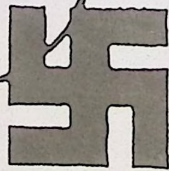
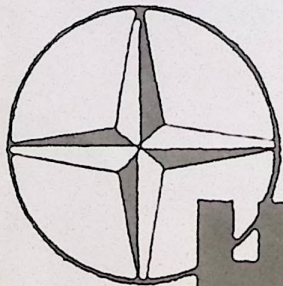


northstar compass

ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH SOVIET PEOPLE - VOL. 12 #8, APR. 2004

280 QUEEN ST. W., TORONTO, ONT. CANADA M5V 2A1 *Tel: (416) 977-5819 Fax: (416) 593-0781 E-Mail: MLUCAS3545@AOL.COM

**THIS
IS
BUSH'S
NEW
WORLD
ORDER!**



**NOT TOO
MUCH
DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN THE
NATO SYMBOL
AND THE
SWASTIKA!**



I like
Uncle Sam,
I'm his puppet!

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SECOND WORLD CONGRESS POSTPONED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2005 IN TORONTO, CANADA

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STATEMENT BY THE **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH SOVIET PEOPLE

Dear comrades and friends:

After consultations with most members of the Executive Committee in seven countries and, after receiving many written analyses about the forthcoming Second World Congress that was proposed to be held in September of 2004 here in Toronto, Canada – we are publishing some of the views in this issue under the column "Friendship News".

Our Executive members and readers of NSC have expressed their concerns and convictions, looking realistically at the present world situation and also at the volatile political situation - looking at the election in Russia where Putin is again the president, (*which is not surprising since NSC predicted that will happen...even the cover of last month's NSC pointed to this*) – the overall consensus is that the Second World Congress should be postponed until September of 2005 and held in Toronto, Canada.

Why again in Toronto, Canada?

No one in former Soviet Union can guarantee us that every delegate shall receive an entry visa – since there are members who were refused visa before this. The Russian Friendship Society with Foreign Countries is still not strong enough at this time to be able to host and help with the preparations that are needed for a Congress of this importance.

Another aspect is the need to be very certain that the present Russian government would not at the last moment decide to stop the Congress from taking place and thus the loss of finances by the delegates for airfare and lodgings

and other Congress expenses would cripple the future work of the International Council.

We approached other venues in Europe, such as Belgium and Greece, but the results were not favorable to hold the Congress there.

Judging by the letters and interest in this 2nd World Congress and looking into the need for further discussions and interchange of ideas (*as you will gather from the articles sent in*) we expect close to 90 delegates from 36 countries that will send delegations.



We are now opening the pages of Northstar Compass to ideas, proposals, discussion papers and analyses as to what the 2nd World Congress should achieve during this extremely dangerous situation in the world. Now in former Soviet Union, Putin is going to put even more clamps on freedoms of the people and take another step to be the pawn in the hands of US imperialism. United States even now is surrounding Russia with military bases and fomenting ethnic clashes, instigating rabid nationalism and practically owning all of the raw resources of the former Soviet Union through their multinational corporations.

**MICHAEL
LUCAS**
Editor



Soviet people need all the solidarity they can get at this time. They gave their all to save mankind from fascism. They saved the world, but unfortunately they could not save themselves - because they lost vigilance and did not get rid of the traitors that worked from inside.

The Second World Congress will be a vehicle to support the Soviet people in their struggles because their struggle is our struggle also.

In order to help the Soviet people in their struggles for the Soviet Union and Socialism, we call on all readers in all the countries to start now the process of organizing Friendship Societies with Soviet People and in this way promoting friendship, circulating information on the struggles of the Soviet people.

Let us hear from you dear comrades! The struggle of the Soviet people is our struggle also!



SPECIAL

HAWAII UNDER US OCCUPATION

*With thanks to Jim Kaufmann in
Honolulu - a reader of NSC.*

We believe that the US government's policies and overall political direction since 9/11 pose grave dangers to the people of the world. We also believe that they pose grave dangers to Hawaii - its land and its people.

We, the Hawaiian people refuse to be part to this unjust war, we will not remain silent as Hawaii is being used as a base from which young men and women are trained to fight illegal and immoral wars against the peoples of the world. Neither will we walk away as the US military demands more and more land and thus destroy Hawaii's fragile environment and the well being of its people, in order to execute this war.

In 1893 the USA overthrew the sovereign nation of Hawaii in order to secure a base from which it can control the Pacific region, and since then it has used Hawaii to train its military. It has seized vast lands that are off limits to the Hawaii's people - Mokapu, Bellows, Kolekole Pass, Fort Shafter, Waimomi (Pearl Harbor), Kahuku, Hale Kola, Majua Valley, Waikane, Pohakiloa, Nohili (Barking Sands), Wahiawa and Lualualei. Most of it is an occupied national land that belongs to the Hawaiian people.

The US military has displaced families, polluted our land with toxic waste and unexploded ordinance, and has left more than 1,000 identified contaminated sites that have yet to be cleaned up.

US military has trampled Hawaii's forests, destroyed cultural sites, and burned and bombed the land. **And still they call for more of our land and resources!**

Since 9/11 we have watched with horror as the Bush administration, with complicity of many of Hawaii's politicians, had called for an increasing military presence in Hawaii. More land! More live-fire training! More destruction! All without any accountability for the

destruction they have already caused. We, the undersigned) call on all people to join together to resist this disastrous direction.

We believe that we are now facing a major challenge; stopping the proposed Stryker Brigade from training in Hawaii! The US Army's plan is to base the Strykers in Hawaii, which includes the acquisition of 23,400 additional acres for their use. More than 300 Stryker Tanks, the twenty-ton urban vehicle - will further endanger Hawaii's rare plants and animals and reduce our quality of life. The erosion caused by these huge monster tanks will pollute our environment and endanger our health. Erosion caused by these tanks will pollute our lowlands and our coral reefs. The introduction of more toxins into our air, land and water, will poison our environment and have untold health consequences. An additional 7 million tons of dust (*according to the experts*) each year will significantly increase respiratory problems for our people.

Promises of money and jobs can never compensate us to such irreversible damage to Hawaii's land and the well being of its people.

We support the broad questioning and widespread protests against the war going on in Hawaii and around the world. We applaud the hundreds of people who testified against these Strykers at the US Army hearings and condemn the Army's attempt to intimidate and silence people by holding hearings at private and isolated venues, hiring private police and then arresting the public that are attempting to exercise free speech at those hearings.

We take heart from many examples of resistance against military occupation: from the people in Vietnam who expelled the French and the US occupiers and to those who stopped the bombing of Kaho'olawe; from the people of the Philippines who drove out the US bases; to those in Puerto Rico who stopped the bombing of Vieques. We draw on many examples of resistance of people in the United States, who have opposed the war, resisted the draft, and have stood with people around the world in their struggles for peace and justice.

Not In Our Name will the US expand its military presence in Hawaii in order to fight its illegal and immoral war for its empire!

Not In Our Name will we allow the continued destruction of Hawaii by the US military!

We will resist the machinery of war and oppression!

A better world is possible, and by working together, we can make it real! ■

UNION OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS WARNING

By JOHN SHUMAKER

Across a broad range of public policy issues and on a scale that is unprecedented, the US President Bush Administration is censoring, suppressing and distorting science-based information when it does not meet their agenda. These activities have serious consequences for your health, safety and environment.

For example:

*Scientific findings on issues from climate change to nuclear weapons are being weakened or omitted in government reports or websites.

*Highly qualified scientists have been dismissed from government advisory committees and replaced by private industry representatives, while other advisory panels have also been dismissed or disbanded entirely.

*The White House propose new rules that would bar government-funded researchers from, serving as reviewers of the science underlying new regulations, while allowing private industry scientists to participate in the peer review process.

The UCS is leading an ambitious effort to restore the nonpartisan manner of dealing with science community and we demand a curtailment and stoppage the misrepresentation of science in federal policymaking which is becoming very harmful for humanity ■

**We Do Produce Totally By
Volunteer Labour.**

THE U.S. EMPIRE

By LAURENCE M. VANCE

There is a New Empire in Town, and its global presence is increasing every day.

In history, the Kingdom of Alexander the Great reached all the way to the borders of India. The Roman Empire controlled the Celtic regions of Northern Europe and all of the Hellenized states that bordered the Mediterranean. The Mongol Empire which was the largest contiguous empire in history, stretched from Southeast Asia to Europe. The Byzantine Empire spanned the years 395 to 1453. In the sixteenth century, the Ottoman Empire stretched from the Persian Gulf in the East to Hungary in the Northeast, and from Egypt in the South to the Caucasus in the North. At the height of its dominion, the British Empire included almost a quarter of the world's population.

Nothing however, compares to the U.S. global empire. What makes US hegemony unique is that it consists, not the control over the great land masses or population centers, but of global presence unlike that of any other empire in history.

The extent of US global empire is almost incalculable. The latest "Base Structure Report" of the US Department of Defense states that the Department's physical assets consists of "more than 600,000 individual buildings all over the world, at more than 6,000 locations, on more than 30,000 acres of land."

Although large amount of locations are in the continental USA, 96 of them are in US territory and 702 of them are in foreign countries. But as Chalmers Johnson has estimated, the figure of 702 bases in foreign countries is too low, for it does not include installations in Afghanistan, Iraq, Israel, Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Qatar and Uzbekistan. Johnston estimates that an honest estimation would see the count of over 1,000 bases.

The number of countries that the United States has a presence in, both in bases, structures and troops

is staggering. According to the US Department of State's list of "Independent States in the World", there are 192 countries in the world, all of which, except Bhutan, Cuba, Iran and North Korea, have diplomatic relations with the USA. All of them have US installations or troops on their soil. According to their own admission, by the Pentagon, the United States has bases and troops in 135 countries. Here is the list, as listed by the "Active Duty Military Personnel Strengths by Regional Area and by Country."

Afghanistan - Albania - Algeria - Antigua - Argentina - Azerbaijan - Australia - Algeria -Antigua - Austria - Bahamas - Bahrain - Bangladesh - Barbados - Belgium - Belize - Bolivia - Bosnia and Herzegovina - Botswana - Brazil - Bulgaria - Burma - Barundi - Cambodia - Cameroon -Canada - Chad - Chile - China - Columbia - Congo - Costa Rica - Cote D'Ivoire - Cuba - Cyprus - Czech Republic - Denmark - Djibouti - Dominican Republic - East Timor -Ecuador - Egypt - El Salvador - Eritrea - Estonia - Ethiopia - Fiji - Finland - France - Georgia - Germany - Ghana - Greece - Guatemala - Guinea - Haiti - Honduras - Hungary - Iceland - India - Indonesia - Iraq - Israel - Italy - Jamaica - Jordan - Kazakhstan - Kenya - Kuwait - Kyrghystan - Japan - Laos - Latvia - Lebanon - Liberia - Lithuania - Luxemburg - Macedonia - Madagascar - Malawi - Mali - Malaysia - Malta - Mexico - Mongolia - Morocco - Mozambique - Nepal - The Netherlands - New Zealand - Nicaragua - Niger - Nigeria - South Korea - Norway - Oman - Pakistan - Paraguay - Peru - Philippines - Poland - Portugal - Qatar - Romania - Russia - Saudi Arabia - Senegal - Serbia and Montenegro -Singapore- Sierra Leone - Slovenia - Spain - South Africa - Sri Lanka -Suriname -Syria - Sweden - Switzerland - Tanzania

-Thailand - Togo - Trinidad and Tobago - Tunisia - Turkey - Turkmenistan - Uganda - Ukraine - United Arab Emirates - United Kingdom - Venezuela - Vietnam - Yemen - Zambia - Zimbabwe

This means that the United States has troops and bases in 70 percent of the world's countries. The average American probably could not locate have of these 135 countries on the map.

Besides all of the above, let us not forget that the US Navy is in the Indian Ocean territory of Diego Garcia, Gibraltar, the Atlantic Ocean island of St. Helena. Greenland is also home to US troops. US troops are in Kosovo and Hong Kong. Then there is US possessions like Guam, Johnston Atoll, Puerto Rico, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and the Virgin Islands.

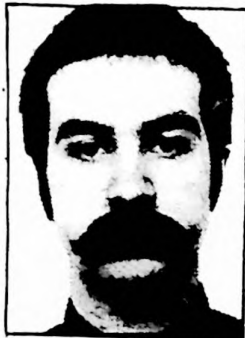
The American Empire - an Empire that Alexander the Great, Caesar Augustus, Genghis Khan, Suleim the Magnificent, Justinian and King George the V would be proud of.



**LET US STOP THIS BEAST,
BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!**

FRIENDSHIP NEWS

VICTOR
BOURENKOV



FROM THE
RUSSIAN SOCIETY FOR
FRIENDSHIP WITH FOREIGN
COUNTRIES

Dear comrades:

A meeting of the Russian Society for Friendship with Foreign Countries was held on March 15, 2004 and we shall inform you later of the discussions and the decisions made.

At our previous meeting, we agreed to publish a newsletter regularly for our Society and we have chosen the newspaper "For USSR" to serve as our printed organ. A whole page in each issue of the newspaper will be devoted to the Society news.

We are sorry to hear that the International Council members see no other choice but to hold the 2nd World Congress in Toronto. This could mean that not as many Soviet delegates will come as would otherwise.

Here in Moscow, we all share the opinion that the Second World Congress should be held on Soviet territory, or at least in Europe if at all possible.

We, together with Larisa Babienko are determined to make our Society active in the run-up to the 2nd World Congress.

Best communist greetings

Viktor Bourenkov

FROM
LENINGRAD
RUSSIA

Dear comrades:

Having read your Open Letter in NSC and the invitation to attend the 2nd World Congress for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People, we

are considering this invitation. If it will be this year, we have no financial possibility to attend the Congress this September in Toronto, Canada.

The principals that are outlined in the Open Letter, we are in full agreement with them. Soon we shall answer and comment on some of the questions that you posed to the Soviet People.

We're sending you a couple issues of our newspaper "Proletarskaya Gazeta".

D.F.Pirozhkov

FROM
ALL UNION COMMUNIST
PARTY OF BOLSHEVIKS

Dear comrades:

I am replying to the question of holding the 2nd World Congress in 2004. Regarding the possibility of the Greek party to help you, they have contacts only with the RCWP in Moscow. The truth is that both of these parties are taking part in the capitalist state apparatus or co-operating with their respective regimes. The Belgian comrades also are cautious in having dealings with a friendship society, in spite of having been present with a delegate at the First Congress.



In Russia today there is no organization or party that would be able to help you in financing and organizing the 2nd World Congress here. The newly established Friendship Society in Moscow is not a really serious organization. The "Zashchita Trade Union" is not strong

enough and in reality is somewhat taking away many party members who otherwise would be active in their respective parties.

Our AUCPB unfortunately cannot take upon itself to organize the Congress as much as we would like to. Our suggestion is that until there is a serious Communist party to sponsor with you the undertaking of the 2nd World Congress here or in other former socialist country, the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People will not move ahead. Today there is no such party existing in former Soviet Union that is capable to undertake this important task.

Cuba and North Korea cannot help you - they are striving to exist against the onslaught of US imperialism. Vietnam is reforming its political system from socialism to capitalism. China long ago ceased being socialist and is allowing private enterprises, opening its borders to multinational corporations and their exploitation of the Chinese working class. China and its "Three Paths of Development" said that it will revert back to socialism in 100 years. China is following the path as laid down by Gorbachev, but camouflaging itself with Lenin and Leninism, covering its opportunism with Chinese slogans.

Therefore rethink the holding of the 2nd World Congress this year and postpone it until later. You are aiming to achieve the necessary results, but all things must be in place if that is to be done. Sorry for being so frank on this problem.

The Putin regime closed our main newspaper "Hammer and Sickle" and is threatening to close off "For Bolshevism" also. By now you know the results of the last Duma elections and the defeat of the CPRF and Zyuganov as the leading left force. You also know that Putin is again sitting in the Kremlin, which bodes no good for the Soviet people in years to come.

We wish you comrades success and we shall support your undertakings.

Nina Andreeva
General Secretary of the AUCPB

VISIT OUR WEB SITE
WWW.NORTHSTARCOMPASS.ORG
Thousands viewers do!

PEDRO
CASTILHO



FROM
BRAZIL

In answer to the Open Letter published in NSC regarding the holding of the 2nd World Congress, as participants of the year 2000 Conference and the 1st World Congress in year 2001 in Toronto, Canada, I will focus on the basic ones in your Open Letter.

The first point is about the bipartisan character of the International Council. I also share the same hopes as you comrades of the possible re-immersion in the Soviet Union of a genuine Marxist-Leninist Party. I do agree with your remarks that in order to reconstitute the Soviet Union, it needs a revolutionary proletarian force based on a massive movement of the population on its own territory.

The second point concerns the calling of a Second World Congress to be held in Toronto, Canada in 2004, for reasons that were explained in your Open Letter, chiefly because of the failed efforts to hold it in Europe.

The third point is the worry that *"we have little assurance that we can expect a representative delegation from the ex-Soviet Union due to the economic and political situation there now."* This makes you suggest that it should be held in Toronto, Canada but it might not get the success necessary. The warnings about the expenses that will be encountered, the possible visa problems that might arise at this unsettled political climate, that it should be considered to postpone the Congress until 2005.

The fourth point is meant to assure everyone that there will be representatives from other parts of the world and the suggestion that the Congress should be held in Toronto where some of the problems can be solved more easily.

The last point is about the linkage between the *"world of friendship,*

solidarity and peace with Soviet people, must be a broad front movement" This principle is that underlines this foundation is carried on by Northstar Compass as well as the International Council.

We feel that the four points mentioned above are the general framework that are expected to be followed by the 2nd World Congress. Of course we have to worry about the finances, visa problems, question of a broad representation of delegates. I would like to add a fifth point to the above to be considered in preparation for the 2nd World Congress.

Indeed, since my participation in the preparations of the 1st World Congress, I had doubts about the best way to be engaged in a movement with the goal of establishing the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People, taking into account the historical experience previous to the dismemberment of the Soviet Union and those of the Eastern peoples democracies. The question was - if the best ideas should be the revival of the International Communist Friendship and solidarity movements with an exclusive focus on the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People.

I would like to develop an argument, after following, although from the distance, such movements around the world and more closely the experiences of my country, Brazil. This is not only in relation to the ex-Soviet Union, but other movements alike in Brazil and in other countries, such as Cuba and others. Taking into account the present *"globalized"* world or the actual phase of imperialism, under the hegemonic mantle of the USA, the contents of communist friendship and solidarity movements should be centered on a broader scale, I mean the socialist movements of people. They should be designed for a general approach instead of specific referents. On the one hand, such efforts would allow a better concentration of efforts, while on the other hand, it would avoid specific focus and pulverization.

Hand in hand with such perspectives, I also argue that the non partisan and non exclusivist character of the communist

international friendship and solidarity will more easily allow contacts and interaction with other non partisan movements around the world. I mention in this case the Communist Party of Belgium and Ecuador, or different parties in the same country. Also there are many trade unions and the international cultural organizations around the world. Its similarities are independent of its territorial, national, regional, sub regional or local.

Taking into account such considerations, I reassure my conviction that the 2nd World Congress should be postponed until year 2005. But, the Executive Committee of the International Council and the Editorial Board of Northstar Compass should be maintained until the next Congress. Meanwhile, a debate forum should be launched through the pages of Northstar Compass about:

- (a) the goals of the next Congress, taking into account the ideas I presented, especially in the transformation of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People, based in Toronto, Canada - into the International Council of Friendship and Solidarity with Peoples and Movements oriented to Communism: and
- (b) define the place of the holding of the 2nd World Congress in 2005

I present these suggestions to be considered by the Executive Committee of the International Council

Communist Greetings,
PEDRO CASTRO
In agreement
PEDRO CASTILHO
Vice Chairman of the Executive
Committee of the International
Council

FROM
KIEV
UKRAINE

Dear comrades:

Having received your *"Open Letter"* I want to say that I agree with your position. Regarding terrorism and its influence on policies of governments, reminds me of the words of Lenin, that terrorist actions by dissatisfied

youth in most cases are provoked or planned by bourgeoisie, or the opportunistic leaders of worker and communist movements.

Regarding your feelings about the unity of the communist movement in all of the former Soviet republics, this unity cannot take place by only wishful thinking or that this is necessary to give rebirth to the Soviet Union. This process will take a much longer time than we are supposing. The reasons are that the previous policies of the parties was their wavering and floundering. In such a situation the opportunists and pseudo-leaders begin to play an important role in the disunity process and many times are tied-in to the secret services of the present governments. Some of these present elements proclaim very loudly their revolutionary program and call to action, but in reality they are working to disrupt any movement towards cohesive unity.

Without serious analyses of this crisis in the communist movement and in the working class - first of all we must look at the ideology that must be geared towards unity on Marxism-Leninism and without this there cannot be unity of actions in the communist movement.

The question as to whether a Second World Congress should be called, you comrades must decide yourselves, because all the work, all the costs and worries will be on your shoulders. I will not be able to come because of the financial costs, which is one of the serious problems of many would-be delegates. There are large parties here who could help you in organizing and help with some finances, but they are not too eager to do this for reasons that could be called opportunistic or in some cases, they are against a friendship society with Soviet people. - while some others are fulfilling the wishes of their sponsors behind the scenes.

For me, I just want to give my opinion that the 2nd World Congress must take place, even though mine is only moral support. But you must realize that the holding of the 2nd World Congress for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People in one of the countries that is supporting imperialism (*Canada*) and across the border of the most warlike imperialist countries in the world, (*USA*) the fact will not be lost on the Soviet people,

because this will give us a great moral boost and will get many more people to take up the fight for the resurrection of socialism and of the Soviet Union.

There are millions of people who feel that they are Soviets, that they would like to take part in this Congress held by Soviet friends, but who have no opportunity to come or even worse, to hear in the media about all of the dedicated foreign friends who are giving all of their energies to help the Soviet people regain their Socialist Motherland.

There is a real need to make the materials of the Congress available in a brochure, magazine and on the web pages of the Internet, so that as wide a section of Soviet people will be aware of the tremendous work that is being done by the International Council or Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People and the journal *Northstar Compass*. Such a Congress, I repeat, can become a very positive influence and a vehicle in the struggle against Imperialism and the bourgeois regimes in former USSR.

I am in agreement that without criticism and self-criticism and dedication to Marxist-Leninist theory and the unity with the working class, we cannot come unto the correct path. *Northstar Compass* can play a key role in this discussion. I am confident and I see that amongst the working class here, there are coming up excellent, young and dedicated leaders, but we here in ex-USSR do not know much about them, since the media is in the hands of the ruling class. It would be needed much more for NSC to carry news about the labour struggles in the capitalist countries, in Europe, Latin America and countries of Asia and Africa.

In this, NSC can play an important role in the unity of the anti-imperialist forcers in the struggle for the great ideal of socialism-communism.

Alexander Pronin ■

FROM
KIEV
UKRAINE

Dear comrade
Lucas and Stevenson

I welcome your dedication and efforts to resurrect the Soviet Union

- the backbone of stability and righteousness on our planet. Of course in this struggle the main role should be held by the Communist and Socialist parties - carriers of the Lenin's ideology. These can only be Communist and Socialist parties who are dedicated wholeheartedly and standing on Marxist positions.



Unfortunately there are numerous parties and little groupings who call themselves parties, speculating on these Marxist slogans, but they never in actual fact or in their positions - they do not follow the Lenin principles of struggle, they are selling out the interests of the working class. These are all sorts of opportunists and revisionists, with whom our party carries on constant battles.

Therefore we shall gladly accept your invitation to the 2nd World Congress. Of course, if the Congress could be held in Europe, it would be easier for us. To Canada we shall certainly send two delegates from our Progressive Socialist Party of Ukraine.

We are sending you a few of our newspapers for your perusal. "*Dosvitni Ognj*" and "*Narodnaya Opozicija*"

We will be expecting your further instructions.

NATALIA VITRENKO
Chairwomen of the PSPU ■

FROM
DONETSK
UKRAINE

I would like to thank Michael Lucas and Ray Stevenson for sending me the Open Letter in Russian. I hasten to reply.

1: The Soviet people as once we were known, are a minority now in the ex-USSR. A Soviet person is that

one that fights for his or her Soviet Motherland. Those political prisoners in Odessa and in other parts that NSC published news about them, these ARE the real Soviet people. But those that sold them out, who tortured them, who put them into jails, those who sit as members of the bourgeois parliaments and in their court system – these were not Soviet people for a very long time. They are scoundrels, villains and dirty scum.

2: Regarding the communists, there are many different varieties here also. Some are ready to give their lives for the resurrection of the USSR. Others sit in the warm chairs in the bourgeois parliaments, and not only they themselves do not want to help resurrect the Soviet Union and Socialism, but they expel dedicated communists from the ranks of their parties, who criticize them for their opportunism.

And you comrades ask us as to when the communists will unite? Not very soon I fear! A communist revolutionary and a communist-opportunist can unite only in one way, if one is reborn into the other. Then we shall see the birth of two dedicated communists or two opportunists.

Today, most communist parties that are in existence are sick with opportunism. How do you tell a real communist party from an opportunist one? (a) Did the party register itself or not? (b) Are the leaders running for parliament? (c) Do they think that by parliamentary means they can bring on socialism or through revolutionary means? (d) Do they utilize revolutionary theory of struggle in practice or only in theory?

3: Unity is needed not of parties (*if 5 opportunistic parties unite among themselves, smaller ones will be swallowed by the larger ones, then we shall get a very large opportunistic party, which we had when perestroika came along in the USSR*). But such a party will never be able to organize the working class to struggle. Only individual revolutionary communists should unite at first, who are now members of other parties. The Odessa political prisoners united themselves willingly with other political prisoners in Ukraine, Russia and Predniester Republic.

4: In front of the Russian working

class – there awaits a black fascist dictatorship. After any defeat of the communist movement, there always comes a horrible reactionary regime. Hitler in Germany, Termidor (*after the French Revolution*) in France, Putin in Russia, Kuchma in Ukraine etc.

That is why here in ex-USSR for us revolutionary Communists to receive a visa to go abroad will be harder and harder. Therefore to come to the 2nd World Congress from here will be only individuals from our former Soviet republics.

HERE'S WHAT IS NEEDED!

(1) We should concentrate not only on the Soviet people of the USSR, but concentrate on all the people of former socialist countries and those that are still on the socialist path.

(2) Our task should be to support the present socialist countries against US imperialism and defend their sovereignty.

(3) With these aims in mind, appeal to Fidel Castro of Cuba (*through the Cuban Embassy in Canada*) with a request to hold the Second World Congress in Havana, Cuba.

(4) Invite to this Congress Fidel Castro and other leaders who are struggling against US dominance, such as Hugo Chavez and others, Invite all the dedicated Stalinists and Maoists.

It is already a fact that most of these comrades in these parties have already concurred with the call for an International Council and its organ, Northstar Compass.

We must unite all of these revolutionary forces on our planet, (*in both former socialist countries and in the capitalist also*). It is for this noble reason that it is necessary to hold the Second World Congress for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People.

AT THIS CONGRESS WE SHOULD:

(a) Analyze the reasons for the demise of the USSR during the Cold War.

(b) Analyze the real reasons for the abandonment of socialism in China.

(c) Forewarn and make certain that, other leaders of present socialist countries do not fall into the same trap.

(d) Study and analyze the methods

and policies that are used in Cuba, North Korea, Libya, Vietnam.

(e) Publish brochures about the 2nd World Congress.

(f) Publicize the idea of socialism amongst all of the anti-globalist movements.

(g) Struggle against imperialist wars – this is an important part of the struggle for socialism on our planet.

Comradely

TAMARA YAKUBOVSKA

DR./PROFESSOR
MIRKO SVOBODA



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL AND NORTSTAR COMPASS MUST EXIST

We have read with great interest the Open Letter in NSC concerning the 2nd World Congress of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People.

We appreciate your activity for solidarity and your struggle against all attempts of the Imperialist military to expand its aggressive policy over the world. We found your Open Letter very stimulating with a view of further orientation of the International Council. The position of the Presidium of the Czech Slav Committee is the following:

It is necessary to respect the reality that the left political forces in former USSR are splintered. In view of this present division of the left political forces, the possibility for a representative Soviet delegation to take part in the 2nd World Congress is problematical and unlikely. Without such representative delegation the World Congress shall not be able to achieve the necessary results.

That is why we recommend the postponement of the 2nd World Congress. There exist many more reasons for the postponement of the next Congress, besides those that have already been mentioned in your Open Letter.

Regardless of this situation, the activity of the International Council should not be diminished and the very useful Northstar Compass must light-up all the progressive forces against imperialism.

Yours truly,
Dr. Dean Mirko Svoboda CSc
First Chairman of the Czech Slav Committee

WHAT NEXT?

Below we publish the personal view of Dr. Mirko Svoboda, member of the International Council.

The Open Letter that was published in NSC on behalf of the Executive Committee of the International Council is a letter that is meant to open up a discussion and a dialogue. The question as to where and as to when this Congress should be held must be analyzed according to the present political situation.

First of all, to hold it in Russia or in Ukraine or some other former Soviet republics, is not practical, since first of all the crisis in the communist movement there was not solved but went into a deeper crisis. The latest crisis was the defeat of the CPRF, headed by Zyuganov in the last Russian Duma elections. This defeat first of all must be addressed by the Russian communists, who should analyze and come up with realistic solutions to the crisis of a swing to the right. The disunity question must be addressed first of all and make concrete proposals that can be followed in order to rectify the present situation.

One of the reasons of this crisis is the departure from Lenin and his teachings about the need of working with the working class. This cardinal failure to be together with the working class gave rise to the influence of revisionism and reformism, loss of faith by many workers and the rise of nationalism as a solution to the problems. Today in Russia, whether some agree or disagree, or like it or not like it, most of the people believe in the policy as put forward by Putin, and to think that this will change soon is just wishful thinking.

In this age of global imperialism new problems arise that must be

resolved. The International Council and Northstar Compass and its knowledge and understanding of the situation in former USSR must be very cognizant of this situation. Imperialism and its war machine, using the supposed reason of fighting world terrorism, are utilizing the United Nations as a cover and thus manipulating this world organization under the falsehood of fighting terrorism all over the world and in this way have their hands on the resources of the countries. Under this false idea, it is waging individual wars and its own terrorism, which cannot conquer everyone, but in its wake there are tragedies and deaths of thousands of individual peoples and nations.

The situation in the developing countries is in serious crisis where the average wage is less than one dollar per day, while the developed countries utilize 80% of the world's resources while the economic conditions in the developing countries gets worse, so that sickness, deaths and the growth of children dying is becoming an epidemic.

The ecological problems more and more are causing deaths and sicknesses for generations to come. This is a fight that must be carried out against the results of globalization and its aftermath, plus the results of the manipulation of finances to help the developing countries by some of the international money institutions. We must struggle against this phenomena.

The struggle against globalization and imperialism cannot become a xenophobia, extreme nationalism bordering on fascism, racism or fundamentalism. Northstar Compass has a role to play in outlining and explaining these tendencies, which cause moral principles of civilization.

The rulers of the present globalized imperialism know fully well some of the weaknesses of the masses. Therefore they try by all means to undermine socialist thoughts and socialism as a science, heap abuse and discredit Stalin and the epoch of socialism in the USSR and in other countries. They are threatening heroic Cuba as well as North Korea and China for the so-called crimes of human rights, while they themselves are the biggest villains as far as

human rights are concerned - as an example, the concentration camp in Guantanamo Bay, the aggression against Afghanistan and Iraq, and not too long ago against Yugoslavia and now Haiti.

Socialism is called upon to struggle against this global menace of imperialism and expose its terrible threat to the world.

In conclusion, I am suggesting that we postpone the 2nd World Congress. This will give us time on the pages of Northstar Compass to open up wide discussion about our future work and tactics. I am certain that in the progressive and in the communist movement we shall find the means to overcome this present danger, so that the Congress will represent the might and effectiveness of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People.

Dean, Professor Mirko Svoboda
Member of the International Council

PROFESSOR
VLADIMIR
HERASYMCHUK



ON IMPROVING OUR COOPERATION

WELCOMING THE SECOND WORLD CONGRESS

The steady march ahead for realization of the tasks set upon us by the First World Congress for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People that was held three years ago in Toronto, Canada is going full speed ahead. Much has been accomplished. But, the present world situation is bringing us new problems. This demands analytical know-how and correct decisions. But as the Open Letter by Michael Lucas and Ray Stevenson that we received in Russian, the finding of a location to hold the Second World Congress was not as successful as was hoped. What can we do? It is hard for us

here to come up with a definite proposal, but we have ideas that we would like to bring to your attention.

1: The main thing is that the Second World Congress must take place! We are certain that this will happen. It is important that where it might take place, we must be certain that the outside state forces will allow it to take place. Even though the executive of the Russian Society for Friendship with Foreign Countries is willing to help to hold it in Moscow, but there is no guarantee that Putin and Co. who was just elected for another 4 year term, will allow this Congress to take place. A situation can develop where delegates from over 30 countries that are expected to come - outlaying money for air travel and hotel expenses, no one there can guarantee that the authorities will allow the Congress to take place. President Putin again shows himself as a reactionary, and very pro-US imperialism.

In the Byelorussian Republic President Lukashenko finds himself surrounded on all sides and does not want the situation to get any worse. Greece would have been fine but with the Olympics being held this year, plus the party there which had sent a delegate to the first congress is not strong enough to host us, while the other larger party is not too interested. The comrades in Belgium also are not too keen.

If the Congress will be held in Toronto, even though there might be some problems with visas at this time, it seems as the logical choice.

2: The authors of the Open Letter are correct when they say that there is no unity in the world revolutionary movement, as in the former USSR. The rebirth of socialism in former Soviet Union will take time. But the spirit of the Great October is there and this spirit is felt all over the world. The safeguarding and promoting the ideals of Communism, this is the responsibility of the working class of the world. That is why it is always necessary to remind people of the great significance of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The criteria of any real and genuine revolutionary party, is its attitude to the dictatorship of the proletariat and the ownership of the means of production. Any other attitude to this cardinal question is - opportunism.

3: We have to realize and admit that the present Imperialism is bringing mankind towards a terrible global catastrophe. At this dangerous time it is imperative that there is unity between all anti-imperialist and anti-globalist movements, who are struggling against terrorism in the world, headed by the USA. These are, in the first place, terrorists from the Pentagon, having bludgeoned and devastated Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and Iraq, utilizing weapons with depleted uranium. Bush threatens North Korea, Cuba and now invaded Haiti.

In keeping our heads clear and looking at all the movements that seem progressive, we should be careful not to slide down the slippery path of opportunism. Putin does not seem to care that American bases are now surrounding all of Russia.

We have to keep Marxism-Leninism pure and cannot allow it to become the battering ram against Bolshevism. Our task is to unite the socialist-communist movements into one stream, which will carry onwards the idea towards the future for mankind - communism.

5: We feel that it is important that the International Council and Northstar Compass should arrange a cycle of lectures about problems of cooperation of countries and of people. This should be attempted in countries that have signed the protocol to help in the work of the International Council. Maybe some comrades could give lectures, hold discussions about this cardinal problem in many countries.

In a previous issue of NSC we showed how this can be done in order to influence the younger generation. We on our part would be ready to do this. Maybe our proposal might be taken as a bluff or a mirage. A catastrophe is waiting for mankind. Can we just stand by?

6: We feel that Northstar Compass should become the vehicle of the exchange of ideas, discussions, suggestions, criticism and self-criticism. The bourgeois propaganda through the mass media is constantly bellowing in Ukraine how the countries like Hungary, Poland, Czechs, Baltic republics are developing standards of living etc., which basically is just convoluted lies and half-truths. Therefore we need to have the real truth reach us like

some of our friends are helping us by sending us news from Poland, Czech Republic and from Brazil.

If it could be possible and feasible for us to publish books, brochures to distribute all over where possible - that would help to bring our message to a wider audience. In this respect we like to thank NSC and its Editor Michael Lucas for translating and publishing books such as the "Geography of the Ukraine" and "My Calvary". It would be very good if we could find a sponsor for the manuscript I sent, called "My Niagara" written after attending the First Word Congress in Toronto in 200. The manuscript is in the offices of NSC.

We just covered some aspects of our cooperation here in order to consolidate our work on all the continents.

Workers of the word, unite!

On behalf of the Ukraine-Canada Society

Professor Vladimir Herasymchuk ■

SOCIALIST UNITY CENTRE OF INDIA Central Committee

Comrade Michael Lucas
Chairman of International Council

The Socialist Unity Center of India, the revolutionary party of this soil, welcomes the decision to hold the Second World Congress as was announced in the Open Letter sent to us. In response to your Open Letter here are our thoughts:



To many people in this world, it has become clear and is becoming clearer with each passing day, that globalization, liberalization and privatization are the means that the major imperialist powers, headed by

US imperialism, adopted in order to exploit the developing countries and in order to tide over their present severest crisis and recession of world capitalism. The exploitation comes down more and more on the common working class, giving rise to the mounting waves of protests in different countries.

On the other hand, in order to stave off the crisis, US imperialism and other imperialist countries are continuingly carrying out war machinations, naked aggression and the occupation of smaller and weaker countries, and hence the wars and occupation of Afghanistan and Iraq.

Under these conditions the antagonism between the imperialist countries are increasing and deepening. Instead of the weakening of these contradictions, the WTO or globalization only helps it increase, so much so that only local small wars here and there take place, possibly a fear of global war casts a shadow over the world.

This situation evokes one truth. The former presence of the Soviet Union, even when it was under the revisionist leadership, acted as a deterrent to all of imperialist's designs. Now it is really felt by its absence. So, in order to face this imperialist threat, the peace-loving people of the world face an immediate task of developing anti-imperialist militant peace movement, conducive to all the anti-imperialist struggles in their respective countries and coordinating these movements in different countries, with a view of guiding them to a spontaneous outburst all over the world, into the correct channel.

It is also true that the emancipation from their exploitive class has come afresh for the working class of Russia and other former Soviet republics. Obviously it is up to them and them alone to realize and fulfill the absolute necessity to build a genuine Communist party on their soil, essential to accomplish this coming revolution. But, certainly as fraternal parties and friendship societies dedicated to the Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People, we should undertake discussions on a highest level of Marxism-Leninism - that without a correct base, a genuine socialist revolution cannot

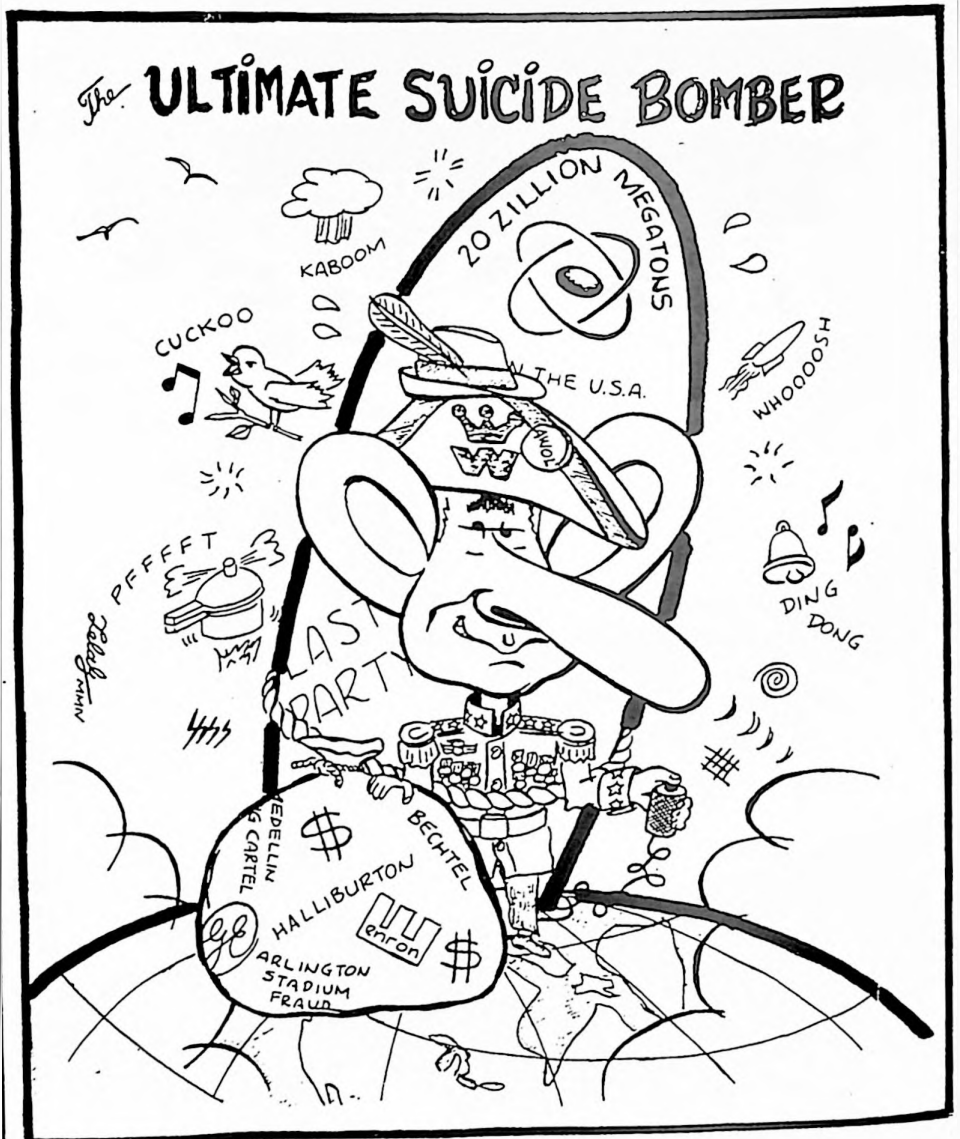
be successful. We think that the proposed Second World Congress of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People can be the right platform for such important exchanges.

Such exchanges are even more important for the fact that most of the communist parties in the world have suffered from confusions, divisions and splits on understanding the character and the devastating role of revisionism since the advent of Krushchev leadership in the ex-USSR. Unfortunately, we cannot claim even now, after the painful debacle of Socialism and the dismantling of the socialist camp, that the left political forces, even the proletarian revolutionary movement of the world has been able to overcome those confusions and divisions.

Here, we would like to make one observation, which we think is very significant in this regard. Among the confusion, one that prevails, and is

still prevailing is the one that says that it was the imperialist conspiracy and hands that are the main cause behind the counter-revolution in the Soviet Union and other Eastern Socialist States. It is true that since the days of Lenin, the imperialists have always and relentlessly tried to malign, undermine and even destroy the socialist states and socialism. But we should never forget, that in spite of Imperialisms' strength and ferocity, Imperialists could never be successful in dismembering and destroying the USSR, so long as it was led by a correct Marxist-Leninist leadership, of Lenin and then Stalin. It was when the Soviet Union was weakened with revisionism assuming the leading role - it was only then, only when the internal conditions were weakened within the Soviet Union, could the Imperialists extend their treacherous hand into the other socialist states.

Here we must be honest and truthful, not just to admit the truth,



but find the real cause as to how the mighty socialist state as was the Soviet Union, that had been developing and challenging the imperialists in every field of life, that was the shining beacon of peace, freedom and an end of exploitation of the weaker countries, including the colonies and semi-colonies of the world - how could it slip into the abyss of revisionism and from there to capitalism?

In his brilliant analyses on these issues by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the founder and the General Secretary of the Socialist Unity Center of India, pointed out, that revisionism could make successful inroads into the erstwhile Soviet Union and the CPSU, or for that matter in the international proletarian movement is in the culmination of a long process. The absence of ideological struggle embracing and involving newer and newer issues and questions that are coming up in life, society, and in the international communist movements affected the situation. As a result the ideological standard of the masses and even of the communist parties declined, which gave rise to a mechanical process of thinking and hence a blind allegiance to the post 1953 leadership. So long as the leadership remained on the correct Marxist-Leninist line, this did not pose any problems. But once the leadership fell into the hands of the revisionists, the masses and even the communists were left unarmed ideologically to understand or to detect and then rise up against the incorrect leadership that had started to eat up the very soul of the socialist states and of the international communist movement.

Thus, we strongly feel that a relentless ideological struggle involving the parties, the working class and the toiling masses of the different countries, in order to resolve any and every question that may come up before the people's movement. So, without the former Soviet Union and the socialist states of Eastern Europe, or howsoever difficult it may be to arrange and hold **the Second World Congress, we think that it is all more desirable that we meet to exchange our views in order that we may come nearer the truth.**

Marxism-Leninism has always pointed out that revolution is not the brainchild of any leader - it is the inevitable outcome of class struggle, of the law-governed social processes. Restoration of capitalism led the Soviet people to destitution, poverty and humiliation. It has again sharpened the class struggles there - that are sure to hasten up the revolutionary processes again. We the people of the world, who stand for Marxism-Leninism and Socialism, can and should take up the task of arming ourselves clearly and very convincingly with the invincible weapon we have with us.

We know that you tried to hold the Congress in Europe and approached the comrades in Belgium. Since we now know that this is not possible, we suggest that you go ahead to hold the 2nd World Congress in Toronto, Canada.

We always felt the sincere necessity of this kind of meeting and are eager to attend this 2nd Congress. For reasons beyond our control, we were not able to attend the First World Congress. This time we look forward to attend this Second World Congress.

Wishing all success and with revolutionary greetings.

Fraternally yours,

MANIK MUKHERJEE
Deputy, International Affairs
Socialist Unity Center of India

FROM
GOMEL
BYELORUSSIA

Dear Chairman of the International Council and Editor of Northstar Compass

I am sorry that I did not write to you sooner regarding the 2nd World Congress for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People, but regardless of whether we are able to come up with the finances necessary to send a delegate, we are in full agreement with of your endeavor.

The statement and decision of Session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR held on April 23, 2003 where we discussed the question of taking part in the work of the International Council, we elected the following delegates to be our representatives

in the International Council:

*From the All Union Movement For USSR and the Supreme Soviet of the USSR - Alexander G. Kozlobaev -Robert Frolovich and Sergeii Saviliev.

*From the Patriotic Society "Motherland" -Robert F. Frolovich and Vladimir I. Klygo.

We are in a serious social and political situation. The left communist parties-movements are disunited and the efforts to get them united inside one CPSU, is not having too much success. I feel that from the newspapers and other items that we send you, you can understand the situation yourself.

I was elected to have constant correspondence with you. Under separate cover we are sending you different newspapers and documents for your perusal.

We are sending you our publications and materials about our work in Byelorussia, plus our statement that was sent to President Lukashenko, which we hope you can publish in future issue of NSC.

We are also sending you Two Awards that were given to you by the Byelorussian Society Motherland, for your dedication to the Soviet people.

R. FROLIN
Chairman of the Patriotic Society
"Motherland".

FROM
BUCHAREST
ROMANIA

Dear comrades and Friends:

We do receive NSC regularly for which we thank you sincerely. Our cooperation will be ongoing.

We are holding our First Congress of the Socialist Alliance Party (PAS) (*formerly the Labour Socialist Party*) April 3, 2004, where an Appeal for National Reconciliation will be addressed to all political and social forces in Romania.

We take this opportunity to express our desire in exchanging our friendship and cooperation on the international level and wish you success in our common struggle for a better world.

With friendship and solidarity -

Constantin Cretu
Vice Presaident

PUTIN: CORONATION FOR KINGDOM



There took place a Presidential elections in Russia last March 14, 2004. As before, Putin became the president again. The official press reported that he received 71% of the votes cast. The presidential candidate from the CPRF Kharitonov received 14%. Others candidates, some put there as only stooges and traitors, received less than 1-5 % of the votes.

What does this election mean? The victory of Putin, if one is to look more closely at its results is not that great at all. If we combine those that refused to vote – about 36% of those who refused to come and vote, and add to those the voters who “voted against all” the candidates, this shows that Putin received less than 50% of the votes. This was in spite of tremendous propaganda, millions of dollars spent. It was sickening to watch the TV screens before the election! There was an endless 24 TV programs that only showed PUTIN, PUTIN, PUTIN – Figaro here, Figaro there and Figaro everywhere! The other candidates were relegated to one minute at the end. Putin did not speak or debate or presented any polemics with the other candidates. Other candidates had only 30 seconds to appeal to voters themselves.

Putin refused to discuss, debate or appear on TV program with the other candidates. Of course the results could have been predicted after such a “democratic” election.

After the “reforms” initiated by Yeltsin and Gorbachev and the rise of gas and oil going up 3 times, Putin was able to pay back to the people their pensions, the back pay that was owned to people for months and years. The state started to

accumulate gold reserves, enough to pay off loans to WB and IMF. These results were unfortunately seen by the un-informed electorate as the “brain child of young, energetic Putin” and thus promoted by internal and external enemies of the Soviet people. We must also admit, as we stated in NSC before, that Putin and his Western masters are much smarter than was Yeltsin, as an actor and very well versed in political games

He and his handlers in their subtle propaganda tried to distance Putin from the image of Yeltsin and his policies and in no way to be confused with Yeltsin’s – but in effect, they are the same policies but in a new dressed costume. No hint was given that Putin absolved Yeltsin of any crimes or stealing billions from the state coffers!

With the help of the TV and media, and with a highly paid New York Advertising Agency as his helper in promoting him as a benevolent “state ruler” image and his “tactics” to even criticize and “jail” some of the rich oligarchs, which went well with the people, that Putin is fighting “crooks, crime and embezzlers”! Clever as this “promotion” of Putin is, he cannot hide the fact that already in Russia there are 25 billionaires – in 3rd place in the world where there are billions. Putin will always be for private ownership of the means of production, no matter how his Ad Agency and the internal bourgeoisie promotes him as the “man of the people.”

A month before the election, Putin announced that there shall be raises in pay and in pensions. This of course influenced the people. But the fact that the rise in costs for food, rent, clothing, transport is being hiked up, the people will feel that after the election.

Due to lack of positive opposition on the left, the Putin state machinery was able to get into their hands practically the whole of the State Duma, which is now the servant of the present regime, instead of any

opposition. This is the result of the CPRF revisionist leadership policies which helped Putin and his regime to achieve this.

The cooperation and helping hand by the CPRF leadership helped Putin to achieve this “victory”.

Questions are being asked as to why did the CPRF urged its membership and agitated them to take the party into this election? If the CPRF and its followers boycotted the election, this election would have been declared null and void. Putin would not have received the 50% barrier needed to become law. People should be taught that this gimmick of raising wages and pensions before the election was nothing more than a “carrot and the stick.”

The question of the revenues from the sale of oil and gas will not bring prosperity to the Russian people. There is another bully on the street-US imperialism - that will take unto his fold all the gas and oil production, including those in ex-USSR. What happens then, when the economic catastrophe comes into full bloom?

Putin vowed that he will keep on going with the “liberal reforms” and defend the “democratic institutions”. But the Russian society is based on exploitation in the most terrible forms of profit at all costs. The working day is becoming a norm a 12 hours per day, while the payment for wages sometimes goes into 4-6 months of waiting. And this is in Moscow, where the building is going on with cheap labour and workers unions are not allowed.

This so-called stabilization is only temporary and will undermine this Czar’s Throne unto which Putin has placed himself for the second time.

How will the electorate in Russia vote in four years time? There was a time when the voters were also voting for Yeltsin. But they awoke soon enough and the same thing will happen with Putin if not sooner, judging by the political situation in the world. This will depend upon the tactics and unity of the communists

in the future. Will some of the communists still support again the illusion of parliamentary elections or will they start in earnest to organize for the overthrow of capitalism and of the present regime? □

RUSSIAN APARTMENT BLAST KILLS AT LEAST 21



ARKHANGELSK – At least 21 people were killed and dozens trapped after an explosion last month sheared off part of an apartment building in northern Russia. Police are looking for two men seen carrying metal pipes and instruments, who are suspected of opening gas pipes carrying natural gas to the building.

In 1999 total of 300 people died in apartment building bombings in three Russian cities. Authorities blame the Chechen rebels for those attacks. □

RUSSIAN MILITARY TESTS A NEW BREED OF WEAPONS

The Moscow Times.com

Russia successfully tested a prototype new weapon that can penetrate any prospective missile defenses during last month's military exercise, a senior Russian General said last month.

Colonel General Yury Baluyevsky, first deputy chief of the General Staff, said that the prototype of a new hypersonic vehicle has proved its ability to maneuver in orbit – a quality he said would allow a weapon based

on such a craft to dodge an enemy's missile shield.

"The flying vehicle changed both the altitude and direction in flight. During the experiment that we concluded, we proved that it's possible to build new strategic weapons that would be unrivaled in the world" Baluyevsky said. □

CAPITALISM IN UKRAINE - OUCH!

Ukraine, the former bread basket of not only USSR but of Europe is doing so well that the grain harvest in 2003 was the lowest since the Second World War. Ukraine had to import from Byelorussia over 100 tones of grain.

Ukraine is so in debt to the IMF and World Bank that in 2003 it owed the West 1 billion 426 millions plus the interest that grows with every year. □

KAZAKHSTAN-TO-GERMANY OIL PIPELINES TO BYPASS RUSSIA, ARMENIA AND IRAN

By RICK ROZOFF

Negotiations on an agreement between Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan for the oil pipeline are in the final stages, according to Natic Aliyev, President of Kazakhstan and also president of the private oil State Oil Company of Azerbaijan and it is now open to international investors. This is done on orders from the Western oil consortium in order to bypass Russia completely.

Treaties are in the making also with Georgia and Turkey for future extensions of this supply oil pipeline to the West, with the view to bypass mainland Russia. □

NATO PLANS BALTIC SECURITY KOMINFORM

NATO will provide air security for the Baltic states when they join the organization this month. NATO spokesman said that the planners are working urgently on a plan to ensure the new eastern wing of NATO alliance, left undefended because of these countries lack of fighter jets.

The treaty Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) is being replaced now by new NATO policy. Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania share borders with Russia. The countries such as Slovakia, Slovenia, Romania and Bulgaria are also becoming members if NATO this month. Once inside NATO they are in a collective security orbit by having NATO airplanes, troops, bases stationed permanently in these countries. □

SO, PUTIN WAS PUT-IN AGAIN!



Vladimir Putin and his wife, Lyudmila, vote in Moscow. (AP photo)

Our comrades in Russia have written before in NSC and predicted this outcome and, as NSC has always written - Putin was "elected" for a 4 year term as president of Russia. According to the media, he received 71.2% of the votes. The voter turn-out, according to the Russian media was 64.3 per cent of Russia's 109 million voters casting their ballots.

The weak communist candidate from the CPRF received only 13.7 per cent of the votes.

Aside from cheating, manipulation and stuffed ballot boxes, Putin promised free theatre tickets and food to everyone who turned out to vote. The cost of being a presidential candidate is close to \$2-3 million American dollars. With the press, TV, radio media in the hands of Putin, there was not much chance for anyone becoming president and, with US imperialism behind Putin, plus the influx of millions of dollars, the outcome was no surprise.

In future issues of NSC we shall publish an analyses from our friends

forces that took place last December.

The IMF and USA canceled grants and loans to Russia in the last two years.

Another item I picked up in the press here (*how true it is I do not know*) is that the soldiers of the Ukrainian army were ordered to address each other as comrade (*tovarish!*) The Communist party of Slovakia split in two, with two separate newspapers being published, which has split the membership into two distinctive parts. ■

MOSCOW-BRATISLAVA -

Uneasy questions were asked by Colin Powell, the US Secretary of State, while visiting the Kremlin and the language that was used was not the diplomatic kind, since Powell expressed great dissatisfaction with the progress of "democracy" in Russia.

Colin Powell said that certain developments in the domestic and foreign spheres in Russia makes US uneasy. In an article in the newspaper "Izvestia" which published the interview, Powell said that there is no balance between the executive, legislative and judicial powers. He asked Putin directly as to what does he mean by "directed democracy"?

In this electoral year where Putin won the presidency, while Bush is not so sure about his victory, according to some analysts, it looks as if Bush will try to distance himself from Russia, since President Bush is "not satisfied as things are progressing in Russia", according to Powell.

Powell reminded his counterpart, Igor Ivanov and Putin himself that the US wants Russia to respect the sovereignty of Georgia and Moldavia and get their troops out of Georgia and from other former Soviet republics. For President Bush the US public must be placated and on what foundations Bush will co-operate with Russia if he gets elected is still unclear.

Until the US elections the Russian analysts from the Russian Academy of Sciences feel that Washington will try to improve relations with Russia. It is interesting that one of Bush's challengers, Clarke warned that a police state is being established in Russia by Putin and that this un-



This is a photograph of Colin Powell, taken by a Russian photographer without Powell being aware. It certainly looks as if there were undiplomatic words meeting, as he wipes the sweat from his face.

democratic state cannot be an ally of the USA. If Bush keeps speaking of Putin as "my friend" and Putin starts jailing his opponents, Bush would be embarrassed and lose his domestic support.

It's certainly interesting that the capitalist press of Slovakia would feature this story and photograph, seeing that Slovakia will soon be a member of NATO! ■

By VANYA KALASHNIKOV

DANGER, FASCISM

Open letter to Gennady Zyuganov,
Chairman of the CC of the CPRF

Dear Gennady Anreevich!

I am forced to talk to you with this letter regarding the publication of articles in the newspapers "Zavtra" (*Tomorrow*) and in the "Sovietskaya Rossia" (*Soviet Russia*) articles propagating fascism.

"Zavtra" was publishing articles from the Web page site of the All Russian Fascist Party, which has its site logo "borman.ru" carrying the name of Borman who was the leader of the German Nazi party. Opening this site on the Internet, you see first of all the nazi swastika on a black background. These newspapers



which basically are considered the mouthpiece of the CPRF, asked its readers to log on and get acquainted with this fascist site.

The newspaper asks its readers to get acquainted with documents by Rozdiavsky and Vosnyansky, leaders in the 1930's the most rabid fascist organization functioning outside the borders of the Soviet

in Moscow.

The candidate from the CPRF and the policy of this "communist party" is already discredited in the eyes of the people. This party is an opportunistic party, having lost touch with the working class and it overall supports the policies of Putin in the Russian parliament.

Watch for an in depth analyses by our friends in Russia. ■

US & BRITISH MILITARY TO STAY IN GEORGIA – REVAMP THE ARMY

From DeWaarheid

US military aid will continue to Georgia. This was announced to the journalists by Georgian president Saakashvili when he was in Washington last month. Over these years over 10,000 servicemen will receive their training.

US has already spent over \$64 million as part of re-equipment and in training of 3 battalions of Georgian commandoes and a fourth battalion is graduating this month.

British instructors had Georgian personnel in training in the center at Vyskov in the Czech Republic. These British officers are training troops in special duties in all of the former Socialist countries in central Europe. This in conjunction with all other help and support offered by NATO in order to get Georgia into its team of "fighting terrorism". ■

TBILISI PLANS MILITARY OPERATION TO PUNISH ADJARA-ABASHIDZE

Tbilisi is preparing an armed invasion of Adjara, declared the leader of the Adjara Autonomus Republic, Asian Abashidze last month in Batumi. Abashidze said that he had reliable information that about 500 Georgian servicemen trained by American instructors, 14 armored personnel carriers, 10 tracked armored fighting vehicles and 9 tanks have been prepared on the base near the city of Tbilisi.

A military operation by the new Georgian regime is planning to punish Adjara like they did Abkhazia and Ossetia, so there will be new bloodshed again, said Abashidze. ■

Russia warns Norway about NATO interference

From NORWAY POST-March 24/04

Russia warned Norway and other NATO member nations against assisting Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in monitoring their air space, when these countries become members of NATO alliance.

Alexander Yakovenko, spokesman for the Russian Foreign Office said that Russia reserves the right to take counter measures if NATO goes and deploys fighter planes and military equipment in these three former Soviet republics,

These plans of NATO are for Denmark, The Netherlands and Belgium to support these three nations with F-16 jet fighters that will be stationed in Lithuania. Norway also is sending ground troops to these three former Soviet republics as part of NATO cooperation and keeping an eye on Russia. ■

How the CIA conned the Soviet Union

From DeWaarheid

The CIA exploited the Soviet Union's desire for western technology by sending a flawed software that resulted in a huge gas explosion on a natural gas pipeline in 1982. Nobody was killed in the blast, but it did significant damage to the economy, the Washington Post said last month, quoting the memoirs of Thomas Reed, a former Air Force secretary who served in the National Security Council.

Approved by then President Ronald Reagan, the plan was part of a "cold-eyed economic warfare" against the Soviet Union that the CIA conducted under its Director William Case, said Reed, whose book "At the Abyss: an Insiders History of the Cold War", which is being published this month.

The Soviet Union wanted to get the technology and created a certain apparatus. This secret apparatus agency was set up to get information on the latest technology, was then disclosed to the French Intelligence people by a Soviet engineer, (who after that defected) who in turn alerted the Reagan Administration in 1981.

Shocked that the Soviets were obtaining this technology and aware that the United States at the same time was trying to block Western Europe from importing Soviet natural gas, the CIA came up with the idea of slipping the Soviets the technology that would work only for a while, then fail.

"In order to disrupt the Soviet gas supply, its hard currency earnings from the West, and the internal Russian economy, the pipeline software that was to run the pumps, turbines and valves was programmed to go haywire, after a decent interval, to reset pump speeds and valve settings to produce pressures to beyond those acceptable to pipeline joints and welds", Reed writes.

The resulting explosion in the summer of 1982 said Reed, was observed from space by US satellites and caused concern among the US military, who feared it was a missile liftoff. A CIA agent quickly told the military what had happened. "While there were no physical casualties from the pipeline explosion, there was significant damage to the Soviet economy. Its ultimate bankruptcy, not a bloody battle or nuclear exchange, is what brought the Cold War to an end." ■

SPARKS ARE FLYING BETWEEN RUSSIA AND THE USA

By VANYA KALASHNIKOV
Gathered and translated from
bourgeois newspapers in Slovakia

The article below shows the diplomatic sparks that are flying between US and Russia. This is apparently a reaction to the testing of the new Russian generation weapons system TOPOL-7 and the massive exercises of the Russian

Union and which carried on terrorist activities and diversions against the USSR from Manchuria. In 1945 they were caught and sentenced to death by a military tribunal.

The newspaper "Sovietskaya Rossia" in its January 10th edition published an article titled "Terrible Times" and signed by some one who calls himself "Russian". This author praised Hitler to high heavens, that he did not steal even one penny from the German people and in only six years "managed to build the strongest nation in Europe."

I'm certain that you know under what circumstances and at what human and economic costs these "successes" were achieved, and to what consequences he brought the Soviet and German people at the end of World War II.

Therefore I feel that this article and other articles that your two supportive newspapers are printing now are insulting all of the Soviet people and people of other European countries, and first of all Communists who are dead set against fascism.

I also feel that this article is insulting to you also, since your photograph appears smiling over the top of this insidious article!

Knowing that these two newspapers are perceived as opposition newspapers against the present regime, it is unbelievable that these two newspapers should support national socialism as being expounded by these fascists!

A statement from you and the CPRF should in some way dispel this terrible oversight by your supporting newspapers.

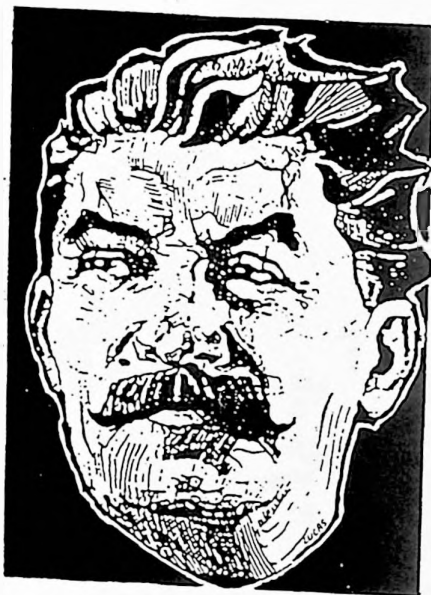
A. PRIGARIN
First Secretary of
CC RCP-CPSU

WHERE HAVE ALL MY FRIENDS GONE?

The favourite lament of Canada-USSR Association's former Chairman, Robert S. Kenny, speaking about his Soviet friends, after the USSR collapsed, and after all the years he spent promoting friendship between Canada and the Soviet Union, was: "Where have all my friends gone?"

There are new and more dedicated friends Robert, than the former USSR-Canada Society members!

STALIN



Translated by Vic Ratsma from Dutch

Holland's mills, in somber weighty movement -
cast their view upon a low horizon
to carry the gray skies of the old and
passing year.

From the land of reeds and friendly
streams
rises the west-wind, like a strong
young man,
rising up under his own weight,
and conquering both sea and land.

Speak now, words, quietly and
charged
with all the power of this windswept
land
greet the greatest of all comrades
Sing for him this melody of Holland

We know you: to us you are no
stranger,
but the one imbued with all the
patience
with which the mills, in their gray
meadows
are filled, while milling eternally .

We know you for you have the firm
unassailable strength of basalt
that breaks the storm in fierce
attacks
with which he assaults Holland's
garden.

We know you, for you are the skipper
with the hard and dark-brown hand
who guides the clipper along marsh

and mud-flat
steadily to the safety of the land.

We know you for you have been
created
from the same dark clay as we
in which all great images lie asleep
of a people, undivided and free.

With head raised above everyone
but with feet on motherlands' ground
that supports the lives of thousands
unrestricted and yet in secret bound.
Is it from the people that you took
your courage,
from the people the dream, that
keeps them alive
from the people all of the patient
desire
from the people the will, that
constructs and creates

Leaders may go, but the people
eternal
at the heart of the new order
solemnly state
that together with our unforgettable
leaders
Stands Stalin, -- leader, brother,
comrade!

WHO SAID THIS?

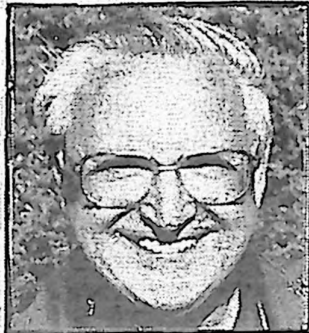
"The greatest gift to Russia was
this, that during the years of
extreme danger to the nation they
had a genius and a steadfast
Generalissimo heading the Soviet
Armed Forces - Stalin!"
WINSTON CHURCHILL



According to the World Health Organization, in the world there died over 3,000,000 people from Aids. On this planet of ours there are 40 million people infected with Aids. The biggest growth in former USSR is in Ukraine, Estonia, Latvia and Russia. Ukraine lead this infection disease with every 100th person being infected and by 2010 it is predicted that Ukraine will have over 1.5 million infected with Aids.

OPEN FORUM

VIC
RATSMAN



HAITI, THE COUP D'ETAT

The military coup in Haiti by the USA and France, aided and supported by Canada, did not come as a last minute decision to prevent a bloodshed. Rather, it was carefully planned more than a year in advance at a meeting held in Ottawa, Canada, at the initiative of the Canadian government and at the insistence of the United States.

The major media reported on events in Haiti about the charge by President Jean Aristide that he had been removed from his elected office by military force, led by the USA, and that he was forced to sign a document indicating his voluntary resignation - and Aristide also charged that he was kidnapped and flown to the Central African Republic.

Of course Colin Powell the US Secretary of State denied this, but as events have proven now, it was the truth as stated by President Aristide.

The removal of President Aristide had been planned more than a year earlier at a meeting attended by officials from Canada, USA, France and some countries from Latin America, and held in Ottawa, code-named "Ottawa Initiative on Haiti." An article about this meeting was published by Michael Bastel in the March 15, 2003 edition of the Canadian magazine "L'Actualite" as reported on the Internet publication "Haiti Progress" (1). According to the report, Denis Paradis, Canada's Secretary of State for Latin America, Africa and the French-speaking world, was particularly intent on bringing changes in Haiti. "If Canada treated their animals the way the Haitian authorities treat their

citizens," he said, "they would be placed in prison." Note, that both Canada and the USA had stopped providing international aid and loans to Haiti shortly after George W. Bush became president, an act which certainly aggravated the already desperate living conditions of Haiti's millions of poor. But, according to Paradis, Haiti's internal problems are a threat to North American countries. "It's a time bomb, which must be defused immediately", he said.

Another article in Haiti-Progress is titled "Multi-Front Strategy Seeks to Oust Aristide Before 2004" and states: "As the world's attention remains fixed on the looming war in Iraq, the US and its local allies are carrying out a similar offensive against the government of Haiti with a goal of "regime change" before 2004, the bicentennial of Haitian independence and history's only successful slave revolution". It goes on to compare the plans of Haiti with the war against the Sandinistas in Nicaragua, i.e.: a regime change to put the rich minority and business interests back in charge of running the country. In the US, the same people who removed the Sandinistas from power in 1999 are in key positions in the Bush regime, people like Elliott Abrams, John Poindexter, John Negroponte, Otto Reich and Roger Noriega, all of them played a role in the dirty war against Nicaragua.

The Ottawa Initiative on Haiti, which took place without the knowledge and participation of the Haitian government, covered its plan of aggression under the mantle of The Organization of American States and a United Nations clause on: "the responsibility to protect the population that suffers from consequences of a civil war, an insurrection, state repression or failure of its policies, and when the state in question is not willing or capable of putting an end to these sufferings or to avoid them, international responsibility to protect takes precedence over the principle of non-intervention."

This cause, however well intended it may be, opens the door to mischief by the great powers who, when it

suits them. Support and foment opposition to a legitimate democratic government, cut aid and assistance and then, when things go badly for the government, act to remove them from power. That is what has taken place in Haiti. Having a democratically elected government appears to be no safeguard against foreign aggression. It once again reminds one of the infamous words of US Henry Kissinger after the overthrow of the democratically elected government of President Allende in Chile: "I see no reason why a certain country should be allowed to go 'Marxist' merely because its people are irresponsible."

Only now it not only applies to Marxists anymore.

(1) www.haiti-progress.com

THE POWER OF THE REVEREND

Published March 3, 2004 on
www.AxisoftLogic.com

The United States of America has come under the rule of strong neo-conservatives and the fundamentalist Christian Right. How did this happen? Is it just an oversight phenomenon or is it the result of years of careful and very patient strategic planning?

Nearly twenty years ago, Katherine Yurica (1) published a book under the title "The New Messiahs". It was based on approximately 1,300 pages of actual transcripts of television broadcasts by the Reverend Pat Robertson, the well-known host of the program "The 700 Club". Robertson made no secret of his objective. "We're going to take over the country" he pronounced "and we have enough votes to do it." The logic for this confidence was simple:

"There are 110,000 Bible believing churches in the USA, but there are only 97,000 major elective offices in America. If we launch one candidate per church, we can take over every elective office in this country within ten years!"

Yurica, who also edits her own internet publication (2) "The Yurica

Report', writes:

"I was monitoring and recording the show at the time, and to those I discussed it with, the plans seemed like a wild pipe dream that couldn't be executed. The press ignored it or most likely didn't know about it. The people who took it seriously, however, were those it was intended for: the insiders, the potential foot soldiers in a newly awakened and "religious right reborn church militant. The term "religious right" entered our political lexicons."

ROBERTSON'S PLAN CONSISTED OF THE FOLLOWING:

- (1) Obtain control of the US Republican Party (GOP), and then, through this Party gain control of the US Congress.
- (2) Revamp the balance of powers between the three branches of government, so that the judiciary would be weakened permanently and the power of the Congress would be strengthened – if it were controlled by the religious right.
- (3) The power of the US Presidency was to be variously weakened when an unacceptable person occupied the White House, but strengthened when "God-anointed man" was in office.
- (4) Gain the power to control domestic morality, by denouncing the "immoral" and by "breaking" such individuals and organizations.

Most Americans paid little attention to Robertson's plans and likely did not know about them. Robertson himself ran for President of the USA in 1988, but failed miserably. But the Christian Right did succeed in taking over the GOP and the US Congress. The real meaning of this became apparent during the sex scandal of former President Clinton in the mid nineties and the rush vote to impeach him for his immoralities. And by the year 2000, they had their "God-anointed man" in the White House, thereby completing what they set out to do some 15 years earlier. Mission accomplished!

But now that they appear to have the power, the real work of transforming the US society is only beginning. In 1985, so writes Katherine Yurica, Robertson called for a special revival, "a revival bringing about sweeping changes in society – where people think differently – live differently act on

wide-scale basis. And we haven't seen that yet. It's coming, but it hasn't gotten here yet."

One of their identified targets is the Supreme Court. Robertson emotionally told his audience: "We are not going to stand for those coercive utopians in the US Supreme Court and in Washington, ruling over us anymore. We're not going to stand for it. We are going to say, we want freedom in this country, and we want power, freedom back to the people where it's supposed to be. And the same thing in the Soviet Union and the same thing in China."

TODAY, IN YEAR 2004, WE SEE THE ATTACKS ON THE US COURTS IN TWO DISTINCT WAYS:

First – the stacking of the courts with extremely conservative judges, and secondly, through attempts to impose the morality of the Christian Right on the court system through attacks on, for instance abortion rights, and gay and lesbian rights. The attempts of George W., Bush to amend the US Constitution to forbid marriage of the same sex partners is part of this.

Robertson' rants against the five Supreme Court judges who upheld the right to abortion was not without effect among the American fundamentalists. Robert L. Hymers Jr., the pastor of the Fundamentalist Baptist Tabernacles in Los Angeles, which had one of the largest fundamentalist congregations in Southern California, began to "pray that God kills all five of the Supreme Court judges who upheld the right to abortion in June 11, 1986 decision of the court." He hung an abortion-clinic operator in effigy. Greg Dixon, the former president of the Coalition for Religious Freedom, and pastor of an Indianapolis fundamentalist church, started his own "Court of Divine Justice" in order to try all government officials who infringe on the freedom of fundamentalist churches. He said: "The judges of America are operating under the Communist Manifesto."

Having obtained control over the Republican Party however is not enough for these folks. A California pastor by the name of Billy Foley-who founded the Christian Voters League, appeared as an invited guest of Robertson's "700 Club TV

Program". When asked about participation in party politics, Foley replied: "We really are avoiding partisan politics...our goal is not to take over the Republican Party or to extend the Democratic Party, but our goal is to take over the land and take over both parties. We're a majority in this land!"

Robertson asked Foley: "A lot of people, if they hear Christian Voters' League, they'll say – "Hey, you're attempting to dominate me. You're going to take away my freedom. You're not going to let me be whatever". How do you answer these people?"

"It's very naïve," Foley replied, "to think that the peaceful co-existence today and the bottom line is it's either us or them. Right now the "them" are ruling over us, because the church gave away its consensus. So we're merely getting back what we have lost in America in the last forty years."

The control over the US Congress was the key to Robertson's strategy. After reading the complete Constitution of the United States, Robertson remarked: "It is unbelievable how much powers was given by the framers of the Constitution. Unbelievable! The president of the United States cannot appoint a janitor without Congress' approval."

After the 1994 US Congressional elections, the GOP obtained control over the Congress. Of the 52 newly elected members, 44 owed their election to the support of the Christian Coalition. By 1996, this coalition established 400 Citizen Action Training Schools in 50 US States, teaching Christians how to get elected. By then, the total number of chapters had grown to 1,617.

After the presidential election of 2000 and the subsequent appointment (some say by the Courts, others say by God) of George W. Bush to the presidency, the United States got its first experience with a Neo-Con-Christian Right government. That experience has been far from good, as many realize today. The plans these people have for establishing their New World Order, not only in America, but in the whole world, are frightening and border on neo-fascism. The defeat of Bush in the

coming November 2004 election and reducing the GOP to minority status in the US Congress are important steps towards reversing the current trend, but it is only a first step. What Roberson and his associates built over the past 20 years will not disappear with the defeat of the Bush regime alone. Americans need to seriously rethink the political direction of their nation, then take action, organize and work to extinguish the flames of religious fanaticism and intolerance from the

soil of their land.

(1) Katherine Yurica was educated in East Los Angeles, USC and the USC school of law. She worked as a consultant for Los Angeles County and as a news correspondent for Christianity Today, plus as a freelance investigative reporter. She is the author of three books. She is also the publisher of the Yurica Report.

(2) The Yurica Report:
<http://www.yuricareport.com/Art%20Essay/The%20New%20Mediahs%20Excerpts.htm>

WE NEED HELP!

We are missing NSC copies for JULY 1999 and JULY 2002 to complete all the 12 years of volumes that were requested by the Acquisition Department of the University of British Columbia, Canada.

If you can find these two NSC copies, we certainly would like to receive them and thus the U of B.C. archives from NSC would be complete.

Thanks in advance!
 THE EDITOR

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

A WALL AS A WEAPON

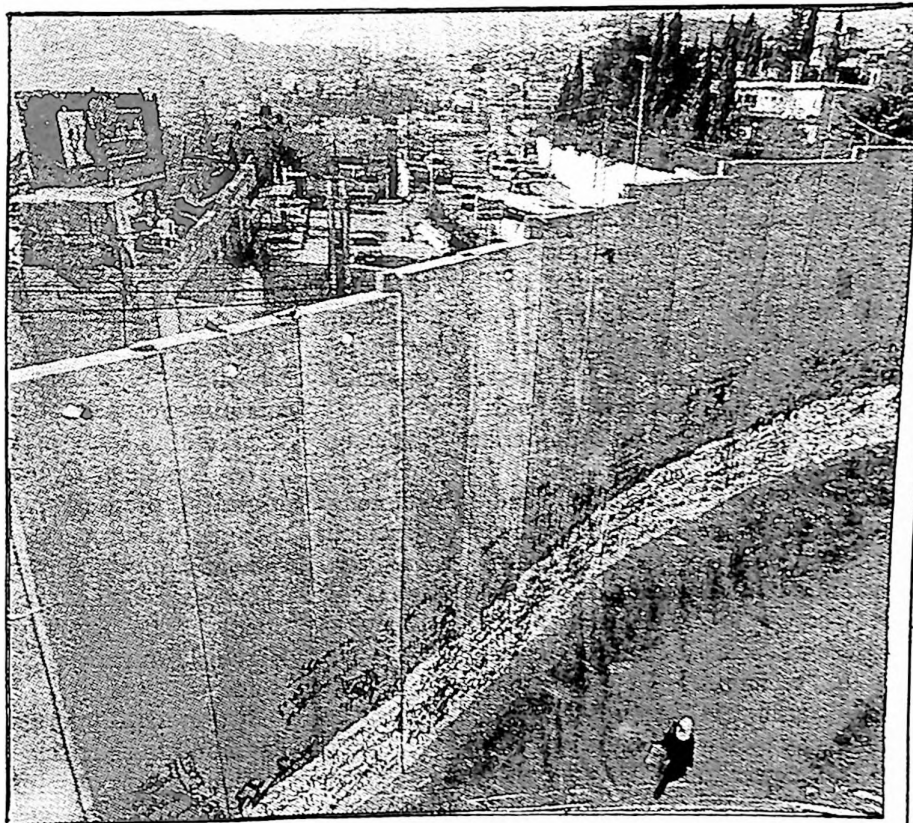
By NOAM CHOMSKY

It is a virtual reflex for governments to plead security concerns when they undertake any controversial action, often as pretext for something else. Careful scrutiny is needed regarding the Israel Wall against Palestinians that is now in front of the International Court of Justice in The Hague, is a case in point.

The wall is unlawful since it is not built on the Israeli side of the border. What this wall is really doing is taking Palestinian lands and helping to turn the Palestinian communities into dungeons, next to which the Bantustans of South Africa look like symbols of freedom, sovereignty and self-determination.

Even before the wall barrier was under way, the United Nations estimated that Israeli barriers, infrastructure projects had already created 50 disconnected Palestinian pockets in the West Bank. Also the World Bank estimated that it shall isolate over 250,000 to 300,000 Palestinians, more than 10 per cent of the population and that it will annex over 10 per cent of the West Bank territory. The Wall will cut the West Bank into 16 insolated conclaves, confined to just 42 per cent of the West Bank, which Israel said in a signed document that it will ceded to the Palestinian State.

This wall has already claimed some of the most fertile lands of the



PICTURES SPEAK A THOUSAND WORDS!

Take a look at this extremely high concrete wall that is being built by the Israelis in order to keep the Palestinians in situation-like ghettos – concentration camps. Look at the tiny figure and judge the height of this fascist wall. This is the policy of the Zionist government of Israel and there are people in Israel also who condemn this medieval monstrosity and are struggling against it!

West Bank. But, crucially it puts into the hands of the Israelis the critical water resources which Jewish settlers can appropriate as they choose, while Palestinians have hardly any water for drinking.

Besides everything else done to the Palestinians, Israel has approved

the settlement of 7,500 settlers for the West Bank. The Israelis now enjoy ample supply of land and water, while the Palestinians barely survive, their meager water supplies virtually unusable. Gaza is a cage, and as the city of Rafah in the south systematically is being demolished,

residents will be blocked from any contact with Egypt and blocked from the sea.

It is misleading to call these Israeli policies. They are American-Israeli policies made possible by the unremitting US military, economic and diplomatic support of Israel. Since this has been true since 1971 when with American support given Israel, they thus rejected a full peace agreement from Egypt, preferring expansion to any security. America is now renegeing on the UN plan for a two state solution.

The most The Hague Court hearings will end in an advisory ruling that the wall is illegal. It will change nothing, since US dominates the composition of The Hague. ■

SOUTH AFRICAN PARTY POSITION ON THE APARTHEID WALL BUILT BY ISRAEL

The South African Communist Party (SACP) supports the submission made by the South African government before the International Court in The Hague, regarding SA opposition to Israeli attempt to fence off the Palestinians. This wall is a breach of international law and an affront to the Palestinians. In essence this is an attempt to make permanent the occupation by Israel of Palestine.

The Communist Party calls on all South Africans of Jewish extraction to distance themselves from this Apartheid Wall and to join other South Africans in the solidarity struggle and quest for a just solution in Palestine.

We reiterate our support for a two-state solution based on a united and sovereign Palestinian State with a united Jerusalem as its capital. ■

PIN HEADS

By CHRIS FLOYD

One of the sticking points in crafting the just-signed "Interim Constitution" of the Pentagon cash cow, formerly known as Iraq, was the question of acknowledging Islam as the fundamental source of law. After much wrangling, a fudge was worked out that cites the Koran as a

fundamental source of the legal authority, with the proviso that no law can be passed that conflicts with Islam.

We in the West smile at such theocratic quibbling, of course: Imagine, national leaders insisting that a modern state be governed solely by divine authority! Governments guaranteeing the right

Congressional sycophants. If it is enacted, it will effectively transform the American Republic into a Theocracy, where arbitrary dictates of a "higher power" – as interpreted by a judge, policeman, bureaucrat or president – can override the rule of law.

This Act – drafted by a minion of television evangelist Pat Robertson –



of religious extremists to impose their views on the society! What next...debates as to how many angels can dance on a head of a pin? Oh, those poor, ignorant barbarians in Babylon!

Well, wipe that smile from your face. For even now - the ignorant barbarians in Washington are pushing a law through the US Congress that would "acknowledge God as the sovereign source of law, liberty and government" in the United States. What's more, it would forbid all legal challenges to government officials who use the power of the state to enforce their own view of "God's sovereign authority". Any US judge that dared even to hear such a challenge could be removed from office.

The "Constitutional Restoration Act of 2004" is no joke; it was introduced last month by some of Bush's regime most powerful

is the fruit of decades of work by a group of extremists known broadly as "Dominionists" – placing "the state, the school, the arts and sciences, law, economics, and every other sphere under Christ the King". Or proclaimed: "America has no King but Jesus!"

According to Dominionist literature, "Biblical rule" means execution – preferably by stoning – of all homosexuals and other "revelers in licentiousness; massive tax cuts for the rich (because wealth is a mark of God's favour); the elimination of government program to alleviate poverty and sickness (because these depend on "confiscation of wealth"); and enslavement for debtors. No legal challenges to "God's order" will be allowed. And because this order is divinely ordained, the "elect" can use any means necessary to establish it, including deception, subversion,

even violence." As Robertson himself adjures the faithful "Zealous men force their way in."

Again, this is no tiny band of cranks meeting in some basement in Alabama, as recent reports by investigators Karen Yurica and David Neiwert make clear. The Dominionists are heavily bankrolled and led and directed by deep-pocketed, well-connected business moguls and political operatives who have engineered to take over the Republican Party and are now at the heart of the US Government with a nod from George W. Bush himself. They have made common cause with the "American Empire" faction – Cheney, Rumsfeld, the neo-conservatives – who seek "full-spectrum dominance" over the Globe. The Dominionists provide money and domestic political muscle for the "Dominators" imperial ambitions, in return, the "Dominators" provide a practical vehicle – overwhelming military might and state power – for making the Dominionists' dreams a reality.

The Dominionist movement was founded by the late R. J. Rushdoony, a very busy beaver, who also co-founded the Council for National Policy. The CNP is the politburo of all of the American conservative movements, filled with top-rank political and business leaders who set the national agenda for the vast echo chamber of right-wing foundations, publishers, media networks and universities that have schooled a whole generation of obscurantist bile – just as the extremist Wahabbi religious schools funded by the Saudi billionaires who have poisoned the Islamic world with hatred and ignorance.

One of the chief moneybags behind the rise of Dominionism was tycoon Harold Ahmanson, Rushdoony's protégé and fellow CNP member. In addition to establishing theocracy in the USA, Republican Bush backer, was instrumental in establishing two of Republican-controlled companies now rushing to install the highly hackable machines – with untraceable and also un-recountable electronic ballots – across the USA in time for the upcoming November Presidential election.

The Dominionists also have strong backing in the US courts. Justice

Antonin Scalia, author of the unconstitutional ruling that gave Bush the presidency, declared in a theological journal "First Things" that "the state derives its moral authority from God, not the 'consent of the government', as the old American founder Thomas Jefferson held in the Declaration of Independence. No, government 'is the minister of God with powers to 'revenge' to 'execute wrath', including even wrath by the sword", Scalia wrote. He railed against the "tendency of democracy to obscure the divine authority behind the government."

Meanwhile, the tools of these Dominionists keep expanding. Just days after US Congressman Bushists launched their theocratic missile, General Ralph Eberhart, head of America's first domestic military command, said that the US regime must bring the experience learned on foreign battlefields to the "Homeland" itself, including the integration of police, military and intelligence forces, "wide area surveillance of the United States and urban warfare tactics."

Put this juggernaut at the head of America, these democracy-hating extremists, with no legal restraints on their enforcement of "God's sovereign authority" plus a record of subverting the laws in the USA, what would you have? A military theocracy? Or will it be fascism? ■

The Assassination of Sheikh Yassin

STATEMENT BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL

The murder of Sheikh Yassin by the Israeli army is an act of state terrorism serving the occupation, sabotaging the chances for a negotiated solution, and a step likely to intensify the bloodbath of Israeli and Palestinians.

By murdering Yassin, the Sharon government once again exposes the destructive purpose of its policies, disguised behind talks of a "pullout" and "disassociation" for what they really are: perpetration of the war occupation, continuation of the war to eliminate the rights of the Palestinian people, including the suppression of its right to self-determination, and the prevention of

any possibility of negotiations. These policies are against the real interests of the people of Israel and endanger more and more the personal safety of all Israelis.

The CPI condemns this Sharon policy of war and terror in its attempts to displace the Palestinian people from their land, while simultaneously bringing disaster to the people of Israel. The CPI calls on all supporters of peace, Jews and Arabs, to intensify the struggle against the occupation and illegal settlements, against the apartheid wall and roadblocks, and for a just and stable peace, based on the establishment of the Palestinian state, whose capital is East Jerusalem, alongside the State of Israel, as well as a solution to the Palestinian refugee problem, in accordance with the decisions of the United Nations.

**The occupation is a disaster!
Peace and Security!**

Tel Aviv, March 22, 2002 ■

SERBIA SOCIALISTS TO BRING DOWN GOVERNMENT

By DUSAN STOJANOVIC

BELGRADE – March 2, 2004

On the eve of the new Serbian government's inauguration that took place, a top official of the Slobodan Milosevic's Socialist Party threatened to bring down the Cabinet if more Serb "war crimes" suspects are extradited to the UN tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands.

Another condition is that those that kidnapped Slobodan Milosevic and illegally sent him to The Hague be put on trial. The new designate Prime Minister Kostunica said that the arrest and extradition of any new war crimes suspects won't be his government's priority.

His statement immediately drew fire from the European Union and USA officials, who have conditioned their financial aid to Serbia and political support on its full cooperation to the end with The Hague Tribunal.

The Kostunica-led coalition controls fewer than half of the 259 seats in Parliament, but recently forged a deal with Milosevic's Socialists. ■

ORTHODOX JEWS BURNT ISRAEL FLAG IN INTERNATIONAL CEREMONY

Rabbi Yisroel Weiss, spokesman for the Neturei Karta International, announced in the USA, that the organization of anti-Zionist Jews burnt publicly the Israel flag in a series of ceremonies around the world on "Purim" Tuesday that was held on March 7, 2004.

"The Zionist experiment has reached its inevitable conclusion. Death tolls mount and no visible solution is in sight. Slowly the Jewish people are awakening to the reality of Zionism, its rejection of Torah views of exile and redemption, combined with the aggressive stance towards Gentiles in general and Palestinians in particular."

The Rabbi explained to the burning ceremonies held in Monsey, NY, Williamsburg, Brooklyn, New York, and Monroe, NY – that: *"By burning the Israel flag we are symbolically declaring the Israel state, contrary to its absurd claims, is not representative of the Jewish people. In fact, its denial of our faith and its brutalization of the Palestinian people renders it antithetical to Judaism. We did it on Purim, because it is a holiday remembering victory of faith over heresy and good over evil, in ancient times. It was appropriate that we repudiated the contemporary heresy of Zionism on this day. The rejection of Zionism is the only path to peace. We are glad that so many Jews participated in these protests!"*

<http://www.nkusa.org/receivehtml.cfm> ■

BRAVO, AMIGOS!

By URI AVNERY
Israel

A Prime Minister is waging war. The great majority of the people oppose the war. But the majority vote for the Prime Minister.

Absurd? Well, that was the

situation in Spain. It also applies more or less, in Israel. But here the similarity ends.

The Spanish people have thrown their Prime Minister out. The Israeli people go on supporting their Prime Minister.

The Spaniards in their innocence believe that if the Prime Minister does the opposite of what the great majority of the people want, he has to go. They think that this is what democracy is all about. In Israel, such a thing is unthinkable.

And that is not the only difference!

Of course the Spanish people arrived at this conclusion under the influence of the big attack in Madrid. The Spanish reaction was very different from the usual Israeli one.

After the terrorist onslaught, the Spanish people asked themselves: why did they do it? What caused this murderous attack on us? The logical answer was: The Prime Minister's policy had brought this upon us. The conclusion: Let's find another Prime Minister.

In Israel, such a question cannot arise. What brought the terrorist attacks upon us? What sort of a question is that? The reason for terrorism against us is the inborn murderous character of the Arabs. It has, of course, nothing at all to do with the policy of our Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

When a terrorist outrage happens here, logic flies out of the window. Instead of thinking and asking questions, most people shout "Death to the Arabs", demand a bloody revenge and gather around the Prime Minister. But, there are more and more Israeli people and Israeli groups that are opposing Sharon!

Another difference: the Spaniards got angry. The Prime Minister lied to them by blaming it on the Basque separatists. He exploited the outrage for his election campaign. When he already knew that everything pointed to the Islamic fanatics, he pretended in public that the attack was perpetrated by the Basque ETA organization. He hoped to garner the votes of those Spaniards who oppose an independent Basque homeland. But the Spanish voters understood that this was a lie and did not like it. The Prime Minister is lying to us, so, to hell with him!

In Israel, when the Prime Minister

lies, most of the public remains apathetic. The Prime Minister has lied to us again! So what? Isn't he always lying? There is nothing to get upset about!

One can only envy the Spanish. After a horrible civil war, after decades of oppressive dictatorship, in spite of domestic splits and many terrorist attacks, what a healthy reaction! What strong democratic instincts!

(By the way: some 500 years ago, half a million Jews were expelled from Spain. In the last decades, almost all of the "Sephardim" – Sepharad is the Hebrew word for Spain – came to Israel. The great majority of them support Ariel Sharon. Why do the "Spanish" Jews in Israel react differently from the Spanish people back home?)

There is another difference between Spain and Israel, and it may be the decisive one.

Last year (2003) I visited Spain. Some days before I arrived, the Prime Minister's party had won an impressive victory in the local elections. The opposition Socialist Party was lying flat out. Everybody spoke of it with contempt and pain. The party was in deep ruins, perhaps beyond redemption.

And then it happened: the party replaced its old leader with an energetic, fresh one. Joe Luis Rodrigues Zapatero. With a lot of luck, this man now led his party to power.

When the Spanish people were fed up with their Prime Minister, they knew that there was a reasonable alternative. They could throw the ruling party out because there was another party ready to move in.

In Israel, these conditions do not apply. Our leading opposition party, the Labor Party, is also in shambles, but there is no sign of recovery. Quite the contrary.

The Israel Labor Party, is headed by a pathetic person, who would make a deal with a devil for a place in the Sharon's government. Its other old leaders, all of them certified failures, are already quarreling amongst themselves about the chairs that Sharon might allot them, should he be so kind as to invite them into his cabinet.

The Israeli situation is very surreal: according to all opinion polls, a large part of the public is fed

up with the war, the bloody cycle of suicide bombings and targeted assassinations, the settlements and the settlers. The people want a solution and are ready to pay the necessary price – the end of the occupation, a Palestinian state, the dismantling of the settlements, a reasonable compromise about Jerusalem, withdrawal to the vicinity of the Green Line. They want to shift all of our natural resources from occupation and war to economic growth, education and social welfare.

So how does this translate into political realities? It doesn't. There is no serious political force in Israel now able to offer an alternative leadership.

In Spain, that was a temporary situation, which corrected itself in a natural way. In Israel, this situation seems to be permanent.

Therefore, one can not only envy the Spanish, but also learn from them. The political ball is round. It can turn suddenly. What seems to be impossible can become possible – if there are good people around, who can convert good intentions into political reality.

I hope that this will happen here in Israel. True, some people are already standing in line – Tony Blair and George W. Bush. What has happened to ex minister Jose Maria Aznar in Spain must happen to Tony and George, and I hope that it will. Then, with a lot of courage and luck, the turn of the fourth in the queue will come, and Ariel Sharon, another man of blood and lies, will be turned out.

In the meantime, we salute our friends at the other end of the Mediterranean Sea!

BRAVO, AMIGOS!

AFL-CIO INVOLVED IN THE VENEZUELA COUP

By Alberto Ruiz – Z-net

On April 22, 2002, shortly after the short-lived coup which ousted President Hugo Chavez, the New York Times ran an article entitled: "US Bankrolling is Under Scrutiny for

Ties to Chavez Ouster." In this article which detailed numerous grants by the "National Endowment for Democracy" (NED) of George Soros infamy, to various pro-coup groups in Venezuela prior to the coup, Times writer Christopher Marquis wrote: "of particular concern is the \$154,377. given to the International Centre for International Labour Solidarity, the international arm of the AFL-CIO, to assist the main Venezuelan labour union in advancing labour rights." As the NYT noted: "The Venezuelan Union, the Confederation of Venezuelan Workers, led the work stoppages that galvanized the opposition to Chavez. The union's leader, Carlos Ortega, worked very closely with Pedro Carmona Estanga, the businessman who briefly took over from Mr., Chavez, in challenging the government."

This NYT article caused much embarrassment to the AFL-CIO and they tried to back-paddle out of this outright support for the counterrevolution.

This embarrassment suffered by the AFL-CIO over its coup assistance, has not deterred it from continuing to support the counterrevolutionary forces inside Venezuela. The agreement that was signed by these forces inside Venezuela, and the AFL-CIO on April 1, 2003 showed that the Solidarity Center accepted another \$161,000 to continue its work. There are facts that prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that the leadership of the AFL-CIO cooperated and cooperates with the US State Department and its covert agencies. Funding through the AFL-CIO front organization comes directly from the US State Department. ■

UK-UN-USA - UNITED WE STAND

FROM FINSBURY COMMUNIST

Like all good servants, Kofi Annan, the United Nations Secretary General has always done his best to anticipate and please his masters' wishes. For example, he pulled out the UN Weapons Inspectors from Iraq just before the United States and the United Kingdom intended to bomb or to invade the country. Still, it

must have distressed Kofi to learn that Tony Blair ordered the bugging of his telephone at the UN. It's rather like the butler finding out that his lordship was measuring the level of the port wine.

Once again, the question will be raised as to how much longer Blair can go on. The answer is indefinitely as long as he remains sane and anticipates the wishes of the British ruling class. The Queen proves useful in this respect at their regular Tuesday meetings.

All the same, Blair is not wise to be too distrustful, since, with one or two exceptions, the Labour Party cabinet members are all Blair clones. The US and the UK ruling classes have put the fear of God into the other countries of the world. What more can Blair want? ■

OPERATION SWEATSHOP

BY CHRIS FLOYD

Last month, President Bush administration added another violent "regime change" in Haiti to its gun-belt, toppling the democratically elected president of Haiti and replacing him with an un-elected gang of convicted killers, death squad leaders, militarists, narco-terrorists, CIA operatives, hereditary elitists and corporate predators – a bit like Team Bush itself, in other words.

Not to be outdone, dreaming of its lost colonies and empire, France was in their like a dirty shirt.

Although the Haiti coup was widely portrayed as an irresistible upsurge of popular discontent, it was of course the result of years of hard work by Bush's dedicated corrupters of democracy, as William Bowles reports in the "Information Clearinghouse." And Bush funded the political opposition to President Aristide, smuggled guns to exiled Haitian warlords and carried out a relentless strangulation of the country, cutting off long-promised aid, both financial and structural to one of the poorest nations on earth, until the food prices started to soar and unemployment reached 70% of the working force and the government lost control of society to

armed gangs of criminals, fanatics and simply the merely desperate. Meanwhile Haiti was forced to pay \$2 million per month on debts run up by the previous murderous US-backed dictatorships that ruled the island for decades after the American occupation of Haiti from 1915-1934.

There was no question that in the last election Aristide and his party received an overwhelming majority of legitimate voters, but there were 7 disputed senatorial seats out of the 7,500 offices that were for grabs. On this pretense the US started a campaign that the elections were fixed and a regime change must be made. So, Aristide called another election, but the 7 senators resigned, appealed to the USA and this started the campaign to disrupt the country, bring out gangs and killings and thus set the change to oust Aristide.

President Aristide did the unthinkable - he tried to raise the minimum wage of Haitians to \$2 per day. This infuriated the multinational corporations, the IMF and the landowner class who have for generations used the people of Haiti as a pool of dirt cheap labour and sky-high profits. His was the last straw for the elitist factions, one of which is led by an American citizen and former Bush appointee, the manufacturing tycoon Andy Apaid.

Apaid was the point man for the Reagan-Bush "market reform" drive in Haiti. Of course "reform", in the degraded jargon of the privateers, means exposing even the very means of survival and sustenance to the ravages of the powerful corporate interests. For example - the Reagan-Bush plan forced Haiti to lift import tariffs on rice, which has long been a locally grown staple. Then they flooded Haiti with heavily subsidized American rice, destroying the local market and throwing thousands of self-sufficient farmers out of work. With a now captive-market, the US companies jacked up their prices, spreading ruin and hunger throughout the Haitian society.

The jobless farmers provided new cheap fodder for the factories of Apaid and his cronies. Reagan and Bush chipped in by abolishing taxes for the American corporations who then set up Haitian sweatshops. The result was a terrible drop in wages -

and also of life expectancy. Aristide's first election in 1990 threatened these cozy arrangements, so he was duly ejected by a military coup, with Bush's I'm not so tacit connivance.

Former President Bill Clinton restored Aristide to office in 1994 - but only after forcing him, to agree to, yes, "market reforms". In fact, it was Clinton, the privateers' pal, who instigated the post-election aid embargo that Bush II used to such devastating effect. Aristide's chief failing as a leader was his attempt to live up to this bi-partisan blackmail. As in every other nation that's come under the IMF whip, Haiti's already fragile economy collapsed. The Bush family retainers like Apaid then shoved the country into total chaos, making it easy prey for the warlords whom President Bush supported - many of them Iran-Contra hands - supplied these elements with arms through the Dominican Republic - as the Boston Globe reported.

When these terrorist warlords attacked last month, Bush flatly refused Aristide's plea for an international force to preserve Haiti's democracy. Instead US sent armed men to "persuade" Aristide to resign. Within hours Aristide was kidnapped, put on a plane and sent to Africa, without him being able to telephone anyone, in actual fact, he was a prisoner, thanks to Bush and his Haitians cronies. And within hours - the Bush-backed terrorists were marching with guns blazing down the streets of Port-u-Prince, killing and looting on their way and executing Aristide's supporters. - this was duly reported by The New York Times.

Guess the workers won't be asking for two dollars per day now, eh? Mission accomplished.

Thus, just like his father before him, Bush has overthrown Aristide, and for the same reason: Aristide represented a threat to their "natural order" - unchecked rule by the pampered and protected elites. Terrorism, despotism, torture, WMD trafficking: all of this can be countenanced, even embraced. But Aristide's alternative - democratic, capitalism, but with "a prejudice for the poor", as enjoined by the Gospel - this evil cannot be tolerated! ■

MR. PUTIN! WHY DON'T YOU IMPEACH
YELTSIN AND GORBACHEV?

THE PENTAGON'S SECRET WEAPON

By WILLIAM M. ARKIN

He is a military analyst who writes regularly for Opinion E-Mail: warkin@iqc.org

US Marines arriving in Iraq last month as part of a massive troop rotation, brought with them a high-tech weapon never before used in combat - or in peacekeeping. The device is a very powerful megaphone the size of a satellite dish that can deliver recorded warnings in Arabic and, on command, emit a piercing tone so excruciating to humans, that it can cause crowds to disperse, clear buildings and repel intruders.

"For most people, even if they plug their ears, the device will produce the equivalent of an instant migraine," said Woody Norris, Chairman of the American Technology Corporation, the San Diego firm that produces this weapon. "It can knock some people of their knees. It is designed to determine intent, change behaviour and support various rules of engagement." The US military is gung-ho on this new weapon.

This is a weapon unlike any other used by the military, and it is certain to provoke a public outcry. Some of the weaponry championed by the war hawks, like rubber bullets, flash-bang grenades and electro-muscular disruptive devices, or Tasers, have already been deployed.

This new weapon can operate at 145 decibels at 300 yards. Of course, the US has to try out this weapon in a foreign country, since testing it in the USA would certainly bring a public outcry. As Bush says...Mission Accomplished! ■

ILLITERACY IN THE USA

The illiteracy index in the USA has reached over 20% of the population and is growing at an alarming rate, according to UNESCO. This growth and the reasons for it are being transported into the school system of both Russia and Ukraine.

ILLITERACY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

According to the data compiled by the EU, about 20% of the young people 14 years and under cannot read or write. ■

MILLIONS TOOK TO THE STREETS

Millions of people took to the streets around the world in global protests that marked the 1st Anniversary of US invasion of Iraq, March 20, 2003.

People demonstrated in more than 60 countries throughout the world – from Japan to Spain to Australia and to South Africa. In the belly of the Beast, the United States itself, there were protests in at least 300 US cities. There was over 100,000 marchers protesting in New York itself. In Rome more than 1,000,000 people protested. In Spain there were protests in over 40 cities across the country.

Mothers and widows of US servicemen killed in Iraq were protesting in large numbers. The families of US servicemen killed in Iraq also protested in Denver, Colorado, where the bodies of their loved ones are shipped back from Iraq. The families were forbidden to enter the complex or photograph it. There were slogans such as "Bush Lies, Bush Kills", "Bush Lies and Who Dies" and many others. The families are not allowed to see the coffins of the loved ones, with the American flags over the coffins as they are unloaded from the US planes. They are even denied to witness the burial ceremonies of their loved ones, or even to take photographs to remember them, at this the biggest US military cemetery.

DID YOU EXPECT TO HEAR THIS?

IRAQ BASED ON LIES: JIMMY CARTER

Former US President Jimmy Carter said in London that: "The war in Iraq was based on lies by Washington and London which falsely linked Iraq's Saddam Hussein to the 9/11 attacks. There was no reason for us to be involved in Iraq...and I think that President George W. Bush and Prime Minister Tony Blair knew that most of the allegations were based on false US and GB intelligence information...the decision was made to go to war...and then it was - let's find a reason to do it....I think that Bush Jr.

wanted to finish the war that his father had started before."

This was given as an interview to the British daily "The Independent". Carter's criticism came amid efforts by the White House to downplay accusations by a former Bush terrorist advisor, who accused the current US administration of doing a terrible job in defending the country against terrorism.

Richard Clarke, who worked at the National Security Council for three US administrations, made the charges in his book "Against All Enemies" that was released last month, and in an interview with the CBS's: "60 Minutes" program. ■

HONDURAS WITHDRAWS TROOPS FROM IRAQ

According to the Associated Press of March 16, 2004, the Defense Secretary of Honduras, Federico Breve said that Honduras will withdraw its troops from Iraq, following the example of Spain.

Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua have troops in Iraq, helping US imperialism. Other countries that are helping US in Iraq are thinking along the same lines. Time will tell! ■

THE ANTI-RUSSIAN PROPAGANDA IN BULGARIA

By *BLAGOVESTA DONCHEVA*
NSC reader in Bulgaria

March 3, 2004 is the National Holiday of Bulgaria, the date Bulgaria became a sovereign state after 500 years of Turkish Yoke – during the Russian-Turkish war during the late 1870's.

This year the Bulgarian media treated us to a shameless anti-Russian campaign, performed with fervor by the modern day servants of US imperialism. Listening and looking at these broadcasts we learned that we were set free, not by Russians but by:

*Bulgarian volunteers *Bulgarian rebels * the Romanians * the Finns *The Serbs *The Montenegro people etc. etc. The list of our liberators was rather long indeed.

According to these present Bulgarian traitors, there were some Russians there, but they stood only in the way. The Russian Generals were very incompetent. The Russian soldiers could not fire well, only at wooden targets. They were deplorable cowards, they ran away at the sight of Turks.

Maybe next year the young generation of Bulgarians will be told that it was the Russians who joined the Turks and attacked Bulgaria! Maybe it will be suggested to us that it was the Russians who told the Turks to burn the villages, rape and massacre the Bulgarians.

This is just part of the anti-Russian propaganda on this the 500th Anniversary of our statehood. The official line here is to manipulate the young generation of Bulgarians to despise and if possible hate Russia and the Russians.

There was even an attempt to replace our historical Cyrillic alphabet with a Latin one! Besides this, there are talks and arguments by these present Judases that Bulgarians have nothing to do with Slavs and that Bulgarians are not Slavs at all. Hey, maybe the Russians are not Slavs also

Unfortunately the Russians after the demise of the Soviet Union and the advent of traitors like Yeltsin, Gorbachev and now Putin, they betrayed Yugoslavia. If the American beast would have been stopped there, maybe we would not have Afghanistan, Iraq and the loss of Georgia, now Adjara, Abkhazia, Southern Ossetia and others.

Russia itself is now surrounded by US and NATO bases! Tomorrow the Yankee hungry beast will attack Russia, Yes, your turn will come!

We all look to you with hope! I will not cry anymore! I cannot cry anymore! ■

The worst form of exploitation

By *ROBERT SCHEER*

How perfect the irony and how sordid the scam! The US president who ignored the Al Qaeda threat before the September 11, 2001, who diverted public attention in the horror's aftermath to the nonexistent

threat from Iraq, and, who has stonewalled the investigation of 9/11, now seeks to exploit that tragedy as his reelection gimmick.

George W. Bush avoids being photographed with the dead and injured from his folly in Iraq, but hey, he poses with those US flag-draped coffins of 9/11 victims which make great TV ads. What a grisly low in political exploitation.

That's why these ads were condemned by the New York Fire Fighters Union and by many of the 9/11 victims' relatives, whose hundreds of websites contain an impressive list of unanswered questions concerning this tragedy. As Bob McIlvaine, whose son was killed in the Twin Towers disaster, put it: *"Instead of playing on people's emotions with images of that day, the president would do better to cooperate with the independent commission investigating the 9/11 attacks, so that we can learn the truth about happened on that day and why!"*

But, uncovering the truth about the 9/11 has never been President Bush's intention. Instead, the president has used that tragedy for his own political ambitions – to draw attention away from his lies about Iraq, the unprecedented national debt, the disappointing jobless recovery and the attacks on civil liberties of the Americans. What's really mind-boggling is the cynicism of Bush's electoral ploy, when one considers that he never showed any interest in terrorism before 9/11. He had focused instead on the war on drugs and trying to one-up his own father on Iraq. His abysmal failure to heed the Clinton administration's warnings regarding the threat posed by Osama bin Laden, may be one reason for Bush's extreme reluctance to permit unimpeded bipartisan public investigation of 9/11.

Never before in the US national history has such a major event been so unexamined by the government while being so effectively hyped for political advantage. The obfuscation has been deliberate and executed with a passion that suggests strongly that Bush has some dreadful truth to hide. Why else would he initially oppose the formation of a bipartisan commission to investigate the origins and lessons of 9/11?

Bush finally allowed the commission to be formed. But he set out systematically to undermine its work by refusing to turn over documents that are essential to the investigation or to permit the full committee to interview top officials of his administration, from himself down. Bush before this, appointed Henry Kissinger, the international grand master of mendacity, to be chairman. This gambit failed when Kissinger refused to make public his murky financial entanglements with the very regimes most likely to have links to the 9/11 terrorists.

This is the president whose immediate response to 9/11 was to protect the Al Qaeda terrorists' known sponsors in Saudi Arabia and Pakistan, while planning a sideshow war against Bin Laden's sworn enemy in Baghdad, Saddam Hussein. In the immediate aftermath of the 9/11, a Saudi Arabia plane was allowed to land in the United States and whisk Bin Laden and his relatives and also certain Saudis out of the country, before the US intelligence agencies could fully question them, despite the fact that 15 of the 19 hijackers were Saudi nationals who had been allowed to enter USA under very suspicious circumstances, suggesting the connivance of the Saudi and US governments.

Bush turned his sights on Iraq's illusory Weapons of Mass Destruction, while lifting the sanctions imposed on Pakistan, a known possessor and proliferator of nuclear weapons. Nor have any of these sanctions been restored even now, when Pakistan admits that its top scientific institute was the source of nuclear weapons technology sold to North Korea, Libya and Iran.

President Bush defends his exploitation of 9/11 with these words: *"How this administration handled that day, as well as the war on terror, is worthy of discussion."* Yes indeed, but it is an administration that delights in discussions in which it monopolizes all of the crucial information and the media, and then cherry-picks, fabricates and otherwise distorts evidence, mocking the sacred notion of representative democracy.

With thanks to George Duravetz ■

BOOK REVIEWS

ALL INDIA ANTI- IMPERIALIST FORUM CONVENTION

By S. VERRASINGHAM

The declaration of this Forum called upon all democratic and progressive forces to unite by organizing people everywhere against US imperialism and its occupation of Iraq. The Convention also condemned the butchery of Palestinian people by Israel.

This convention was attended by delegates from USA, Syria, France, Algeria and Bangladesh. About 800 delegates came from states of India. The objective of the Forum is to build up a people's militant peace movement against the imperialist military, political and cultural onslaught and demand the withdrawal of US-UK occupation forces from Iraq and the delegates expressed their solidarity with the people of Iraq and Palestine.

Dr. Kumar Mukherjee the General Secretary and a renowned scientist presided over the opening ceremony and praised the valiant fighters who courted death in the struggles against Imperialism around the world.

Dr. Mukherjee said the following in his speech: *"I would like to recall at this moment what we promised at our 1995 Convention to do, to organize a world-wide resistance movement against Imperialism and their interference in other countries. This occasion has arisen in all of its monstrosities with the invasion of Iraq by US imperialists."*

There were speeches and messages from other delegates and organizations. The following message was read from The National Liberation Army of Iraq – *"Your convention is very crucial at a time of the criminal bloody Imperialist-Zionist onslaught all over*

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the globe. Therefore we have the honour of sending you greetings in a sacred spirit of struggle against Imperialism and Zionism".

In another message from the Jordanian Workers' Communist Party which said: "We believe that this Convention will be a turning point in uniting all of the anti-imperialist forces, anti-globalization forces in the struggles against savage capitalism and its aggression all over the world."

The forum was addressed by representatives of the friendly movements from many countries of the world and from the Indian states. The representative from the International Action Center in the US, Heather Gervasi said that: "I come from the very capital of Imperialism, and I represent those obligations in the struggle inside the belly of the beast, to oppose the criminal US government. The USA is positioned to remain in the Middle East - the so-called Euroasian Balkans and to move Eastwards."

One of the delegates from Bangladesh exposed the hypocrisy of Zionism when he said: "Osama bin Laden is called a Fundamentalist terrorist, since he wears a façade of a particular religion. But Ariel Sharon, a Zionist war monger, the butcher of Sabra-Shatila, is not considered a Fundamentalist, terrorist by the US and its Allies."

At the end of the Conference it was exposed about the news axis between USA, India and Israel

HANDS OFF IRAQ!
HANDS OFF PALESTINE!

Working Women Organization - Pakistan

By CRISTINA FERNANDEZ

"...so long as foreign troops remain in Iraq, the war continues...!", said Rohini Hensman in an article written for the Newsletter publication by the Working Women Organization in Pakistan.

The WWO is very actively involved in conducting educational campaigns on issues affecting women, such as violence against women, gender equality, changing the laws discriminating against women, etc.

The WWO believes awareness through strong education is the key to change the condition of women in Pakistan; to this end the WWO organizes seminars, conferences, public demonstrations, rallies and various other activities in the main cities, communities and neighbourhoods. For example, the WWO held a Sixteen Days Activism Against Gender Violence which was comprised of a wide variety of workshops, as well as gender talk shows, where they engage men and women to confront the issues of inequality and violence against women and what can be done to change this situation. The WWO distributed written materials such as leaflets, as well as having participatory role-play and skits in the activities. On the commemoration of International Human Rights Day women formed a human chain in front of the Press Club in the city of Lahore (one of the main ports), to

denounce discrimination and exploitation on the basis of gender, religion and colour. Also, the WWO held a National Conference on Sexual Harassment Against Women.

The conference was attended by all women's organizations as well as representatives from the labour unions. The events organized by the WWO received ample media coverage.

The WWO is constantly challenging the laws, taking their cases to the Supreme Court if necessary. While achieving some gains in the legislature the WWO recognizes that there is still a long way to go in a society where women are exposed to constant threats, brutal violence and intimidation.

The WWO analysis of the women question in Pakistan also encompasses an analysis of the current capitalist globalization, specifically regarding the occupation of Iraq and Palestine. As Rohini Hensman declared: "...occupation of Iraq must end now and the Anglo-American troops should withdraw from Iraq..." she goes on to say that: "solidarity is neither altruism nor self-interest, solidarity is based on the understanding that our own interests are linked inextricably with those of others..." such should be one of the thriving factors in the feminist 'movement' here in Canada. Feminists in Canada could benefit tremendously from the analysis and experiences of women's movements around the globe. The WWO is now planning events for the coming International Women's Day celebrations.

Mishka Says:



AN OPEN LETTER TO MR. PUTIN

Dear Mr. Putin!

Do you really care as to what is happening to the poor children in Russia and in Moscow in particular?

Walking Moscow streets a few years ago, according to many foreign tourists, you were bound to be struck by the hordes of furtive and ragged children who made their homes under train platforms, in the parks or on the Moscow construction sites.

I do wonder Mr. Putin if you read or bothered to read the report issued by the UN International Labor Organization not too long ago, which estimated that in Moscow alone there were over 50,000 children living on the streets. In order to survive they had to become thieves, prostitutes and couriers for your well-fed and protected Mafia.

You must remember that the winter of 2003 was extremely cold with temperatures sometimes going minus 30c. After that New Year there were scores of these children that froze to death on the Moscow streets. Did you happen to see any

of them from the limousine that you are driven about???? in? Of course you didn't! But people of Moscow did and they raised a lot of noise and you even received a protest letter from a prominent children's-rights group, didn't you?

Lately these children somewhat vanished from the Moscow streets, or there are very few of them. I thought - don't tell me that you opened up the former Soviet Pioneer Camps and sent these kids there to get their health back and to get the spirit of the Pioneers Camp? After all, you yourself Mr. Putin, as a young man spent many summers --- even other holidays in the Pioneer



Camps in Crimea and in other Soviet places, did you not?

You somewhat conceded that there is a problem. What did you do? You appointed Valentina Matvienko who was then the deputy prime minister and told her to find a solution. Did she ever find a solution! This solution was used in the Czarist times. She made this responsibility of the Interior Ministry, the police and the anti-terrorist units.

I do not know where you managed to come up with the finances for the police apparatus, whom you gave a 35% raise to, while you downgraded and starved the health care system, education and social services over the past few years.

You signed a law which gave the police the right to sweep the streets of these children - and you opened up "camps" with military discipline.

This was the proposal of Matvienko no doubt, but why did you not censure this madam when she said in the Russian Duma the following: "Our country's in danger and the future is at stake." It is as though

these homeless children were ready to declare their independence and establish their own country and invade Russia!?

Mayor Luzhkov, you remember, your patron, gave the orders to the police to take into custody all of these children and send all the young boys 16 years or over into special "shield and sword" camps and teach them to prepare for the army. More and more of these detention camps are being set up, but no money is available to be able to give these kids schooling.

And for this service by Matvienko, you gave her a promotion, where she is slated to become the next governor in Northern Russia! What can I say Mr. Putin, only that: Birds of a feather flock together!

The Russian Human Rights Watch investigation into the present capitalist-run Russian orphanages are described as "grim and terrible" - since there is no finances to upkeep them and that some of them are being privatized.

The Human Rights Watch stated that: "Only 10% of the kids coming out of orphanages or these camps that were established, maybe can find jobs, while the other 90% cannot find jobs and cannot cope and thus resort to crime and are ruined for life."

Mr. Putin, when you were strutting your stuff in front of the world's leaders at the 300th Anniversary of St. Petersburg (Leningrad) in 2003, you made certain that Matvienko was to get erected a two-meter high wall, so that these foreign leaders did not see the REAL city and the decaying buildings that there was no money for renovation.

Needles to say that the homeless children, beggars and other vagrants had long been swept from the streets by your order and consent, Mr. Putin.

In conclusion, if I was in Russia I certainly would have boycotted the presidential election last March, since it was an actual farce and I would not have been tempted to go and vote, in order to accept your offer of free theatre tickets and meals.

In conclusion Mr. Putin, - **you can fool some people sometimes, but you cannot fool all the people all of the time.**

Based on materials from The Walrus publication. ■

JUST IN!

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has offered refuge to ousted Haitian leader Jean-Bertrand Aristide and said that Venezuela recognizes him as the legitimate president of this Caribbean country.

US said the Chavez is trying to distract attention from his domestic problems.

At the same time Venezuela is offering humanitarian aid to Haiti, including supplies of fuel oil. Haitian people must not suffer- Chavez said.

DID YOU KNOW?

By NSC REPORTER

ELUSIVE WMD - As the war in Iraq continues, the USA seems finally to have given up on finding weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Or have they? A recent report from Tehran Times tells of US unloading WMD in the southern port of Iraq. The large cargo consists of parts for constructing long-range missiles and weapons of mass destruction (WMD). The cargo was unloaded at night and concealed by US troops. The source said that in order to avoid suspicion, ordinary cargo ships were used to unload the cargo, which consisted of weapons produced in the 1980's and 1990's. He mentioned the fact that the United States has facilitated Iraq's WMD program during 1980-1999 Iran-Iraq War and said that some of the weapons being downloaded are similar to those weapons.

I guess it won't be too long now before we hear that the US has finally located Saddam's elusive WMD.

***AH, JUST TOO LATE.** Indonesia's new constitutional court has ruled that former members and supporters of the outlawed Communist Party should be allowed to run in the parliamentary elections. The Chief Judge, Jimly Asshiddiqiem, had agreed to revoke an article in a 2003

law which barred former members and supporters of the Indonesian Communist Party from standing as legislative candidates. However, Judge Assjiddiqie said that since the candidate list for April elections has already been finalized, they will only be able to run in 2009. President Suharto banned the PKI following a failed coup attempt in September of 1965, which he blamed on the party. Hundreds of thousands of alleged communists or sympathizers were murdered in the months following the abortive coup.

***THREAT FROM HAITI?** One country that has been in the news lately is Haiti, whose government was overthrown by forces of the USA. Haiti must have posed a great threat to the Yankees, which can be seen from the following statistics:

- *The richest 1% of the population controls half of all Haiti's wealth.*

- *Haiti has long ranked as the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and is the fourth poorest country in the world.*

- *Haiti ranks 146 out of 173 on the Human Development Index.*

- *Life expectancy is 52 years for women and 48 for men.*

- *Adult illiteracy stands about 50%.*

- *Unemployment is about 70%.*

- *85% Haitians live on less than \$1 US per day.*

- *Haiti ranks 38 out of 195 for mortality of children under five.*

***KNOW NO SHAME** – After US Secretary of State Colin Powell made a complete fool of himself with last year's presentation to the United Nations about Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction. You would think that he would show just a bit of modesty in any future entanglements. Not so however. After arranging the overthrow and kidnapping of the democratically elected president of Haiti, he declared on the Fox TV News Channel: *"The US is working hard with the new council of eminent persons (you can guess who they are) to find a new prime minister for Haiti."*

Now, why did I think that was the job of the Haitian people?

***NOT TO BE OUTDONE** – The US Whitehouse, after they effectively supported the Haitian rebels who deposed President Aristide, issued a warning to him – *"not to return to the*

region and stir up any divisions in the country."

Truly, the arrogance of these people is unbelievable!

***ROAD TO DAMASCUS** – The US Neocons' Iraq strategy is now focused on Syria, said Tom Berry, the policy director of the Inter-hemispheric Resource Center. Sunk in the quagmire of Iraq and with a presidential election forthcoming, Bush needs a new evildoer, which they find in Syria. The appointment of David Wurmser, a long time advocate of US military action against Syria, to the staff of Vice President Cheney in September of 2003, followed by the president's signing of the Syria Accountability Act in December of last year, were widely regarded as another signal that the US regional restructuring crusade might soon be embarking on the road to Damascus.

***VOTER PARTICIPATION** - In the reporting on the Democratic Party primary elections, the US media left a very distinct impression that the rejuvenated Democrats succeeded in drawing record numbers of people to the polls. However, the analyses of voter turnout by the Committee for the Study of the American Electorate, which tabulates and analyzes voter participation, said that the turnout *"was generally low – in the aggregate, the third-lowest on record. Only an estimated 10.2 million of US citizens...nationally participated in the selection of Senator John Kerry as the Democratic presidential nominee. This constitutes only 11.4% of the US electorate."*

***FROM AUSTRIA** – A few years ago the people of Austria stunned Europeans by giving large support to Joerg Haider's extreme right-wing Freedom Party. In later elections however, Haider was defeated. He retreated to the southern province of Carinthia, where he became a Governor. Predictions of his defeat in recent elections proved to be incorrect however. Haider was re-elected as Governor and delivered a victory for his party with 42.4% of the vote.

Some people just never learn!

***IN WHOSE INTEREST?** - While the whole world knows by now that

the US is only pursuing its own interests in the Middle East, the Bush administration continues its attempt to convince people of its unselfish and benevolent actions. Former Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs, Edward Walker said that Bush administration's Greater Middle East Initiative is an effort to help Middle Eastern governments adapt to economic and demographic realities. *"Reform isn't in our interests. Reform is in the interests of the Arab governments themselves."*

Do you know anyone who believes him?

***HE'S NO FRIEND** – US Republican representative Don Young from Alaska is no friend of the environmentalists. In a radio interview in 1996 he stated: *"Environmentalists are a socialist group of individuals that are the tools of the Democratic Party. I'm proud to say that they are my enemy. They are not Americans, never have been Americans, and never will be Americans."*

***RELIGION** – Elsewhere in this issue is a story about the Reverend Pat Robertson. Here are a couple of more quotes from his TV Show *"The 700 Club"*.

- *"Homosexuals want to come into the churches and disrupt church services and throw blood around and try to give people AIDS and spit in the face of ministers."*

- *I know that this is painful for the ladies to hear, but if you get married, you have accepted the headship of a man, your husband. Christ is the head of the household and the husband is the head of the wife, and that's the way it is, period."*

***DON'T ASK ME!** And to end, here's a quote from President Bush to the newspaper Washington Post: *"I'm the commander – see, I don't need to explain – I don't need to explain why I say things. That's the thing about being President. Maybe somebody needs to explain to me why they say something, but I don't feel like I owe anybody an explanation"*.

Well, I guess you can't explain the unexplainable.

Bye for now and see you next month.

PAGES FROM OUR PAST

THE FBI FILE ON EINSTEIN

By JESSE PAPAPAVOLOU

What if the greatest mind in the world was a socialist? What if the world had never known this? The FBI spied on Einstein until his death in 1955.

Albert Einstein was born in Germany in 1879. The FBI fabricated the story that Einstein's son was held captive by Stalin, so as to force this genius to Socialism. Only one problem, Einstein never had a son in the Soviet Union. A minor detail for the revered or "feared" FBI! As George W. Bush the lesser pulls his people behind a sword and pushes other peoples of the world with the sharp end of the sword, remember

Einstein's words of September 4, 1931 about the Disarmament Conference.

"Is it not terrible to be forced to deeds which every individual feels to be most despicable crime (wars) and without disarmament there can be no lasting peace. For the creation of this public opinion in favor of disarmament, every person living shares the responsibility, through every deed and every word. It is not the task of the individual at this time merely to await results and to just criticize."

At the Disarmament Conference in Geneva in 1932, Einstein discovered that the Imperialist nations of Britain and the United States, wanted to create immunity for their future actions of wars and economic dominance of the poor nations. So they created code words to be used by these Imperialists. Today, these words are refined as: "Operation-Iraqi liberation - **or Oil**". And here is the "Collateral Damage- **or unworthy dead**", "Friendly fire - **or our aim maybe a bit off**", "National Security - **or a blank check for world aggression**", "Bringing Democracy to the world - **or cheap labour and resources for US corporations.**" What about this one: "National Endowment for Democracy- **or dirty money for**

coups", "Star Wars - **or USA's first strike with nukes, then mop-up retaliatory incoming missiles**", "They hate us for our freedoms or, **one pinch of colonialism, two tablespoons of Imperialism and bake at 300 years and serve to the 10 US corporations who have more wealth than 4 billion of slave labour people who are paid under \$2 per day**".

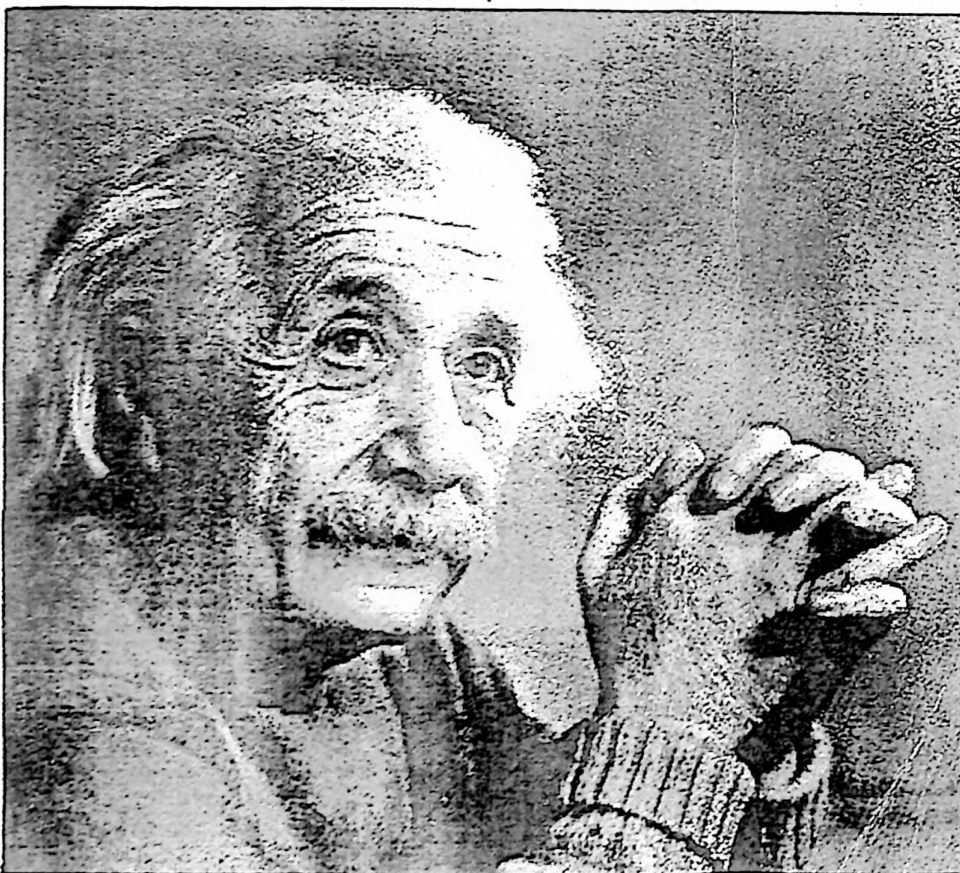
Albert Einstein was disgusted with the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, because these big powers had no intention of disarming, but they wanted to disarm the weak nations, so as to exploit them with little cost to the imperial powers like Britain and the US. Einstein hated wars and the profits that were made by the rich imperialist nations. Einstein said that: "*Warfare cannot be humanized, it can only be abolished!*"

Well, let us look at a small portion of US bombings of the weak nations - China in 1945-46, Korea and China in 1950-53, Gutemala in 1954, 1960, 1967-69, Indonesia in 1958, Cuba in 1959-61, Congo in 1964, Peru in 1965, Laos in 1964-73, Vietnam in 1961-1973, Cambodia in 1969-70, Chile in 1973, Grenada in 1983, Lebanon in 1983-84, Libya in 1986, El Salvador in 1980's, Nicaragua in 1980's, Iran in 1987, Panama in 1989, Iraq in 1991, Somalia in 1993, Bosnia in 1994-95, Sudan in 1998, Afghanistan in 1998, Yugoslavia in 199, Iraq in 2003.

The US has bombed and sunk an Iranian ship in 1987. George Bush Sr. said it best when he was asked to comment of the US shooting down of an Iranian passenger plane, Flight 655, killing all of the 290 innocent civilians. He said: "*I will never apologize for the United States of America. I don't care what the facts are.*"

If Albert Einstein lived today, he would have left the US long ago and he would have started a new Underground Railroad to help others escape the US Empire.

Since October 17th of 1932, the FBI kept a file on him. He was spied on, his telephone was tapped, his mail was opened - they watched his every move. With over 2000 files on him, he was labeled as an "*undesirable alien*". He was also denied clearance to work on the atom bomb project.



In May of 1949 Einstein wrote "Why Socialism" for a Marxist journal. He detested capitalist society as it exists. He wrote: *"The economic anarchy of capitalist society as it exists today is, in my opinion, the real source of evil. Workers are those who do not share in the ownership of the means of production. The owner of the means of production is in a position to purchase the labour power of the worker. Instead of the worker getting paid his full value, he only gets a small cut. So the worker gets his "minimum needs" and by the capitalist's requirement for labour power in relation to the number of workers competing for the job."*

He also wrote that: *"the US political parties are largely financed or influenced by private capitalists. The capitalist class controls directly or indirectly the main source of information (the press, radio or education). Therefore it is extremely difficult for the individual citizen to come to an objective conclusion and to make intelligent use of his political rights."*

Einstein saw the connection between the US and fascism in Europe. To the hatred of the FBI, Einstein supported the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, which defied the US government policy of so-called "neutrality", as the US oil giant Texaco fueled fascist Franco's planes that flew from Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany

The great black poet Langston Hughes wrote about Fascist Franco's Spain in 1937. He said: *"We Negroes in America do not have to be told what Fascism is in action. We know its theories of Nordic supremacy and economic suppression have long been realities to us."*

Einstein barely landed in the USA when he started to defend the Scottsboro Boys who were wrongly accused of raping a white woman on a train in Alabama. In 1946, Einstein worked with Paul Robeson to end thousands of lynchings of Black Americans. The organization was called the "American Crusade Against Lynching".

It should be noted that President D. Roosevelt removed over 400 US Federal employees as suspected Communists. Also, the American Civil Liberties Union worked very closely with the FBI to rid

communists who were members of the labour unions. Ellen Schrecker said that many leftists that were anti-Stalin worked with Senator McCarthy's Red Scare. She puts Leon Trotsky as the worst of all the pseudo-leftists. But the Trotskyites will tell you that they opposed Stalin because they are anti-capitalists!

Is this not funny, because now that Stalin is dead for 50 years and capitalism has arrived in former Soviet Union, these Trots do not defend workers who today make under \$2 per day in former Soviet Union. What vision? What irony?

These "real Trot communists" will now show themselves by defending the Third World conditions in the former USSR's destruction and the break up into 15 beggar states to the IMF/ World Bank / Imperialism!!!

It was also an irony that the organization in the US, "The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People" openly attacked Paul Robeson and Communists as well, but Albert Einstein stood firmly with Paul Robeson. On December 12, 1952, Paul Robeson said: -

"I have been, I am, and I shall always remain a strong, unbending friend of the Soviet people, their wise leaders and the land of socialism, equality and peace."

Einstein worked very hard to create links with the Soviet Union. He said: *"The philosophy behind communism has a lot of merit, being concerned with ending the exploitation of the common people and the sharing of the goods, according to the needs and abilities."*

In 1942 Einstein really saw the US for what it really was and what it stood for, when he asked - *"Why does US maintain relation with fascist Spain? Why has the US have an official representative in fascist France? Why is there no serious effort to assist the Soviet Union in her dire need after being invaded? It is a fact that in the US there is a government to a large degree controlled by financial capital, the mentality of whom is near the Fascist state of mind."*

Too bad that Einstein is not alive today, because I would tell him that Rockefeller's "Standard Oil" refueled German U-boats that were sinking many American ships. Also, that the International Telephone and Telegraph (ITT) built the German

Fockwulf bombers that killed many Americans. General Motors was manufacturing engines for the Junker 88 Bombers, one of the deadliest weapons in the German Nazi hands. IBM technology helped to compile a German Nazi ready death lists of communists, socialists, trade union leaders and Jews to be killed or sent to the death camps.

Einstein fought for the release of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, right to the moment of their execution in 1953. The FBI could not openly attack Einstein or Charlie Chaplin, so J. Edgar Hoover, head of the FBI used US Nazis and anti-Stalinists to frame Einstein as a spy and a terrorist.

Einstein said also that: *"I believe that America may totally succumb to fearful militarism which engulfed Germany. Power relies not only on coercion, but it relies also on subtle persuasion and deception through the educational system and the media of public information. One can only hope that there are enough people the world over who possess integrity to resist these evil influences."*

Today, USA spends more on weapons of death than the whole world combined. Einstein said on this point: *"You cannot simultaneously prevent and prepare for war!"*

If you make weapons of mass destruction and freely use them on innocent people of the world, you do not stand for peace. You stand for death, starvation, murder and the destruction of our precious Mother Earth.

Einstein remained a devoted Socialist right up to his death. He died in his sleep at the Princeton Hospital on April 18, 1955.

To know and not to act, is not to know at all. It is even worse than not to know. It is to silently help the evil acts of an organized repressive movement that would hurt even a child in order to benefit. In even one light moment, over 500,000 children on this world starve to death.

Do not forsake all else but thy-self. Forsake thyself for the betterment of the common, the community, the society. We can build a better world with imperfect people. As we make the world more perfect, through this act, we the people become a little more perfect.

Yours with great humility. ■

AS I SEE IT...

JERRY MORSE



WASHINGTON: US people more and more are condemning the military-industrial complex, but these top gurus say that this occupies too much time. Capitalist love what they see.

Last February 12, 2004 the Internet carried, believe it or not, right from the GobExec.com article "**Defense Contractors Owe Billions of Unpaid Federal Taxes**". This went on for a couple of pages of copy. Out of this report by the US General Accounting Office, one finds a semantic volcano.

"Some may be guilty of criminal offenses.

*Billions in US taxes are not paid.

*Defense companies do business with other government agencies, saying that this is only the tip of an iceberg.

* Three billions in unpaid US taxes as of September 2002.

* Names of these companies cannot be disclosed in the US due to their supported **Privacy Laws**.

(These 47 criminal outfits should be listed with other Wall Street criminals.)

*Those, whose wrists are overloaded with stolen monies, having not paid payroll taxes, will then remove these ill-gotten monies from their wrists, so that their friends in the US government will be able to slap their wrists very gently.

* Some of these US contractors, even work inside the comfort of the US military installations and buildings. Some of these contractors could be saying that they are cleaning the chicken coup, and they pay themselves in golden eggs, then declare themselves bankrupt, and then come back again and establish another chicken coup and harvest the golden eggs again under another name.

*Together with crooked real estate tycoons, they buy ramshackle buildings, then they charge the US government for renovations at excessive prices and again reap the benefits of tax deductions while not paying any taxes at all...but getting subsidies instead.

* The USA Defense Department awarded to their friends over \$165 billion in contracts during the fiscal year 2002. Each year the contracts grow like mushrooms after the rain.

*The IRS investigators are worried that they might have to investigate their Republican Party friends and they are also very worried that if the Democrats win the presidential election, maybe John Kerry will not award these contracts at all, or, maybe they will be awarded to their Democratic friends instead!

NOW IT'S SPAIN!

Our views were correct. The terrible events that transpired in Spain last month would not have happened at all if the Bush administration had listened to the United Nations. It was from the peripheral Al Qaeda, no doubt that Islamic Fundamentalists that this attack took place, not by the Spanish people themselves. No other proof is necessary then to say that it was the Spanish people who took up arms first against Fascism of Hitler and Mussolini in 1936, plus members of the Lincoln Brigade, the International Brigade and Canada's own MacKenzie-Papineau Battalion - give further proof that the Spanish people are against terrorism in any form.

The involvement of these Fundamentalists and their ilk, as prepared by US secret services to undermine and then to attack Afghanistan and Iraq, this is all the work of the US administration

The involvement, the intrigues, the interlocking connections all point to the cooperation between the USA and other groups, who work together to destabilize the world and thus make it easier for US imperialism to go in and get their hands on the natural resources and above all, on oil!!

MIDDLE EAST: The Arab nations (*all 22 of them*) are fed up with being

bullied by other countries, and rightly so. In Cairo, a meeting took place of Arab foreign ministers where there was discussion about the formation of a united political, organizational and economic forms for the Arab nations, similar to what is happening with the European Union countries which might give more clout to the Arab nations against Imperialism.

The deal was further discussed in Tunisia last March 29-30, 2004. In the meanwhile there will be ongoing cooperation and interchange in all aspect of foreign and internal reforms in order to benefit the 22 Arab nations.

Syria proposed that there should be 10 representatives from each Arab nation, no matter what size and what population. Some of the major things to be discussed and acted upon are: Court of Justice, Parliament of Internationalism, Arab Development Bank, Cultural Council and other forms or organizations and interchange programs.

If this 22 member Arab Council will function as it is proposed, the unifying resources will be able to pay for investments, economic growth, education, industrial development and other avenues to improve the life of the Arab peoples.

This will show US imperialism that the days of US bullying and exploitation of their resources is coming to an end. ■

CAN THIS BE THE BEGINNING?

President Aleksander Kwasniewski of Poland said last month that his country had been "*taken for a ride regarding the alleged weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. They deceived us!*"

WHY NOT TAKE THE POLISH TROOPS OUT OF IRAQ?

WE NEED HELP!

We are missing the issue of NSC for June 1999. We were requested to send all of the 11 years of NSC to the University of British Columbia, Canada, for their archives. We're missing this issue.

If you have it, please send it.
The Editor of NSC

SALT 'N PEPPER ON WRY

JESUS HAD A BETTER IDEA: After the vicious terrorist attacks in Spain, President Bush, largely responsible for the slaughter in the first place, manfully manned a microphone and came out strong with a pushy-Bushy, same old crap message: Hate 'em and hit 'em and hatè 'em hard, and sooner or later these mean old terrorists will become nice folks like you'n me.

So, where have you been the last 50 years, Asno Aznar, while the Israelis and Palestinians have been knocking themselves out to prove once and for all, that hatred and violence merely breed more hatred and violence?

Shakespeare said it better: "Love conquers all."

Frank Ray Davis

Our reader and contributor from Mexico



JUDAS AS PIONEER: Junior Bush has been falling all over himself to say nice things about the prospective US Democratic competition, Senator Kerry. Which only shows that Dubya is not just an expert in delivering bombs of death, but also kisses of death.

HE'S BASICALLY RIGHT, THOUGH: Governor of California

Schwartzegger, in a plum neighborly mood, suggested that foreign-born Americans should have the right to become President of the US. Should you wonder if he has anyone specific in mind, consider his immigrant background.

Ah, but Arnold, if now we can't trust foreigners to legally drive a jalopy, how could we ever trust one at the helm of the Ship of State?

THE SPIN OF GREEN OPTIMISM: The boss of the US Federal Reserve Greenspan said that prospects for the American economy are bright and shining, though the actual job market remains "limited". This means I take it, that a nation doesn't really need employment to have prosperity.

FAME AND FORTUNE FOR FAIR: So you want too be a bank robber and a hero too? Just be an Israeli and claim that the loot you stole is terrorist money.

PICKETSIGN WISDOM: "The people of Iraq are NOT my enemy". "If weapons of mass destruction are so horrible, why do we keep creating and manufacturing them?"

IF DUBYA ever achieved his cherished dream of eliminating the world's worst terrorist, he'd just end up as suicide statistic. ■

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IN MEMORIAMs

Northstar Compass had many requests to have a section in NSC where ads in memory of loved ones and friends can be expressed. Donations will be accepted in this column.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM
CHESHIRE
ENGLAND

Dear Michael:

I will treasure the painting that you have sent me as a thank you for the support that I have given to NSC. A further contributing point is that you are a hard working socialist, not only in theory - but in practice.

Like all contributors and readers of NSC, I share like you friends an all consuming desire for a return to the world stage of a strong resurrected socialism and a resurrected mighty Soviet Union.

I was devastated with the collapse of the Warsaw Pact countries and particularly the USSR, which was of course helped by the vindictive evil traitors within the system. I have always felt that the return of socialism will come about.

Again many thanks for the wonderful painting, and may you be painting such canvasses for many years to come.

With best fraternal greetings.

Clifford F. Roe ■

FROM
SUFFOLK
ENGLAND

Dear friends:

Please this \$144.00 as a donation towards Northstar Compass, the shining light about our common struggles.

P.W. Almond ■

WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL HELP!

FROM
IRKUTSK
RUSSIA

Dear comrades:

By sheer chance I came across the publication Northstar Compass while visiting Moscow. What a joy to remember the delegation of 16 people from the Canada-USSR Association that visited Irkutsk, and also to remember our many receptions across Canada when the USSR-Canada Society tourist group was visiting Canada!

USSR is no more for the present, but we are going to resurrect it and the friendship between your organization and us Soviets will be long remembered. Please forward me NSC. It's a precious for us to read!

Vladimir Saviliev □

FROM
STORNOWAY
CANADA

Dear friends:

Your journal is very good reading material, keep it up! The New World Order is nothing else but the enslavement of the working class. Their greed for oil and gas is unlimited. People must realize what these imperialist billionaires are up to - only then can a change be made.

Enclosed please find my donation of \$75.00.

Oscar Gellert □

FROM
HAMDEN, CT
USA

Dear Editor:

I am sorry to write this, since on occasion one finds in NSC polemical articles on Israel that suggest an underlying anti-Semitic, rather than a Marxian critique of the subject. The article in February issue of NSC by Vicki Andrata, "Top Zionists Inside the Bush-Cheney Regime" is a more recent example of casting Jews in an unfavorable light.

What progressive purpose was served by giving so much space by listing the names of 34 Jews who hold various kinds of positions in the Bush administration. You have discovered nothing new since in many newspapers in the USA they were critically described.

Why single out the Jews? There are many Evangelical Christians in the US that are big supporters of Sharon's policies and support Bush. Don't you think there are many Evangelicals in the Bush administration as well? Why single out the 34 Jews as if they are the sole culprits?

It is one thing to condemn or oppose the right-wing Sharon government of Israel, but one expects that all enlightened, progressive people will deliberately

refuse to make this a criticism of Jews (or Israelis) as if they were monolithic groups following the chauvinist Sharon agenda.

Sid Resnick

Dear Sid:

We have shortened your article somewhat for space reasons only, but if you read the end comment in that article, you would notice that: "This article is an expose of Zionism, a reactionary political ideology, having nothing to do with race or country." Also on page 20 of the same NSC issue is the article: "Bush's Mid-east stand..." which describes the Evangelical Christians who support Bush and Sharon. It is one thing to support the Bush policies as do the Evangelical Christians, but it is another to hold executive positions of power and set the policies within the Bush Administration!

All progressive people should struggle against US Imperialism, which supports Israel's Zionist reactionary imperialistic policies.

In the April issue there will be an article by Mitchell Plitnick called "Jewish and Israeli groups demand immediate resignation of Israel officials."

Reactionary ideology, no matter under what label it is hiding under, must be fought by all progressive people in the world! □

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