

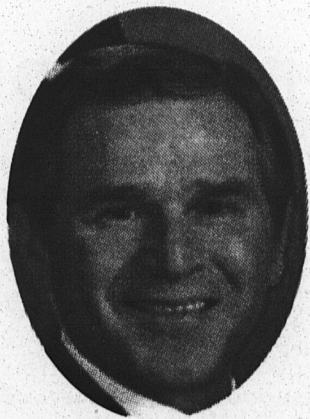
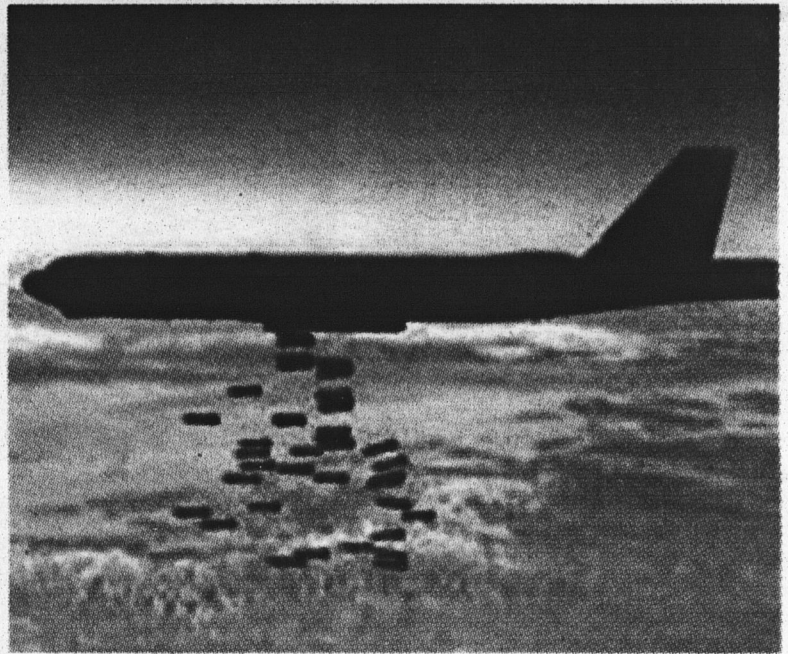
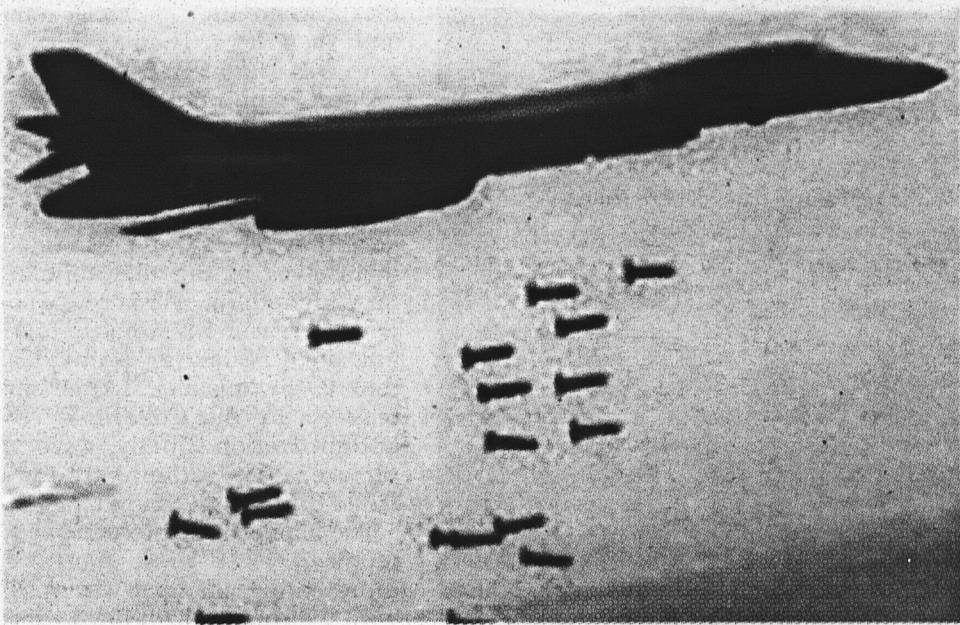


the
college **Voice**

For Free Tuition and Open Admissions

Volume XIX • Issue No. VII • March 2003

WAR ON IRAQ IS A WAR ON US



**TUITION HIKES, FARE INCREASES, LAY-OFFS,
LOSS OF CIVIL LIBERTIES, HATE CRIMES**

McCarthyism Alive and Well on Campus

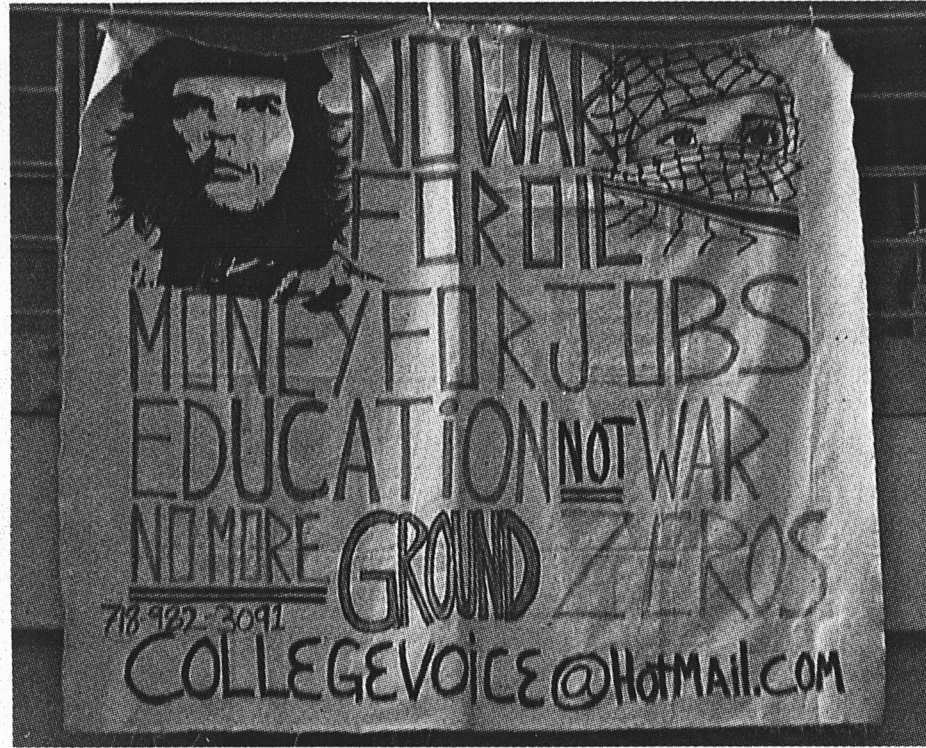
On the first day of class at the College of Staten Island a CSI student decided to make a very stupid mistake. His mistake was violating the College Voice's first amendment right. The College Voice had hung up a very beautiful and hard worked banner on the rotunda in the campus center. The rotunda is the place in the campus, where different clubs and organization put up their banner representing their club or organization. The College Voice's banner said "No War for Oil, Money for Education not for War, No more Ground Zeros". A student by the name of Thomas McCarthy didn't like what it said and decided to set it on fire. He set the corner of the banner on fire and proceeded to rip it down the middle. He was seen by a student worker, who then called public safety. This happened at around noon at the cafeteria, the largest gathering spot of students in the whole college. How stupid can you be?

Thomas McCarthy didn't like what it said because he supports war with Iraq. What is so hypocritical about his situation is that America wants to bomb Iraq for being undemocratic and not allowing others to speak their opinions. Thomas McCarthy should work with Saddam Hussein and Peter Licata in tearing down student fliers, burning banners and violating student's freedom of speech.

The College Voice expected the CSI administration to take a strong stand on this arsonist. Carol Jackson promised the College Voice that Thomas McCarthy would get the worst punishment but instead he got a slap on the wrist. This student set a big banner on fire that could have harmed the 400 students hanging out at the campus center that day. The banner was thick and made out of canvas so the fire wasn't

spreading fast enough that is why he decided to tear it down the middle. If the banner would have burnt like he wanted it to, the students sitting on the table under the banner could have suffered some serious burns. This student put the whole building in jeopardy and could have set a bigger fire if the banner was made of different material.

Thomas McCarthy had to go to a disciplinary committee made up of faculty and students to decide what happens to him whether get



expelled, suspended or whatever they decide. The first disciplinary meeting happened and Thomas McCarthy did not show up. The next meeting occurred the week after and he showed up very late. The administration broke a deal with him. He did not sit in front of the disciplinary committee instead the administration made him get off with barely any punishment. The

administration told him he has to drop his classes and is not allowed on CSI again. They did not expel him and what he did is not on his record. He can attend any other City University and do the same thing he did because it is not on his record.

He could have gotten arrested for what he did and charged with a serious crime of arson but the administration did not do this. When a swastika was found spray painted in building 1P along with anti-black remarks the

CSI administration decides to let the student go with no charge.

Marlene Springer, Carol Jackson and their lawyer Kathy Galvez need to grow up and take these matters seriously. Just because the administration doesn't like the College Voice doesn't mean they shouldn't protect student rights on campus. If something happens to the College Voice or someone from the College Voice the administration should respond the same way it would if any other student was attacked or harmed. The College Voice staff are all registered students who's rights should be protected like anyone else. What kind of message is the administration giving the students and the Staten Island community when it allows Peter Licata to go after his racist remarks and then let's Thomas McCarthy who was caught go freely.

The administration is not protecting students on campus whether from racism or arsonist students. Our freedom of speech is not protected by our administration and they should be ashamed of themselves letting this student get off with nothing. We know his name which we weren't suppose to know but the CSI lawyer Kathy Galvez told us by mistake. After several requests by the College Voice, the administration finally gave us a picture. The administration has failed to protect CSI students.

The banner has been returned and repaired. It now hangs high representing the anti-war message with the corner burnt marks and the rip still visible. It stands again to say don't try to violate our freedom of speech and our anti-war message or you are just as bad as Saddam and his entourage.

Racist Public Safety Still Working On Campus

Public Safety Peter Licata made racist statements last semester towards an Arab-American student, Ayman El-Sayed. Ayman El-Sayed was putting up fliers advertising a clue credit discussion about the war in Iraq. Speakers who just visited Iraq were invited to talk to the College of Staten Island community. Ayman spotted Licata illegally tearing down the flier which the student posted up. Ayman confronted three public safety officers, first Flood, Robertson and then Licata. He asked Licata "why did you tear down my flier?" Licata said "I don't like what it says" and then he said "we need to kill all the Arabs in Iraq" and followed more by saying "kill all the Arabs" several times. Officer Flood and Robertson were both witnesses to these remarks. Ayman filed a report ironically with another public safety officer. While Ayman was filing the report, officer Robertson told him

"Ayman, I'm going to tell the truth".

The students at the College of Staten Island had two big rallies that attracted several hundred students, faculty and community members. The protest was to tell the administration of Marlene Springer that she should take a strong stand against racism and hate crimes no matter from whom or towards whom. The administration said they will carry out an investigation but this investigation was unfair from the start. First the administration appointed Dean Torres to head the investigation. Torres is a dean and has no prior experience in such matters and investigation. The administration should have appointed a board of faculty and students who can truly and fairly investigate this matter. Second Dean Torres carried out a very bias and reckless investigation. He met with Peter Licata and the other two public safety witnesses at the same

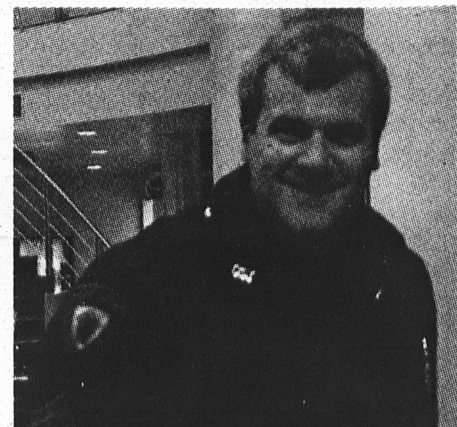
time first and then interviewed them separately after they collaborated their story.

Dean Torres held interviews with both Ayman El-Sayed and his witnesses and Peter Licata, Eleanor Robertson and Flood. All of Ayman's statements and his witnesses were recorded on tape. Officer Licata, Robertson's and Flood's statements were not recorded on tape. How is this a fair investigation? If this was a fair investigation everyone's statements should be recorded on tape so no one changes the story in the future. The administration wants to try to use Ayman's words against him while allowing Licata to change whatever he said because none of his original statements were recorded, so no one knows what was said at the interviews. The only good thing about the administration not recording their statements is that officer Robertson can still tell the

truth because her lies were not recorded on tape and they cannot use that against her.

Officer Robertson backed down from telling the truth fearing she would lose her job or respect of other public safety officers. She is a public safety officer who is supposed to protect the students and tell the truth. The public safety

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WAR ON IRAQ IS A WAR ON US

RENEE MARHONG

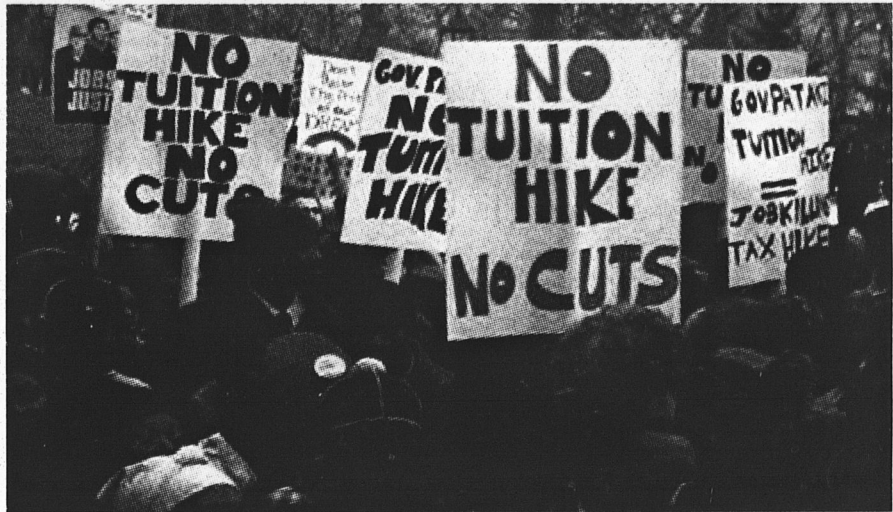
There is a war happening as you read this. This war is thousands of miles away in Iraq. You may think that this war will not affect you and that the plans that we have all made for next week and next year will come to fruition, but the future is quickly changing. Some of us will not be able to afford to go to college next semester, some of us may be victims of a hate crime, some of us may have lost a loved one in this war. You see, this war is not really far away in Iraq, it is right here. While million dollar tomahawk missiles land on Baghdad homes, we lose millions of dollars that New York desperately needs. Some say that this is about safety and preventing terrorism, but bombing innocent people will only increase fear and loathing of the U.S. Freedom and liberty are the things we live and die for; we exalt our abilities to vote, to choose our leaders and to speak our minds. Iraq's people want freedom and liberty, however, how can killing and bombing Iraq's people liberate them? If Iraq did not have the highest oil reserves in the world, if they produced oranges rather than oil, would America have 300,000 troops there. Would Saddam Hussein be so important? Today America allies itself with undemocratic regimes such as Saudi Arabia, why are we not bombing them, are they not a threat to world democracy? I am trying to make two points, one is we are paying for war in Iraq, financially and socially. The second point is that war in Iraq is not naively about freedom and liberation; it is about economic interest and domination.

America is a country of immigrants, whether you like it or not. All of us come from other countries, and the few who are Native Americans are treated like immigrants anyway. There has always been hate crimes and racial profiling of people of color and immigrants. However, now Muslims, Arabs and South Asians are dealing with ignorance, hatred and racist government policies. BBC reported on Tuesday, 19 November, 2002 in an article named "US Muslims Suffer Backlash" that "Hate crimes against Arabs and Muslims in the United States increased by 1,700% in 2001, according to crime statistics compiled by the FBI. In 2000, the FBI

received reports of 28 hate crimes against Muslims and Arabs in the US. In 2001, that number increased to 481." Take also in to consideration the Dept. of Justice reports that only 75% of hate crimes are reported.

Thousands of people have also been illegally detained (arrested without being charged and not allowed to see a lawyer). This has broken up families, taken fathers away from their children, husbands away from their wives and sons away from their mothers. This is a violation of the U.S. Constitution. Our government is treating all Muslims, Arabs and South Asians like terrorists. According to CAIR-Council on American Islamic Relations "Of the 1,147 detentions the government is willing to acknowledge; only 3 resulted in terrorism-related indictments. More than 400 people have been deported following lengthy detentions that ended with closed immigration hearings." The New York Times on Sunday quoted Amnesty International U.S.A. Executive Director who said: "We have documented many instances in which immigrants from the Middle East and South Asian countries like Pakistan have faced cruel and degrading treatment at the hands of U.S. authorities. Those are the sort of practices we usually see in the most repressive regimes in the world." A true patriot works to make their country better to uphold its visions of democracy; all patriots should have a great concern for their country now. Patriotism is not how many flags you have in your house; it is what you are doing to improve your country. These disgusting detentions are blows to our freedom.

Wars cost money, lots of it. All 50 states face bankruptcy. Where are we getting the money for war in Iraq? The money is coming from us. As some of you now Gov. Pataki proposes a tuition hike. Here are the facts: A \$1,200 tuition increase for CUNY this would bring tuition to \$4,400. Proposed restructuring of the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), reducing individual TAP grants by 1/3. An \$82 million (12%) cut to CUNY; an \$184 million (15%) cut to SUNY operating budgets and a reduction of \$345 per full time equivalent (15%) for community colleges: A \$26,885,000 (50%) cut to



CUNY students protest tuition hikes at City Hall February 26.

opportunity programs such as EOP, HEOP, SEEK, and College Discovery. The proposal eliminates funding for STEP and CSTEP saving \$10 million.

Oh, and don't forget about the fare hike. Subway and bus fares go up from \$1.50 to \$2.00 and Express Bus fares from \$3 to \$4; the MTA will close "no more than" 62 part-time token booths; increase the 7-day MetroCard pass from \$17 to \$21 (24%), the 30-day pass from \$63 to \$70 (11%); and the one-day pass from \$4 to \$7 (75%); increase the average LIRR and MNR fares by 25%; Increase tolls on MTA Bridges and Tunnels facilities by \$0.50 in each direction on major facilities and \$0.25 on minor facilities. Yes, the Verrazano Bridge will now cost \$8.00. All of this is not a coincidence. New York needs money to help the nation pay for a 100 billion dollar war.

Education in general is always the first thing to cut, apparently our president, senators etc., do not think it is important that we educate our children. In an article "Dreaming a New America: Peaceful Regime Change in 2004" By Farai Chideya, AlterNet March 20, 2003, it states "Take the War on Education. In January, the Republican-led Senate passed a spending bill that cut \$29 million from after-school programs, \$13 million from programs for abused children, and \$61 million from child care programs. To put this in context, a single Tomahawk cruise missile can cost up to a million dollars." This is quite ironic because the country we despise so much offers free education all the way up to the doctoral level. Yes, Iraq provides free education and university to all Iraqi people and

anyone who wants to study in Iraq. Many Africans and Asians have gone to school in Iraq for free.

Many people are suffering because of this unnecessary war, if Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction, don't you think he would have used it by now. This war is only killing people and opening the door for America to dominate Iraq's oil. Iraq is an example to the world. Basically the message that the United States is giving by having this war that is opposed by the majority of the world is "Do not fuck with us". This message is what will create more hatred on the American government and will undoubtedly lead to terrorist attacks. So ask yourself again will this war make us safer? I think not. We should support our troops, therefore we should bring them home before they die in Iraq. This war is senseless, and is robbing Americans of their civil rights and our money.

For information on issues in this article please look up these websites: www.internationalanswer.org, www.unitedforpeace.org, www.nypirg.org, www.cair-ny.org. To send help to detainees, Contributions may be sent to:

Emergency Family Fund/CAIR
c/o 911 Relief Program/Adem
1 6 6 - 2 6 8 9 Avenue
Jamaica, NY 11432

Make checks payable to "Emergency Family Fund/CAIR." For information, call: 212-870-2002

Racist Public Safety Continued

spoke to her and put her in a situation of lying. Officer Robertson should realize the seriousness of her lies. The administration doesn't care about her because if they did they wouldn't have told her to lie and jeopardize herself. Ayman El-Sayed is suing the college and this case will come to court soon. If Robertson lies under oath and is caught or If Ayman wins the case the It turns out that the public safety and administration covered it up she will not only lose her job but will also go to jail for perjury. This is a

serious matter that Officer Robertson should realize.

Another reason why Robertson should tell the truth is because what Licata did and said was wrong. Racism should not be tolerated by anyone, public safety or not. Robertson will regret her actions in the future and try to blame Ayman for all of this but the facts are and she was a witness that Peter Licata started this. He should not have torn down the flier and made those statements especially in a public safety uniform representing the

college. He has ruined the trust and respect between students and public safety officers. Other public safety officers who work with him should not support or protect him because what he did was wrong.

The administration has done a horrible job at covering it up and it will all come back at them. Racism and hate crimes should not be tolerated and justified in our campuses and cities. The Springer administration has proven itself again to be against student protection and rights. The message

they are sending out by letting Licata go is that racism and hate crimes are tolerated towards South Asians, Muslims and Arabs. If they would have disciplined him it would have sent out a strong message to those ignorant ones who want to violate and hate others. It would have showed those who want to commit hate crimes and violate others rights that there will be consequences to their actions.

Mothers Against the War

www.mothersagainstwar.com
Facts you should know!

BUSH'S "WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION" HOAX: BIG LIE MASKS REAL MOTIVE FOR IRAQ WAR

1. ANSWERING BUSH'S WAR PROPAGANDA

The tasks facing the new international anti-war movement include developing a popular and effective answer to the White House propaganda machine. Bush and the Pentagon are working non-stop to demonize the victims of their planned attack, while creating a credible pretext for war.

The main argument used by the White House to scare up support for an invasion is that "Saddam Hussein must be prevented from acquiring or developing chemical, biological or nuclear weapons—a.k.a. weapons of mass destruction." The White House has focused on this bogus argument because it has no other. Every effort was made to connect Iraq to the Sept. 11 attack and later to the anthrax attacks in the autumn of 2001. But there was no evidence of a connection, so Bush simply broadened the scope of the "war on terrorism" by proclaiming that Iraq, Iran, north Korea and other "evil" countries would be considered terrorist and subject to preemptive military attacks. What made them terrorists? Bush said they were "trying to acquire weapons of mass destruction."

Iraq certainly did possess and use chemical weapons in the 1980s. Both Iraq and Iran used such weapons against each other in that brutal and reactionary war. But these weapons were not "frightening" to the U.S. at the time of their use. Donald Rumsfeld, the current secretary of defense, was meeting in Baghdad with Saddam Hussein and other Iraqi leaders in December 1983 and March 1984, and improving U.S.-Iraqi relations on behalf of the Reagan administration when the allegations concerning chemical weapons surfaced. But this was when the U.S. was encouraging Iraq's war effort as part of a strategy to weaken and exhaust the Iranian Revolution.

During the 1991 Gulf War, Iraq did not use chemical or non-conventional weapons, but the U.S. did. It dropped tons of depleted uranium weapons all over Iraq. It is important to deconstruct the piece of propaganda regarding "weapons of mass destruction." It is the only pretext available to the war-makers and it needs to be answered effectively.

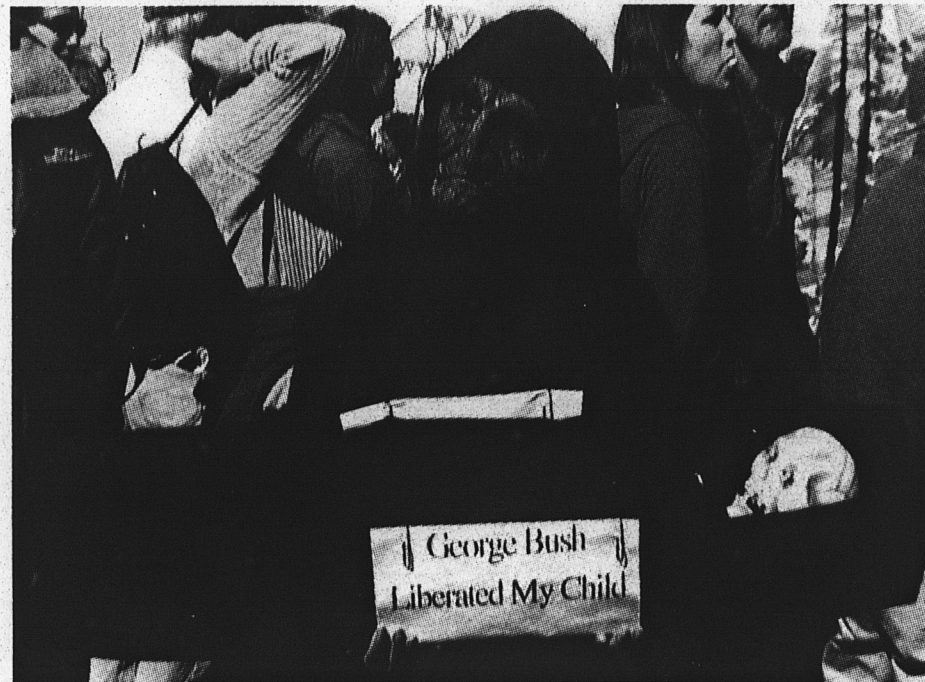
The facts are very crucial to understanding the duplicity of U.S. strategy. The U.S. is employing a classic Catch-22 public relations technique aimed at demonizing Iraq before an uninformed and unsuspecting public.

2 BACKGROUND TO OPERATION DESERT FOX

Iraq agreed in 1991 to let in UN weapons inspectors—a condition imposed by the United States at the

end of the Gulf War. The U.S. insisted that economic sanctions would be lifted only after inspectors verified that Iraq was free from non-conventional weapons. But for the last four years it has been the U.S. government that has worked hard at manipulating the UN so that there would be no inspectors in Iraq, thus eliminating any chance of ending sanctions.

After the U.S.-dominated team carried out 9,000 inspections over nearly eight years, Iraq demanded in 1998 that the UN/U.S. economic sanctions be ended. Most governments in the UN favored lifting sanctions. The demand to end the sanctions was gaining irresistible momentum. This prompted the Clinton administration to withdraw the weapons inspectors on Dec. 12, 1998, on the pretext that Iraq was not "fully cooperating," creating the impression that Iraq was leading inspectors on some wild goose chase or blocking their path. Clinton argued that the U.S. had no choice but to bomb Iraq because it was blocking meaningful inspections.



In fact, the United Nations Special Commission—UNSCOM—cited only five "obstructions" to the 423 inspections conducted between Nov. 18-Dec.12, 1998. One was a 45-minute delay before allowing access. Another was Iraq's rebuff to a demand by a U.S. inspector that she be able to interview all the undergraduate students in Baghdad University's Science Department. Two other cases of Iraq's alleged non-compliance had to do with UNSCOM's request to inspect two establishments on Friday—the Muslim holy day. Since the establishments were closed, Iraq asserted that the inspections must be held another day or that an Iraqi official would accompany the inspectors—in accordance with an agreement between UNSCOM and Iraq regarding Friday inspections. Less than 48 hours after the inspectors were withdrawn from Iraq, the Pentagon began the massive bombing campaign known as Operation Desert

Fox on Dec. 16-19, 1998. U.S. and British warplanes dropped more than 1,000 missiles and bombs on the country during those four days.

Two weeks after Operation Desert Fox, U.S. officials publicly admitted the weapons inspectors were intelligence agents who provided Pentagon bombing planners with bombing coordinates. (New York Times, Jan. 7, 1999) Predictably—and justifiably—the Iraqi government announced that it would no longer cooperate with the UN weapons inspections.

Bush, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and Vice President Richard Cheney now routinely bellow that Iraq has denied weapons inspectors access to the country for four years; Iraq is intransigent and defiant of UN resolutions. And thus, the U.S. has cynically crafted the chief rationale for the coming invasion.

3. IRAQI DIPLOMACY REBUFFED AGAIN Bush, Rumsfeld and Co. reveal the depth of their cynicism and duplicity as they work overtime now to make it nearly impossible for weapons inspectors to return to Iraq.

That would slow down the invasion plan—their biggest fear of all.

On Aug. 1, the day the Senate hearings concluded, Iraq's foreign minister released a letter sent to UN General Secretary Kofi Annan announcing that Iraq was ready to resume discussions about the possible re-admission of UN weapons inspectors. Given the experience of the past, however, when so-called inspectors were actually gathering coordinates for cruise missile attacks, Iraq wanted discussions first to set terms. Iraq also offered to allow a delegation of U.S. congressional representatives, accompanied by arms experts of their choice, to tour sites in Iraq where they suspect weapons of mass destruction are hidden. Far from defusing the U.S. war drive, however, the Bush administration immediately dismissed the Iraqi invitation to discuss the return of the weapons inspectors or the invitation to an arms control delegation from Congress.

Colin Powell, secretary of state, and frequently portrayed as less hawkish, made it clear that the U.S. wouldn't take "yes" for an answer from Iraq. "Inspection is not the issue, disarmament is ... we have seen the Iraqis fiddle with the inspection system before," Powell said dismissively while stopping over in the Philippines. (The Observer, Aug. 4)

Another official, John Bolton, U.S. under-secretary for arms control, was even more blunt: "Our policy ... insists on regime change in Baghdad and that policy will not be altered, whether inspectors go in or not." (British Radio 4 Today show, Aug. 4)

4. WHO ARE THE REAL TERRORISTS? If the production of weapons of mass destruction is the criteria to affix the terrorist label, then clearly George W. Bush presides over the biggest terrorist enterprise now or at any time in world history.

The U.S. has the largest nuclear arsenal—more than 6,000 nuclear missiles and bombs. It has spent \$4 trillion on nuclear weapons since 1945. When it had a monopoly on these weapons it did not hesitate to use them against civilian centers—up to 200,000 civilians were instantly incinerated in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. Bush is spending hundreds of billions on militarizing outer space. The recently-released Pentagon military doctrine includes a declaration of its right to first use of nuclear weapons against Iraq, north Korea, Iran, China and Russia. The U.S. has Trident submarines and U.S. aircraft carriers carrying nuclear weapons 24 hours a day as the imperial fleet roams the seven seas. The U.S. government used chemical weapons in Vietnam, spraying Agent Orange over vast parts of that country. Thousands of U.S. GIs and an unknown number of Vietnamese people died, or live difficult and painful lives from the after-effects. Today, the U.S. government manufactures chemical and biological weapons, a fact that was routinely denied and only admitted after the anthrax attacks of 2001. And the U.S. government—led by both Democrats and Republicans—has knowingly and deliberately killed more than 1 million Iraqi civilians through the quieter, less dramatic weapon known as economic sanctions. This weapon that has killed 5,000 children every month for 12 years must be regarded as a weapon of mass destruction. It's time for anti-war activists to begin going to U.S. military bases and demanding to see if they have weapons of mass destruction on their premises, including chemical, biological and nuclear weapons, and depleted uranium.

GET INVOLVED IN THE CAMPAIGN TO STOP THE WAR IN IRAQ BEFORE IT STARTS!

A Jewish Voice for Peace קול יהודי לשלום

An Open Letter To American Jews from A Jewish Voice for Peace

Are you uncomfortable with Israel's actions in the last two years? If so, this is an invitation for you to join the growing number of Jews who have come to realize that current Israeli policies towards the Palestinians are simply morally wrong and a disaster for the long-term interests of the Jewish people. Of course, the Palestinians have also committed terrible deeds themselves and we know it is tempting just to blame them for the conflict. But we need to resist that temptation. Why? Because that path will only perpetuate the endless violence committed by both sides.

Instead, our overriding moral responsibility, as the overwhelmingly stronger party, should be to try to stop our part of the cycle of violence. This means withdrawing completely from the Occupied Territories, allowing the creation of a viable Palestinian state, and negotiating good-faith solutions to the other outstanding issues—sovereignty over Jerusalem's holy sites, refugee rights, etc.—all of which were close to being resolved at the Taba negotiations, before Sharon's election.

Do we need to trust the good will of the Palestinians in order to do what we know is right? We don't think so. This is because the official Palestinian position since 1988 has been that they recognize Israel's right to exist in peace and security within its 1967 borders, as long as the Palestinians are also allowed to create their own state—and the entire international community agrees with this reasonable position.

What would be the consequences of simply accepting this long-standing offer? There are two possible dangers that withdrawing from the Occupied Territories might pose. One is that a Palestinian state would pose a military threat to Israel. But Israel is, many times over, the strongest military power in the region, and the Palestinians have long agreed that their future state would be non-militarized, no foreign forces hostile to Israel would be allowed in, and international (even Israeli) monitors could be stationed on Palestinian land in order to verify these conditions.

As for individual acts of terrorism, they would, at the very least, be greatly diminished once the Palestinians felt that some semblance of justice had been done. If the Palestinians feel that they have something to lose, then they will not support the more extreme elements in their society. In fact, this already happened during the first few years after the Oslo

Accords were signed, when there was a real sense of hope among the Palestinians that they would end up with their own state. Attacks against Israel only increased again when it became clear that things were only getting worse under Oslo, that settlements were rapidly expanding, and that their hope for self-

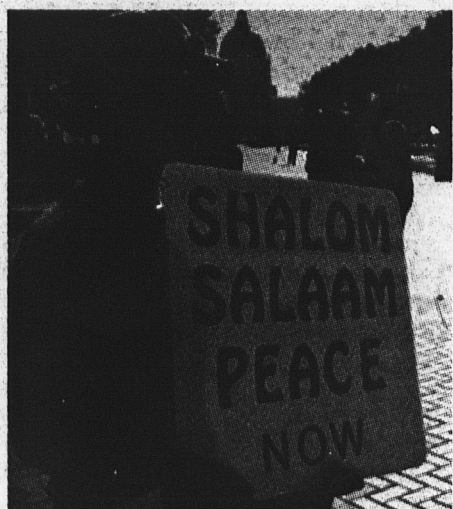
determination was just a mirage. Ending the Occupation may or may not stop all the violence immediately but it is certainly the essential precondition for a peaceful solution, and would have immediate positive results. We know it is hard to move past the understandable fear for our people, but in this case "the best defense is not a good offense." Israel's policy of more repression and more force has not, and never will, increase Israel's security. Only a just solution to the conflict will ever bring real peace and security to the people of Israel.

A very cogent 8-page paper outlining why this is the case is available at no cost by writing A Jewish Voice For Peace at jvp@sonic.net or P.O.Box 13286, Berkeley, CA 94712. Just ask for a copy of "From Jew To Jew: Why We Should Oppose The Israeli Occupation Of The West Bank And Gaza." For ongoing news and analyses, a marvelous source of information is the Jewish Peace News, a daily email service featuring the best of the Israeli press, available free at www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org.

In our hearts, we know that sending tanks to shoot civilians is wrong. Sending jet fighters to bomb crowded apartment buildings is wrong. Imposing months of house arrest on millions of people, leading to chronic malnutrition of an entire population is wrong. Demolishing buildings, child care centers, orchards and the hope of ever having a normal life for millions of people is wrong. Abusing and humiliating an entire people so that Jews can "settle" on their land is wrong—not to mention totally illegal under the Geneva Conventions. All of these crimes, and unfortunately many more, have been extensively documented by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the UN Human Rights Commission, and B'Tselem (the leading Israeli human rights group) and are an intolerable stain on the good name of our people.

As we learned all too well 60 years ago, silence is complicity. If we do not want to be complicit with the crimes currently being committed in our name, then silence is not an option. Add your voice to A Jewish Voice For Peace.

www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org



Stop the March of War Sep 16, 2002 -

The first ten days of the new Jewish year are now almost past. These ten days are often referred to as the "Days of Awe", but I prefer, at this time, to consider them by their other name, the "Ten Days of Penitence (in Hebrew, t'shuvah)". We, as Jews, stand at a crossroads in these days, and in the coming weeks. We have much to consider about what our community is doing, and what is being done in our names.

Part of my time in these ten days has been spent in reviewing some biblical and other Jewish texts. In Pirke Avot, I found this interesting quote from Rabban Shime'on ben Gamliel: "On three things the world stands; on Judgment, and on Truth, and on Peace." (ch 1, v. 19). The judgment part refers, of course, to God's judgment, and, as bitter experience has taught us all, that is where it is best left, whether one believes in a god or not. When people engage in it, the results are usually disastrous. But for truth and peace, we mere mortals are responsible.

As the United States rattles its sabers ever louder in its determination to once again rain death and destruction upon the people of Iraq, its support for such action is thin at best. British Prime Minister Tony Blair faces the opposition of much of his Parliament and most Britons in his ongoing support for the George W. Bush war machine, and, despite vacillation from some other European leaders, there remains no other Western country that agrees with the course Bush is pursuing. Only Israel has stood up to count itself with the United States in the call to war. And this is not confined only to Ariel Sharon and his Likud Party; that distinguished recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, Shimon Peres has joined in that chorus call to destruction.

Here is where we need to examine the "truth" of the situation. Truth is always an elusive concept. It is thought of as an absolute, when, in fact, it generally remains very subjective on many levels. But some truths we can identify, because they have been proven true time and again. One point that has been proven true without fail, over and over, is that war kills many people, the vast majority of them non-combatants. This is even more true now, with war, in its American definition, meaning large scale aerial bombardment. Perhaps indeed an American attack on Iraq will result in the "regime change" George Bush wants, but when we bomb Iraq, as we have been doing continuously for well over a decade now, we are not bombing Saddam Hussein, but the Iraqi people. We have not been weakening his hold on power, but rather strengthening it, with bombings and sanctions that have done enormous damage to the Iraqi infrastructure and its social networks.

Many have speculated as to the reasons for the passionate Israeli support for this undertaking. It is

easy, and quite correct, to discount the idea that Israel sees Iraq as a significant military threat to Israel at this point. But many believe the United States does not intend to stop with Iraq and will use its increased military presence in the region to attack other countries, such as Syria, and to combat various groups such as Hamas and Hizbullah (see, for example <http://www.csmonitor.com/2002/09/09/p06s01-wome.html>). Others have speculated that Ariel Sharon wishes to use the bedlam that such an attack would unleash as cover to expel large numbers of Palestinians from the Occupied Territories (see JPN article <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/JewishPeaceNews/message/1965>). There are numerous other possibilities. But what we can say with a fair degree of certainty is that such an attack as Israel is urging will result in a large number of deaths in Iraq (whether from the bombing itself or in its aftermath in a society reduced even further to rubble) and increased violence throughout the Middle East, very much including Israel and the Occupied Territories.

Here in the US, many of the large Jewish organizations have come out in support of Bush's policies, (http://www.jta.org/page_view_story.asp?intarticleid=11829&intcategoryid=3) in support of his speech at the UN, while stopping short of formally backing the attack on Iraq. Jewish peace groups, including A Jewish Voice for Peace, have been very visible in the growing anti-war movement here. These groups have joined with many others to demand that war, with all its devastation, not be perpetrated in our names. This demand speaks to the inadmissibility of the United States working to reshape the Middle East in the manner it sees fit, much as the British and French did after World War I, which has left us with so many problems in that region that vex us still today.

It is time for us to remind those Jewish organizations and other groups and individuals supporting Bush's and Sharon's policies in lock-step fashion of the words of Rabban Gamliel, also found in Pirke Avot: "Be cautious with (those in) authority, for they let not a man approach them but for their own purposes; and they appear like friends when it is to their advantage, and stand not by a man in the hour of his need." (ch. 2 v. 3). We should all keep this admonition in mind when listening to the words of George W. Bush or Ariel Sharon, as they continue to lead Israel, the US, and all of us down the path to increasing violence.

Mitchell Plitnick, Newsletter Editor
A Jewish Voice for Peace

ECONOMIC AXIS OF EVIL : BUSH, BLOOMBERG, PATAKI CUTBACK KINGS WAGE WAR ON WORKERS AT HOME AND ABROAD

ROY ROLLIN

Whether it's coming from the White House, the State House or City Hall, the representatives of the ruling rich are waging a one-sided class war on working people, at home and over seas. Leading the way, of course, is President-select Bush. The same government that wants to wage war on the people of Iraq for oil and empire has been making war on the living standards of working people in this country from its first day on the job. Bush's proposed budget for the 2004 fiscal year aims to relieve the federal government of such "burdens" as unemployment benefits, health insurance, housing subsidies and school lunch programs. The right-wing Republican regime hopes to once and for all get rid of the notion that the government has any obligation towards those that capitalism makes poor, homeless and hungry. In other words, finish the job that the Democrats under Clinton started when they "ended welfare as we know it."

Of course, that doesn't apply to corporate welfare. Between 1996 and 1998, when Clinton was calling the shots, 41 large corporations already used special tax breaks to reduce their taxes to less than zero! In fact, these companies actually got back \$3.2 billion in tax rebates! According to the NY Times, the average tax rate on big business is now at its lowest point in sixty years. Yet Bush plans to "stimulate" the economy by giving away much more money in tax cuts to the rich; the top 1% will rake in 25% of the benefits of this \$150 billion-plus giveaway while 64% of the benefits from abolishing taxes on stock dividend income will go to the wealthiest 5%. Meanwhile, with unemployment levels hitting an 8-year high, the government even refused to extend unemployment benefits for a paltry 13 weeks until after the holidays. Needless to say, the politicians had a far more enjoyable Christmas and New Year than did millions of the unemployed. Instead both bosses parties made sure to rush through Bush's union-busting "Homeland Security" bill, which also included massive handouts to the president's pals in the pharmaceutical industry.

As if to underline just whose "security" was really being protected, one administration official went so far as to proclaim that "national security and collective bargaining are incompatible," while Republican House chief, Tom DeLay endorsed a letter describing unions as "a clear and present danger to the security of the US." Projecting the designs of the Bush gang and ruling rich they represent onto the craven trade union bureaucracy that has gone along with all of the administration's attacks on the workers they claim to represent,

DeLay accused union "bosses" of using "national emergencies" to "grab more power." For it is Bush who is proposing to privatize nearly half of the federal civilian jobs in the US. This means that their wages and working conditions will deteriorate even further as unionized jobs are bid out to the private sector. The latter, with the blessing of the Bush administration, is already using the "war on terrorism" as an excuse to wage war on working people; locking out the West Coast dockworkers, imposing layoffs at Verizon and trying to cancel union contracts at United Airlines. Not only has the drive for war abroad emboldened the ruling rich in pushing their anti-worker agenda at home; it's what the war is all about in the first place!

American capitalism's domestic and foreign policies are two sides of the same coin...they both serve the rich and they both harm working people. Thus the Pentagon budget for next year will be a whopping \$399 billion; a 4.4 percent increase over this year's \$382.2 billion. The US already spends more on its "weapons of mass destruction" (and chemical and biological weapons as well) than all of its potential rivals combined...not to mention "axis of evil" "rogue nations." And this doesn't even cover the cost of the impending aggression against Iraq, which is estimated at anywhere from \$120 billion to \$1.6 trillion. During WWI Leon Trotsky pointed out how "capitalism has transferred into the field of international relations the same methods applied by it in 'regulating' the international economic life of nations. The path of competition is the path of systematically annihilating the small and medium sized enterprises and of achieving the supremacy of big capital. World competition of the capitalist forces means the systematic subjection of the small, medium-sized and backward nations by the great and greatest capitalist powers." And it also means the "systematic subjection" of the workers and the poor by the bosses within those "great capitalist powers" like the US.

Taking from the poor...

On the local level, Mayor Bloomberg and Governor Pataki are following in Bush's footsteps. Since they can't divert public attention from domestic debacles with adventures abroad the way the president can, they claim that they are forced to resort to economic austerity in order to "balance" the city and state budgets. Just like the costs of Bush's wars, the budgets will be "balanced" on the backs of working people and the poor. Having already pushed through the greatest retrenchment in state supplied services in decades, Pataki plans yet more cutbacks

aimed at healthcare, welfare, education and other social programs that benefit millions of the state's working people. CUNY is amongst those services slated for severe cutbacks, even though state spending on higher education in recent years has already drastically declined alongside of a steady loss in state aid per student. At the same time yet another tuition hike is being proposed. As if the working class and minority youth who attend CUNY can afford yet another tuition increase on top of all the previous increases. Tuition has already risen so dramatically at both community and senior colleges that the once free CUNY is now one of the highest priced "public universities" in the US. Needless to say, the cost of even a small part of the war could make CUNY free and accessible to anyone desiring an education. That's why the Professional Staff Congress, unlike Bloomberg and Pataki, is calling for money for books instead of bombs.

Billionaire Bloomberg, who promised to run the city like a corporation, intends to do so insofar as city services are concerned. Bloomberg's budget proposals include the closure of 32 day care centers for the elderly, 8 firehouses along with cuts in funding for virtually any and every social service from education and library hours to infant day-care and subway and bus service. In addition, the mayor is demanding \$600 million more in "givebacks" from unionized workers: longer workdays and fewer vacation days with new health care payments and increased pension payments coming out of workers' pockets. And if he doesn't get them, he's threatening massive layoffs in their place. At the same time, both Pataki and Bloomberg plan on doling out more corporate welfare for the rich and greedy, just like their buddy Bush aims on doing in Washington. The 18.5% property tax hike that Bloomberg and the City Council came up with will hit working class and middle class homeowners the hardest and lead to higher rent for millions who can ill afford such additional expenses. The commuter tax is little more than a fig-leaf for the mayor's plans to cut income taxes on those who cleaned up during the boom years of the "miracle economy." And while Bloomberg is asking "hardworking people to dig deeper into their pockets," he has no objections to the sizeable chunk of wealth that's coming out of those pockets being used to foot the bill for the war on Iraq or to cover the cost of attempting to repress the February 15th antiwar rally by mobilizing over 5,000 cops to do so. Indeed, the cost of one day of war in Iraq would cover the NYC budget deficit for 2003 while a mere 14 hours of it would close the MTA's budget gap,

preventing fare hikes and service cuts. "Mayor Mike" claims to "focus on what's right for the people of...New York;" as if money for bombing homes, hospitals and schools in Iraq instead of building them here was "right for the people of...New York."

If the city, state and federal governments all find themselves deep in debt, that is largely because of the Republicans' Robin Hood-in-reverse routine; picking the pockets of the poor to put more into the reserves of the rich. After all, none of them have been going out of their way to increase spending on social welfare measures for the last quarter of a century. So if the rich are getting tax cuts at the same time as Bush wages war on the world, someone else is going to have to pay for it all. While Bush hopes that the oil looted from Iraq will foot the bill, it's a safe bet that a sizable chunk will come out of increased payroll taxes on workers wages...and from Social Security, as soon as the public's attention has been sufficiently diverted from corporate corruption by further phony "terrorism" tall tales. Lest we forget, it was under Ronald Reagan, the godfather of "trickle down economics" and sworn enemy of "big government," that the federal deficit sky-rocketed in the first place as the military industrial complex raked in billions with lucrative "defense" contracts. Needless to say, the only thing that "trickled down" to working people was the cost of them as Reagan picked up where Democrat Jimmy Carter had left off in cutting social services to the bone in order to pay for their anti-communist "cold war" crusade. While the "evil empire" may have been replaced as public enemy number one by the "axis of evil," at least one thing still remains the same...workers are still being made to foot the bill and the bosses are still raking in the dough as a result of these policies.

Bosses wage economic terrorism on workers and the poor

For both of big businesses' political parties, belt-tightening and budget-cutting have long been business as usual, even during the economic expansion of the nineties. Indeed, America's "economic miracle" was fueled by an increase in exploitation of the working class on a level not seen since the "roaring twenties," that is, the decade that preceded the Great Depression. Income inequality and concentration of wealth now mirror conditions that existed before the "New Deal." While executive pay jumped 571%, workers' pay increased only 5% when adjusted for inflation. Today, executive pay is 531 times that of an average worker. The median wage, taking inflation into account, is still slightly below what it was in 1973. According to the latest census, the richest 20% now make 13 times that

of the poorest 20 percent. Meanwhile, the number of people living below the official poverty line jumped by 1.3 million in 2001, bringing the total up to 32.9 million people while there has been a \$5 trillion drop in household net worth since the economic slowdown began three years ago.

Since September 11, America's ruling rich have tried to cut their losses by cutting their payrolls; hoping that working people and the poor would grin and bear it in the name of the "war on terrorism." Only the real terrorism that workers face is not coming from Osama Bin Laden or Saddam Hussein; it is the economic terror that the bosses and their politician pals daily dole out through their attacks on wages, working conditions and living standards through cutbacks, layoffs and attacks on social services. During December, employment declined by 101,000. The employment loss was the largest single-month total since February 2002, when 165,000 jobs were slashed. The BLS revised its latest report to show a decline of 88,000 jobs cut in November, as opposed to the 40,000 initially reported. The US economy eliminated 185,000 jobs in 2002 as a whole. In NYC, companies have eliminated 175,000 jobs over the last two years. For most New Yorkers, the real "axis of evil" are Bush, Bloomberg and Pataki. Their "patriotism" consists of waving the flag with one hand (to better blind workers as to who and where their real enemies are) while they pick workers pockets with the other.

Both Democrats and Republicans agree that in order to keep American capitalism, competitive on the world market in the midst of an economic downturn, workers must foot the bill for the bosses more than ever; tightening their belts around already thin waistlines while bloated bankers and bondholders, continue to gorge themselves at either the "free trade" troughs that "globalization" has brought with it or at the always popular Pentagon budget. The latter is but a high priced handout to a military industrial complex which couldn't cut the mustard without such government generosity. And when corporations, like Enron or World.com, get set to go under, they steal workers' pension funds and commit stock fraud. Meanwhile, the same government that wages war on the wages and living standards of working people here is waging war overseas in order to once again show the world who the boss is in the post Cold-War world. America's ruling rich need to control the economic assets of the Middle East and Central Asia, oil and natural gas, along with access to it, and that requires politically dominating the areas they aspire to economically exploit. For the same bosses who exploit and oppress workers in the US must do so around the world. American workers must pay for it all. For every dime spent on bombing factories, homes, hospitals and schools in Iraq not only comes out of the pockets and pensions of American workers but means less spent on building them here.

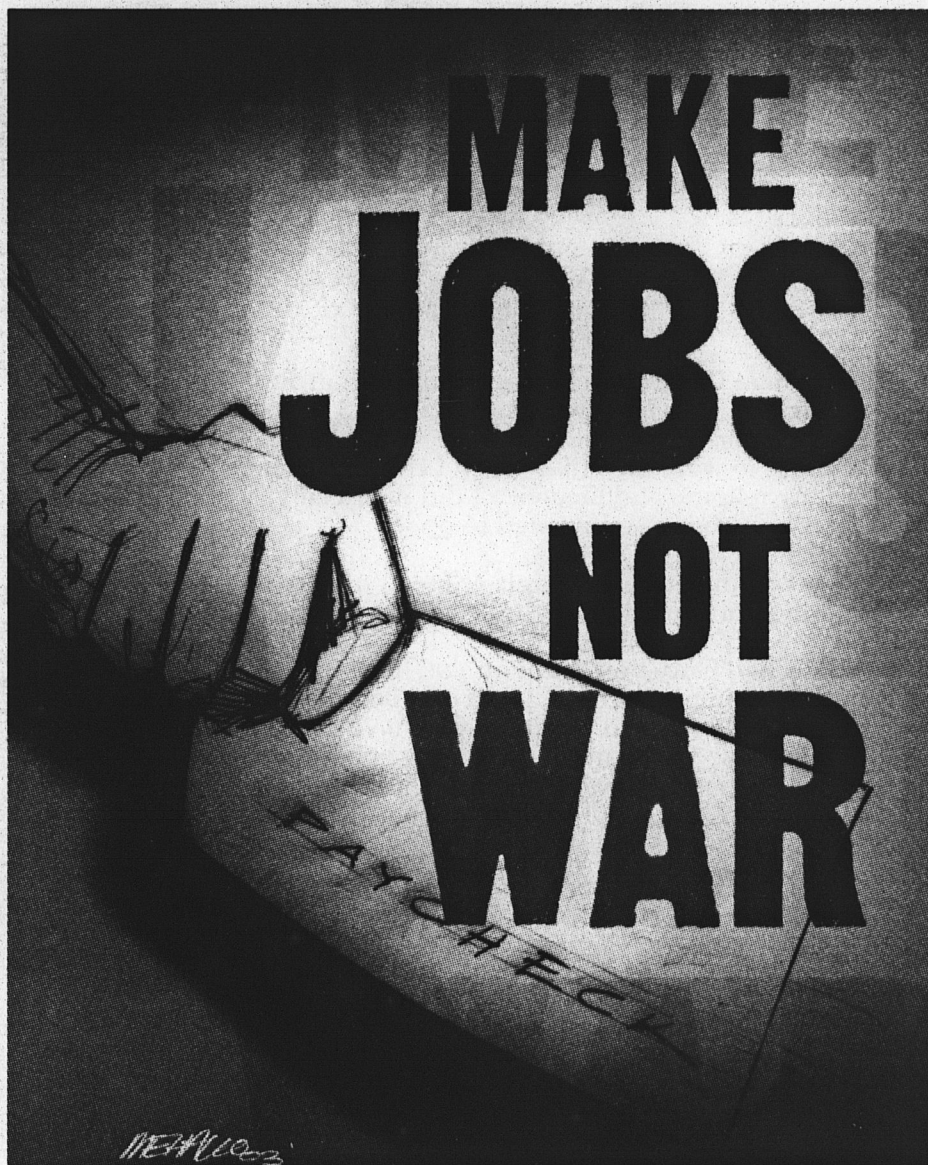
Without struggle there can be no progress, with the Democrats there will be no struggle

Seeking solace from the same Democratic party politicians who dance to the tune that Wall Street whistles is a deadly snare and illusion...especially when they are also marching lockstep behind Bush's war drive. It will disarm any effective fightback just as any and all support to the Democratic party has always tied the hands of organized labor and the movements of the specially oppressed. Militant mass actions, up to and including strikes are what's needed to combat cutbacks and layoffs and imperialist war; not crawling and groveling before the same politicians who take turns in enforcing austerity at home and imperialist aggression abroad.

to have no money for those who daily risk their lives to save other lives in England, he has plenty of money to take lives in Iraq. Meanwhile a group of railroad workers in Scotland refused to move a freight train carrying ammunition for the British military to use against Iraq. Five British unions followed suit; threatening walk outs the day the bombs begin to fall. They have been joined by trade unionists in Italy, Ireland and Australia. With the bosses, the politicians and the press all using the war as an excuse for attacking workers living standards, it should be clearer than ever that any struggle around economic alternatives to the cutbacks, layoffs (and wars) proposed by both bosses parties entails a real political alternative to both of them. More

rally behind them all of the working class and much of the middle class as well. With their across-the-board attacks on the living standards of all workers, the bosses have laid the basis for a unified fightback by all workers. What stands in the way of such a fightback are pro-capitalist union leaders, who sabotage any and every fight before it begins through their ties to the Democratic party. Thus the TWU's Roger Toussaint, in spite of his making a powerful statement about preventing the mayor from balancing the budget on the backs of the city's working people when he proclaimed that "We Did Not Share in the Wealth! We Will Not Share the Pain!", threw in the towel rather than take on Bloomberg and the MTA. Now that the powerful TWU is out of the way, Bloomberg can be even more harsh with the other unions. For when the bosses say cutback, the pro-capitalist union tops almost always say "share the pain," instead of fightback. As if those who inflict the pain in the first place have any intention of ever feeling it. Thus rather than organize militant mass actions against the cuts, let alone help organize a political party of the working class, 1199's Dennis Rivera and the United Federation of Teacher's Randi Weingarten told workers to re-elect Governor Pataki, while the rest, like Toussaint, stuck with the dead-end Democrats. Pataki is now paying them back with cutbacks and layoffs. While Toussaint and Rivera at least oppose the war on Iraq, AFL-CIO chief John Sweeney continues to stand behind Bush's war and thus refuses to lift a finger against what he himself calls "corporate warfare" for fear of disrupting the war effort!

Workers are the ones that will have to pay for the war in lower wages and reduced benefits, gutted social services as well as with their lives. That's why more and more union members are beginning to stand up to the so-called "war on terrorism" (the war on Iraq is its current incarnation) and its domestic flipside. Seven national unions have come out against the war and rank and file trade unionists have come together to form "US Labor Against the War," marching in both Washington DC on January 18th and in NYC on February 15th behind a banner proclaiming that "Labor's enemies are in the White House and in the boardrooms, not in Iraq!" For unless labor begins to wage a war on war it will continue to be on the receiving end of the war on the poor! As Lenin, who helped lead the Russian workers in turning the first imperialist world war into a working class war against its authors, wrote during that struggle, "we (need to) understand the inevitable connection between wars and the class struggle within a country; we (need to) understand that wars cannot be abolished unless classes are abolished and socialism is created."



With capitalism in the grips of a global recession, the bosses and their governments in other countries have also attempted to make working people pay the price for capitalism's crisis. Only their workers refuse to take such attacks lying down. In France and Italy, workers have not only filled the streets to protest attempts by the right-wing governments there to implement austerity attacks but have shut down the country through strike action as well. Firefighters in England are currently waging a struggle for better wages and working conditions as well as for improved services against Bush's best buddy, "Tory" Blair. The latter has also been waging a war against working people in addition to helping Bush wage his war on the world. Thus firefighters' union leaders have pointed out that while Blair claims

than ever, it is obvious that the "war on terrorism" is just the flipside of the war on the poor; that it is the same enemy and the same fight that working people need to wage to stop both. And more than ever, it signifies that militant mass action and independent working class politics are the only road forward for working people. You wouldn't vote for your boss to represent you at work, so why vote for him to do so in City Hall or the White House?

Fight the bosses, not their war!

No less than in Italy, France or England, it is organized labor which controls the creation and flow of wealth in this country. Through their collective organization into powerful multiracial unions, which by acting to withhold their labor power (i.e., striking) organized labor can stop that flow of wealth and

Voices of the Veil

The word "hijab" comes from the Arabic word "hajaba" meaning to hide from view or conceal. The context of hijab is the modest covering of a Muslim woman. In the Islamic tradition, it is a religious duty for Muslim women to wear the hijab. I went around campus and interviewed seven muslim women. These sisters were asked several questions on why they chose to wear the veil and if they think people look at them differently at these times, especially after September 11. These interviews were carried out in order for other students to have an understanding of their fellow classmates. There is a big misunderstanding of Islamic culture and Islamic women and this interview is an opportunity for these women to voice their opinions and thoughts on this matter. Mainstream media erroneously speaks for Islamic women thereby neglecting and distorting their experiences. Rarely do we hear how Islamic women feel from their own perspective.

Interviews and Photos by Shereen Kandil



Fadela Meghoufi, Algerian
Has been wearing Hijab for 5 years

"At first my father proposed to me the idea to start wearing it and I thought about it and I just did it."

"People call me a bitch and give me dirty looks."

ADVICE: "Hijab is the only way to earn respect. [To wear] Hijab is not something you have to do or you don't have to do, it's if you believe in it."



Michele Denise Payton, Seminole Indian and African. Has been wearing Hijab for 3 years

"I chose to wear the Hijab when I chose to change my religion and lifestyle. I did it basically because I wanted to do it."

"I get on the bus and people tell me I'm a traitor and they're going to snatch the veil off my head."

ADVICE: "Once you put it on you have to realize the ramifications of taking it off. Before you make the decision to put it on, you have got to do it because you want to do it and not because somebody tells you to wear it."



Hend Gouda, Egyptian
Has been wearing Hijab for 10 years

"I was surrounded by a community that wore Hijab and I personally started to wear it because I liked it and it is a respect to my religion."

"I was driving on the highway and I got cut off by a male and he gave me the finger. One time I was with my 9 year old sister and some guys stopped the car and said 'F you, kill all Arabs'."

ADVICE: "If they want to wear it and it's in their hearts and they think it's right, they shouldn't care about what other people have to say."



Latoya Hoyte, Trinidadian
Has been wearing Hijab for 12 years

"I was coming of age and I didn't see anything wrong with it."

"Before, people who covered their heads just blended in, but now, people of this religion are looked at."

ADVICE: "You shouldn't feel ashamed or scared and it's something you have to do for your religion."



Safiyya Abdul-Ghani, Indian
Has been wearing Hijab for 5 years

"After my sister wore it I realized it is important. I had to put all my fears to the side and do it for the sake of Allah. I was afraid of dying before I put it on."

"I got a couple of comments here and there saying [9-11] was my fault. I've gotten evil looks but I think they look because they are curious."

ADVICE: "Don't do it for the people. Think about the next life and the ultimate goal."



Lisa Sattar, American
Has been wearing Hijab for 11 years

"When I converted, I had to read so much and I did not want to go into it [Islam] half-ass. I gradually wore longer shirts and baggier pants and then started covering. I was afraid at first but everyone accepted me."

"I haven't been attacked physically but verbally, yes. They call me an Arab and a terrorist and to go back to my country."

ADVICE: "Either you are going to do it or you're not. What is more important, this life or the afterlife? It is a matter of how you respect your religion and if you fear it."



Nadah Joseph, Palestinian
Has been wearing Hijab for 6 years

"At the beginning I was just a kid and thought I was cool and adult. Later on I realized I got more respect and it was something I had to do for my religion."

"I get a lot of bad comments and people would yell out terrorist."

ADVICE: "If that person is not ready for it they should wait. They should know their reasons for wearing it."

U.S. War For An Empire of Profit Will Be Stopped

The fall of the Soviet Union opened up a new stage in world history declared by George Bush 1 to be A New World Order. This New World Order was ushered in by the first war on Iraq led by the US. It was the first emphatic statement by the US ruling capitalist class that they are now the paramount leaders of the world. The decade of the 90s saw the aggressive spread of US military and economic power. US military power was used massively in Yugoslavia hastening the end of that once multinational sovereign state. Former republics of the Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc states were absorbed into NATO and into the status of US vassal states. Through the IMF and

on 9-11 by US puppet groups terrified and shocked the American public and the world. The Bush Gang used this to immediately invade and occupy all of Central Asia. There are now US military bases in Afghanistan, and the former Soviet central Asian republics like Uzbekistan and Kazakstan, which is both the gateway to Asia and area of great untapped oil and natural gas resources.

This second more fascist phase of the new world order is characterized by the failure of US led neo-liberal policy worldwide. The global capitalist economy is in deep crisis with no hope for recovery, at least not a recovery that

those governments that have gone along with the US, exposing them as puppets in the eyes of their anti-war populations (Pakistan, India) and on the other hand has forced other governments to defy the US in spite of themselves (France, Germany).

US belligerence is destabilizing the whole world. North Korea has moved to activate its nuclear program in response to US threats creating instability for that whole region including Russia, China, South Korea and Japan. US intervention in the Philippines and Colombia are heightening tensions in South East Asia and South America respectively. In the Middle East, US ally Israel under General Sharon has intensified its military assaults on the occupied Palestinian areas inflaming Arab public opinion. The occupation of Iraq by the US promises to intensify this Arab people's resistance to the level of a general rebellion against the US client regimes in the area.

The imperial arrogance of the Bush Gang is evident in legislation like the US Patriot Act which severely undercuts civil liberties of Americans and in incidents like that of the spying on UN officials and the attempt to crush dissent at home and abroad. However all these authoritarian methods of the imperialist fanatics ruling the roost in Washington is causing a mass worldwide resistance. Some ten million people demonstrated around the world in over six hundred cities on February 15th against US war

on Iraq.

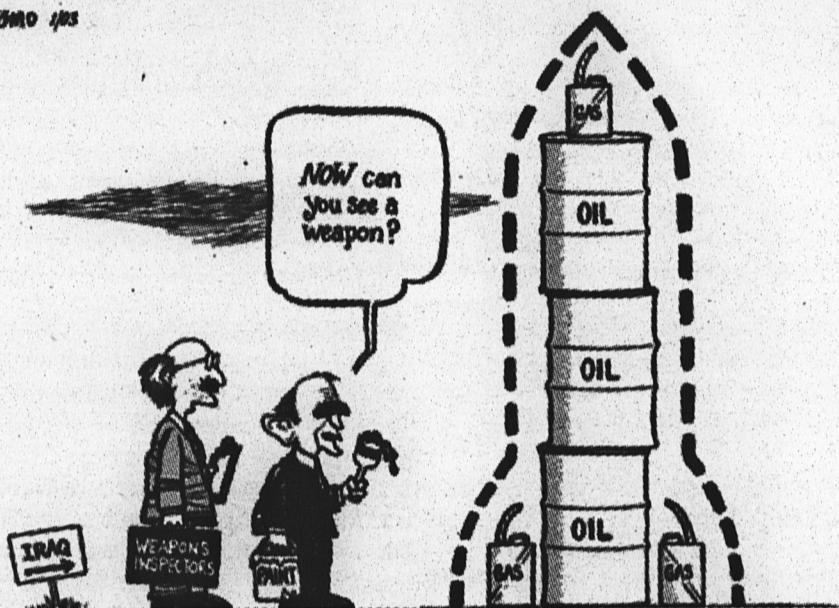
This event, unprecedented in size and scope, has legitimized dissent and effectively cracked the Bush regimes policy of forced obedience and compliance. Activists across Europe are taking part in direct actions called trainstopping, blocking trains carrying war materials intended for war on Iraq. Dockworkers in Scotland and Japan have refused to handle war cargo. American citizens have flown into Iraq to serve as human shields in the case of a US attack. American youth overwhelmingly reject the transparent militarism of the Bush Gang. Heroic teens like Toni Smith of Manhattanville College have courageously defied the militarism wrapped up in a flag patriotism being shoved down the peoples' throats.

Indeed a majority of American people reject US unilateral military action. Despite the massive propaganda effort by the government and the corporate media, American people do not trust the Bush Gang's Iraq agenda even if they are unclear on the issues. African Americans and Latinos are overwhelmingly anti-war as they are the ones who will disproportionately have to die and kill for the mad cowboys plans.

Despite the widespread opposition to war, the Democrats have not given voice to this opposition and helped to advance the discussion. Instead they stand with Bush and where they don't their opposition is so tepid that its not leadership but clearly opportunism. Of course nothing more can be expected from the party of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the party of Vietnam and Bosnia.

This global polarization between the elites (the capitalists, politicians, rulers) and the people (the workers, the poor, and students) will lead to a resurgence of resistance to the capitalist imperialist system as people realize that it is this system that is at the root of war and poverty. This resistance will continue where the 60's left off and will surely lead to new democratic breakthroughs in the next few years, with capitalism being challenged worldwide.

RUSSMO 1/05



World Bank and other US instruments, neo-liberal economic policy was extended throughout the world, deepening the crisis of less developed nations, causing in some instances the collapse of states such as in sub-Saharan Africa. Neo-liberal policy essentially calls for the selling off of national assets by smaller states and the adoption of structural adjustment policies geared toward cutting social spending on human needs and increasing debt payments to US banks and those in other rich countries.

These policies have failed spectacularly as evident in the huge crash in the Asia Pacific region in 1997 followed by crashes in South America, both regions were held up earlier by the US as models of austerity to be emulated. The countries of Africa, the Indian subcontinent, Central America/Caribbean have sunk into even greater debt, rampant unemployment, poverty and misery and are basically US neo-colonies. The US has pushed to squash any resistance around the world to its complete domination over the all countries.

The war on terrorism is the second stage of the new world order. It is the attempt to demonize all resistance to US domination as terrorist and then proceed to militarily destroy such resistance worldwide. The US has used its CIA puppet groups led by the likes of Bin Laden to run interference for them and create a pretext that could be sold to the US public to justify a permanent war footing. The criminal attacks on civilians

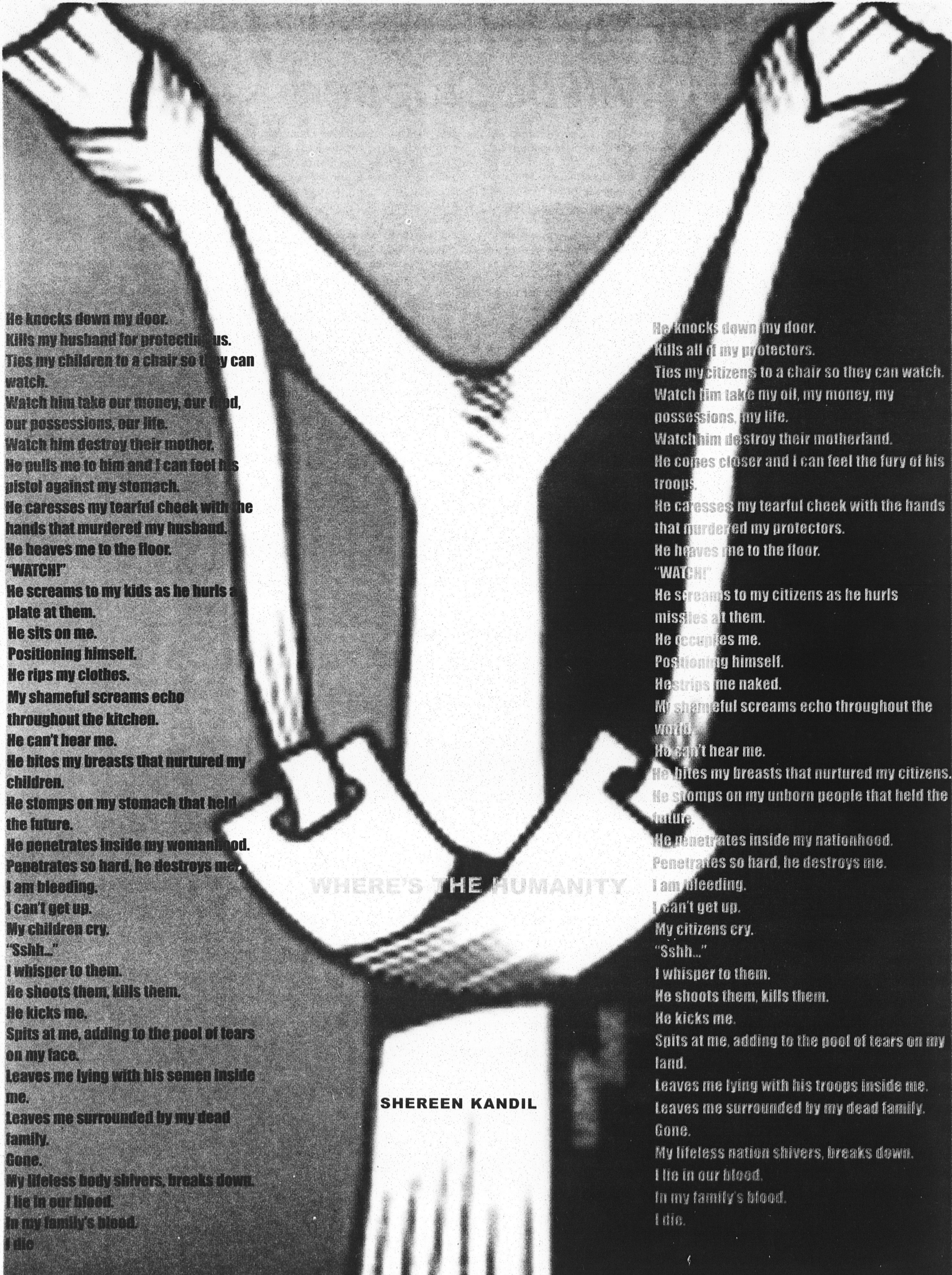


is feasible within the scope of a US dominated world. The US rulers have opted to force their domination over the world through military force since the economic policy has proved bankrupt leading to mass protest worldwide. If you are not with us you are against us is a warning to the world that the countries of the world must follow the US militarily, politically and economically. Try something different and you will be targeted, bombed and taken over ala Afghanistan.

The US aggression against Iraq is such a transparent power grab that the US's European allies like France and Germany unprecedentedly have refused to go along. Indeed US pressure on the governments of countries across the world to bend to its will has weakened



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He knocks down my door.
Kills my husband for protecting us.
Ties my children to a chair so they can watch.
Watch him take our money, our food,
our possessions, our life.
Watch him destroy their mother.
He pulls me to him and I can feel his
pistol against my stomach.
He caresses my tearful cheek with the
hands that murdered my husband.
He heaves me to the floor.
"WATCH!"
He screams to my kids as he hurls a
plate at them.
He sits on me.
Positioning himself.
He rips my clothes.
My shameful screams echo
throughout the kitchen.
He can't hear me.
He bites my breasts that nurtured my
children.
He stomps on my stomach that held
the future.
He penetrates inside my womanhood.
Penetrates so hard, he destroys me.
I am bleeding.
I can't get up.
My children cry.
"Sshh..."
I whisper to them.
He shoots them, kills them.
He kicks me.
Spits at me, adding to the pool of tears
on my face.
Leaves me lying with his semen inside
me.
Leaves me surrounded by my dead
family.
Gone.
My lifeless body shivers, breaks down.
I lie in our blood.
In my family's blood.
I die.

WHERE'S THE HUMANITY

SHEREEN KANDIL

He knocks down my door.
Kills all of my protectors.
Ties my citizens to a chair so they can watch.
Watch him take my oil, my money, my
possessions, my life.
Watch him destroy their motherland.
He comes closer and I can feel the fury of his
troops.
He caresses my tearful cheek with the hands
that murdered my protectors.
He heaves me to the floor.
"WATCH!"
He screams to my citizens as he hurls
missiles at them.
He occupies me.
Positioning himself.
He strips me naked.
My shameful screams echo throughout the
world.
He can't hear me.
He bites my breasts that nurtured my citizens.
He stomps on my unborn people that held the
future.
He penetrates inside my nationhood.
Penetrates so hard, he destroys me.
I am bleeding.
I can't get up.
My citizens cry.
"Sshh..."
I whisper to them.
He shoots them, kills them.
He kicks me.
Spits at me, adding to the pool of tears on my
land.
Leaves me lying with his troops inside me.
Leaves me surrounded by my dead family.
Gone.
My lifeless nation shivers, breaks down.
I lie in our blood.
In my family's blood.
I die.

STONES OF FREEDOM

Analytically, Politically
Hears a Soliloquy

From a young pebble rebel Arab revolutionary.

Around the world we are scattered
Yet our dreams cannot be shattered
Even though our homes are.

We will not flee, hide away, or go far
Led by the Dark Terrorist Emperor Ariel Sharon
And all his co conspirators, his evil clones
We will not give up give in or go home
Because we are...

United

By the will of Allah
From Lidd Nablus to Rammalah.

Look at your barbaric Mossad
You are truly devils and worship No God
Yes our homes are in pieces
And we are forced to live in feces
But we will never ever cede to your sadistic
holocaust filled thesis.

So we pick up our Pebbles and play freedom rebel
We try to level but no one wants to hear.

Our houses destroyed

Soldiers deployed

They try to humiliate

And instill fear

Born in occupation

It's the same situation.

A colonialist

An Imperialist

Sick Infatuation

Rubber bullets in the back

And over my head

I'd rather die fighting

Then cry under my bed

Incursion and curfews are one in the same

Bloody, Bewildering, they're inhumane.

Strip our children of their innocence

at such an early age,

Make them stay locked up in their cage.

Universities and Schools are shut down

Educated by bombs,

bullets make my world go round.

Armed with only a Quran

and the teachings of the Prophet

By any means necessary we must and will stop it.

Your acts are reprehensible

Yet we are indispensable

We Regenerate

Procreate

So you don't have a chance to eliminate,

Our struggle around the world.

People in struggle appreciate.

By Omar Hammad

THE IMPORTANCE OF MILITARY SOBRIETY AND EXERCISING SOUND JUDGMENT DURING PEACE AND WAR

GHANIM KHALIL

There are *Stages* and *Degrees* in all walks of life, even in the military. Some of the basic Stages of military life are as follows:

- Boot Camp/Basic Training
- Occupational Specialty Training
- Unit Service (During Times of Peace)
- Annual Qualification for Various Requirements
- Deployment (During Times of Conflict)

Some of the basic Degrees of military life are as follows:

- Rank Structure
- Leadership Roles
- Readiness Status

The above Stages and Degrees form important parts of the structure of the military way of life. There is a third part of life, including in the military, which deserves recognition- the *State* in which each person finds him/herself and how this affects his/her surrounding atmosphere, especially if that one is in a position of leadership. Being a follower is no less important, without disciplined followers there can be no successful leadership. It is, therefore, a part of leadership to lead by example and guard the troops from falling below the accepted standards of discipline and skill, even if this means guarding them from themselves.

The State in which a member of the Armed Forces finds him/herself is based on various factors:

- Integrity / Sincerity
- Knowledge
- Action / Discipline
- Loyalty
- Independent Growth

The above factors determine what type of leader/follower one is. An individual's journey begins with integrity and sincerity, which leads to the natural desire for knowledge for which it is necessary to act and produce discipline, which alone reveals loyalty and culminates in the *Independent Growth* of that individual. Independent Growth is the goal, when achieved, forms the backbone of any progressive society or way of life, including the military. This should be encouraged, never negated, and always expected.

None of the above is achievable

without first maintaining *Military Sobriety*, as opposed to *Military Egoism*. The difference in the two is of immense importance. Military Sobriety requires the individual to act on principle and sound judgement fostered by continuous Independent Growth. Military Egoism requires the individual to act on selfish impulses and arrogance fostered by ignorance. Military Sobriety aims to clear the path to continuous Independent Growth and reveal its superiority to its opposite (Military Egoism). Military Egoism is aimless and clouds the path to Independent Growth, thus revealing its own inferiority to its opposite (Military Sobriety).

When Independent Growth steadily progresses and is protected from Military Egoism, only then can the person move on to contemplate the political environment he/she finds oneself a part of. Contemplation is followed by observation of the political system that governs the Armed Forces. This can be called *Total Assessment* (of that which governs the Armed Forces). The entering into the State of Total Assessment can be referred to as the *Ascent*. The individual takes into consideration the factors that have such a great influence on his/her life in the military. He/she must then compare the values, which bore fruit from Military Sobriety with the values, which the governors of the Armed Forces follow. In this endeavor, he/she must seek the underlying motives of why the Armed Forces is governed how it is, what changes are taking place, and where (and why) parts of the Armed Forces are deployed for combat duties. The importance of such is self-evident and requires no elaborate explanation.

During the journey to Independent Growth and through the State of Total Assessment the person will face many obstacles; some minor while others will be greater. Each obstacle is a test, and each test will produce results according to how those tests are managed. The person who takes Independent Growth and Total Assessment seriously will act according to the clarity and courage that they have provided him/her. The weakest of tests will be from fellow members of the military of the lower levels. The hardest of tests will be from fellow members of the military of the higher levels. This is due to the fact that most members of the

military don't seek Independent Growth and especially not Total Assessment. If they do so, this does not mean that they will have clarity or courage. Not all seekers remain serious at this point of their journey. Some, in the State of Total Assessment, may wish to become uncritical of what influences the Armed Forces and/or of the various reasons for the deployment of troops, therefore exiting that State. This can be called the State of *Self-Imprisonment*. When a person enters into the State of Self-Imprisonment, he/she removes his/herself from Independent Growth, and this can be referred to as the *Descent*.

During times of peace, the seeker of Independent Growth and Total Assessment continues to lead by example. During times of war or conflict, the seeker exercises his/her own judgment on what is happening according to the principles and values fostered by continuous Independent Growth and from the knowledge gained from Total Assessment. This is important and completely justified, even when fellow members of the military of lower and higher levels oppose the seeker's views, granted the seeker has based his/her views on sound facts. An example would be, in the case a conflict or war is being waged (or is about to be waged) for purposes that contradict Human Rights, the seeker of Independent Growth, would have to identify the facts surrounding the contradictions and object to the conflict or war. The basis of his/her objection is self-evident. When faced with arguments from the opposition, the task of rebutting those arguments would also be necessary. Having been in the State of Total Assessment, rebuttals ought to be easy, clear, and honest. This process (of objecting and rebutting) can be called *Striving*. Striving will reveal the importance of Independent Growth and Total Assessment, which seek to protect the member of the military from extremism, laziness, ignorance, arrogance, and blind following (all characteristics of Military Egoism). It is important to point out, that no military of any government is infallible and must be subject to Total Assessment. In this regard, Total Assessment performs the function of checks and balances, when the various branches of the government fail to check and

balance each other accordingly.

It is a common argument that no healthy or able member of the Armed Forces has the right to object to fighting or participating in a conflict or war that has been declared by the President. This argument is based on Military Egoism. It neither has sound foundation nor makes any sense. It is also common for a member of the military who objects to certain conflicts to be called unpatriotic or a coward. These also have no foundation if the arguments the objector expresses are based on sound judgment and principles that the military itself teaches, such as integrity, truth, courage, honor, commitment...etc. It is easy to follow blindly a command, but courageous to disobey an unlawful one and even a President can be disobeyed if the command contradicts these principles or violates Human Rights. When a member of the Armed Forces gives oath to protect the United States Constitution, it does not follow that he/she must obey commands or orders that fall under violating the Constitution or principles he/she is taught to uphold in the military or human rights of any kind. The one who practices Military Sobriety knows this truth, the one who practices Military Egoism fails to comprehend it or accept it.



NYC LABOR AGAINST THE WAR

Resolution passed by the Executive Board of TWU Local 100
(TRANSIT WORKERS UNION)

January 17th 2003

Local 100 and the Threat of War

WHEREAS, we have great concerns about the Bush Administration's threat of war; and

WHEREAS, union members and leaders have the responsibility to inform all working people about issues that affect their lives, jobs and families, and to be heard in the national debate on these issues; and

WHEREAS, the principal victims of any military action in Iraq will be the sons and daughters of working class families serving in the military who will be put in harms way, and innocent Iraqi civilians who have already suffered so much; and

WHEREAS, we have no quarrel with the ordinary working class men, women and children of Iraq, or any other country; and

WHEREAS, the billions of dollars spent to stage and execute this war are being taken away from our schools, hospitals, housing and Social Security; and

WHEREAS, the war is a pretext for attacks on labor, civil, immigrant and human rights at home; and

WHEREAS, Bush's drive for war serves as a cover and distraction for the sinking economy, corporate corruption and layoffs; and

WHEREAS, U.S. military action against Iraq threatens the peaceful resolution of disputes among states, jeopardizing the safety and security of the entire world, including Americans; and

WHEREAS, labor has had an historic role in fighting for justice; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the TWU-Local 100 Executive Board stands against Bush's war drive; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the TWU-Local 100 will publicize this statement, promote union, labor and community antiwar activity, and publish this statement in the Local 100 Express.

Defend Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

To report bias attacks against

Arabs, Muslims, and South Asians:

*U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Hotline: 866-76USCCR (866-768-7227)

*Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund Hotline for South Asians in NYC area, particularly Sikhs, Bangladeshis, and Pakistanis: 212-760-9110

*Desi's Rising Up and Moving (DRUM) Hotline for South Asians in NYC and NJ: 212-631-3689

*American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, www.adc.org

If you have numbers for local reports in other parts of the country, please let us know! And don't underestimate the power of speaking up yourself if you witness someone being harassed. The cycle of violence often continues because people don't say anything.

RESOLUTION BY PROFESSIONAL STAFF CONGRESS
(CUNY FACULTY UNION)

OPPOSING EXPANSION OF US MILITARY CAMPAIGNS IN A PERMANENT AND UNCONDITIONAL "WAR ON TERROR"

WHEREAS, we write as New Yorkers, as unionists and as people who have dedicated their professional lives to open discussion of complex questions; and
WHEREAS, our location in New York means that we have felt and continue to feel the effects-ranging from minor dislocations to profound grief-of the murderous attacks of September 11th, and that we take seriously the danger of future attacks; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Professional Staff Congress were among the many people who responded magnificently to the catastrophe and who suffered terrible loss that day: eight of our members died in the attack, as did numerous family members and friends, at least 30 of our students and 161 alumni of the City University of New York; and

WHEREAS, President Bush, in his January 29, 2002 State of the Union address stated that "our war on terror is well begun, but it is only begun," and Vice President Dick Cheney has said it is possible that the war might be expanded to "forty or fifty other countries," possibly lasting "fifty years or more"; and

WHEREAS, President Bush, speaking in Germany on May 23, 2002, called the Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein "a threat to all civilization" and appealed to German legislators for help "in waging a wider war on terrorism," (The New York Times, 5/23/02); and

WHEREAS, with military spending already accounting for nearly one-fifth of the total federal budget and over half of all Congressional discretionary spending, President Bush's proposed military budget of \$396 billion, coupled with current tax policy, will create austerity for working people and disinvestment in education, health care, environmental safety and other human needs; and

WHEREAS, the Bush Administration has sharply limited civil liberties and access to information since September 11th: Freedom of Information Act policies have been revised to restrict access for journalists, scholars and others; Congress passed the USA-PATRIOT Act, which permits breakage and entry without court orders, expansion of wiretaps, imprisonment of suspected terrorists without trial, and secret military tribunals; and

WHEREAS, public discussion in the United States of the way to create domestic security has been narrowly focused on war, neglecting issues that contribute to domestic insecurity such as US foreign policy, the consequences of globalization, inequities in the distribution of wealth, and others; and

WHEREAS, modern weapons mean that heavy loss of civilian life is now an intrinsic part of war, not an accidental consequence: according to the United Nations Conference on Children, 90% of war casualties are now civilian, as opposed to 5% during World War I; and

WHEREAS, we as a union have engaged in a two-month period of discussion on the position the PSC should take on the current military policy of the US government, using chapter meetings, the Delegate Assembly, chapter newsletters, the union newspaper and the website to conduct a vigorous and democratic debate; and

WHEREAS, members expressed many different points of view in the discussion, but consistently raised three themes: condemnation of the terrorist attacks, concern about security and the domestic consequences of war, and opposition to expansion of war; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Professional Staff Congress reaffirm the resolutions it passed unanimously on September 20, 2001, which condemned the terrorist attacks of September 11th, extended sympathy to those grieving for people they loved, and offered solidarity with fellow workers in a time of mourning; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Professional Staff Congress oppose the unconditional expansion of military campaigns by the United States as a substitute for a strategy in response to September 11th that would genuinely protect collective security and individual freedom, in a manner consistent with our Constitutional principles; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Professional Staff Congress call for a broad public discussion of how to create real and lasting security that goes beyond war as the only solution, considering such issues as US foreign policy, the consequences of globalization, and inequities in the distribution of wealth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Professional Staff Congress oppose the federal funding priorities that cannot be separated from a commitment to expanded war and permanent militarization: austerity for labor and disinvestment in education, health care, environmental safety and other human needs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Professional Staff Congress oppose the curtailment of civil, human and immigrant rights and of academic freedom for both students and faculty that is also directly related to expansion of war and permanent militarization; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Professional Staff Congress continue the union discussion begun this spring on war and related issues at chapter and university-wide meetings during the 2002-03 academic year, for such a discussion will strengthen us as a union, deepening our practice of democracy and participating in the richest tradition of unionism; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Professional Staff Congress bring this or a similar resolution to the labor, academic and community groups with which it is affiliated, calling on them to take the lead in proposing an agenda that frees all people from terror and promotes peace through justice.

REPARATIONS NOW!!!

THE STRUGGLE AGAINST SLAVERY IN THE U.S. CONTINUES

SHABAZZ ANDREWS

Even though the institution of slavery was abolished in the US through the Civil War, the impact of slavery was never fully dealt with by America's rulers. The promise of 40 acres and a mule for the freed slaves was just another broken promise for Black people in the US. Instead of real justice for the hundreds of years of torture at the hands of America's white supremacist establishment, Blacks got Jim Crow - the American precursor to Apartheid. You were no longer property of the slave master but you had no land, no money, and were still forcibly kept at the bottom of the barrel in American society. It took the Civil Rights movement of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., the riots of the Black Power movement, the militancy of Malcolm X in the late 50s and 60s to begin to address the deep seated racism in the very structure of American society. The gains towards greater dignity won by Black people in the 60s by enduring beatings, bombings, dog maulings, and white hatred are being reversed today. The struggle for reparations is the struggle to renew the struggle waged through the Civil War to the Civil rights movement for justice.

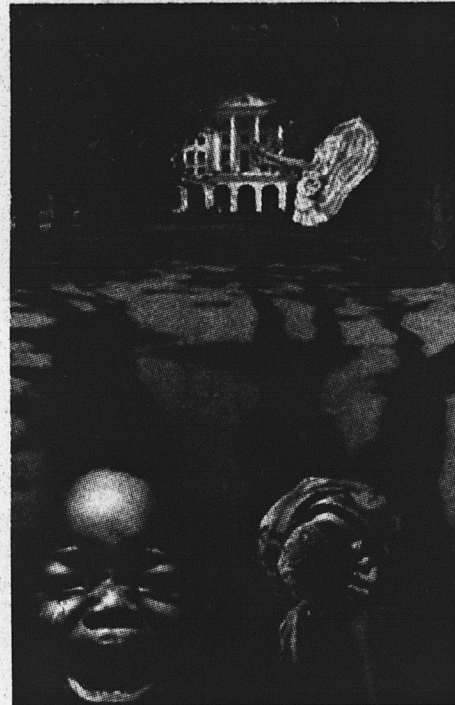
The struggle for reparations for slavery is based on solid legal grounds. The Jewish victims of the Nazi holocaust have showed through their courage and fortitude that companies that gain from slave labor and genocide can be held liable. This is also basic morality and justice. Of course America's rulers still don't see it that way. They sadly try to cover up their colossal crimes through cheap rationalizations. Oh it was so long ago. Oh we are not responsible. Oh things are better now why don't we forget about it. But a trail blazing law suit brought against several US corporations

show that there is a legal continuity between the companies that benefited then and those companies today. Is it not obvious that not only the companies mentioned in the lawsuit but the US ruling class as a whole benefited from slave labor? Could this nation have accumulated this great wealth without Black slave labor and the Black cheap labor that followed? These are precisely the questions that the white supremacist establishment today wants to avoid because they stand to be totally exposed. For them it is a giant can of worms that they would rather bury and forget about. But crimes are always paid sooner or later. You cannot wish or wash away an action once it is done. The white supremacist capitalist ruling class in America is responsible for the enslavement of and genocide against Black people. This is a fact that will not go away. Instead of paying for their crimes they continue to perpetuate criminal action against Black people in the United States to this day.

The roots of white supremacy run very deep in the American ruling class. Even though today they dress up their racism slightly differently the effects are still horrendous. Although at times the dressing comes off quite spectacularly as well, as in the case of Republican Senator and would be Senate leader Trent Lott, who has the nagging habit of saying quite publicly that America would not have these problems today if segregation was kept intact. Angered by the Civil Rights Movement and the struggles of Blacks in the military, in unions and in neighborhoods for dignity and respect in the 60s, Americas rulers have decided to incarcerate a whole generation of Black men. The prison population was 200,000 in 1970 today it is over 2 million, the largest percentage of people jailed in

any country in the world. Of this number half the population is Black. Nearly every Black working class family has had or has a relative in America's prison system. This is how sorry America's rulers are for slavery and genocide.

The struggle for reparations is a central struggle for justice. It is not just conservatives but also liberals that don't understand this. Liberals like conservatives are committed to



preserving the racist capitalist status quo; they just go about it a little differently at times. Liberals also are afraid of the implications that this movement for justice will have for the whole system. The liberal approach to the issue of justice for Black people in the US has been to allow a few Blacks into official positions thus creating a Black middle class. Their hope is that this middle class will serve as a buffer between the system and the majority of Black people who still suffer third

world conditions and police state tactics. The liberal approach is shared by both Republicans and Democrats just as they both shared in segregation in the past. See look we have a Black Secretary of State Colin Powell and a Black national security advisor Condoleezza Rice, we are not racist. Of course Black people in majority see through this type of insulting tokenism on the part of the establishment. "You can be part of the club at least one or two of you Blacks but you better speak and think like us" (i.e. defend white capitalism of course). This is the simple racist logic that still functions in America today 150 years after slavery was formally ended.

Today the US racist capitalist rulers are readying thousands of Black men and women in the military to die and kill for them. Black people have always given more than whites in American society whether it is their labor or their blood. Unfortunately just as in Vietnam these young Black men and women are going to be used to dominate another non white people for the benefit of the racist rulers back home. However just as during Vietnam, the struggle for justice in the form of the struggle for reparations must continue if progress is to be made. The racists will yield nothing without a strong organized movement for justice led by Black people in the military, in the unions, in the communities.

Militant Black soldiers had a saying during Vietnam - "No Vietnamese Ever Called Me Nigger". It is this realization that the war to be waged is right here in the US against the racist capitalist establishment that will shake the system to its foundations and finally bring justice and equality to Black people in the US.

OCCUPATION IS A CRIME

continued from pg 20

1322 (2000)

Calls upon Israel to scrupulously abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention regarding the responsibilities of occupying power.

1402 (2002)

Calls for Israel to withdraw from Palestinian cities.

Israel has violated all these resolution but has not faced the consequences. Iraq has violated less than half the amount of resolutions than Israel but has been brutally punished with sanctions for the past 12 years that have killed over a million Iraqi's because basic necessities are not allowed to enter the country depriving the Iraqi people to live a normal life. The country is now invaded with thousands of bombs dropping in Baghdad and Basra on innocent civilians. What does Israel get for violating UN resolutions? 5 billion

dollars a year in military aid from American taxpayers.

This current war in Iraq is unjustified. The American people should instead ask their president why is he supporting the terrorist Israeli State. Israel has violated the human rights of the Palestinians for too long with help from the United States. If you support a terrorist or a dictator you are a terrorist and a dictator. The United States has supported and funded terrorist groups and states as well as dictators throughout the world. Saddam himself was aided by the Americans which makes them responsible for his actions like invading Iran and gassing the Kurds with American made gas.

The reason for this war is totally clear. Oil profits, control of the region to defend Israel and because Bush made accusations about Iraq he couldn't prove or back off of. American people will not

benefit from this war. The rich, oil and weapon companies will definitely benefit from this war. American people need to realize that the Bush administration has different interest than the American working and middle class. The American working and middle class have more in common with the working and middle class of Iraq than with the rich in our country. The rich and elite in the United States have more in common with the rich and elite throughout the world than they do with the American working and middle class. This is why the rich in this country work with and supports different governments throughout the world no matter how terrorist and dictatorial they are.

Just because you are white, hold American citizenship or have family in the military does not mean you should blindly support the actions of your

government. This government is sending out the sons and daughters of working class and middle class Americans to fight their wars. Israel is continuing its destruction of Palestinian homes, killing Palestinians and building settlements yet not a peep from the White House. The Bush administration has exposed it's agenda first with Israel and then with North Korea. Unfortunately the lives of Iraqis, Palestinians, Israelis and Americans will be lost for the fortunes and agenda of the elite. I tell my fellow Americans not to believe everything the media tells you. The same companies that build weapons own the media. Find out who owns your media. Now different companies are trying to win contracts with the White House to rebuild Iraq and make billions of dollars. Don't allow the government to declare war and kill Iraqis in our name.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE MUST DISARM BUSH

By Michael Wrangler

The Bush Gang, who stole the elections from the American people, are now engaged in the most dangerous war mongering the world has seen since the days of Hitler. The Bush Gang are made up of oil tycoons who wish to enrich themselves and their ultra wealthy buddies off the blood of American and Iraqi workers and poor.

The so-called War On Terrorism is nothing but a War Of Terrorism, threatening the people of America and the world with war, biological attacks and even preemptive nuclear attack. Under the cover of fighting terrorism the Bush Gang is robbing the American working people blind and similarly robbing the resources of the people of the Middle East and Asia.

A full accounting of the terrorist attacks of 9-11 still has not been provided by the Bush Gang. Osama Bin Laden, an heir to the Saudi oil fortune, who functioned as a CIA operative to defeat communism in Afghanistan, was immediately pointed to as the main suspect. How did they know so quickly but yet were unable to prevent him from doing it?

But instead of catching Bin Laden, the Bush Gang, invaded Afghanistan and took it over, and in the process set up military camps all over Central Asia - known to have the largest untapped oil and gas reserves in the world. The Bush Gang claimed that the backward Taliban regime in Afghanistan was providing a safe haven for bin Laden. However the Taliban in fact had a terrible relationship with Bin Laden and wanted him out of their country. When the Bush Gang threatened to invade Afghanistan the Taliban said they were more than willing to give up Bin Laden but he wasn't in their control. So the Bush Gang blasted this desperately poor country that has seen so much war and suffering for the last twenty years. Of course the result of all the destruction done to Afghanistan was not the capture of the supposed kingpin of the 9-11 terror attacks but the takeover of the country and the installation of a puppet regime.

The next step of this sinister gang that runs our country was to morph Osama Bin Laden into Saddam Hussein. Even though not a shred of evidence exists to back this up the Bush Gang began to spread the lie to the American public that Saddam was Osama's buddy. Of course the racist glue that held this lie together was that they were both Arabs and they were both Muslims.

The underlying message that

the Bush Gang was busy spreading was that all Muslims are potential terrorists. Since Muslims came in all colors and nationalities, it was meant to frighten the American people about anyone that seemed foreign to them, particularly with dark skin. The logic of the Bush Gang was simple but thoroughly evil. The American people are shocked by 9-11. Use that shock, use that fear, to blind the people,

right into the Bush Gangs hands. Oil profits and power are the only things that the Bush Gang is concerned with.

The Bush Gang is not an aberration but is representative of the power drunk condition of the US ruling capitalist class. These billionaires feel that nothing can stop them from dominating the world and consolidating their power forever. It is a fanatical creed that



divide the people, inspire hate in the people and rob the people silly of their money and their rights.

So suddenly the Bush Gang has effectively morphed Osama into Saddam, Muslims into terrorists, and is set to unleash a preemptive war of aggression against the people of Iraq. The stated aim of disarming Saddam Hussein reads like a cheap cowboy western. It is intended to fool nobody but the American people in their state of shock and fear. The rest of the world is dead set against this war. It is another big but clever lie intended to fool the American people into offering up their sons and daughters to go and fight to take over the oil fields of Iraq for the Bush Gang.

They have not hidden their intention to take over the Iraqi oil fields and bring the country under a US military ruler. While the blood of tens of thousands of Iraqi civilians and potentially thousands of American soldiers flow over the Iraqi landscape, millions of barrels of black gold will flow out of the desert sand

is born of the competitive drive of capitalism taken to the heights of lunacy by the fall of the Soviet Union, its only serious competitor.

The Bush Gang are capitalist fundamentalists, believing that it is their god given right to rule the world, to have the most wealth and the most power. If anyone gets in their way they have the god given right to destroy them. It is simple. It is black and white. And it is extremely deadly. Hitler was another such fanatical fool but he lacked the enormous military power at the command of the Bush Gang.

It is time the American people knocked some sense into the heads of these dangerous zealots. It is time the American working class woke up and smelled the nuclear Armageddon that these delusional billionaires have in store for all of us. Though the Bush Gang and the capitalist class that they represent wield a lot of power, it is only the power that we give them. If the American working class were to withhold their labor the capitalist war mongers can do nothing.

They will be reduced to the pitiful spoiled rich brats that they are and start crying for their nuclear weapons and bombs. "I want my missiles waaaaah, give em back, give em back, their mine, it's my country, it's my world, give me back my missiles, waaaaaaah." Imagine?!!!!

But seriously, we the workers, we the great majority of this country have a lot of power in that it is our labor that makes the profits flow for the Bush's. It is our labor that make the factories run, the wheat grow, the planes fly, the ships move, it is our labor that will be used for this war of aggression. We must hold our labor back, through a solid general strike and stop the Bush Gangs insane war.

However replacing him with the likes of the Democrats, the other nursery room of rich spoiled brats, is not going to get us anywhere. We have to tell them all to grow up and get a real freakin' job like the rest of us. We have to stop taking orders from these infantile maniacs. We have to create our own institutions, sane, mature institutions that will prioritize peace and prosperity. There are enough resources in the world for all of us to be healthy, wealthy and happy, to be without fear and war.

Muslims, Christians, Jews, Hindus, Buddhists, all peoples and all cultures are part of one human family that depend on each other for survival. Hatred only comes about through committing hateful acts. Stop the hateful act and end the hatred. Love in the same manner also comes about through loving acts. These are simple truths that our whole human family understands. Let us stop allowing hateful acts to be committed in our name. Let us stop allowing ourselves to be led by a small group of greedy, spoiled, aggressive nuts. Let us take responsibility for ourselves, each other and our environment and create a just, nurturing, loving, peaceful world.

The first step in this direction would be to stop this war. In the process we must disarm the Bush Gang and relieve their corporate buddies of their control over our economy. Then we must set about democratically reorganizing the economy to provide good jobs for all, health and education for all, and declare to the world that America is free and is ready to offer friendship and help to nations who need it. That will be the end of terror and the end of war. That will be the dawn of real human civilization.

Ladies and gentleman the prime minister...the king...the czar, well you know the leader of the nation. Dubya

By Omar Hammad

"The war on terror involves Saddam Hussein because of the nature of Saddam Hussein, the history of Saddam Hussein, and his willingness to terrorize himself." - Grand Rapids, Mich., Jan. 29, 2003 (According to our president, Hussein is in to sadomasochism maybe that's why he's so mean)

"You're back here with my people. You're back here with the tequila drinkers, yeah. What you need is to go up there and make a little whoopee with the tequila drinkers, get to know them better." - G.W. Bush from Journeys With George by Alexandra Pelosi, debuted on HBO Nov. 5, 2002 (Make whoopee not war)

"When I was coming up it was a dangerous world, and we knew exactly who they were. It was us versus them, and it was clear who they were." - G.W. Bush from Journeys With George by Alexandra Pelosi, debuted on HBO Nov. 5, 2002 (I recon it was, Yeeeeeeehaw)

"I can't hear you because I can't see." - G.W. Bush from Journeys With George by Alexandra Pelosi, debuted on HBO Nov. 5, 2002 (He has over come so much, Helen Keller would be proud)

"There's an old saying in Tennessee — I know it's in Texas, it's probably in Tennessee — that says, fool me once, shame on ... shame on you. Fool me ... You can't get fooled again." - G.W. Bush quoted by the Baltimore Sun - Oct 6, 2002 (How can so many fools elect you as president. Oh wait, they didn't)

"Sometimes things aren't exactly black and white when it comes to accounting procedures ... I still haven't figured it out completely." - Bush when asked for details about his dealings with Harken Energy Corp., of which he was on the audit committee. G.W. Bush's father was in office in 1990 when he sold his Harken stock and the SEC did not pursue a case. -July 8th, 2002 (Thanks for the info Inspector Gadget we kind of figured that out in the Enron situation)

"Do you have blacks too?" - Bush ignorantly asked Brazil's President Fernando Henrique Cardoso. Reported by the reputable German publication Der Spiegel. Rumor has it; Condoleza Rice interrupted the president and explained in brief the African history in Brazil. (Let's count 1,2,3.....60 million!!!!!!)

"Washington is unfortunately the kind of place where second-guessing has become second nature," - G.W. Bush responding to suggestions he had warnings of September 11th before the attacks. Washington D.C., May 17th, 2002 (I wonder what's first nature, let's see, bombing innocent people)

"After all, a week ago, there were — Yasser Arafat was boarded up in his building in Ramallah, a building full of, evidently, German peace protestors and all kinds of people. They're now out. He's now free to show

leadership, to lead the world." - G.W. Bush. Washington D.C., May 2nd, 2002 (You don't allow Arafat to lead a Palestinian state, how is he going to lead the world?)

"This foreign policy stuff is a little frustrating." - G.W. Bush as quoted by the New York Daily News, April 23rd, 2002 (What he really means is that its just easier to bomb everyone)

"I've got a tool, and that's called a veto" - G.W. Bush regarding working with congress on the budget. Washington Post, April 17th, 2002 (Thank you for that deep and thorough lesson in the power of the executive branch)

"And so, in my State of the — my State of the Union — or state — my speech to the nation, whatever you want to call it, speech to the nation — I asked Americans to give 4,000 years — 4,000 hours over the next — the rest of your life — of service to America." - G.W. Bush. April 9th, 2002. Reported by the San Francisco Gate (among others) (I would do what he said if I

understood what the hell he was talking about)

"I made up my mind that Saddam needs to go," - G.W. Bush to British Prime Minister, Tony Blair, April 5th, 2002 (He means the bathroom)

"Sometimes when I sleep at night I think of 'Hop on Pop.'" - G.W. Bush speaking on educating children, April 2nd, 2002 (I had the same dream last nite)

"There's nothing more deep than recognizing Israel's right to exist. That's the most deep thought of all. ... I can't think of anything more deep than that right." - March 13th, 2000, Washington, D.C. (I'll give you something deep, the graves of thousands of dead Palestinians killed by your recognition and arming of the state of Israel)

"I understand that the unrest in the Middle East creates unrest throughout the region." - March 13th, 2000, Washington, D.C. (And unrest in New York City creates unrest in Manhattan)

"{Waves hello}" - G.W. Bush waves to the blind musician, Stevie Wonder, as reported by the Washington Post, March 6th, 2002 (Stevie, trust me you are better off)

"It also makes sense for New York State to have a governor whose phone calls will be returned from the White House." - February 2002, at a fundraiser for New York's Republican governor, George Pataki. (Yes Massah)



After hours of extensive investigation Dubya demonstrates the link between Al-Qaeda and Iraq.

"Mother, I should have listened to you. Always chew your pretzels before you swallow." —January 14th, 2002 (Words to live by)

"Not over my dead body will they raise your taxes!" —January 11th, 2002 (He means only over the dead bodies of American soldiers and Iraqi people)

"This is not an instant gratification war" —November 2nd, 2001 (Because we all know how gratifying death and destruction can be)

"I am here to make an announcement that this Thursday, ticket counters and airplanes will fly out of Ronald Reagan airport." —October 3rd, 2001 at Reagan International Airport in Washington, D.C. (How come J.F.K airport doesn't have flying ticket counters that's not fair)

"When I take action, I'm not going to fire a \$2 million missile at a \$10 empty tent and hit a camel in the butt. It's going to be decisive." —September 19th, 2001 (800 bombs on innocent civilians in decisive enough I guess)

"I know what I believe. I will continue to articulate what I believe and what I believe—I believe what I believe is right." —Rome, July 22, 2001 (I am what I am isn't that from the Popeye movie)

"It's my honor to speak to you as the leader of your country. And the great thing about America is you don't have to listen unless you want to." —Speaking to recently sworn in immigrants on Ellis Island, July 10, 2001 (I think I'll exercise that right not to listen)

"Well, it's an unimaginable honor to be the president during the Fourth of July of this country. It means what these words say, for starters. The great inalienable rights of our country. We're blessed with such values in America. And I—it's—I'm a proud man to be the nation based upon such wonderful values." —Visiting the Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C., July 2, 2001 (He needs to travel with an interpreter. It's official Saddam Husein speaks better english)

"We spent a lot of time talking about Africa, as we should. Africa is a nation that suffers from incredible disease." —Gothenburg, Sweden, June 14, 2001 (Its called slavery and colonialism)

"I had no idea we had so many weapons, ...what do we need them for?" —George W. Bush, stunned when told the extent of the U.S. nuclear arsenal, Newsweek, June 25, 2001 (That's what we have been telling you but you don't want to listen)

"It's amazing I won. I was running against peace, prosperity, and incumbency." —George W. Bush, June 14, 2001. Speaking to Swedish Prime Minister Goran Perrson, unaware that a live television camera was still rolling. (Yeah the fact that your brother Jeb didn't let African Americans vote in Florida had nothing to do with it)

"If a person doesn't have the capacity that we all want that person to have, I suspect hope is in the far distant future, if at all." —Remarks to the Hispanic Scholarship Fund Institute, Washington, D.C., May 22, 2001 (There is no hope)

"For every fatal shooting, there were roughly three non-fatal shootings. And, folks, this is unacceptable in America. It's just unacceptable. And we're going to do something about it." —Philadelphia, May 14, 2001 (That's what I'm saying every shooting should be fatal. Four more years four more years)

"I've coined new words, like, misunderstanding and Hispanically." —George W. Bush, who meant to say "misunderestimated" (Yale really paid off)

"They underestimated me." —Bentonville, Ark., Nov.

6, 2000 (I feel bad I was one of the ones that misundereestimated you too. I'm sorry)

"I know how hard it is for you to put food on your family." —Greater Nashua, N.H., Chamber of Commerce, Jan. 27, 2000 (Its great to know he identifies with us. Every time I try to put food on my family everyone gets mad)

"I know the human being and fish can coexist peacefully." —Saginaw, Mich., Sept. 29, 2000 (Unless they have oil)

"The great thing about America is everybody should vote." —Austin, Texas, Dec. 8, 2000 (Because he can just screw the election process anyway, so who cares)

"It's clearly a budget. It's got a lot of numbers in it." —Reuters, May 5, 2000 (In that case lotto is a budget too.)

"Rarely is the question asked: *Is our children learning?*" —Florence, S.C., Jan. 11, 2000 (Rarely is the question asked: *are our president learning*)

"The most important job is not to be governor, or first lady in my case." —Pella, Iowa, as quoted by the San Antonio Express-News, Jan. 30, 2000 (I have nothing to say)

"It's important for us to explain to our nation that life is important. It's not only life of babies, but it's life of children living in, you know, the dark dungeons of the Internet." —Arlington Heights, Ill., Oct. 24, 2000 (Someone is way too into Harry Potter and Lord of the Rings)

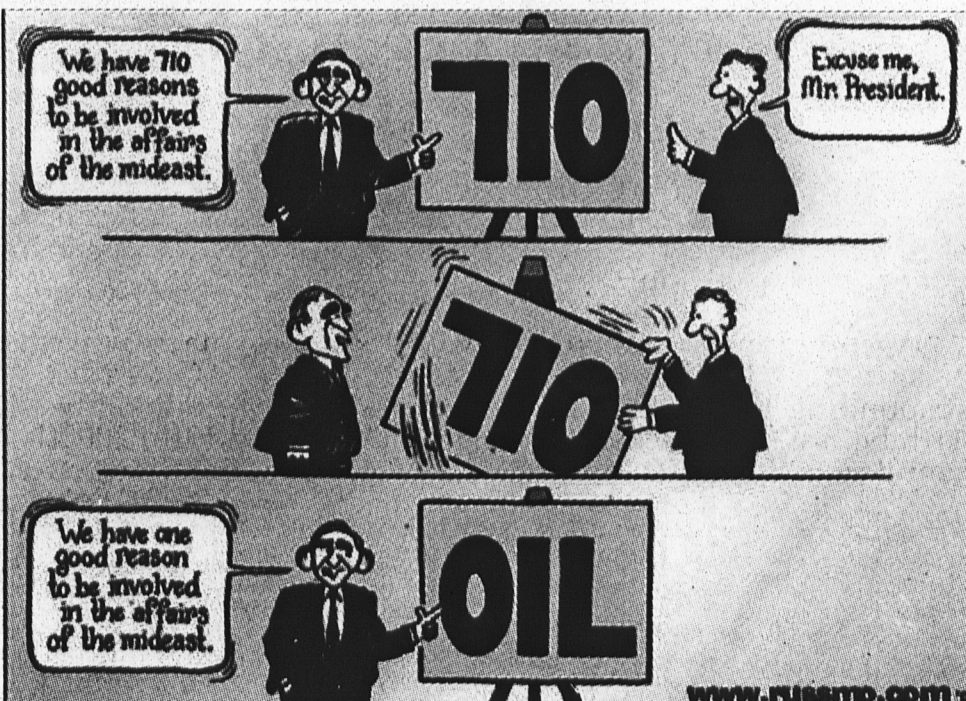
"I think if you know what you believe, it makes it a lot easier to answer questions. I can't answer your question." —Reynoldsburg, Ohio, Oct. 4, 2000 (Good Answer)

"They want the federal government controlling Social Security like it's some kind of federal program." —Debate in St. Charles, Mo., Nov. 2, 2000 (We should give it to one of your corporate Ceo friends like Enron)

"It's your money. You paid for it." —LaCrosse, Wis., Oct. 18, 2000 (Maybe if someone told him it doesn't work that way the economy would be better)

"You fucking son of a bitch. I saw what you wrote. We're not going to forget this." —George W. Bush to writer and editor Al Hunt, in front of his wife and kids, 1988 (Cue the God Father music here)

bushcartoon.com/bushisms.html



COLLEGE VOICE WHO WE ARE

The College Voice (CV) is a publication committed to the interests of working people. The working class is composed of all those people who own nothing but their ability to perform manual or mental labor and are forced to sell it for a wage. As students at CUNY, we recognize that we are a part of the multi-racial, multi-national working class of New York City. The severe attacks that CUNY has undergone are mirrored by the endless assaults on the jobs, wages and living standards of working people, as well as by the attacks on trade union, democratic and civil rights.

We oppose the poisonous divisions fostered on the basis of race by the bosses, who make black and white workers fight each other for the crumbs off their table...even though it is the workers who produce all the wealth.

We oppose the systematic attempts to reduce women to a defined "feminine" status, that serves to legitimize the special oppression they face as women and the additional exploitation they undergo as workers.

We oppose the vicious attacks on immigrant workers, who are the most vulnerable victims of the bosses job market, and who are thus used to drive all workers wages down.

We oppose every form of bigotry, on principle, as unbecoming our species and recognize that the fight for human liberation will be achieved only in the course of combating these divisions.

We oppose the use of the environment as a source of short-term profit and plunder by the ruling rich regardless of the consequences for the majority of the world's population.

The CV recognizes that it is the capitalist system, based upon the private ownership of the means of producing the wealth, that is fundamentally responsible for the fantastic hardship and misery that the vast majority of our species undergoes across the globe...in the midst of plenty.

The CV recognizes that this contradiction, far from being some "natural" condition, is one maintained by the armed power of the capitalist state (army, cops and courts) and ideological apparatus (media, church and schools) of the capitalist class that insures the domination of the few over the many; of the bosses, who produce nothing and appropriate everything over the workers, who produce everything but appropriate nothing.

The CV recognizes the possibility and the burning necessity for creating a society in which the productive forces are democratically organized through the cooperative association of workers and production is based on human needs instead of private profits in harmony with the environment.

The CV recognizes the necessity for creating a revolutionary party of working class, based upon a program of militant mass action and class struggle politics, that will organize internationally against world capitalism and its multi- and transitional corporations and fight for a socialist revolution against them.

The CV seeks to engage all those who are committed to fighting exploitation and oppression in common action against the common enemy...capitalism



Enrique Innocente

To the College Community:

In the last issue of the College Voice dated December 2002, a letter was printed to the president of the college. At the bottom of the letter the name Ralph G. Giordano was mistakenly placed. Ralph G. Giordano did not write that letter but the one across from it dealing with the parking issue on campus. We apologize to Ralph for accidentally putting his name on the other letter. This was not done on purpose. Ralph G. Giordano is a respected professor on campus. The College Voice wants to build strong relations with our faculty. We will do our best to prevent this from happening in the future and regret this mistake.

EDITORIAL COLLECTIVE

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Interview With Former Marine, Soldier and Current CSI Student

CV: Whats your name and how long have you served in the Marines and Army?

GK: My name is Ghanim Khalil, I was four years active duty in the Marines and then three years in active reserve and just finished my last year in the Army National Guard.

CV: What are your views of this current war?

GK: I think the direction of the current administration parallels the Assyrian Empire. This empire was the most advanced empire in economics and warfare. It was an extremely powerful empire that overshadowed the entire middle eastern region. After 105 years of rule it collapsed overnight. Why? They made too many unnecessary military invasions until everyone under their harsh rule came together and caused their political demise. The U.S. does not have to take the self destructive path of the Assyrians.

CV: Do you think Iraq is a threat to the United States?

GK: No, according to the world community evidence from the U.K. and U.S. intelligence, it is becoming increasingly clear that Iraq was not a threat.

CV: Well then why is the United States at war?

GK: First, Iraq symbolizes the conquistador quest for God, (Black)Gold and Glory. Also, according to a British Member of Parliament, Paul Marsden, Iraq is sitting on top of the largest oil reserves in the world, that scientific estimates say won't deplete for another 525 years. Another reason is to protect the regional interests of the Israeli state at the expense of American tax dollars and soldiers.

CV: Have you encountered other soldiers who have similar views?

GK: Yes i have, as a matter of fact many veterans from the Vietnam war, Korean war and the first Gulf war have strongly supported alternatives to war based on views similar to mine and have shown solidarity with me. There are several groups who feel war is unnecessary such as Veterans for Peace, Citizen Soldier, and War Times. Many soldiers who are currently serving in the military are also opposed to the war.

CV: What do you have to say to fellow soldiers who say that they might not support what's going on but have to follow orders?

GK: I would ask them to familiarize themselves with the Nuremberg principles, the Geneva convention and the U.N. Charter which clearly indicates that unnecessary wars that result in massive human casualties, soldiers can and will be prosecuted for war crimes. They should also consider the legal avenue of applying for Conscientious Objector which can help them avoid violating human rights.

www.VeteransforPeace.org
www.Veteranforcommonsense.org
www.Citizen-Soldier.org

GI's Must Not Die for Oil Profits

Working class American young men and women are being called on yet again to kill and be killed for the ruling rich. It is always the same, the Senators sons, the CEOs sons are never those at the front line. It is the average blue collar or white collar worker, the recent high school graduate from a working class neighborhood that is called upon to be dehumanized. And what for? Very simply - Profits for the Rich. Profits for the Oil Companies that Big Oil executives like Bush, Cheney, Rice and others in this administration cater to. This war is not a war for national security it is a war for the oil executives, the military contractors and other big businesses so they can make billions more in profits and take over new markets and resources.

When Bush talks about defending national security he does not mean the security of the average black, white, Hispanic working class family. No, if he cared about our security he would spend 400 billion dollars on providing good jobs, good health and education and peace for us not on feeding a military industrial complex that is sending us to die while our families suffer through recession. Of course, there is no recession for Bush and his class. There is never a recession for them. If a CEO is "fired" they get literally hundreds of millions of dollars and are basically set for life. Of course as thousands of workers are fired, Bush will limit the paltry unemployment benefits and tell us to prey.

This is not even a real war. If Mike Tyson faced a 60 pound kid, that would not be called a fight, Tyson would be arrested for beating a child. Iraq is not a match for the US military. Iraq has not attacked or even threatened to attack the United States. It has not challenged the US military to a fight. Iraq has no Air Force, no Navy, and no weapons that can reach the US. They do not even have any weapons that can shoot down US air force jets that have been regularly flying over and bombing Iraq for the last 12 years. They have not been able to shoot down a single plane. All this blather about weapons of mass destruction that is repeated incessantly over the complaint corporate media is just a huge pile of horse shit.

This is not a just war. This is a war of aggression. This is a tremendous waste of life and resources, by a greedy filthy rich bully regime that wants to take something that the little guy has - oil. However, this time around the US rulers want to take over Iraq, not just invade, kill and leave. Occupation as the US ruling class found out in Vietnam and is finding out in Afghanistan today, is a long bloody and gruesome affair. As we Americans would resist a foreign

invader even if we did not like our president, so too will the overwhelming majority of Iraqis fight the colonial occupier even if they don't like their president - and like in Vietnam they will have right on their side. Bush's Oil Posse has no strategy for exit. Their plan is to take over the oil fields and administer the country militarily indefinitely.

Now American soldiers are told that they will be fighting for freedom and justice and democracy. But in truth this is just the mild sugar coating over a tremendous pile of poop. American soldiers will be used to impose a imperialist capitalist dictatorship over the people of Iraq. American soldiers will die fighting and kill thousands for the flag not of freedom but of ExxonMobil. Bush and his class of capitalist war mongers are traitors to any flag representing freedom. They are traitors to the overwhelming majority of American people who have nothing to gain from this barbaric wasteful war. They are traitors to the security of the American people whose lives will be made just that much more insecure by inciting hatred in the hearts of millions in the world against us.

Thousands of GI's returned from Gulf War 1 with what was later called "Gulf War Syndrome" a result of the poisons absorbed into their bodies during the war. GI's were exposed to these poisons both through the military experimentation upon them through untested "vaccines" and also as a result of absorbing chemicals from germ factories blown up by the US military in Iraq. Thousands more GIs from previous wars are homeless, suffer from poverty, loss of limbs, psychological damage and the rich men that sent them to war don't give a damn about them now.

If GI's have to put their lives on the line then let it be truly to fight tyranny and fight for freedom. Right now the biggest tyranny on the planet is the Bush Administration and the capitalist interests they represent. The Republicans and Democrats are twin heads of this tyranny of money over human need. GI's must fight for freedom but it is right here in the US that freedom must be won. The Iraqi people are not our enemy - do not kill them. Let them deal a blow to their tyrant let us deal a blow to ours. We can build a country and a world that is not carved up by oil and big business interest, always at war, always insecure. We can and we must share the abundant resources of the planet. Not one dollar, not one person for this bloody imperialist war. Turn the guns around. Fight the capitalists not their wars.

ISRAEL HAS WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION AND VIOLATES UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS

AYMAN EL-SAYED

America has exposed its true motives in this war with Iraq. No American should be fooled by the Bush administration and its media mouthpieces justification for war in Iraq. Bush's excuse for war with Iraq is that they want to "liberate the people of Iraq". Another reason is that Iraq might "have weapons of mass destruction". A third reason is that Iraq "violated UN resolutions". I will dissect each of these arguments and show that this war has nothing to do with any of Bush, Cheney, Powell and Rumsfeld arguments. I will compare the Bush administration's double standard and hypocrisy towards Iraq and Israel. This war is for several reasons. One big reason is economic benefit, Oil. Another big reason is the protection of the state of Israel from a militarily competing force in the Middle East region. Americans must seriously ask themselves, will this war be going on if Iraq did not sit on the world's largest oil reserves? If Iraq's main produce was bananas or potatoes will the U.S. be spending billions of dollars and sacrificing American and Iraqi lives for war? I don't think so.

A fact that cannot be denied and many so called patriots ignore is that the U.S. was a big ally with Saddam when he was fighting Iran. Saddam at this time was still a dictator and killing his own people. Where was America's concern for the Iraqi people then? The U.S. helped him kill his own people by giving him gas and chemical weapons. Don't deny this fact if you are reading this because it is well documented and U.S. officials and media don't deny it they just prefer not to talk about it.

Does the United States government really care about the Iraqi people or any other people? The U.S. has allied itself and supported some of the biggest dictators and murderers of the world. General Pinochet who is responsible for the death and disappearance of thousands of innocent people in Chile. The U.S. supports the Israeli state, which is carrying out genocide on the Palestinian people. Ariel Sharon is a war criminal responsible for the death of thousands of Palestinians and Lebanese civilians in the camps of Sabra and Shatila in the early 1980's. The U.S. government also allies itself with the biggest dictators of the Middle East, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Jordan. What do people have to say about these facts? Nothing. This proves that this war has nothing to do with liberating the Iraqi people and the Iraqi people know this because unlike American people they study history and politics and know more about American politics than the American people who do not think critically and believe everything the

media and pentagon throws at them.

Another argument that is constantly pounded by George W. Bush is that Iraq has weapons of mass destruction. This is a very comical argument because no country in the world has more weapons of mass destruction than the United States Government. To add to that fact no country in the world has ever used weapons of mass destruction besides the United States killing hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Everyone should be watching the United States' weapons of mass destruction and the war hungry officials in the Pentagon. It is not a proven fact that Iraq has weapons of mass destruction it is just an assumption. If the United States is so sure that Iraq has weapons of mass destruction it is because the United States gave them those weapons proving my point in the paragraph above. Even if Iraq does have weapons of mass destruction they are no threat to the United States but to its ally Israel who

everyday. The U.S. however insisted that no matter what, war is the only solution. Even Bush's Ultimatum was everything but an ultimatum because he said even if Saddam leaves, America will still invade Iraq. Israel has violated more resolutions than Iraq but the U.S. government ignores this. According to a Ha'aretz article on October 10, 2002, Israel is the number one violator of UN resolutions. Turkey is second and Morocco is third.

<http://www.haaretzdaily.com>

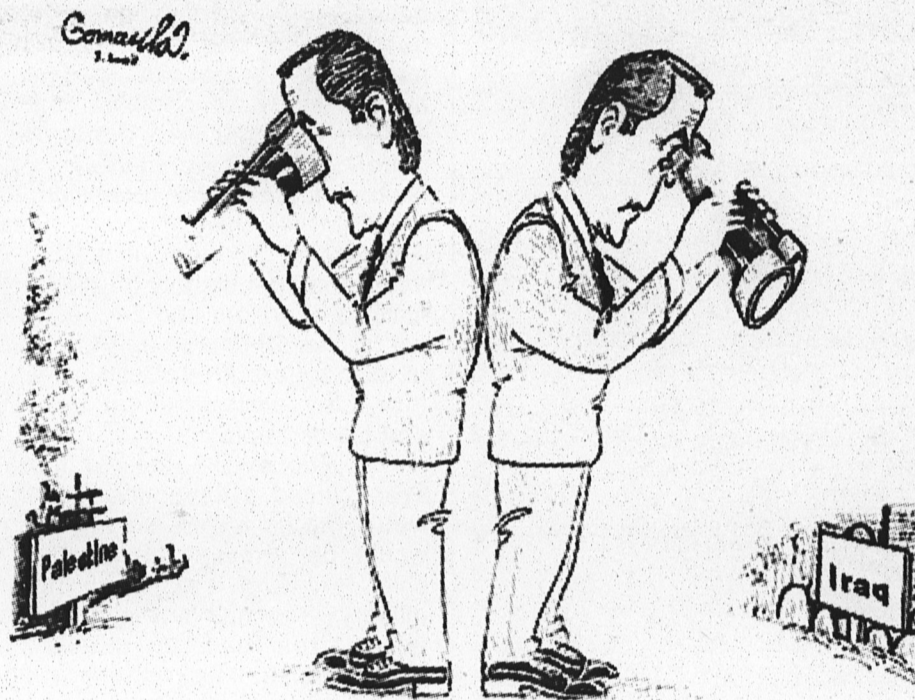
Let me list a few resolutions because there are too many violated by Israel:

Resolution 252 (1968)

Urgently calls upon Israel to rescind measures that change the legal status of Jerusalem, including the expropriation of land and properties thereon.

262 (1968)

Calls upon Israel to pay compensation to Lebanon for destruction of airliners at Beirut International Airport.



has admitted having and building weapons of mass destruction. Israel has weapons of mass destruction and has jailed a former Israeli nuclear technician, Mordechai Vanunu for exposing the Israeli government secret developments of weapons of mass destruction. He is now serving an 18 year sentence for doing so. He was working in the Dimona nuclear center in the Negev desert. In 1985, before he left the nuclear center he took photographs inside the nuclear plant and showed the pictures to the whole world.

The U.S. justifies its war with Iraq by saying that it violated UN resolution to disarm Iraq. Iraq first of all was allowing UN inspectors to search the country and was destroying weapons

267 (1969)

Urgently calls upon Israel to rescind measures seeking to change the legal status of occupied East Jerusalem.

271 (1969)

Reiterates calls to rescind measures seeking to change the legal status of occupied East Jerusalem and calls on Israel to scrupulously abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention regarding the responsibilities of occupying powers.

446 (1979)

Calls upon Israel to scrupulously abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention regarding the responsibilities of occupying powers, to rescind previous measures that violate these relevant provisions, and "in particular, not to

transport parts of its civilian population into the occupied Arab territories."

452 (1979)

Calls on the government of Israel to cease, on an urgent basis, the establishment, construction, and planning of settlements in the Arab territories, occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem.

465 (1980)

Reiterates previous resolutions on Israel's settlements policy.

471 (1980)

Demands prosecution of those involved in assassination attempts of West Bank leaders and compensation for damages; reiterates demands to abide by Fourth Geneva Convention.

487 (1981)

Calls upon Israel to place its nuclear facilities under the safeguard of the UN's International Atomic Energy Agency.

497 (1981)

Demands that Israel rescind its decision to impose its domestic laws in the occupied Syrian Golan region.

573 (1985)

Calls on Israel to pay compensation for human and material losses from its attack against Tunisia and to refrain from all such attacks or threats of attacks against other nations.

592 (1986)

Insists Israel abide by the Fourth Geneva Conventions in East Jerusalem and other occupied territories.

605 (1987)

"Calls once more upon Israel, the occupying Power, to abide immediately and scrupulously by the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Times of War, and to desist forthwith from its policies and practices that are in violations of the provisions of the Convention."

607 (1987)

Reiterates calls on Israel to abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention and to cease its practice of deportations from occupied Arab territories.

672 (1990)

Reiterates calls for Israel to abide by provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention in the occupied Arab territories.

726 (1992)

Reiterates calls on Israel to abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention and to cease its practice of deportations from occupied Arab territories.

799 (1992)

"Reaffirms applicability of Fourth Geneva Convention...to all Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, and affirms that deportation of civilians constitutes a contravention of its obligations under the Convention."

continued on pg 14

OCCUPATION IS A CRIME FROM IRAQ TO PALESTINE