DIALOG WITH CUBA AND VENEZUELA**

*From EFE News Service*

**CARACAS** - Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said that it is regrettable that Barack Obama is "dynamiting any possibility for dialogue with his country and Cuba" if he would be elected. Chavez also stated that Obama in his speech said: "*Chavez is a destroyer of South America*" – **but the real destroyer is the empire of the United States – which he represents** – added Chavez.

Chavez issued a statement, which in part said: "*This gentleman (Obama) said that if elected he would revise the US policy towards Latin America, but apply the policy of a carrot and a stick. Well sir, you need to study much more as to what is happening in Latin America because, if you haven't understood yet, what's happening in these lands is a revolution that has been unleashed!*"

Chavez added: "***This US Empire has to end, it has to fall, so that Latin American peoples can decide their own future!***"

## **WHY IS THE KEY EVIDENCE TO REMAIN SECRET IN THE ROSENBERG MURDER?**

*By EDITH HONAN- Reuters*

Testimony that could clear the executed Rosenbergs of charges that they helped pass on atomic secrets to the Soviet Union in 1950s

will remain secret, a US Judge ruled lately.

US District Judge Alvin Hellerstein rejected a petition from the National Security Archive seeking the release of the grand jury testimony by Ethel's brother, David Greenglass. Greenglass was a key prosecution witness in the famous 1951 spy trial that ended in 1953 execution of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg.

The case which became known all over the world was a frame-up amid the anti-communist McCarthyism hysteria and the Cold War fear – all hinged on Greenglass and his wife, Ruth, who became prosecution witnesses.

David Greenglass who is now 86, admitted in his book published in 2000 **that he gave false testimony under constant pressure from the US prosecutors.** But he asked that his testimony should never be made public. It is not known whether this secret testimony will be published after the death of Greenglass.

In all interviews, Mr. Greenglass readily confessed that he had fabricated details to get Rosenbergs convicted. Other witness – all 53 of them are dead now - said that Rosenbergs were not guilty and had nothing to do in these atomic secrets supposedly given to the Soviet Union.

*Yes dear readers- this was America then and this is US imperialism now. It's the same game, only different players!*

## **CHINESE TRADERS BREED RESENTMENT IN AFRICA**

In a news item in the New York Times in August, Chinese traders in Northern Namibia as in other African countries are under pressure by a coalition of tribal leaders, business people and traders to improve their "*poor human relations*".

The Chinese are accused also that they ignore all regulations and norms of behavior and are calling for all African countries to place strict restrictions on the Chinese. The Chinese traders are overwhelming the cities and grabbing up all properties and expanding with no regard for the local population. In the

Oshikango area city there is construction of a large trade center and, the Chinese businessmen want to rename this complex as the "*China Dragon City*."

*"The city council, the people nor the central government will not allow such renaming"* - wrote the Namibian newspaper *Republikein*.

The anti-Chinese feelings are running high in most of the African countries, to such an extent that kidnappings and killings of Chinese have been reported in Ethiopia, Nigeria, Equatorial Guinea and other African countries.

## **NATO ARMADA HEADING FOR THE GULF: WHY?**

In a report from Kuwait as reported by the Middle East Times of August 12, 2008 – Kuwait, between Iraq and Iran and in an un-enviable geographic hard place on the northern end of the Persian Gulf – has activated its "*Emergency War Plan*" as a massive UN-NATO and European armada is heading towards this region.

Coming on the heels last month of a US, British and French naval forces participating in war games in the Atlantic Ocean, which was meant to coordinate and enforcing the coming naval blockade of Iran – this joint naval force is now headed for the Gulf which is meant to be a major confrontation with Iran.

Leading this armed battle flotilla is the nuclear-power US carrier, the USS Theodore Roosevelt plus combat fighter-jet planes, submarines and other weapons of mass destruction. The top nuclear powered ships of Britain and France are there in force.

This is the largest naval task force in the Persian Gulf since the two Gulf Wars!

Adding to the volatility here is the presence of a major Russian Navy deployment, including the jewel of the Russian fleet, the large aircraft carrier Admiral Kuznetsov and this force is also composed of more than a dozen warships and fighter jets and bombers.



For Iran however, this naval blockade will prevent it from importing refined oil, which would have a devastating effect on its economy – virtually meant to cripple the republic's infrastructure.

With this NATO's brinkmanship, it is very hard for the progressive movement to understand as to why Russia and China do not use their veto power and their joint efforts in trade to stop this absolute madness which can engulf the world in another war – with dire and unpredictable consequences!

Diplomacy is not always the answer – especially with US imperialism and NATO's New World Order ambitions -while the opposition to this growing fascism is divided and not unified in seeing the danger for all of mankind!

**By not standing up in unison to this menace – it just encourages the rapacious appetite of imperialism-fascism!**

## CHINESE ECONOMY GROWTH SLOWS DOWN

*From The Sydney Morning Herald*

In a report contained in the Sydney Morning Herald and The New York Times newspapers, Chinese factories reported a plunge in the orders last month, despite the Olympics. Exports were barely growing, while the real estate market was weak. Most serious for the broader Chinese economy is that the stocks have also fallen sharply after rising to record levels in October of 2007. Policy makers of the CPC in Beijing have responded with measures, which included a devaluation of the Chinese currency and easing the lending limits on banks. Over the last few weeks of August as Chinese factories have halted or cut back their consumption, world prices for copper, tin, zinc and aluminum have fallen sharply.

During the opening ceremonies of the Beijing Olympics, Chinese CPC leaders have barred President Robert Mugabe from this opening ceremony, bowing to US pressures, even though ZANU-PF political party from which Mugabe was a candidate for President of Zimbabwe – had always very close ties with the Communist Party of China (CPC) for

over 30 years. Mugabe was allowed only into Hong Kong, but not allowed into Beijing and the Olympics!

***As the saying goes: With friends like that, you do not need any enemies!***

## DESPERATE HAITIANS EATING DIRT

After the US instigated overthrow of its President Aristide and the onset of practically feudal system of exploitation, the poverty of this Caribbean nation of Haiti is horrific. The Haitian women have to mould clay and water into hundreds of little platters and lay them on the ground in order to harden in the sun. These platters of clay are not to hold food – they are food!

These clay platters have become a staple for entire families. It is not for the taste and nutrition – salt and margarine do not disguise what is essentially dirt. They are the cheapest and increasingly only way to fill the bellies – since it stops hunger.

## SOUTH AFRICAN WORKERS STRIKE

South African trade unions held a one day countrywide strike in August which caused widespread disruption and brought most of the economic life to a standstill – like the schools, public transport, mines and carmaker industries and many other industries.

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) mobilized their two million members to protest the high cost of living.

Thousands of demonstrators gathered outside the Pretoria's City Hall, waving sticks, banners and singing. This demonstration showed the anger of the poor at the steep rise in the cost of food, fuel and petrol. As one demonstrating woman who was interviewed expressed the feeling of the strikers: *"We cannot live like this anymore! We are sick and tired! The government must take action and not be under the thumb of multinational corporations and imperialism! People are dying on the streets, especially in wintertime."*

Similar demonstrations were held in 17 other locations across South

Africa. The deep concern is the job cuts in the mining sector because the private multinational owners slashed the earnings of the worker. The Anglo Platinum- the world's top producer of precious metals was also picketed and closed.

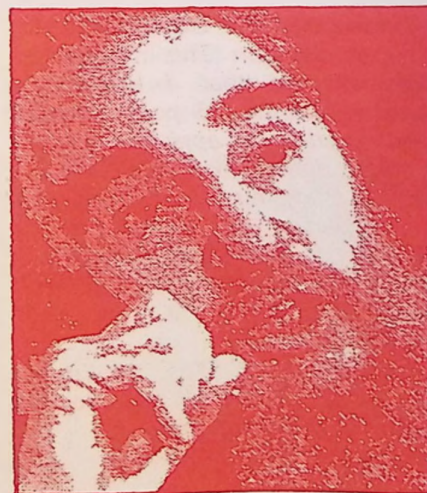
The privatized power utilities took off power in January for 5 days all across most of South African cities.

COSATU which is an ally of the African National Congress stated the following: *"We are sending a strong message to the South African government, as the working class of this country, we are not going to be taking on the burden when it comes to financing your power. We demand that the government severely punish companies that raise prices on goods and services."*

With South African President Thabo Mbeki due to leave office in 2009, the South African workers are determined to put their concerns at the heart of the next government. Another strike took place this month, bigger than ever across the country.

## CANNON FODDER FOR THE MARKET

*Reflections by comrade FIDEL*



The Government of Georgia would never have launched its armed forces against the capital of the Autonomous Republic of South Ossetia on August 8<sup>th</sup>, engaged in what they said was to establish a constitutional order, with previous coordination with President Bush, who last month in Bucharest, Romania, committed to support President Saakashvili for Georgia's



admission into NATO; that is as if plunging the sharpest dagger deep into Russia's heart. Many European states even though they are members of NATO or its allies, are very seriously concerned about the irresponsible manipulation of the nationalities and nationalism, fraught with potential conflict, which may even within Great Britain might result in the disintegration of the United Kingdom. This is how Yugoslavia was dismantled.

What was there to light the powder keg of the Caucasus? How often must the jug be taken to the well before it shatters? Russia continues to be a strong nuclear power with nuclear weapons. But I do recall that Russia allowed for the Western economy to illegally grab out of Russia more than \$500 Billion Dollars! If Russia today is no longer a Communist threat and it no longer has more than 400 nuclear launching pads that were aimed at all Europe's military and strategic targets – and Russia has dismantled all of them since the demise of the USSR, why is NATO determined to surround Russia with a nuclear shield?

But Bush was at the Beijing Olympic Games pretending to be the champion of peace. But at the same time behind this facade he was having conversations and agreeing with his officials in Washington about Georgia's attack - he threatened Russia and encouraged the humiliating speeches against Russia and China, given by the US in the UN Security Council.

Some of the countries that were part of the USSR or Socialist, are today acting actually as United States protectorates. Their governments and their hatred of Socialism – such as the case of Poland and the Czech Republic – aligned themselves in complete support for Bush and the surprise attack on South Ossetia by President Saakashvili, who is an adventurer with a very bizarre background. He was born under Socialism in Tbilisi, capital of Georgia, graduated as a lawyer from a Kiev University, took postgraduate courses in Strasburg, Germany, New York and Washington. He was also a practicing lawyer in New York City. He comes off as a pro-Western Georgian, very greedy and opportunistic. He returned back to

Georgia, supported by the Yanks and then went fishing around in the tempestuous river of the USSR disintegration. Supported by the West, he was elected President of Georgia in January 2004.

Georgia has the most troops in Iraq after US and Britain, but they are not there out of internationalist sentiments. When Cuba, throughout almost two decades, sent hundreds of thousands of combatants to help fight for peoples independence and against colonialism and apartheid in Africa, they were not seeking fuel, raw materials or capital gains: they were internationalist volunteers. Thus our steel-like principles were forged.

What are these Georgian troops doing in Iraq if not supporting a war which has cost that people hundreds of thousands of lives and millions of victims? What ideals are these Georgian soldiers defending there?

## **WEST LIES - BLUSTERS ABOUT THEIR NUKES – THEN WAGS THEIR FINGERS AT IRAN**

What is the Iranian government up to? What are all these negotiations with Iran, the Security Council and behind the scenes by US imperialism about? Why would Iran with such reserves of natural gas, so great potential for solar power, suffer these imposed sanctions and the threat of bombing, to make fuel it could buy from other states, if it accepted the UN's terms?

The big powers and also some other countries have all uranium enrichment facilities and nuclear weapons by hundreds! Iran and other Middle East States know that war-like Israel has 60-80 nuclear bombs. But, why does not the big powers and the United Nations demand that Israel scrap their nuclear weapons? **But why are all of them demanding that Iran scrap**

**its nuclear weapons that it still does not have?**

Why do the UN and the Western powers keep a blind eye about these Israel nuclear weapons? Probably the answer that was given by the British Defense Minister Ainsworth let the cat out of the bag when the Minister replied: ***"My understanding is that Israel's possession of nuclear weapons is not a destabilizing factor in the Middle East at all, because Israel does not acknowledge that it has nuclear weapons!"***

Britain, the USA and Israel state that they must maintain their nuclear arsenals because of the danger of proliferation by other states.

Unfortunately the UN Security Council draw a distinction between their ***"responsible nuclear program"*** and those of other countries like Iran and the Democratic Republic of Korea.

Over the past six years in official statements by the USA, United Kingdom, France and Russia all said they are prepared to use their nuclear weapons preemptively against any threat, even from states that do not have nuclear weapons!

On top of the above, with Israel and its expansionist policy having 60-80 nuclear weapons in its possession, the danger is more dangerous than the previous Cold War! Even Barack Obama purposely overlooked to mention these well-known facts – of course, when he visited Israel in July (*as if he was already President of United States*) there was already formed a well-financed organization, called ***"Jews of Israel for Obama!"***

Condoleezza Rice on her many tours to the Middle East and Israel demanded that Israel and India should be exempted from the treaty.

The situation is really depressing on the nuclear treaty and proliferation, all for the benefit of US-NATO and Imperialism. The fact is that the Bush Administration proposals are supported not only by Republican candidate McCain, but

### **DANGER FOR IRAN IS VERY REAL!**

According to The Los Angeles Times newspaper: ***"President Bush has assured Israel leadership that the United States has not abandoned all possibility of attacking Iran, despite widespread Israel's concerns that Washington has begun softening its position towards Tehran."***



also by the Democratic candidate Barack Obama.

**The UN Security Council members and its veto members are dangerously and staggeringly irresponsible!**

## 10 YEAR- OLD PALESTINIAN BOY MURDERED BY ISRAEL

Washington Report Webmaster

A 10 year-old Ahmad Husam Yousef Mousa was murdered last month by Israeli soldiers as he demonstrated together with his friends against the Apartheid Wall erected by Israel on the lands of his village of Nilin, taking away the lands and sole source of livelihood for many of its inhabitants.

When Ahmad and his friends reached the construction sight of this Apartheid Wall, the Israeli soldiers shot rubber bullets at them and they began to retreat. At a command one of the Israeli soldiers shot a live round at Ahmad's head from a distance of less than 10 meters.

This came after the Israeli Army Chief of Staff had admitted that the route of this Apartheid Wall is defined out of political motives – not for considerations of Israel's security – but in order to take away as much land from Palestinian villagers on behalf of the Jewish settlement expansion.

During the 6 years of popular revolt against Israel's grabbing of Palestinian lands, thousands were injured or killed, including children. Israel's Zionist policy against any non-violent demonstration is to attack them with lethal weapons.

To date not one of the Israeli soldiers who killed demonstrators, including children has been prosecuted!

Protests were organized against this murder by organizations as Gush Shalom, peace groups, Anarchists against fences, anti-occupation groups in protest at the home of Israel's Defense Minister Barak at Tel Aviv.

**YOU HAVE AN OPINION  
ABOUT NSC? WRITE!**

## BETANCOURT RESCUE

### A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

Since her "rescue" from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), this Colombian politician, Ingrid Betancourt, has been paraded on the world stage ad nauseum as the new Joan of Arc. The capitalist media barons have pulled out all the stops in their efforts to demonize FARC and their Marxist ideology fighting the corrupt and reactionary regime of Colombia, which is in the pocket of Uncle Sam.

Beta court's so-called "ordeal" as a prisoner of FARC is starting to smell fishy and is becoming harder and harder to believe. Her "story" has all the hallmarks of a B grade Hollywood movie as well as a melodramatic 19<sup>th</sup> Century novella.

Only young children, raised on a diet of Hollywood fantasy films, believe that she was rescued by the Colombian Army, who had duped FARC captors into releasing her. A Swiss media outlet has also questioned the authenticity of her story and her claim that \$20,000,000 was paid for her release.

The logical questions that are asked are: Where did the money go and whose prisoner was Ms. Betancourt? If the FARC did capture her, she was a legitimate prisoner of war. FARC would likely have exchanged her for their comrades captured by the Colombian Army and who are rotting in inhumane prison conditions throughout Colombia. If on the other hand, she was kidnapped by any other of the many Drug Lords that are operating in Colombia, it would explain why the \$20,000,000 was paid for her release.

Ms. Betancourt is eager to condemn FARC and its Marxist ideology, but stubbornly refuses to answer questions about her alleged treatment at their hands. When asked by reporters to give more details about her "torture and humiliation" - just like a parrot, she mouths a well-written script of: "I don't want to talk about this here, now at this time of my happiness."

Reports given out from her Paris news conference claimed that "under

the cuffs of her smart suit – her skin scarred from chains are hard to erase" – and yet the photographers that took countless photos show absolutely no scars at all or any such evidence. Unless of course they were well hidden under the diamond encrusted wristwatch she was wearing at the time of her news conference.

She already had a propaganda machine working for her that dug deep into the mud and dredged melodramatic scenarios from the distant past that are meant to tug at the heartstrings of pious and god-fearing. Statements issued were such as: "Clutching the makeshift rosary that she made while in captivity from a string while she was chained-up" and "her key possession a bible was" are very hard to take seriously.

Let us all wait for the forthcoming Hollywood movie that this might be included in it.



ACCORDING TO

**MISHKA**

CALLS THINGS AS THEY ARE!

## HOW CAPITALIST MEDIA MONOPOLY STIFLES TRUTH

Condensed from the book "War Lies and Videotape"

A few years ago over a hundred international journalists and activists met in Athens, Greece, for the "Media Dark Age Conference". These participants from around the world expressed deep concerns about the global media system which is dominated by powerful corporations seeking and controlling



the news and the world markets. This capitalist media and its corporate owners act as patronizing advisors to the American and world public on all of the world events, orchestrating public opinions on issues of war and peace. This manipulative power grows as the media giants merge and centralize.

An example was in 1961 when Edward R. Murrow, as vice-president of the CBS News, was instrumental in mobilizing public consent for the Vietnam War. At the same time, NBC was owned by RCA Laboratories at Princeton, NJ. In 1986 General Electric bought RCA and thus became owner of NBC, maintaining its very heavy investment in the US military industrial complex research and weapons manufacturing. Then NBC was bought by the US Westinghouse Corporation, another US defense contractor involved in the US nuclear production.

As this accumulation by the corporate power gains strength, they take control over the media - news is merged with entertainment while the traditional standards for reporting news are completely discarded. As is known world-wide Disney Corporation, the current owner of the American Broadcasting (ABC), plus Time Warner Corporation, a major cable owner in the US - these are the backbone of world entertainment. The myth that entertainment is value-free is easily dispelled when one examines how the motion pictures and television are permeated with class, racial, gender and political biases. Xenophobic stereotypes abound on the screen and TV, encouraging aggressive chauvinism and militarism and promoted as "entertainment."

Here is an actual example of how the corporate media influences even the government leaders and the public.

On Sunday, September 20, 1998, the "New York Times" Editorial page encouraged US President Clinton administration to intervene in Kosovo, Yugoslavia. The message was to the point: "If American diplomacy can not persuade all other NATO leaders to invade Kosovo, Washington should assemble a coalition of those willing to act. If necessary, American should act on its own!"

These mogul corporate media

barons work in concert with the US government to influence public opinion in America and abroad. US Government has spent billions of dollars influencing the beliefs and actions of foreign citizens in an effort to insure the election of foreign government officials that will support US policies.

In 1997 the US sent troops to seize the television station and towers in the Serb Bosnia area of Pale for the "pro-west voice" for former Bosnian Serb President Biljan Plavic who was very friendly to the USA.

Another prime example of what the US has done in supporting and financing the overthrow of the USSR and installing these Russian "Robber Barons" to apply the methods and take over the former Soviet mass media. "Almost all of the major robber baron financiers and business magnates set up under Yeltsin, Gorbachev and Putin jumped into this business, which they considered very vital to defend this new empire of millionaires Gusinsky, Berezovsky and others. The rise of these sponsored new "Russian Barons" marked the beginning of the "Dark Ages" for Russia and other former Soviet Republics media - during which as in America, money controls the media. As in America, the newspapers, TV and radio give the news as it is interpreted from above rather than actual reality on the streets.

A case in point illustrates this phenomenon. In the US there are

hired 150,000 professional Public Relations practitioners, while there are only 130,000 reporters. These PR firms feed the media news that is slanted and totally unconfirmed, yet it is used by the editors and journalists because it is convenient and cost effective.

A case in point is the falsification by the Ruder Finn Global Public Affairs PR media moguls who were hired by the Bosnian Muslim and Croatian governments, each paying numerous of these PR employees Thirty Thousand Dollars per month for their PR to spread the lies to the world media and in order to move the US government into war.

The Ruder Finn's lies were used and meant to demonize the Serbs on behalf of the US Government, so they used the Holocaust images over the TV media - this gained US support and the prominent American Jewish community leaders signed on to these lies. When asked if this effort was successful, Ruder Finn replied: "To have managed to put Jewish opinion on our side was the clincher.

**"Our work is not to verify information. We are not equipped to do that. Our job is to accelerate the information and circulate it into the media here and all over the world, which is favorable to us, to aim at the chosen targets. We are professional! We had a job to do and we did it well! We are not paid to be moral."**

## SPECIAL FOR NSC

# THE BEIJING OLYMPICS AND THE QUESTION OF TIBET

Vijay Singh

In the run-up to the Olympic Games which were already held in Beijing, US imperialism is conducting a campaign of disinformation against the nationalities policies in Tibet

using the remnants of feudalism such as the Dalai Lama as their instrument, alongside the normal imperialist accredited newspapers, 'human rights institutions' and Hollywood film personalities. It is a familiar game which was last played out in the Reagan years when the US carried out a similar political exercise against its imperialist rival before the Moscow Olympics and which peaked with the US boycott of the games. The US campaign today needs to be seen for what it is: an attempt to politically undermine the Chinese state in its 'own' backyard and to accelerate further the half-



century long path of 'market socialist' development in China and to push for the casting-off of the shell of the people's democratic state. It is also part of the US endeavour to militarily encircle from land and sea a country which it sees as a dangerous imperialist rival. Within China agency reports speak of an upsurge of Han chauvinism which is a reflex of the disturbances in Tibet and the recent round of the denigration of China by the US. The promotion of internecine strife of the nationalities and religions is an integral part of the politics of US imperialism across the globe.

No amount of US propaganda from the universities and newspapers can wipe away the fact that after the revolution of 1949 the Chinese people assisted in the democratic transformation of Tibetan society. The People's Republic of China helped to abolish feudalism, it introduced land reform, abolished slavery, emancipated the serfs, ended the Buddhist lama theocratic despotism and carried out the economic transformation of Tibetan society bringing it out of medieval tyranny and darkness into the light of the twentieth century, introducing the benefits of industrial society and democratic transformation, of state and co-operative economic institutions; food, shelter, and clothing; literacy, education, and social security amongst the Tibetan masses. It is a supreme irony that the United States which oppresses the Afro-American and Puerto Rican nations within its state frontiers,



*The results of NATO policies in the world are the same that Hitler tried to achieve. The end will be the same!*

exploits the colonial, semi-colonial and dependent countries around the planet, and has a destructive policy towards democracy and secularism should point its finger at China. Democratic opinion must understand these policies for what they are.

The early years of the revolutionary movement in China saw the Communist Party pursue an exemplary approach and programme with regard to the national question. Mao Zedong in his capacity as President of the Central Executive Committee of the Chinese Soviet Republic in 1931 and in his speech at the Second Soviet Congress in 1934 in blunt terms denounced the national oppression under the rule of the Chinese militarists and the landlords as well as the oppression by the ruling classes of princes, living Buddhas and lamas of the smaller nationalities and their surrender to imperialist colonisation. He well understood the exigency of uniting the oppressed nationalities such as the Mongolians, Tibetans, Koreans, Annamites, the Miao and many others around the Soviets in China in order to strengthen the revolution against imperialism and the Kuomintang.<sup>1</sup> Mao commended the Constitution passed by the First Soviet Congress held in 1931 in Juichin, Kiangsi, which in its 14<sup>th</sup> article said that 'Soviet China recognises the *complete* self-determination of the minorities who may go so far as to secede and form independent free states.' (Emphasis in the original.) The Soviet Chinese Constitution of 1931 argued that the 'free union of nationalities will replace national oppression'. This implied the creation of a federal 'Union of Soviet Republics' along the lines of the Soviet Union, a democratic state structure which was based upon the views of Marx in relation to the Irish question.

Such an approach was maintained up to the founding of the People's Republic of China. A tremendous social, economic and political revolutionary transformation took place in the minority national territories after 1949. But in terms of

the resolution of the national question it cannot be said that a full democratic solution was accomplished. The contiguous areas of the Tibetan-speaking peoples were not administratively united after liberation while in Inner Mongolia the Mongolian people were administratively separated. The Communist Party of China and the People's Democratic state shrank from the promised construction of a free union of nationalities in which the right of national-determination would be recognised up to the point of secession. By this method the nationalities of Mongolia, Tibet, Sinkiang and elsewhere were subordinated to the majority Han Chinese, and the latter now became a constitutionally privileged nation which could direct the destinies of the nationalities which inhabited the vast areas of the People's Republic of China. The nationalities of Mongolia, Tibet and Sinkiang as elsewhere which formed the numerical majority in their ancient national territories were now designated as 'national minorities'. This broad picture became apparent in the Constitution of 1954 and it was to be reproduced in the subsequent Fundamental Laws which were promulgated by the Chinese state. The unity and integrity of the territories of the Chinese state and not the free union of the nationalities based on the right of self-determination of the peoples became the basic fundamental constitutional principle. In this manner the CPC's political approach to the national question having moved away from Marxism now came to approximate to the views of Sun-Yat-sen and the Kuomintang.

The camp of socialism and democracy which spanned a dozen states witnessed a fundamental break in its economic policies in the years between 1954 to 1958 which became typified by the ascendant role of 'market socialism' in the Soviet Union, People's China and the majority of the people's democracies. These years also saw corresponding theoretical, political



and ideological transformations in which the treatment of the national question was an important component part. This gave way to interesting paradoxes. The Soviet Union in its Fundamental Law in form right through to its self-destruction in 1991 maintained the basics of the Leninist-Stalinist principles on the national question. But the communist parties aligned to the CPSU quickly abandoned the Marxist approach to the national question after 1953, particularly the democratic principle of national self-determination. The CPUSA for example repudiated the application of this principle with reference to the Afro-American nation which had been elaborated by Lenin, Stalin and the Comintern. On our own doorstep the CPI in the mid-nineteen-fifties dispensed with the understanding that India was a multi-national state in which the right to secession had to be accorded as the basis of a voluntary union of people's democratic republics and after some moments of hesitation after its foundation the CPI (M) also essentially fell in line with what it termed the Soviet revisionist ideology of the CPI. Step by step the CPI and the CPI (M) effected an harmonious rapprochement with the 'nationalist' doctrines of the Congress Party. These corresponded to the economic requirements of the big bourgeoisie and its multi-national market in India which had been put together by Sardar Patel by the arm-twisting of the feudal princely states and appropriate 'non-violent' 'police actions'.

The Communist Party of China as already noted had broken with the Marxist approach to the national question after liberation. But the revolutionary communist parties and organisations which were formed in the 1960s and which were aligned with Beijing and Tirana in the main have upheld Leninist-Stalinist principles on the right of nations to self-determination. The CPI (ML) tradition right from its inception returned to the earlier pre-revisionist understanding of the CPI and accepted the right of secession

particularly with reference to Kashmir and the nationalities in the north-east region of the Indian state which having been fighting for their national emancipation.

Paradoxes apart, a widespread intermeshing and intermingling of the opportunist ideological currents has emerged on the nationality question to justify the abandonment of the Marxist views. It is inferred from the active role of US and German imperialism in the destruction of the Soviet and Yugoslav Federations in the 1990s that the right of national self-determination and secession facilitates the work of imperialism and so has to be discarded. Secessionism it is said has become a preferred tool of US imperialism. And there can be no doubt that despite the restoration of capitalism in the USSR by the late 1950s and the liquidation of the people's democracy in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia at the end of the 1940s, the preservation of the federal structures in these states was formally progressive, and it is clear that they constituted important barriers to the penetration of the leading world imperialist powers such as the US and Germany. The 'new' arguments against the recognition of the democratic right of national self-determination in the contemporary period are only a reiteration of the policies of the international communist movement of the Khrushchev period and, going further back still, the notions of right-wing social-democracy in the earlier part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Bolsheviks, who also fought against imperialism when Soviet Russia had to fight the multitude of foreign armies on Soviet soil who were allied to the white army in the time of the civil war, upheld the principle of the union of nations based on the right to self-determination. It was on this basis that the free federation of nations was constructed in Soviet Russia and later the Soviet Union. The Bolsheviks clearly established that the struggle for socialism in multi-national countries was

inextricably linked with the recognition of the right of the peoples to self-determination: one of the expressions of the right to decide one's future was the formation of a federative republic.

The recent statement by the CPI (M) leader Prakash Karat on Tibet expresses in a succinct manner the ideological framework of contemporary right-wing social-democracy on the national question. Karat entirely omitted any allusion to Marxism or democracy while criticising the views of the Hindu fascist BJP which had chimed in with the US anti-China campaign on the Lhasa disturbances. Karat, basing his arguments on 'nationalist' logic, reminded the BJP that by raising the question of an independent Tibet they were 'doing a disservice to our own country' for this would raise secessionist demands in India: 'Are we going to support a free Nagaland? Or a free Jammu and Kashmir? Or those other secessionist demands?' So there you have it: the democratic right to national self-determination may not be recognised within the multi-national Chinese state as the mention of this right can threaten the frontiers of the existing multi-national Indian state. This position Karat tells us must apply around the world in Europe (Chechnya, Kosovo), China or any Asian country as it negatively impinges on the sovereignty of nations in the 'name of human rights' and 'ethnic minorities'.<sup>2</sup> It is interesting to note how Karat merges the notion of the 'state sovereignty' of multi-national states with the idea of the 'national sovereignty' of nation-states, denying in this manner in real terms the notion of 'national sovereignty' for those nations who choose to opt for the construction of nation-states. Taken to its logical conclusion this stand implies that any national struggle against imperialist rule cannot be supported as this affects the 'national sovereignty' of the imperial power. The CPI (M) sees itself as the guardian of the state frontiers of India and for its defence it is willing to sacrifice the



last Meitei, Naga and Kashmiri. It was Stalin who stated that those who do not recognise the right of peoples to free self-determination cannot be regarded as democrats let alone be considered as socialists.<sup>3</sup> It is on the basis of this understanding that the views of the CPI (M) on the national question must be judged.

The current attacks of US imperialism and its supporters on the Tibet policy of the People's Republic of China must be opposed while defending the basic democratic principle of national self-determination. The struggle against US imperialism must not be utilised to propagate or justify views alien to

Marxism on the national question.

**Footnotes:**

1. Report of the President of the Central Executive Committee of the Chinese Soviet Republic, Before the Second National Soviet Congress, Mao-Tse-Tung, January, 1934, in: Victor A. Yakhontoff: 'The Chinese Soviets,' New York, 1934, pp. 249-283.
2. 'Free Tibet? Karat utters the K-word', *The Telegraph*, Kolkata, April 1, 2008.
3. J. Stalin, *Works*, Vol. 4, FLPH, Moscow, p. 3.

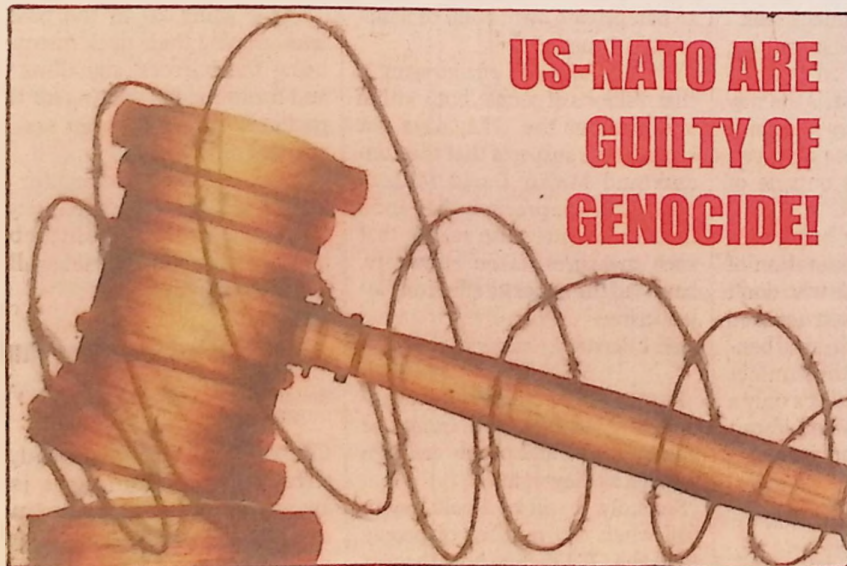
**OPEN FORUM**

**THE LIES OF HIROSHIMA ARE THE LIES OF TODAY**  
By JOHN PILGER

When I first went to Hiroshima in 1967, the shadow on the steps was still there and was an almost perfect impression of a human being at ease: legs splayed, back bent, one hand by her side as she sat waiting for a bank to open. At a quarter past eight on the morning of August 6, 1945, she and her silhouette were burnt into the granite. I stared at this shadow for an hour or more, then

walked down to the river and met a man called Yukio, whose chest was still etched with a pattern of the shirt he was wearing when the atomic bomb dropped.

He and his family still lived in the shack thrown up in the dust of an atomic desert. He described a huge flashover the city, "a bluish light, something like an electrical short - after that the wind blew like a tornado for an hour or more and then black rain fell. I was thrown to the ground and noticed that only the stalks of my flowers were left. Everything was still and quiet, and when I got up, there were people laying all over the ground naked, not saying a word. Most them had no skin or hair on their bodies. I was



certain that I was dead!" Nine years later, when I returned there to look for him, he was dead from leukemia.

In the immediate aftermath of the bomb, USA occupation authorities banned all mention of "radiation poisoning" and insisted that people had been killed and injured only by the bomb blast. This was the first big lie by Washington. "No radioactivity in Hiroshima ruin" said the front page of the New York Times, a classic example of disinformation and journalistic abdication, which the Australian reporter Wilfred Burchett put right with his scoop of the century. "I write this as a warning to the world" reported Burchett in the newspaper Daily Express, having reached Hiroshima after a perilous journey, the first correspondent who dared to write the truth. He described the Japanese hospital wards filled with people with no visible injuries but who were dying by the thousands from what he called "an atomic plague." For telling this horrible truth, his correspondent accreditation was withdrawn by the US authorities and he was pilloried and smeared - but he was vindicated.

The atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on the orders of US President Truman was a criminal act on an epic scale. It was premeditated mass murder that unleashed a weapon of intrinsic criminality. For this reason its apologists have sought refuge in the mythology of the ultimate "good war", whose "ethical bath" as Richard Drayton called it, has allowed the West not only to expiate its bloody imperialist past, but to promote 60 years of rapacious wars, always beneath the shadow and threat of **THE BOMB!**

The most enduring lie is that the atomic bombs dropped were to end the war in the Pacific and save lives. "Even without the atomic bombing attacks, US air supremacy over Japan could have exerted sufficient pressure to bring about unconditional surrender and there was absolutely no need of an invasion. Based on this detailed investigation of all the facts, and supported by the testimony of the surviving Japanese leaders involved, it is our opinion... Japan was already surrendering even if the atomic bombs had not been dropped, even if the USSR had not entered the war and defeated the Japanese Army in China, and even if



*no invasion had been planned or contemplated,"* concluded the United States Strategic Bombing Survey of 1946.

The US National Archives in Washington have documents that prove that Japan asked for peace and to surrender as early as 1943. US had other plans and did not accept these pleas. Documents in the archives show that US Secretary of War told President Truman that- "*US air force has Japan so bombed-out that our new Atomic Bomb will not be able to show its strength and devastation*"

Truman's foreign policy at that time was "**to browbeat the Russians (Soviets) with the bomb held at the ready at our hip.**" US General Leslie Groves, Director of the Manhattan Atomic Project that made the bombs, testified: "**There was never any illusion that our ally Russia (USSR) was our enemy, and that is why this Manhattan Project was conducted on this basis.**" The day after Hiroshima and Nagasaki were obliterated, President Truman voiced his glee and satisfaction with the "*overwhelming success of our experiment*".

Facts prove that the US government was on the brink of using nuclear weapons at least three times. In waging this so-called "war on terror" Washington and London have openly declared that they are prepared to make "pre-emptive" nuclear strikes against non-nuclear states. Iran is on the target list, even though Iran has no nuclear weapons, but the US disinformation says that it is planning a nuclear arsenal comes from the discredited CIA-sponsored Iranian opposition, the MEK – just as were the lies about Saddam Hussein's of Mass Destruction originated with the Iraqi National Congress, which was set up, funded and promoted by Washington.

This progression of constant lies has brought the world to the most dangerous nuclear crisis since 1945, because this great threat remains almost unmentionable in Western establishment circles and the mass media. **There is only one rampant**

**BACK TO THE FUTURE!  
BACK TO THE USSR!**

**nuclear power in the Middle East and that is Israel!**

In the New York Times of July 18, 2008, Israel's historian who was a liberal, has now turned to be a war hawk for Israel's policy of expansion said: "**We will turn Iran into a nuclear wasteland!**" This would be mass murder! **For a Jew, the irony cries out!**

COMMENT:

The question begs to be asked: are we the people to be just mere bystanders. Do we hide even more from all reality? Do we hide behind a self-righteous, one-way, legal / moral screen with only positive images of Western values and innocence that we're told are threatened, thus validating a campaign of unrestricted violence?

Western campaign of catching so-called war criminals like Radvan Karadzic is ongoing and he stands now in the dock.

**But what about Sharon and Olmer of Israel? What about Bush of the US and Blair of England?**

**Why not?**

**The memory of Hiroshima and Nagasaki require an answer!**

## **WAS 9/11 AN INSIDE JOB?**

**BY MARK H. GAFFNEY**

*Excerpt from his book "THE 9/11  
MYSTERY PLANE AND THE  
VANISHING OF AMERICA"*

There is overwhelming evidence that elements of President Bush administration were complicit in the 9/11 attack and even have helped to stage it.

We know that within minutes of the worst "terrorist attack" in US history, even before the collapse of the World Trade Center #2 building at 9.59 am, US officials knew the names of several of the alleged hijackers. CBS-TV reported that a flight attendant on AA flight 11, Amy Sweeney, had the presence of mind to call her American Airline office and reveal the seat numbers of the hijackers that seized the plane. The FBI Director Robert Mueller later said- "*This was the first piece of hard evidence.*" This was also echoed by

the CIA. All of this is extremely strange, because the passenger manifesto released by the AA does NOT include the names of any alleged hijackers. This discrepancy has never been explained to the American people.

The plan to invade Afghanistan and "*remove Al Qaeda from the face of the earth*" was already sitting on President Bush's desk way before 9/11 –awaiting his signature. This plan was developed by the CIA. A former Pakistan diplomat, Niaz Naik told the BBC interview in mid-July of 2001 that the US would attack Afghanistan. This Pakistan diplomat also sad (*which was proven correct*) that the attack against Afghanistan would be launched from the JSA bases in Uzbekistan and Tadjikistan.

But how could the US low- ranking officials know already in mid-July that the American forces would invade Afghanistan in October, **unless they already had foreknowledge of the attack.**

How can we explain that fact that General Richard Myers, acting chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on 9/11, announced in a TV interview a day after 9/11 that - "*There are forty-two major Taliban bombing targets for us to bomb in Afghanistan.*" This only proves that there was already extensive planning to invade and bomb Afghanistan way before 9/11!

If you will remember that the Bush administration was to release a White Paper on evidence against bin Laden. Even former German Chancellor Schmidt spoke against Bush. The Chancellor said: "**Proof has to be delivered that the 9/11 attack came from abroad! This proof still has not been produced!**"

Remember those supposed videotapes of bin Laden and his words and look-alikes? Two independent University translators and a third language expert studied these tapes and concluded that the English translation done by the CIA was not correct, it was overdubbed and false. Why these lies by CIA and Bush? Why these falsifications in translations from Arabic to English?

To this date the US administration did not charge bin Laden with the 9/11. Why? As THE FBI-CIA statement issued said: "**He has not been charged with complicity in the 9/11, because we have no hard**



evidence connecting bin Laden to 9/11!"

Then why did the US attack Afghanistan and is occupying it?

This admission by the FBI-CIA is astonishing and raises fundamental question on terrorism, and the role of the US media. It seems that bin Laden was convicted in the US court of public opinion by the US media circus. It seems that the US government colluded to deceive the American people. **A colossal miscarriage of justice was perpetrated on the American people and the whole world!**

The intrigues, the lies, the subterfuge and outright fabrication by the Pentagon, CIA and President Bush are exposed in this book. The story expose in French newspaper *Le Figaro* states that top elements in the US intelligence establishment knew about the coming 9/11 attack and allowed bin Laden to remain free to play his assigned role by the White House. As astonishing as this sounds, there is no other plausible explanation. Such conclusion by the European media was never reported

in the US media!

Yes there were elements in the US government, starting at the very top and also in the intelligence services that were very complicit in the events of 9/11. Yes they did allow the attack and even helped to stage it. This was done in order to generate the pretext for a MUCH MORE AGGRESSIVE FOREIGN POLICY which the American people would not otherwise support. These implications are shocking, indeed, so shocking that the American people cannot even bring themselves to think such thoughts.

Yes this is a matter of record that the US neo-conservatives openly advocated an imperialist shift in US foreign policy, even before the November 2000 Presidential elections. Former President Clinton was already pushing in that direction. President Bush just took it a big step forward!

These are grave questions for the American people and they must address them. The Americans face a Constitutional Crisis unlike anything in their history!

shut down all twenty-nine West Coast ports for eight hours.

On the eve of May Day the ILWU's international working class solidarity inspired a fraternal response from the General Union of Port Workers in Iraq who pledged to stop work for one hour on May Day. Exhibiting the same generous *proletarian internationalist* spirit as the ILWU, the Iraqi port workers asserted: "We the port workers view that our interests are inseparable from the interests of workers in Iraq *and the world*; therefore we are determined to continue our struggle to improve the living conditions of the workers and overpower all plots of the occupation, its economic and political projects." (4-28-08, ROL emphasis) The Iraqi trade union exclaimed: "We are certain that a better world will only be created by the workers and what you [the ILWU] are doing is an example and proof of what we say."

As an integral part of its initiative, the ILWU Longshore Caucus appealed, on a non-sectarian basis, to both the AFL-CIO and the Change to Win Coalition (the large alternative coalition of unions that split-off from the AFL-CIO in 2005) for "unity of action" of all U.S. organized labor "to bring an end to this bloody war once and for all." Beginning with postal union locals in San Francisco, New York City, North Carolina and elsewhere, local unions, metropolitan area central labor councils and state union bodies responded to the ILWU's call. By May Day 2008, the San Francisco County Labor Council, the King County Labor Council in Seattle, the Washington State AFL-CIO, the Vermont AFL-CIO and the South Carolina AFL-CIO, among others, had all endorsed the ILWU action and/or undertaken some May Day action in solidarity with the ILWU.

The broadening of this U.S. working class protest of the imperialist war, in turn, inspired a broad cross-section of the Iraqi labor movement to sign a unified Statement "To the Workers and All Peace Loving People of the World." This document, while taking the moderate tone of an appeal to the conscience of "all people," nevertheless decisively exposes the criminal character of the U.S.

## FEATURE ANALYSES

RAY O LIGHT



*From the Belly of the Beast*

### Proletarian Internationalism Returning to the USA

To us, the most surprising and refreshing development on May Day 2008 was an outstanding display of *proletarian internationalist solidarity* between the dock workers in the USA and the workers in the same

sector in Iraq, the main country being militarily and politically occupied by U.S. imperialism today!

This outstanding May Day event was based on an initiative supported by an overwhelming majority delegate vote of the Longshore Caucus of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) at their meeting in February to prepare for upcoming contract negotiations with the Pacific Maritime Association, a group of cargo carriers, terminal operators and stevedore companies up and down the West Coast of the United States. The dock workers resolved to "take labor's protest to a more powerful level of struggle by calling on unions and working people in the U.S. and internationally to mobilize for a 'No Peace, No Work Holiday' May 1, 2008 for 8 hours to demand an immediate end to the war and occupation in Iraq and Afghanistan and the withdrawal of U.S. troops from the Middle East." On May Day, true to their word, twenty-five thousand ILWU longshore workers



imperialist military invasion and occupation of Iraq *from the perspective of the working class*. Thus, the Iraqi trade unionists expose the fact that "the invaders" (U.S. imperialism), in the name of "liberation," "have destroyed our nation's infrastructure, bombed our neighborhoods...helped to foment and then exploit sectarian divisions and terror attacks where there had been none." Likewise, the Iraqi trade unionists expose *the common front of capital against the Iraqi working class*, evidenced by the fact that the Ba'athist legislation of 1987 which banned trade unions in the public sector (80% of all Iraqi workers) has remained in effect — from Saddam Hussein's Ba'athist Regime to Paul Bremer's post-invasion Occupation Authority to each subsequent Iraqi U.S. imperialist puppet administration up to the present.

The unified statement of organized labor, the unionized sector of the working class in Iraq, unlike petty bourgeois pacifists or professional NGO job holders, recognizes *the economic motive* behind U.S. imperialism's invasion and occupation of Iraq. It calls for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops, passage of a labor law that protects the rights of workers to organize, bargain and strike, an end to meddling in their "sovereign economic affairs by the IMF, USA and UK," and, specifically, that the U.S. government and others immediately cease lobbying for "the oil law" which would hand over control of Iraqi oil to U.S. dominated multinational companies like Exxon, BP and Shell.

The Iraqi labor movement concludes its unified statement with the following proletarian internationalist vision: "We look forward to the day when we have a world based on cooperation and solidarity. We look forward to a world free from war, sectarianism, competition and exploitation."

So the ILWU's May Day initiative has had the effect of striking a blow for unity within the U.S. labor movement, for unity within the Iraqi labor movement, and for unity among the workers of the world. Quite an accomplishment for a trade union located in the belly of the

beast, where, for several generations, large sections of U.S. workers have reaped some of the crumbs (imperialist bribery) from the virtually unchallenged hegemony of U.S. monopoly capitalism and imperialism in the world capitalist system.

It is inspiring that an organized sector of the U.S. proletariat, the proletariat in the chief oppressor nation in the world, took this initiative in opposition to "its own" ruling class and in solidarity with the workers and oppressed peoples of Iraq. It is fitting that such a proletarian internationalist initiative was taken by U.S. workers, among whom, for so long, May Day has hardly been celebrated at all, and has even been scorned by large numbers, but from which section of the international working class the international workers holiday had originally sprung some one hundred and twenty years ago.

Contrary to current conventional wisdom on the "Left," that May Day, as the international working class holiday, was mainly created by the conscious vanguard socialist movement of the time, the proletarian truth is that May Day was created *primarily* through the concrete struggle of *mass trade union as well as vanguard working class organizations fighting for the eight hour work day* in countries around the world. The Marxist International Socialist Congress (Second International) at its founding congress in Paris in July 1889 adopted a decision to organize "a great international demonstration" to demand the eight hour work day. However, the Second International's resolution specifically refers to and takes up the date projected by the American Federation of Labor (AFL), which the AFL was already mobilizing around. Thus, the initiating organization for the first international day of workers solidarity (May 1, 1890) was the AFL, a U.S. union under the leadership of its

conservative president, Samuel Gompers.

In fact, after the unprecedented victories in achieving the eight hour and nine hour work day in the first international workers holiday on May Day in 1890, AFL President Samuel Gompers had bragged with some justification that he and the AFL had founded the May Day holiday. By the end of that decade which saw the rapid rise of U.S. imperialism, however, Gompers had begun to distance himself and the AFL from the holiday. By 1905, there was no further mention of the AFL's role in founding May Day or the fact that the holiday had been founded in the USA. In 1920, the National Security League, an anti-labor, pro-business organization, launched a campaign to have 200 city mayors sponsor "patriotic days" on May 1<sup>st</sup> to offset May Day. Shamefully, this campaign won the support of the AFL! In 1923, Gompers himself told the *New York Times* that a patriotic celebration on May 1<sup>st</sup> should be supported by U.S. workers since May Day had "none of the European meaning" to them!!

### **-Immigrant Workers Struggle Bringing May Day Back to the USA-**

For almost the entire post World War II period, for sixty years, almost the last place on earth one would find May Day celebrations by its working class population was the USA, the land of its birth. This was based on the imperialist bribery of a large section of the U.S. working class out of the U.S. imperialist super-profits stolen from the proletariat of the oppressed nations. As Lenin taught, the essence of imperialism is revealed in the fundamental distinction between oppressing and oppressed nations. U.S. imperialism's very success as the chief oppressor nation in the world in the post World War II period, a period characterized by revisionist domination of the international communist and workers movement, led to such harsh oppression of the peoples of Mexico, Central America and the Philippines as well as other neo-colonial peoples that there has been a large migration into the USA, where immigrant workers are being super-exploited within the U.S. multinational state boundaries almost

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to the level of super-exploitation in their native countries.

The U.S. ruling class utilized the great nation chauvinism and anti-foreigner mass sentiment in the USA to help keep the immigrants powerless and without rights; while it drew in so many immigrant workers that they are now a major force powering the U.S. economy and a major source of profits for the U.S. monopoly capitalists. In this light, the growing immigrant worker resistance to the open attacks against them in the USA in the past few years has even been backed by some sectors of the monopoly capitalist ruling class which is afraid that its supply of cheap immigrant labor will be shut off if the USA becomes too repressive and hostile to the immigrants or even closes its borders.

For their part, the oppressed Latino and Filipino and other immigrant masses bring with them still fresh traditions of militant struggle, including the celebration of May Day. As a result of all this, spurred on by the latest political attacks on their immigrant status, May Day 2006 provided a massive outpouring of fighters in defense of immigrant rights in some of the largest demonstrations of workers in U.S. history! This stunning demonstration of workers unity in action stopped the openly chauvinistic criminalizing of the immigrants at least for a while; it also once again brought home the significance of the international workers holiday to the land of its birth. The stage was set for the ILWU's 2008 May Day initiative against the U.S. imperialist wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The ILWU led solidarity between U.S. and Iraqi workers this Spring serves as a vivid reminder of the great potential of May Day events and other coordinated international workers actions for the class struggle of our times as well as *the strategic role of the international working class itself* in bringing about a world of peace and justice, a world of socialism leading to communism.

#### **-Steelworkers Union Helps Form Global Union-**

On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, another dramatic

step toward proletarian internationalism was taken by a second U.S. union. At its liveliest union convention in decades, the United Steelworkers of America (USWA) voted to formally join its 850 thousand members together with the two million members of the largest British union, Unite, to form the world's first global union, appropriately named "Workers Uniting — the Global Union."

The fact that the United Steelworkers of America (USWA), a conservative, business unionist oriented U.S. union, is now throwing off at least some of the shackles of great nation chauvinism to reach across the Atlantic to merge with the largest union in Great Britain is a sign of *how ripe the international working class is for global unions, for proletarian internationalism at the level of mass organization.*

Leo Gerard, President of the United Steelworkers expressed their motivation: "This union is crucial for challenging the growing power of global capital." Even AFL-CIO President John Sweeney, the chief trade union collaborator with the Bush Regime and U.S. imperialism in this period, in a surprisingly militant tone, volunteered that the agreement is "a bold and innovative approach to addressing the crushing effect of corporate-driven globalization on workers and communities. Together, these unions have put multinational companies on notice: Pushing down wages and working conditions for your employees by pitting one country's workforce against another will not work forever." Ironically, Sweeney has served U.S. imperialism as the main U.S. trade union leader pitting the U.S. labor movement against the workforce of all other countries. No doubt, the existence of the Change to Win Coalition, as a rival to the AFL-CIO, compelled Sweeney to give this merger his blessing.

Tom Woodley, the British trade union leader of Unite, stated, "This agreement will enable us to use our considerable resources to organize workers from new and growing sectors at home *and in developing countries. There will be no more no-go areas for trade unions.*" (ROL emphasis)

So, not only does Workers Uniting — the Global Union represent the first global union, as a trans Atlantic organization in the short run, but also, in the long run, the new union aims to follow the work wherever the multinational corporations move their operations, making it a truly *global* union.

Thus, two months after the profound proletarian internationalist May Day action by the ILWU, a second U.S. union, the Steelworkers, pioneered a proletarian internationalist path organizationally, that is fully in keeping with the legacy of May Day, the holiday of the international working class.

#### **-Whittier the International Communist Movement-**

Today, with regard to proletarian internationalism, *the international communist movement is lagging behind the spontaneous struggle* of even the relatively conservative sector of the international working class based in the USA! And this fact underscores the gap between the so-called proletarian vanguard and the actual proletariat itself. For many decades, based on the early successes of the Leninist movement, the opportunists who were themselves bureaucrats in power in the socialist camp or whose position was based on their relationship to those in state power, have belittled, attacked and undermined the working class and its historic mission. This has been a key to the terrible defeats of heroic national liberation struggles and the dismantling of the socialist camp.

Today, under the impetus of imperialist globalization, workers around the world are increasingly recognizing the need for a common international working class front against global capital. The May Day spirit of proletarian internationalism is even coming back to the USA, the land of its birth. It is long past due that vanguard forces committed to the struggle for socialism and communism begin to learn from the working class so as to eventually also teach and organize. Opportunists and imperialists beware! We, the workers of the world, have nothing to lose but our chains! We have a world to win!



# NEWS, DIGEST, COMMENTS

MANIK MUKHERJEE



## IMPERIALISTS, HANDS OFF SUDAN

By **MANIK MUKHERJEE**, General Secretary of the International Anti-Imperialist Forum and People's Solidarity Coordinating Committee.. He attended the National Workers Day Celebration, organized by the Sudan Workers Trade Union Front. There were 2,000 delegates from 20 countries that attended this world event, starting on August 3, 2008.

Brothers, Sisters, Friends:

I have come here to express the solidarity of the Indian people with the people of Sudan in their struggles against imperialist domination. India and Sudan suffered long under the yoke of the British rule, and both had to bear the agony of fratricidal bloodshed instigated by the imperialist rulers. We share your pain and are partners in your anti-imperialist struggle. Today the imperialist powers headed by the USA are waging murderous wars against the people of the world. After bringing devastation to Yugoslavia, Iraq, Afghanistan, they are now turning their attention to other countries like Sudan, Iran, Palestine, Lebanon etc. Sudan is a country rich in natural resources, like oil, natural gas, uranium, copper etc., which are coveted by the imperialist powers. Sudan has therefore become a victim of the age-old intrigues and conspiracies of imperialists.

Sudan is a country with great ethnic diversity, but for centuries the various ethnic groups had intermarried and shared common cultural and religious traits. The British rulers followed their

customary divide and rule policy to perpetuate their colonial rule and to keep the country extremely poor, underdeveloped and weak. They fomented mistrust and division among the different ethnic groups. Because of their conspiracy and instigation, they were finally forced to leave in 1956, the country plunged into a protracted war. The imperialist powers, principally Britain, France and the USA, kept fanning and keeping alive this internal conflict by playing with and then forcing off one group against the other.

The surge of anti-colonial movements in the post Second World War period freed from foreign rule one country after another throughout the world, and in Africa also, national governments were established in these countries. But the imperialist powers loathed to let all these large natural resources of the African countries go out of their control. So wherever a national government showed any proclivity towards independence and chose their own course of development, or if the peoples movements showed any leaning and taking an anti-capitalist stand, the imperialists pounced on these countries with their armed forces. They launched destabilization campaigns, counter-insurgency operations, military interventions, and even military occupation in order to bring about a regime change. The world witnessed this in the Congo, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Angola, Somalia and in host of other countries. US is in the forefront of these attacks and its control of the IMF, World Bank, USAID is meant to strangle all the African countries and to keep them forever under the imperialist domination. Besides, the rivalry between the imperialist powers added to the tensions and conflicts in Africa.

Imperialism wrongly portrays in their propaganda the civil conflict in Darfur as a racial one, between the Arabs and the African Blacks. But all parties involved in this conflict – whether they are referred to as "Arab" or as "African". All are Muslim and all are local. A prolonged drought, famine and poverty plunged the people of Darfur in dire straits,

and there was simmering discontent on the sharing of the scarcity of their scanty resources. The imperialists fanned this up so that the resulting unrest and fighting would destabilize the Government, which is very "unfriendly" to those Imperialist countries and in this conceived way facilitating their entry into Sudan. The Western powers supported and financed the rebel groups fighting the elected government. After instigating this conflict, the West is crying crocodile tears about the genocide in Darfur.

Sudanese people do not need to be taught by the imperialists how to protect human rights. Let a call go for President Bush and his cohorts to be indicted for war crimes and crimes against humanity by waging war against Iraq and Afghanistan and for the torture of prisoners at Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo.

History has shown us over and over again that the so-called Western "peace-keeping" forces that are sent for "humanitarian" reasons are in reality deployed to further the imperialist interests, and not for peace and reconciliation. We should all take a lesson from what happened in Korea, in Congo, in Rwanda and in Yugoslavia.

**Long live the anti-imperialist struggle!**

**Long lives the solidarity of the people! Imperialists, Hands off Sudan!**

**OPPORTUNISM IN THE  
COMMUNIST PARTIES  
IS A VERY VALUABLE  
SERVANT TO U.S.  
IMPERIALISM!**

**AS I SEE IT**

By **JERRY MORSE**

**BUSH'S CLONES IN POLAND, TURKEY  
AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

By **JERRY MORSE**

The Defense Minister of Turkey, Murat Bayer has signed a death warrant for his country, by instituting the same thing that brought on the Cuban Missile Crisis.



With Poland and the Czech Republic joining NATO as clones of Bush and putting the pressure on World Peace, perhaps the time is now for the World Peace Council to get off its ass and become as viable and effective as a strong force against nuclear war.

The Canadian clone, one of the "Pretty Boys", who after getting his political pabulum, did not go to the Olympics – now this Prime Minister, wants to call an election in Canada! It seems that Canadian people's opinions are of no importance. Canada, US, UK people and others avoid asking questions that the world turmoil fostered and promoted by US imperialism is all about oil and they want war to get it, one way or another.

Now coming on the scene are other "Pretty Boys" in Poland, Czech Republic, Turkey, Georgia and others – this shows that the political plastic surgeons should become another international discipline to straighten out these pretty false faces and bring them back to what their faces really are – warmongers!

**OTTAWA, CANADA** – Our own Canadian Government should recognize that the USA's foreign policy is very detrimental not only to our national security but also the international security. This foreign policy is on behalf of the Military Industrial Financial Complex which is enforcing a very dangerous military action by placing a new defense missile system in Poland and the Czech Republic – the so-called and rehashed NATO hidden agreement to bolster its offensive ambitions in

the Middle East.

The agreement that was signed with the Czech government advances this danger for the safety of the world. This is not for the safety of the United States at all or to protect it from the so-called "rogue states". This is just a ploy to "Strike First" scenario, in spite of the signed 1972 ban on the deployment of a global missile defense system – which meant that neither the US or the Soviet Union during the Cold War would launch a pre-emptive strike and go unpunished.

IMF and US imperialism is hell bent on threatening any nation on earth while putting in place its ground, sea and air-space attack schemes and forces, thinking that they can get away with it. These US war hawks forget that even their allies are not gung-ho for nuclear wars. These war hawks have ignored 125 peace initiatives by the Soviet Union in the United Nations over these many years.

Members of the Military Industrial Complex will cut anybody's throat for a nickel, including civilians, military (*soldiers and others who will pay the supreme price*) or even their own governmental authority.

The Canadian government must stop being told what to do, how to think, how to act by the Yankee Big Brother from below our border. We must protect our own security by protesting this US inspired Missile Defense System – by these hawkish, paranoiac plans of these extremely mentally sick functionaries of the Military, Industrial Financial Complex!

national to international. This operation and every step of the regime from the land operations and air raids in Southern Kurdistan to the trial to ban the AKP are all closely linked to the plans of the USA and the other imperialist forces for the Middle East and related to this, and to the part Turkey was assigned to in this context.

After the Greater Middle Eastern Project became frustrating for the US imperialism in Iraq and Afghanistan, the US imperialism made some changes in its policy in the region. The USA being in a difficult situation or facing failure in the Middle East means its being in a difficult situation all over the world and losing its role as the gendarmerie of the world. This is a new situation for the imperialists as well as for the world's oppressed, however, neither party at present is prepared for this. No matter how sharp the contradictions between the imperialists are, no imperialist force including China and Russia, want the USA to lose in Iraq. The reason for this is that they have not yet managed to create a relational system that will replace the present role of the US imperialism and a correlation of forces that will make it possible to take more resolute steps. In face of this, the USA developed a policy to defend the status quo in the Middle East and, first of all, to keep the unity of Iraq, and started to organise its relations with Turkey, the Southern Kurds, as well as Iran, Syria and other states of the region in this way. While withdrawing the attack plans on Iran for the moment, it hinders the formation of a Kurdish state in Southern Kurdistan. New steps were also taken for the liquidation of the PKK, which is an important obstacle in defending the status quo in the Middle East.

The Turkish bourgeoisie became integrated in these approaches of the USA. A concept was created at the meeting of the Chief of the General Staff Buyukanit and Prime Minister Erdogan on May 4, 2007 at Dolmabahce and at the meeting of Erdogan and Bush on November 5, 2007. The Chief of the General Staff and the government who are experiencing deep cleavages and conflicts between them have compromised in the line of the USA. The PKK and the guerrilla are at the very sharp end of this concept. The main aim is the defence of the status quo in the Middle East. The Turkish ruling forces want to organise themselves at a new level so that the status quo in the Middle East will not

## EXPOSE

### The Ergenekon Operation in Turkey

The Ergenekon trial, which is one of the main developments having been highlighted for months in the Turkish bourgeois politics, has entered a new stage in the last month. Two of the retired putschist generals Hursit Tolon and Sener Eruygur as well as many personalities from the fields of media, capital, police and racist fascist parties were arrested and

imprisoned. Furthermore, the indictment of the case Ergenekon was released. The indictment does not contain any claims of a coup which were expected and broadly discussed in the bourgeois media. This shows that the regime's Ergenekon operation carried out against its own counter-guerrilla forces was a partial and limited operation.

The Ergenekon operation is an operation of the regime to reconstruct the counter-guerrillas and is based on many different causes, from historical to current, from



be destroyed. The Turkish bourgeoisie joined the USA's plan to defend the status quo in the Middle East for which it is unavoidable to reorganise its forces.

The Ergenekon operations need to be understood in the light of this need for reconstruction. Ergenekon is an operation of reconstruction carried out by the regime in order to reorganise those elements within the counter-guerrilla organisation that had diverged from the actual line and to take again under control those elements over whom the regime had lost control while the counter-guerrillas grew stronger and broader. And of course, the target is not the counter-guerrilla organisation itself, but some of its exposed elements. The Ergenekon operation has expanded and involved generals Veli Kucuk, Hursit Tolori, Sener Eryugur. The counter-guerrillas was organised during the period when Turkey became a member of NATO and became an essential part of the organisation of the state. Nowadays, however, it has become an organisation that is no more central, limited and clandestine, but organised even at local places, cities and quarters, its actual body is organised within the Turkish Armed Forces and its centre are the official organisations affiliated to it such as the Special War Department and Special Forces Commandership. The organisation Ergenekon is not limited only to the imprisoned generals and some personalities from the fields of military and civil bureaucracy, the media, capital and racist fascist parties.

In one aspect this period reminds us of Susurluk and the period of February 28. During this period, those counter-guerrilla elements in the police organisation who had exceeded the limits had been trimmed. And now, a broader and larger part, first of all, the soldiers who form the actual body of the counter-guerrilla organisation, is being rebuked. Nevertheless, during both periods, the main target were the exposed forces, but the actual official relations of the counter-guerrillas have never been on the agenda.

The AKP and the front of the army and the generals who suffer from a serious clash of internal interests have compromised on carrying on this operation, which is totally controlled. The regime and its two fronts would not be able to tolerate any uncontrolled proceeding

because of the bourgeoisie's deep crisis of the regime as well as the fact that the counter-guerrillas are, in fact, the state and the regime themselves. Although the bourgeois media and bourgeois liberals guided by the AKP try to present Ergenekon trial as a big step towards democracy and the liquidation of the counter-guerrillas, it is quite clear that this operation carried out by the regime's two main forces, the AKP and the General Staff, will be restricted only to certain groups.

In this compromise, the AKP government is more in the saddle due to its superiority over the generals' front achieved during critical periods such as the memorandum of April 27 and the early general elections, and uses the Ergenekon trial in order to strengthen this initiative.

The fact that even some military personalities have been included in the case of Ergenekon, that a relation is claimed to be between the case and the Turkish Armed Forces whose privileges have never been touched before and whose impunity has never been discussed, shows how deep is the need of the regime for reconstruction and harms the mentioned position of the Turkish Armed Forces.

Many developments, such as the Kurdish national movement and the fact that it became clear that this struggle could not be defeated by military means, the rise of political Islam, the developments confronting the Armenian genocide, the question of Cyprus and the imperialists' pressure on this issue, the period and laws of the EU integration made the regimes' traditional behaviour fail. The balance of powers which has changed after the Cold War and the need of the Turkish state to reconstruct itself in accordance with its new role have made the situation more difficult. Finally, the need for reconstruction showed itself in a stronger way. This period was answered by different groups of the

## ATTENTION ALL STAMP COLLECTORS

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donation to NSC.

Turkish bourgeoisie with different approaches and eventually, two different fronts, the front of the army and the generals on the one hand and those groups represented by the AKP and the oligarchy of the capital on the other, and two programs came up. Both fronts have no essential difference from the imperialists' approaches, however, the army wants to complete this period of reconstruction in a way defending its current status quo while the other front aims at achieving more control of the political power. For this reason, there is a big fight for the power at the top of the regime. This crisis of the regime and the process of reorganisation of the regime's inner correlation of forces, the period of cleavage and polarisation in all fields, from the media to the organisations of the capital, from the juridical institutions to the police, from parliament to universities, are the fundamental facts that made the Ergenekon operations absolutely necessary and affected/determined its course. The AKP, that is the force loyally carrying out the US imperialists' plans in the region, the executor of the neo-liberal destruction plans and the enemy of the working class and labourers, tries to profit from this operation, which means the liquidation of one part of the counter-guerrillas that were exposed, and wants to increase its initiative and to make the democratic public stand in favour of it through its anti-coup claims. And the front of the general staff is struggling to remove those poisoning elements away from controlling its body.

The duty of the communists, revolutionary, progressive and Kurdish patriotic forces is to benefit from these developments by increasing the masses' initiative to demand an account from the counter-guerrilla state and the putschist generals. The anti-putschist sentiments developed in the last few years with the growing public opinion in the context of demanding an account from the counter-guerrillas on the anniversary of the massacre on Mayday 1977, the mass movement developed after the killing of Hrant Dink, the actions on the anniversary of the fascist military coup of September 12, 1980 and many other struggles show that demanding an account from the counter-guerrilla state is absolutely possible and necessary.

MLCP Turkey/Northern Kurdistan



## ACCORDING TO MISHKA

### ISRAEL: GOOD FOR AMERICA?

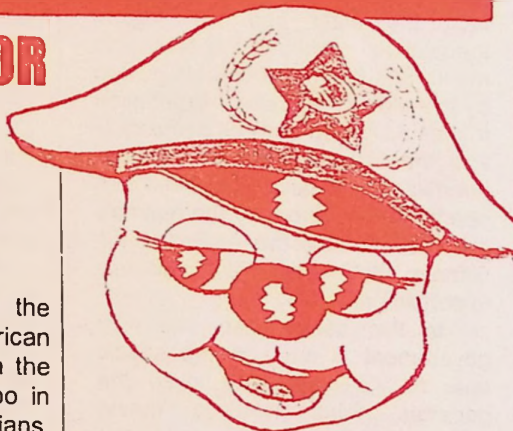
From the book by James Petras-  
*ZIONISM, MILITARISM, and the  
DECLINE OF US POWER*

Criticizing and fully exposing the powerful public role of American Zionism in shaping US policy in the Middle East is the biggest taboo in the US politics. Politicians, journalists, academics, prelates and ordinary American citizens who dare to publicly voice their dissent are now targeted for political purges, denied academic tenure and access to the mass media, and are scurrilously labeled as "anti-Semites" by the Zionist power configuration.

Zionism, Militarism and the Decline of US Power by James Petras challenges the claims of all Zionist apologists who argue that "Israel power configuration" is just another US lobby group for examining several major US Government policies. But the case studies demonstrate conclusively that today the issues of war and peace, trade and investment agreements by the US, European and Asian oil companies and banks in the Middle East, plus the multi-billion dollar arms sales are all **subject to Zionist Power Configuration scrutiny and veto.**

The new "broad definition" of what affects Israel, included Lobby backing for Bush's shredding of the US Constitutional restraints on his war powers. It is not merely regional expansion which "interests Israel", but the economic and military aid and sales – namely who is it that determines what military goods the USA can sell to Arab States as well as, what high-end military technology the US would provide to the world's **fourth biggest arms merchant** - which is Israel – (*Israel is an arms export competitor to the US*). This Zionist Power Configuration (ZPC) in the United States Congress has blocked trade and sales to Saudi Arabia, despite the backing of the US oil and military-industrial complex.

Thanks to the controlled US mass media, the Israel Lobby has



effectively delayed, degraded and then marginalized a long-awaited report by the 16 US national intelligence agencies on Iran's non-military nuclear program, in favour of dubious bellicose claims issued by the State of Israel and echoed by the US government. Petras claims that the Zionist Lobby can make the drumbeat for a US war on Iran possible, given the current outstretch of US forces and the US public disgust and distaste for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

It has been widely argued and correctly that the US war in Iraq is for Big Oil, but only the Zionist demands and Israel interests can explain the current US moves now against Iran – threats, infiltrations, naval blockades, US Treasury imposed sanctions on the entire Iran's financial structure, including threats to sabotage financial dealings with the rest of the world. All of these pro-Israel policies are contrary to the interests of the US Big Oil corporations and the weakened US military. The effective Israel Lobby gives Israel the capacity to replace any US agenda by their own.

Israel's military industries (*which are central to its total economy*), the political leverage of Israel's Settler Parties, the religious fundamentalists and its security apparatus – plus Israel's total dependence on the multi-billion yearly handouts from the US Treasury and from the wealthy Jewish militarist donors – means that Israel is integrally structurally incapable of accommodating normal and peaceful relations with its neighbors. The policy of Zionist Israel is expansion for territory for their dream of "Greater Israel".

Over the years the Zionist Lobby in

the United States has steadily broadened its outreach. During the 1940's to 1950's the Zionist Lobby's job was to secure US diplomatic and financial support for Israel's ethnic cleansing of Palestine. Then it was US support for Israel wars with Egypt and Syria in the 1960's to 1970's, then to Lebanon and Iraq in the 1980-1990's and onwards to Iraq and Iran during the current decade.

Now that the US economy is in a crisis, this Zionist Lobby is pushing for a new military confrontation with Iran, oblivious of the catastrophic consequences for the American people and the world. There are top ranking officials in the US Homeland Security, the US National Security Council, the US Congress and in the White House, that are passing more and more police-state legislation to control and silence any opposition towards any criticism of US policies world-wide and specially criticism of Israel – and all of this is being promoted by the Zionist Lobby.

Zionism, Militarism and the Decline of US Power can be ordered from Clarity Press Inc. 469-3277 Roswell Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30305, USA

### TAKE A LOOK AT THE ADVISORS TO BARAK OBAMA!

Barak Obama's advisors include such infamous characters as Zbigniew Brzezinski, the architect of the counter-revolutionary war against Afghanistan. Brzezinski at that time described the US machinations as: "That secret operation of arming the fighters who later became al-Qaida was an excellent idea, it had the affect of drawing the Soviets into the Afghan trap. The day the Soviets officially crossed the border, (*fulfilling their signed military pact with the Afghanistan Government - Editor*) I wrote to US President Carter that: "We now have the opportunity of giving the USSR its own Vietnam War."

Also on the Obama team is Richard Clarke, the "counter-terrorism czar" for both Bill Clinton and George W Bush plus Dennis Ross, Clinton's darling of Israel and his pro-Israel Middle East negotiator.



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM  
UKRAINE

Dear comrades:

I have received by mail NSC journal in English and in Russia for which I thank you very much. I have also received an Appeal Letter in Russian from the Chairman of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People asking for unity amongst the Soviet progressive people to help in setting up in former Soviet Republics branches of the Soviet Friendship Society with Foreign Countries. This is very important and urgent to do. I feel that we are not alone here in trying to resurrect the USSR and Socialism.

I am sending greetings to all the delegates that will convene to the International Council Conference in October of this year. I wish all of you dear friends much success in our common struggles.

I agree in full with comrade Lucas that we desperately need UNITY! Class Unity! Soviet people are in fact are a class! Soviet people were the vanguard of the class struggles and they shall be again! Soviet people sent heroes to help in the struggle against capitalism-imperialism to many countries of the world.

We must unite - and do so quickly - all progressive and revolutionary forces against this mortal danger for all humanity of the US road towards the fascist New World Order! This can be started under the banner of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People and then onwards toward the establishment of a Communist International!

ANDREI YAKOVENKO

FROM REYKJAVIK  
ICELAND

Dear comrades of NSC:

Enclosed is my subscription renewal and \$50 donation towards NSC. Keep up the good work! What our world needs is red flags flying, and NSC is that Red Flag. I look forward to receiving each issue.

Also many thanks to dear comrade Lucas for sending me the

book from the Carpathian Mountains to Canada" - it's very interesting and informative.

Red Greetings from Iceland!

Vesteinn Valgardsson

FROM SOFIA  
BULGARIA

Dear friends:

Thank you for the invitation to participate in the International Council Conference in October of this year. I also have received a written one and I waited that I might be able to arrange that a representative of our youth Marxist organization "23<sup>rd</sup> of September" might be able to come instead of myself. But like me, they cannot come because they cannot afford visa and traveling finances to come.

Here in Bulgaria we are badly hit with drastic rise of prices for food, fuel and water. The prices have skyrocketed so that we do not know how we can survive and make ends meet - and if we do, for how long? Electricity prices rose by 30%, and the London International Waters Company that owns our water supply demands a 50% hike in price. The pensions are now a miserable 131Bg lava per month - \$1 - 1.20 leva, 1 Euro=1.95 leva.

I live on bread (1 leva for one kg at the moment), cooking oil (3+ leva per liter), salt, potatoes at -.40 per kg) and only week per month after I receive my old age pension - I allow myself to buy some vegetables (carrots and cabbage mainly) and as you can easily imagine, I am chronically hungry. I have forgotten the taste of cheese, yogurt or butter!

With the agreement of the above group - that does not exist anymore due to the betrayal by one member - until July my Internet service was paid from the money we used to receive from the sale of "Socialism Betrayed" and Felix Goreliks book which we translated and published. But because of the rise in prices people stopped buying the books. After September 6th I will not be able to use the Internet anymore. It costs 23 leva per month for the Internet service. I cannot pay for it from my

miserable pension. Only another offer to translate another book would help me with finances to be able to use the Internet.

You see how effectively capitalism/imperialism suffocates both our lives and activities. I am in turmoil. How can I continue my struggle against it - even at such a low level? I think that if everyone does what he/she can do best, we might manage to send all of them to hell where they belong!

Although I cannot come, I will send you my opinion about the problems that the Conference will discuss. I have formed an opinion already.

Dear Michael, I am so glad that you are here, working, struggling, and not giving up. In moments of despair you give me strength to continue - you make me feel ashamed from my moments of weakness! Because, you see, I am not a strong person as I should be. I am grateful to you and the honest people around you and faithfully doing that kind of hard work. Because we all know what it means to stand up against a powerful, and cruel system!

Your work and all of you who are doing it are very **NECESSARY** - we **NEED YOU!**

BLAGOVESTA DONCHEVA

FROM CHESHIRE  
ENGLAND

Firstly, my best wishes for the forthcoming International Council / NSC Conference in October.

Like all of us I believe unity will be the main tool to finally get a coordinated and unstoppable working class movement led by fully unified Communist International organization who will at long last work together - this can only be a real Marxist-Leninist controlled Communist International.

The Editorial in the June issue of NSC illustrates this point - namely the article "To All Present Day Revisionists". This was written by V.I. Lenin and directed to the delegates as your Editorial points out.

This message is very relevant today - and I hope that this Conference will be the spark for this UNITY!

**Best wishes for this  
International Council Conference!**



# CRISIS IN THE CAUCASUS

by Larisa Schirba

Since the breakup of the Soviet Union, Georgia and South Ossetia have been engaged in on and off territorial military conflicts, due to which Russian peacekeepers have been stationed in South Ossetia. In the early 1990s South Ossetia declared its independence from Georgia, which has not been internationally recognised. The majority of South Ossetians are Russian citizens. North Ossetia is part of Russia. On August 8<sup>th</sup> 2008 Georgian troops attacked the Russian peacekeepers in South Ossetia. Russian and South Ossetian forces responded rapidly, drove Georgian forces from South Ossetia and pursued them into Georgia.

Attempts to explain what happened on August 8 in the Caucasus range widely. Western mainstream media warn us of Russia "flexing muscles and mounting an invasion of a fellow UN member". The European Left Party calls for strengthening international mediating bodies such as OSCE and the creation of an all-European comprehensive security system. The supporters of Lyndon LaRouche take the prize blaming the British Secret Service in the manipulation.

It is a challenging task to find official statements by world leaders about their support of Russia and their understanding of who the true



players behind this war are. However, some clear-thinkers spoke up. According to the AP, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has named Mikhail Saakashvili a puppet of the American empire. Chavez also supported Russia for defending the people of South Ossetia in an attack by Georgian military. The Venezuelan president



President Mikhail Saakashvili is in the habit of plotting quick escape routes for his troops and to think, he always puts his finger in his mouth.

also accused the US in sparking the conflict in the region, saying Georgia's troops were armed and trained by Washington. Fidel Castro blamed Bush for this bloodshed. Anna Belousova, VP of the Slovak National Party, a coalition partner in the Slovak government, took a strong stand in support of the Russian actions.

It is a widely known fact that for the last several years the US and Israel have been heavily arming the Georgian military and providing trainers for Georgian soldiers and advisors to its army leadership. The preparation of Georgia for the war was not only military, but also psychological. The Saakashvili show was targeted completely at the Western audience and thoroughly edited by the controlled media. Saakashvili made every press address and even speeches directed to his own people in English. In TV coverage about civilians protesting every sign held was in English. And what is the significance of the EU flag standing behind the president of a country which is not an EU

member? If any of our readers are still seeking an alternative to CNN and BBC we encourage them to read at least [www.antiwar.com](http://www.antiwar.com) and [www.counterpunch.org](http://www.counterpunch.org)

Was this a test of Russia's responsiveness as in Czechoslovakia in 1968? In a strange coincidence, the conflict took place during the week of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the pacification of Czechoslovakia. The instalment of the puppet governments around the mighty bear are tightening the rope around its neck with new and pending NATO memberships indicate rather long term plans. Reasonably valid speculations are abounding that the sudden escalation of the conflict in the Caucasus is the preamble to war with Iran. However, the US and its masterminds do not need to involve Russia immediately when targeting Iran.

Some suggest that the world hegemon orchestrated the conflict in the Caucasus in order to limit the economic and political capabilities of its old and developing rivals, such as China, Russia and even Europe, and to eliminate competition in the region. Others drew attention to similar economic reasons for the sponsored attack, explaining it by the US' weakening dollar and economy overall. How will this explain the hyperactivity of Sarkozy and Kouchner in directing public opinion and screeching for international intervention? The timing of Sarkozy' Presidency in the EU is another suspicious 'coincidence'. Had the president of Portugal or Greece held the EU Presidency at the time of the Georgian conflict their response to it could be much milder and a call for international intervention could not be heard to the same extent.

One of the more plausible interpretations of the crisis has been provided by Alexander Dugin of the Eurasian Movement. This attack was an ultimatum from the masterminds of the world order to Russia. No longer could the Russian government procrastinate. It either had to respond decisively or abjectly surrender. Having significantly damaged the military infrastructure of Georgia, sunk its fleet, and damaged air force bases, Russia this time has proven its ability to stand up to a blatant provocation.



Dugin sees this not as a conflict between two neighbouring nations, but a demarcation line between the West and Eurasia. Despite age long rivalries, both Caucasian peoples have a lot in common. Both are Orthodox Christian and share a long history of cultural interaction. The difference is their conflicting political orientation: one is pro-Western and another pro-Russian. This struggle now marks the geopolitical fault-line.

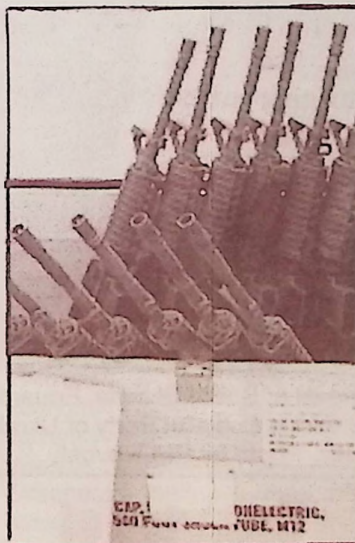
Seyyed Nasrallah gives a powerful warning message to all those who are contemplating following Georgia's path (i.e. to the Yushchenkos of the world): "The entire front line of the [Israeli] army's brass stepped down because of the war [in Lebanon]. [Brigadier-General] Gal Hirsch, who was defeated in Lebanon, went to Georgia and they too lost because of him... Relying on Israeli experts and weapons, Georgia learned why the Israeli generals failed. What happened in Georgia is a message to all those who accept that Washington entangles them in adventures, miscalculated wars and dead-end confrontation. In the end, the US [administration] will abandon them because its interests are above anything else, just as they did to their allies in Lebanon. (Al Manar, 15.08.2008)

Some, including Dugin, indicate a possibility of WWIII or at least the first shots of it. Georgian bravado is the foreword to what is yet to come, much likely in the near future. The question arises, is Russia now prepared to face other provocations, such as the placing of NATO missiles in Poland? How will it respond to a deterioration of the situation in Transnistria? Is liberal Russia prepared to defend its Black Sea interests, namely its important naval base in Sevastopol, and its historical interests in Crimea? Ultimately, Russia must either face the geopolitical challenges of the Atlantic Bloc with the aggressive determination of a Stalin, or with a betrayal of its interests even more shattering than that committed by Yeltsin.

We had many requests to publish positions of the PPSU and the CPU on problems not only in ex-USSR but on world events.



On the left is a Georgian soldier in the zone of attack on South Ossetia. The Russian peacekeepers related how during their attack on South Ossetia, Georgian tanks, unable to make their way through the narrow lanes of old Tskhival city in order to put down the heroic Ossetian resistance without heavy artillery fire, simply razed these city quarters to the ground with multiple rocket launchers.



Hundreds of abandoned Georgian assault rifles included M-4s made in the USA and given to Georgia. There were abandoned by the fleeing Georgian troops many Israeli made armored vehicles, plus Dana 152 mm self-propelled howitzers.



Georgian troops bombed schools, hospitals and other civilian cultural Building. You can see here that the Ossetian doctor had to improvise in bombed school buildings and work in the school basements.



## PROGRESSIVE SOCIALIST PARTY OF UKRAINE ON THE OSSETIA CONFLICT

The leader of the Progressive Socialist Party of Ukraine and member of the Supreme Soviet of the International Eurasian Movement Natalia Vitrenko visited devastated Tskhinvali in South Ossetia. In the interview with RIA Novosti she said that even though the situation gradually normalises, there is still no water supply or electricity in the city. Residents receive humanitarian help. She stated that all official media of Ukraine conduct deliberate mass disinformation saying that the conflict runs between Russia and Georgia and do not even mention South Ossetia. Ukrainian TV channels repeat over and over speeches by the US Secretary of State and and Georgian Foreign Minister who insist there is no evidence of Georgian aggression in Tskhinvali. Vitrenko held a press conference in Kiev in which she and her crew demonstrated photo and video materials from Tskhinvali as well as shrapnel, pieces of melted tank armour and land mines as a proof of Georgian aggression. Vitrenko said that Ukrainians are very poorly informed about what happened because state controlled media lie and most people cannot watch Russian TV channels since they are available mostly by satellite and not everyone can afford them. According to Vitrenko, most parliament members, including the orange team, bloc Timoshenko and the Party of Regions support Georgia. Their deputies hinder PSPUs initiatives for condemning Georgian aggression, impeaching the Ukrainian President and investigating arms sales to Georgia. Vitrenko highlighted that according to the international norms it is forbidden to sell arms to the countries in a state of conflict with a threat of escalating into a war. This is why it is illegal for Ukraine to sell arms to Georgia, which was done at 50-80% discount, says Vitrenko.

Vitrenko addressed growing tensions in relation to the Black Sea Fleet. with Sevastopol well on the

way of becoming the next stumbling block in the East-West confrontation. She quoted former Minister of Defence Beskorovainy saying Ukraine must mine the entrance to Sevastopol harbour to prevent the entry of the Russian fleet. Vitrenko said the Ukrainian fleet "decided not to obey the idiotic orders of Yushchenko and allowed first Russian ships into Sevastopol harbour". Either that or perhaps the Ukrainian fleet was afraid to

experience the same fate as the recently sunken Georgian fleet. It is commendable that at the time of no information or misinformation someone took the initiative to deliver to their compatriots the evidence straight from the zone of conflict, as well as demonstrated solidarity with the victims of the cowardly sneak attack.

RIA Novosti  
Edited by Larisa Schirba



President of South Ossetia, Eduard Kokoity and Leader of the Progressive Socialist Party of Ukraine, Natalia Vitrenko meeting in South Ossetia. Photo by RIA Novosti

## At the Doorstep of the "Third Division": Not to give in to the USA and Their Satellites

By PETRO SIMONENKO

The Head of the Communist Party of Ukraine about the South Ossetian Conflict

Full text in Russian at

[www.kpu.net.ua](http://www.kpu.net.ua)

Summary/translation by Larisa Schirba

Head of the Communist Party of Ukraine Petro Simonenko in his declaration classifies the attack

as "the third division" and calls upon not giving in to the USA and their satellites. Simonenko states that the Saakashvili regime ruthlessly committed the act of genocide towards South Ossetians without regard to any Christian and human values and international law. Simonenko calls for reviewing the underlying motives of those who "from the back stage give orders to defreeze international conflicts in Eurasia." Simonenko defines three key steps in the process of dividing territories. The first one is the break-up of the socialist system, the second period is the epoch of "orange revolutions" and the third one, the fall-apart of the myth of "democratic regimes".

In the last quarter of the 20th century capitalist countries imposed



onto the socialist camp an arms race which exhausted the latter's economy. This, believes Simonenko, created preconditions for the West to revise the Potsdam and Helsinki agreements and thus realize the first postwar division of the world. At the same time the West actively formed the so called "democratic opposition" for undermining the socialist states within, as well as bringing to the stage of ideological struggle a variety of nationalist movements within the socialist states. The masterminds continuously added wood to the fire of ethnic and religious differences speculating on the peoples' historical tragedies and thus ripping apart established political and cultural ties between socialist nations. One of the bloodiest examples of radical nationalists taking power was former Yugoslavia. Today tensions grow in Transnistria, between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, Nagorno-Karabakh keeps oozing, and almost the entire Caucasus has been festering since the 90s. Once a multinational home based on equality and social justice and national friendships, it has now been dismantled into "separate national apartments", concludes Simonenko.

The second division are the multiple so-called revolutions which swept Georgia, Ukraine, Belorussia and Moldova. The second division presupposed the USA's and their allies establishment in the Balkans, strengthening their position in the Caucasus and in Central Asia and hindering cooperation of Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Belarus. Simonenko claims that having themselves established in the Balkans would help the USA gain obedience of their European allies. Simonenko, along with many others, believes that establishing the pro-American regimes in the Caucasus and in Central Asia guarantees them access to much desired energy resources. Simonenko rightfully notes that the USA toils to prevent the creation of the Russia-Ukraine-Belorussia-Kazakhstan politico-economic union as their possible rival. For this reason the "geopolitical chess players" interfered in the affairs of these states directly by orchestrating in Eurasia a sequence of "coloured revolutions" and installing the leaders

of their choice in these banana republics. "People in these countries believed in the illusion of capitalist



democracy and later paid a heavy price for it." At this stage, there has been a sharp turn towards worsening of the relationships of these republics with Russia and all efforts were focused on Ukraine and Georgia joining the North Atlantic bloc.

"Today's events in the Caucasus are not only a new round of sharpening of the conflict there, but an attempt of the third world division orchestrated by the same strategists on Capitol Hill. The USA is working to create a world system which excludes any centre of power outside of itself." Simonenko believes it is the weakening economic might of the USA and its currency that instigates its striving towards preservation of its hegemony. Simonenko believes that the USA assisted Georgia in its attack on South Ossetia in order to destabilise the region where "China, Russia and Old Europe are competitors and pose a threat to the hegemony of Uncle Sam." He supposes the dominant power resort to methods such as military destabilisation of regions when "coloured revolutions" fail.

Saakashvili took up a direction towards militarization of his country from early on.

#### **Georgian military budget:**

**2003 - \$30Mill**  
**2004 - \$90Mill**  
**2005 - \$200Mill**  
**2006 - \$500Mill**  
**2007 - \$850Mill, end of 2007 actual expenditure \$1Bill**

#### **2008 - \$1.5Bill suggested**

The Stockholm International Institute which studies militarization market in 2007 named Georgia the world leader in growth of armed forces expansion. A great number of foreign instructors were involved in training the Georgian military forces, mainly from the USA and Israel, says Simonenko. The number of Georgian soldiers has been increasing at the same time. In this way, during Shevardnadze years there were 6,000 soldiers and officers in Georgian army, but since mid 2007 there were 32,000. Georgia also has 100,000 reserve forces.

The Ukrainian government contributed to arming Georgia by being the key provider of military technology and arms to Georgia last year, as published in the UN trade report. According to this report, in 2007 Georgia imported 74 tanks, 6 armoured vehicles, 9 artillery systems, 8 airplanes, 10,800 rockets and launch systems and 28,800 guns. Among these weapons, Ukraine supplied Georgia with tanks, airplanes and armoured vehicles. Ukraine has also exported to Georgia 5 artillery systems, 495 rockets and launch systems, and 19,964 guns. The monetary value of all the Ukrainian contribution exceeds \$100Mill.

It is not clear if the money from these sales made it to the state budget. We must also find out to what other hot spots the Ukrainian Ministry of Defence, which reports to president Yushchenko directly, sell weapons. Communists will insist on the creation of a parliamentary committee on this question and making these facts known to Ukrainian society.

Having received the "go ahead" from Washington the "fore post of Western democracy", as Mr. Saakashvili called himself, fired at the legitimate peacekeeping forces.

For three days the world has been balancing on the brink of the WWII.

**We must not allow the puppeteers from abroad and their political dummies to make the Ukrainian people the next victim of the geopolitical games of the West against Russia.**



# **INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL CONFERENCE**

**October 10-11-12, 2008**

**Toronto, Canada**

