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Mid-Year Budget Cuts Threaten CUNY

CSI at the End of the Millennium?



With the policy of more cops and more cuts is this the future of our glorious institution?

There are once again the ominous rumblings of another massive budget cut in the air. Although this is not confirmed, we have learned from several sources both administrative and student that a mid-year cut of some \$30 million will be meted out by Pataki. Such a cut it is said could very well be translated into a further rise in tuition by \$500.

CUNY has already been cut to the bone by the right-wingers in Albany and City Hall. Central administration instead of putting up a fight will inevitably seize upon any further cuts to raise tuition. The bloated administration in CUNY is used as an excuse by Wall Street's politicians to

smash CUNY as a public i.e. open institution. The thin fragility of the so-called "public" sector in a privately owned and controlled society is readily apparent. The "public" sector whether CUNY, Transit or Hospitals has always been a way in which the failings of the Private free market economy can be dumped on the working class via higher taxes e.g. tuition, fare hikes, layoffs and service cuts. Guliani/Pataki and Dinkins/Cuomo before them have offered massive hand outs to corporations in NYC. In the name of stimulating the economy these bought and paid for politicians of Wall Street have given \$183 million to the NY Mercantile Exchange (roughly equivalent to the cut to CUNY),

\$26 million to Capitol Cities/ABC and \$234 million to the now merged Chase Manhattan. These hand outs or bribes were given with the promise that jobs would be created. City administration reports themselves indicate that this has been a miserable failure with more jobs being cut than created. Over the last 7 years 50,000 jobs have been cut in the Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (FIRE) industries that the "Republi-Crats" have so lovingly wooed. There are no massive increases in police budgets to go after these corporate thieves who have been mugging us in our schools and jobs.

Students at CSI should be on alert. Another tuition increase could mean the end

of a college education for many of us who are stretched to our financial, physical and psychological limits. We must begin to organize now! Join the College Voice, form your own clubs, seek out information from the power brokers in administration and prepare for the conflict ahead. As the thousands chanted on March 23rd, "The Students and Workers United, Will Never Be Defeated".

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NATO Bombs the Serbs/Detroit Strikers Hold the Line

see back page

Students Claim Prices In Cafeteria In Bad Taste

by MD Wijerama

Are students tired of having to pay exorbitant prices for low quality bland food at the CSI cafeteria? Tough!! That was in a nutshell the response of the three leading bureaucrats of the CSI Auxiliary Services Corporation (ASC), which runs the cafeteria operation. Mike Daniels, president of the Board of Directors of ASC, Ira Persky, Executive Director and Gloria Garcia, Vice President of the Board were interviewed by the Voice and members of the Student Defense Campaign (SDC).

Don't ASC Me

The CSI cafeteria is an "in house" operation that is run by the school unlike the bookstore which has been privatized and contracted out to Barnes & Noble. The ASC Board serves as the owner/management team, coordinating the purchasing of food, setting up of prices, hiring of labor, etc. The ASC Board has 5 major functions at CSI which places it at a very crucial nexus of student life. They oversee the functioning of: 1) Dining Services i.e. cafeteria, administrator/faculty lounge and library Snack Bar 2) Parking 3) Bookstore 4) Vending and 5) "Management" i.e. serving as a Trusted Agency for CSI. CSI being the equivalent of a small town, having roughly 13,000 students alone, the ASC Board manages a significant sum of money. \$1.5 million is expected revenue for fiscal year 95-96. Of this amount approximately \$765,000 is projected to be collected from the Dining Services.

SDC member Krishna Johulo has been leading an effort to organize students to register their protest against the "outra-

geous prices", poor quality of food and the inaccessibility of the cafeteria for evening students. In a matter of a week and a half he and fellow student Noble Varghese collected a half a thousand signatures demanding that CSI food be made affordable, edible and accessible. Mr Johulo an Engineering student without any proclivities towards activism was driven to action by an offending cheese sandwich. Frustrated with the poor choice available and not feeling inclined to culinary blackmail he ordered a simple cheese sandwich, a minimalist affair, consisting of two slices of bread and a slice of cheese. He was thunder struck to hear that this ascetic meal would cost him \$1.85. This experience seems to resonate with that of many thousands of students who have thus far endured this absurd state of affairs with only heartburn.

We Shall Eat, We Shall Win

Upon presenting the half thousand signatures to the ASC troika, Voice/SDC members appealed for relief. Mr Persky happily recommended that we join the, you guessed it, Cafeteria Committee. (The politics of "joining a committee" is enough to instill a sense of nausea in students familiar with bureaucratic process.)

Voice/SDC members were further instructed in the economics of food ordering which was a very enlightening experience. Mr Persky noted that since he is not able to order in bulk, he is forced to sell his items at a higher price. Voice member Lou Bardel, being rather unacquainted with this economics asked how it could be that a deli could sell a bottle of Snapple for cheaper

than the CSI cafeteria when the CSI cafeteria undoubtedly serves more people. We were instructed to compare apples to apples and not to oranges. This meant that different rules apply for cafeterias like CSI's than for deli's. Mr Persky although himself compared apples and oranges, noting sympathetically that it is cheaper to buy a bottle of Snapple at Pathmark than it is to buy it from the wholesaler. If the quantity required was not that great why could Mr Persky not buy Snapple at Pathmark then, said a puzzled Mr. Bardel.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Voice/SDC members left the room with a strange feeling of emptiness...in their stomachs. The SDC however plans to take its case to the highest echelons of the CSI hierarchy demanding that students be allowed to eat with dignity.

Food Not Bombs

The ASC budget annually allocates a considerable sum of money for the important diplomatic duties of CSI Administration. \$75,000 will be allocated to President Springer and other notables for throwing very important cocktail parties at which important people discuss how important it is that we continue to have such an important institution like CSI. Unfortunately this diplomacy does not seem to have brought in any new funds to CSI. At least some of us ate well.

This \$75,000 line currently called the Amenities line is according to Mr Daniels to be newly christened as the Community Relations Fund. This money, collected from students or rather extorted from students at the various dark alleys in CSI like the

cafeteria, parking lot and bookstore, we naively feel, would be better spent subsidizing the cost of our food. It is true that students at this great new campus are committed in holy matrimony to the services offered by ASC (the nearest deli being a good 20 minute walk) but this is no reason to abuse them by ripping them off at every turn whether it be the bursars line, the food line or the parking fine.

Mr Daniels and Mr Persky have kindly volunteered to provide us with the information we need to show students exactly how their money is being spent in the cafeteria and other areas of ASC control. If you are interested in speaking out about the cafeteria or other ASC functions please call Mr Mike Daniels at his office in the Campus Center, Rm 201, telephone 982-3106 and Mr Ira Persky Rm 208, phone number 982-3035. Better yet ask them to buy you lunch. After all you buy them theirs.

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Domino and Cardplaying Banned in Cafeterai Rotunda While Everyone is Angry over Food Prices

by Lou Bardel

Effective August 28, at the beginning of the fall 95 term, the campus center staff (aka Auxilliary Services Corporation (ASC)) asked everyone to refrain from cardplaying, domino playing, smoking and loud music around the rotunda and inside the Green Dolphin. This was a unilateral decision by the president of the the ASC, and also the head campus center director, Mike Daniels with the supposed consultation of the Student Activities Council, headed off by administrator Allan DeBiase. There are no students on the Student Activities Council.

"Students don't only play cards here, we socialize and contribute to the money that Auxilliary Services collects by buying food, and drinks throughout the day that we sit in the rotunda and play cards and dominos" said Diana, who is the ad-hoc representative of the Student Sororities and Fraternities, who are complaining about the latest arbitrary decision.

When Diana visited the office of Mike Daniels (1C-201) in search of some answers, she was met by assistant Campus Center director, Mike Silver who told her that the reason for the new rules was because last year students were disturbing tables, were loud and obnoxious, and discouraged other people from coming into the cafeteria. According to Mr. Daniels the campus center is not a place just for students but is "more like a student union." Auxilliary Services is in charge of the campus center which serves everyone on campus including staff, faculty and Administrators.

"Daniels is taking away our rights arbitrarily which is unfair to all students. He is unjust and doesn't take into account our points of view," said Andrew, a member of one of the Greek Letter organizations. Students not only play cards and dominos

in the rotunda but it is also a highly visible area where students can meet and congregate. Much of the dissent about the new rules stems from students feeling pushed out of an area without any say in the matter. "We pay our student activity fee so

According to Daniels, ASC acts to advise students in issues that concern them, but students cannot meet together in front of the decision makers to ask them questions. This "advisory process" exists somewhere according to Daniels but students are hard pressed to figure out where.

therefore we should be allowed to play anywhere in the campus center," said Peterson D. who was playing cards away from the rotunda.

When asked how students can have more of a say in issues such as this M. Daniels responded, "come to my office, make an appointment and I'd be happy to talk about it." When told about the prospects of twenty five frat members coming into his office he said he much preferred a few representatives instead of such a large group. Told that the College Voice would like to arrange a meeting, between ASC and students, where all patrons of the Cafeteria could voice their concerns, he flatly refused. According to Daniels, ASC acts to advise students in issues that concern them, but students cannot meet together in front of the decision makers to ask them questions. This "advisory process" exists somewhere according to Daniels but students are hard pressed to figure out where.

Sentiments from students concerning the recent ASC decree do not differ too much in opinion. "People eat wherever they want and nobody gets disrupted by

card playing, it never bothered me," said student Vanessa Valencia. "This is a student center, if the students want to play cards or dominos in the rotunda then we should have the right to. Or else they should change the name (of the campus center) to the Auxilliary Center," said student rep. Diana.

When asked why the decision was made Daniels responded, "This is something that we're trying in response to concerns raised last semester, and I invite you (CV Staff), and any other student or groups of students to come and talk about it." In order to do this you must first make an appointment for the time that Daniels is "free", then hope that he takes your opinion into account the next time he makes a decision. Students though have no idea what new issues are going to be decided and are kept in the dark until the decision is enforced by the campus security. "After all these years now he finds a problem with card playing and dominos, that's stupid," said another student Patricia M..

Student Senator Natalie Williams who is also the Student Government Campus Center Commissioner, said that she told Mike Daniels that students were upset, and Daniels told her that the area of the rotunda was where he wanted to have a high turnover. A place where people can come in for a bite to eat and then leave. Therefore, according to him, anyone who wants to meet with their friends and socialize should go to the back. The rotunda in the campus center can safely hold up to 150 people according to SG senator Ms. Williams.

When asked about the idea of the rotunda being a place for high turnover student representative Diana said, "This is not a buisness thing, it's a social thing, a people thing."

In fact according to Mike Daniels all

students are patrons of the ASC, which is responsible for funding, among other things, hundreds of thousands of dollars in amenities to the President and her administrative colleagues. "Sometimes administration forgets just whose school this is, it's our school you know," said Student senator Natalie Williams responsible for representing the students also.

The Student Government office is located on the second floor of the Campus Center, perhaps you can find them there.

While Dining in the CSI Campus Center Mike Daniels would like you to give up the right to play cards, dominos and listen to loud music.

Those interested in challenging the status quo should direct their arguments to President of the college Marlene Springer then one can petition CUNY Headquarters located at E. 80th st., from there we demonstrate at City Hall, eventually the White House and then the WORLD!

CSI's Cuts: The Reality of the Matter

by Marco Sainte

Because of Mayor Guliani's and Governor Pataki's proposed financial plan for CUNY, a state of financial exigency declared by the Board of The City University of New York for the senior colleges, the retrenchment plan proposed in June of 95, and simply because of careless spending, The College of Staten Island as well as all of CUNY is now enduring the worst cuts it has ever faced in years. The \$4,500,000 slash in CSI's budget has forced the administration to make some drastic decisions. As said by President Springer herself, "The students will feel this most profoundly when they return to the campus in September to face a significantly reduced schedule of classes and services, a radically diminished corps of full-time faculty and support, and greatly increased competition for entry into larger classes."

The words ring true, for this is now October, and students are feeling the prophesied pressures of the budget cuts. The staff of CSI also faced drastic changes, as well as the Administration. However, it comes into question whether the Administration has suffered as drastically as the rest.

As said before, the chops in staff are indeed severe. The retrenchment report given at the meeting of the same name states that 113 staff positions were needed to operate the new campus. However, none were included in the Executive Budget. This clearly shows that we are now understaffed considerably in CSI.

The effect on teachers is also considerable. The number of part-time teachers

laid off is definitely enough to leave a mark, leaving the remaining professors with much more work and more students to attend to. This increased stress will definitely affect the quality of the classes, and inevitably, the academic quality of the college.

Departments have been hit hard. At the meeting in June, they came to the grave conclusion that a program had to be abolished. The Department of Student Development (DSD) and The Department Of Health and Physical Education (DHPE) were the two chosen so far. It is inevitable that the teachers involved will have to go also. 1 HE assistant, 1 lecturer, 1 professor, and 3 assistant professors will face the knife in the DSD, as well as 9 associate professors and 1 CLT in DHPE. The Center for Developmental Neuroscience, Teacher Education Tutoring, Prior Learning, Public Relations, Advanced Computing and Networks, Center for International Service, and Security are all losing somebody. Associate programs are also in danger of disappearing, for Pres. Springer is considering eliminating all two year-programs, which would also remove open admissions. This coincides with The Board of Trustee's plan to save money by closing 44 programs, and it's move towards privatizing CUNY.

All this definitely affects the students. Fewer classes mean crowded classes, and it also makes it harder to get in to them. As a matter of fact it is getting harder for the students to even get into the college. There has been a \$750 increase on tuition (with a

growing rumor that more may be added on later). Plus, any past dues not paid had to be paid in full by the student or else he/she was denied entry. A study of enrollment of the 95-96 school year would reveal fewer students in CSI than last semester.

The services students were used to since last semester were also hit. The time that the campus is open has been limited, leaving students with less time to use resources like the library which they are paying for, and which is presumably available to them. Weekend times have been cut down drastically, with students having to leave the premises at 5:30. This is tough on the night going students who have jobs during the day.

The Administration has suffered some changes, but not as much as the rest of the college community, and therefore the topic is subject to some controversy. As stated in the Memorandum given by Pres. Springer on 8/31/95, and printed by the Banner in early September, the following changes were mostly position changes. No one in the Administration was fired, nor received any cuts in benefits or pay. None was depicted in the memorandum. The only discomfort suffered, it seems, is being put in charge of a department that they might not be able to handle. This is highly unlikely.

In the end, it is inevitable that CSI is in for some hard times, but how hard certain groups will be hit is highly questionable.



Birds of a feather cut together

Third Sector Advocacy - In Who's Interest?

by JP Patafio

The attacks on the living standards of working class via the public sector did not end last year, nor did it remain on the campus grounds. Like CUNY, public transportation (including bridge and tunnel tolls,) will be facing fare increase on the heels of the biggest cuts to the transit system in its history. The decrease in services affects mostly those who use it for work and leisure. Like CUNY students the income of those who use public transporta-

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tion reflects their class position. It has been estimated that two-thirds of those traveling on public transportation have family incomes below \$50,000.

Public Hearing - Public Mockery

Sitting behind an extended table, facing hundreds of people who trekked their way to this remote sight to vent their anger and disappointment, the (Mass Transit Authority) MTA board members sat listlessly listening to the speakers.

Obviously the public hearing is designed to determine, with public input given at the hearings held throughout the five boroughs, whether the proposals put forward by the board are sound and should be carried out. However, for the board the proposed fare increases are a *fait accompli*.

As the MTA boards brochure, Facts About the MTA Financial Plan, points out the current fiscal problem is a product of reduced federal, state and city funding. These shortfalls will result in an estimated \$4 billion budget shortfalls at the end of five years, even with cuts in spending. For the fiscal year of 1995 there will be a \$167 million budget gap. The board states that further cuts in services will not take place. However, in another section they claim that \$3 billion will be saved over the years. "The savings will come from administrative efficiencies, management and labor productivity gains, consolidation of inter-agency job functions, and privatisation measures." In short savings will be made up by laying off workers and increasing the workload of the labor force at hand.

There are also moves to privatize parts of the MTA, another way of driving down the wages, increasing the workload, laying off workers and ultimately breaking the union.

In the final segment of the boards propaganda they make clear that only a fare increase can resolve the problem. "At this time, the MTA's proposal to increase fares and tolls is the only way to assure the stability of the public transportation network into the 21st century and to protect one of the region's major assets"

Though the board pledges to maintain high standards of services and states that the bridges are "sound" a recent article in the union publication, *The Chief*, cites a board commission organized to investigate the June 5th train accident on the Williamsburg Bridge. In the article they sight antiquated machinery as one of the reasons for the accident. It is apparent to transit riders that the trains may be clean, but many stations are in dire need of repairs and more services are needed not less.

The board claims that only two options are available in the face of decreased funding, either fare hikes or more cuts in services. No where is there any hint of demanding more funds, or opposing the governor and mayor. For the board the status quo is uncontested.

These handpicked board members of Governor Pataki's are not against the cuts or fare increases. One of the few conclusions from this public meeting was that the MTA Board is not a vehicle to persuade but to eliminate. For public advocacy groups, however, the main task is reforming the established power structures to act benevolent.

Public Advocacy Groups - Public Swindlers

The cyclical budget problems posed each year will continue to burden the working class with greater intensity. Conservative reformist organizations, such as NYPIRG or its affiliated groups such as Strap Hangers, however, refuse to view the cyclical budget problems as structural rooted in both the economic and political spheres of

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capitalist relations. How could they for the very existence of that group is dependent upon it.

Third sector, nonprofit public interest groups begin their analysis presuming the "free market" (i.e., capitalist) economy is essentially correct, and that the abuses of mismanagement and corruption can be resolved through legislative reform. The economic base is left untouched, the rule of private capital remains the norm.

At the public hearing NYPIRG/Strap Hangers posed themselves as a nonpartisan alternative. Claiming to have the public interest at heart they sighted the facts. They pointed to the Mayor and governor for cutting the transit budget by over \$500 million dollars over the past year, the decrease in services and increases in fares. The facts speak for themselves, but what do these groups put forward in response to these attacks on the "public sector."

At the hearing top Strap Hanger, Gene Russianoff, put on a theatrical performance. Accurately sighting the facts, he parodied a three card monte game in which the three actors were the governor, the board, and the rider. In the short performance the governor tries to persuade the helpless rider that the board is to blame and not he. The moral of the story was that the board should take a stand against the governor in the interest of the public, and that the board and governor are two different bodies. Therefore, the rider needs to lobby the board to convince the mayor and governor that they are wrong.

The strategy employed leaves untouched the structure of the MTA. In fact it solicits the help of the appointed board members to challenge the governor and mayor. This is not only foolish but fantas-

tic. Leaving aside personal squabbles of individual members the rise of fiscal conservatives in public institutions, coupled with the incessant ideology of corporate America dominating today's political scene, the chances of the board of opposing these views is as possible as the earth changing the direction of its rotation. It would be against their own interest as a class.

Instead of having a strategy exposing the undemocratic way in which the members of the board are appointed and the reason why they are qualified for the positions, these reformist groups just want to focus on the surface problems with exploring its roots. As if the two are not interrelated. The biography of the MTA board members reads like a Forbes portfolio. Like the Trustees of CUNY's board, bankers and business are in the highest commands of public institutions. Similar to the situation here at CUNY, the management of the institution is part of the problem. The board is only an extension of the politics of democracy for the privileged few, the ruling rich. For the nonpartisans advocacy groups such a point of view is out of order, therefore, the focus of their strategy is to "influence" the process, not to question it. Some would say that they are only spitting in the wind, but the ramifications of their politics does not only effect their little offices.

When it comes to the budget problem the positions they put forward are sectorialist. They look to other areas of the budget for more money, or to increase taxes somewhere else. Even the reformist

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CSI Locus of Intellectual Ferment? Why not?

by a CSI Reflection Team

The question is whether CSI can pretend to become a college to be taken seriously or is it condemned to remain a third rate institution. The elements necessary to answer this quite arduous question are multiple. Part of the answer resides in the nature of CSI. Another element is the composition of the faculty and its fertility. Yet another point is the political direction that President Marlene Springer is willing to give our college.

1. The Nature of the College:

The City University of New York has been created with the idea of providing working class people with a college education at the lowest cost, for free. The College of Staten Island was formed of the fusion between two entities of different natures. One Richmond College was more engaged in the Liberal Arts and willing to experiment new pedagogical methods. The other one was a technical college training technicians and professionals. The merger has survived and the consolidation plan, under the pretense of economic considerations, has forced the closure of the tech-

The Political Science part manages to accommodate the need for bureaucrats on the Island. Prospective law-schoolers, lost International Studies majors, and Education majors constitute the main sources of students.

nology departments. The economic success of the nursing, and education programs allowed them to survive. A shortened qualitative analysis will follow below.

For a long time CSI has been producing technicians servicing local and regional economy. The especially high number of business students falls logically within this category since most of them are employed in local and regional small and medium businesses. CSI educated most of Staten Island's low and middle management. Nurses and teachers are of course in the same general category.

The strengthening of the Engineering and Computer Science programs has a lot to do with the settlement of new immigrants in Staten Island. These immigrants' social backgrounds allows them to perform at a fair level. Many immigrant families will not be satisfied with a son becoming technician, nurse, or even high-school teacher. Other factors peculiar to immigrants (language, race, networking...) are at play, we will not explore them any further. The continuous work of the faculty in these fields is to be appreciated. The quality of the equipment necessary to any good education in the above-mentioned disciplines has certainly helped.

The price paid for computers and other machines was always a priority in the minds of technologically under-developed bureaucrats. The latter equate technology with quality education. Technomania is not a localized and benign syndrome. The pigeons of the "psycho" lab, and the state of the finances, can attest to some of its painful consequences.

Some CSI departments are hostages to the successful programs and did not develop on their own. For example, despite its graduate program the English department didn't emerge, it still services primarily the Education program. The noted tentative of some professors will be discussed below. Likewise the departments of Math, History, PEP didn't show any success in placing students in prestigious programs. They are mainly auxiliary programs to Nursing, Business, and Educa-

tion. The necessary rethinking of the goals of each department has been long overdue.

Continuing our probe into the nature of CSI, let's look at the mega departments. The Department of Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology (PSA); The Department of the Performing and Creative Arts (PCA); The Department of Modern Languages; and the Department of Political Science, Economics, and Philosophy and Geography (PEP) are to be done with immediately if CSI aspires to any higher status. The PSA for example should not accommodate three serious analytical disciplines under the same hat. The centralization of the decision process minimizes the chance for judicious long term planning. The least intellectually inclined end up, by default, being Chairpersons and Department Heads. The decisions they make will always be taken from their narrow perspective. There seems to be no special school of thought followed by the department. There is a wide range of schools represented however. The students are confused and cannot approach a problem with any consistency.

The PSA is plagued by the Social Work program. There is a stark difference between the three analytical disciplines yet the differences between them are more or less reconcilable. This is not the case with social work. The nature of the training necessary to a future social worker forbids any intellectual probing into the validity of the textbook truths. The program should be adjoined to Nursing or Education.

The PEP suffers from its unholy alliance with the Business department. Most economics classes are cross-listed, and the staffs are interchangeable. The introductory courses seem to be designed for business students (little theory). The few who try to give a more consequential introductory material are discouraged—by the department and by Business students—and are sometimes fired. Economics students rarely pursue a graduate education in the field, and given the current situation it is not about to change.

The Political Science part manages to accommodate the need for bureaucrats on the Island. Prospective law-schoolers, lost International Studies majors, and Education majors constitute the main sources of students.

The Philosophy program mainly services Nursing despite the efforts to create a Pol/Phil major. The highly qualified hard working and underpaid adjuncts are over-qualified for their own good. The ossification of the program has helped to keep out capable faculty members—from other departments—to teach at no added cost. This could lead to a stronger program...

The PEP as such doesn't offer the same closeness between the disciplines as does the PSA. The lack of success of the Seminar in the three disciplines is a wake-up call. The department in its current form has to be dissolved right away if CSI is to be considered a serious college.

The Department of Modern Languages works to fulfill the language requirement. The Spanish major seems to be moderately successful at attracting students who are not native speakers. There should be an independent Spanish Department that could grow instead of being parasitized by the barren, yet popular, French and Italian which do not lead to a B.A.

The PCA offers the possibility of rapid growth, especially with the onerous infrastructure that has been delivered. Building P1 and its amenities will be used as Staten Island's center for the Arts. This is all fine. However, the teaching of Theory that usually accompanies such infrastructure in a college setting is not being dealt with. Looking at the courses offered, at the faculty hired, or at the students enrolled one can forecast, without being a prophet, that success is far away. There is no department of Theater, Music, Art History or Cinema. The programs were thought of at

a different time, it is now the time to re-think them.

The library has been acquiring some new titles. It is nice. However, far we are from a decent research library. No graduate student can survive at CSI. So, at least for the short term, new acquisitions should take in account the graduate programs:

education, environmental science, computers, liberal studies etc. We know how much is wasted on sterile bureaucratic stomachs, and wish that some of those resources will be used to enrich the library.

2. The Faculty:

In CSI a great number of teachers are intellectual prodigies. They are able to get promotions without great creative efforts. If the mountain gives birth to a mouse under certain skies, here mice are mass-produced. How many professors and associate professors have been writing more than book reviews, memos? How many have been doing more than participate in colloquia during which they have not have been asked to speak, or so little? How

So many professors obtain their promotions by ways that are not directly linked to their intellectual prowess that one is revulsed. A quick visit to the library will help elucidate our point. The names of respected CSI professors are rarely found by our super-computer.

many have been doing more than collect essays and publish them? How many have accomplished more than a thesis unfinished since the 70's?

The latter fact has a tremendous impact on students. Serious, and willing students are discouraged by the laziness and the mindlessness of some eminent chairs. In some instances, the teacher is the department chair and therefore the "authority" on the subject. Chair usually are backed by Deans and so on. Students are often defeated.

So many professors obtain their promotions by ways that are not directly linked to their intellectual prowess that one is revulsed. A quick visit to the library will help elucidate our point. The names of respected CSI professors are rarely found by our super-computer. The few who wrote anything have rarely written more than three books. The few who did are to be singled-out, and should be fired for not conforming. The average length of an acceptable volume is, say around 160 pages.

Intellectual production is not a direct correlate with the quality of a teacher, but it sure helps. Eminent professors teaching high level science classes who don't have any publication seriously done, or a recent project should retire.

Personal rivalries should extend to the domain of intellectual debate instead of

Bosses want students to be fully programmed accessories of electronic calculators in the service of capitalism.



limiting themselves to, perhaps exciting but, petty bureaucratic battles.

The initiative taken by some professors, especially in the English Department and the PCA, to bring to the public scene the fruit of their work is to be applauded. The African dances and the poetry readings are here directly meant. The quality of the work can, and should, improve, but the ends pursued by these brave individuals are to be praised. A certain number of professors have tried to initiate a wider debate through the college newspapers. They have been marginalized and even chastised. We appreciate their work because it is necessary for the good health of an institution.

A certain number of colloquia have been organized on campus by various groups. However, their paucity and the little interest that is given to them by the college community as a whole is a shameful sign of retardation. The lack of courage of the faculty, supposed to show the way, is to be directly blamed. The self-congratulating sessions should let place to a serious work.

3. Springer's Role:

Does this situation offer an ideal place for intellectual debate, scientific research? Can the organizational problems and the staffing issue be dealt with in the prospect of ameliorating the current conditions?

The answers to these answers depend on the role that President Springer is willing to play. The answers also depend on the pressures that will be exerted on the president by the whole college community.

This article was initially intended to be circulated to the college community via the usual bureaucratic channels. However, the writers preferred to publicize it under a pseudonym fearing to be promoted as a result of their dilettante brainstorming. The idea wasn't to give an in-depth analysis of the intellectual *marasme* that cripples CSI, but to open the door for a genuine discussion, not limited to the *ad-hoc* committees and the like. You will, thus, excuse the telegraphic style.

4. Call for mobilization:

The writers believe firmly that an informed student body should demand better from their professors. The *in-cathedra* battles that currently plague our institution should give place to a mobilization of the troupes in a positive enterprise. We are sure that the good-willing will understand the urgency of our plea.

CSI has within it a tremendous amount of potential that is not used fruitfully.

Our choice of *The College Voice* was deliberate. This publication has shown a tremendous willingness to put issues on the floor. The proclaimed ideology of the staff, only scares the thoughtless and hypocrite. Efforts are being made, they should be praised instead of sentenced. We arrived at a point where any creative attempt to do something is attacked by bitter lethargic leeches.

We call the college community to mobilize to pull our college out of the dump!

City Aphorisms

by Mason Cooley
by Ramzi Rouighi

Book Review

Professor Mason Cooley has been publishing for quite a while a marvelous series of aphorisms titled *City Aphorisms*. For those who don't know what an aphorism is, let me give you a definition. An aphorism is a usually pithy and familiar statement expressing an observation or principle generally accepted as wise or true. *City Aphorisms* will take you for a roller coaster ride at the end of which you'll be thrown out, *Aphorisms* take you for a roller coaster ride at the end of which you'll be thrown out, haggard, dizzy, but with a sense of accomplishment that you won't quite understand.

CSI professor Mason Cooley has a few of his aphorisms in the Harper Book of Quotations, side by side with the greatest: Nietzsche, Confucius and others. Or should we say that the Harper Book of Quotations has a few of Cooley's gems in it?

Cooley captures the fleeting impressions that life makes on us: the so-called living. You'll find in *City Aphorisms* the paradoxes of life delivered with a bittersweet

Cooley writes about life:
"Existence is not a
mystery unless you think
it has a meaning.

twist. Cooley writes about life in the most unpredictable fashion which guarantees the maximum surprise of effect.

Cooley writes about life: "Existence is not a mystery unless you think it has a meaning—Original sin reassures us that our slip was not the first—Hope keeps telling us that our steady march toward Death is headed somewhere else—The time I kill is killing me—Everyone knows that:1. Happiness is the goal of life. 2. Happiness is a chimera—God improvises, Man systemizes—I know that I am, but I don't know what I am."

Relationships are no secret to him: "Keep your lies short and simple—I am often attracted to people with whom I could not hold a five minute conversation—Your argument defends an ideology; mine defends the Truth—Sincerity: Willingness to spend one's own money."

He writes about intimacy: "Every hole tempts my finger—Machines are capable of great intimacy. They will even pump our blood and breath for us—Promiscuity is like never reading past the first page; Monogamy is like reading the same book over and over—Orgasm: the genitals sneezing."

Social issues are given a fresh look: "Masturbation is a democratic pleasure, practiced by rich and poor, young and old, married and single—if you belong to the underclass, you're already guilty. The rich are never as possessed by their riches as the poor are by their poverty. My disobedient parents were a great trouble to us, their children."

Cooley writes about arts, economics, politics, and also about himself. His aphorisms are his synthesis of his experience as an abusive gourmand and *bon vivant*. The *College Voice* congratulates Dr. Cooley for his Fifteenth Selection and encourages everyone to get *City Aphorisms*. The CSI-bookstore could try to make the series available. You can also try to get hold of Dr. Cooley in his office in building 2S. He always very helpful.

... Fare hikes - Strike

continued from page 3

demand of increasing taxes on the wealthiest sectors of society is given little lip service. The end result is to ensure that present capitalist relations remain intact, and are not scrutinized publicly. This would be bad business for both the publicly funded group and its corporate allies.

These "moderates" do not want to appear to radical for the liberals they tail in the government. Behind their nonpartisans cloak there is the Democratic party. They would rather have a friendly face to talk to and be cut, rather than an authoritarian figure such as Guiliani. However, in the end the public that they serve will receive the brunt of the cuts while the "democratic" process (i.e., public hearing, letter writing campaigns etc.) ensures the flow of capital into the hands of the filthy rich. The "public" for them is only there to apply pressure on the elected officials, and

legitimate the "democratic" process..

Public Advocacy Begins with a Class Analysis

Cuts in the public sector will continue and so will the strategies of these reformist organizations. Each year they encourage people to write or call their representative and demand that the cuts to their respective institution be reversed. The question to pose is how. The method employed by these groups have not worked, and will not work. The way forward is not to be found in reforming a government or the boards controlling the public institutions. The beginning of change will come from an analysis of capitalist relations, i.e., private ownership and class antagonisms.

To resolve the cyclical budget problem one must change the structural basis of the problem. The questions of who controls transit (i.e., the means of production) and

its function in society (i.e., for human needs) must be addressed. In these unstable economic times corporate America wants full control. In order to do so they must have third sector/nonprofit advocates assuring the public that the interest of business and social well being are not mutually exclusive. It is up to students and labor to put forward a different agenda that places control in the hands of production into the hands of the workers and the community it serves.

The questions of who controls transit (i.e., the means of production) and why it will function (i.e., for human needs) must be addressed.

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The Necessity of Understanding the Relationship of International to National issues.

Introduction to the International section

by Sarah Husain

Welcome to the International section of the College Voice. The Editorial board at the Voice has decided to add this section which will be dedicated to bringing international issues to the attention of CSI students. Being aware of international issues in today's society is very important; international and national events are so intertwined that it is impossible to distinguish clearly the root of one from the other. The US economy is tied to a global economy. Capitalism and its consequences not only effect the US citizens but people all over the world and vice-versa. When trying to understand national issues that effect the working class in the US, one cannot avoid the role that US and the Western countries play internationally. Underdeveloped-labor-intensive countries are of great significance for the Capitalists in western countries, because they provide a source of cheap labor and raw materials.

Democracy or Murder?

The interests of the US in the so called Third World is not one based on humanitarianism or democracy but rather one of geo-political interests. These interests are not to develop the countries concerned but are the profit interests of Trans-National Companies (TNC). Haiti is one example, despite the resistance of the Haitian people against US intervention, US still maintains its rule for its own purposes. The economic purpose to retain the cheap labor for the TNC's. One of Haiti's major roles is as a supplier of baseballs to the US, which the US cheaply buys in abundance. Haiti's strategic location is crucial to the US for military purposes in the Caribbean region. Through the use of the gunboat diplomacy, the US fulfills its geo-political interests- it destabilizes and further underdevelops countries to gain access to markets and profits. All of this it does under the banner of DEMOCRACY. The US continuously cries out that it is "restoring" or "defending" democracy. Then why are the Haitian people resisting US intervention and why doesn't the US pull out?

One has to wonder what "operation desert storm" was all about? The interest of the US in the Gulf was, of course, oil. Kuwait an undemocratic monarchy in the Middle East, was driving the oil prices down by overproducing oil and was slantdrilling from within Iraqi borders. Iraq which was in war with Iran for ten years was poverty stricken and was relying heavily on its oil revenues for reconstruction. The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait gave the US an opportunity to build more military bases in that region and establish control over the production of oil. It wasn't

a war, it was a one sided slaughter. If Saddam Hussein was such a threat to "democracy" in the Middle East, which hardly ever existed in that region, then why didn't the U.S. complete the job by assassinating him?

Saddam Hussein is a puppet of the Western bourgeoisie because his role in Iraq isn't to improve the lives of the Iraqi workers and peasants but he is a tool which the imperialists use. During the Iran-Iraq war, the U.S. supported and armed Saddam Hussein as it has many other despots the world over. The bombardment that we saw live on CNN incinerated 200,000 innocent people and many more are dying today as a result of a total embargo on basic necessities like food and medicine.

The measurements that the US takes to

in the fact that at certain stages it over produces goods and services and therefore it needs to expand and find new markets to sell the excess of the goods and services to make a profit. This global spread of Capitalism is not only a search for consumers but for cheap labor and a control over the abundance of raw materials that underdeveloped countries possess. For example, Mexican workers, most of whom are poverty stricken, can easily be hired at less costs than American workers. This process is made easier through the use of mass technology, which is under the control of the TNC's. Technology allows them to easily pack up and leave and establish a company abroad. The agenda of the corporations is not to "stabilize" or industrialize the so-called Third World, but quite

mon exploitation, their oppressions are at the hands of the international bourgeoisie. The world is divided into two parts- the industrialized and the non-industrialized. The non-industrialized countries are basically suppliers of raw materials and cheap labor. The living conditions of workers in the industrialized-imperialist countries might be "better" than those of the non-industrialized countries, however, this does not imply that workers in the former benefit by the super-exploitation of the latter. Although this has long been the racist, colonialist lie spread by the bourgeoisie. The flight of U.S. jobs in auto, steel, rubber and other basic industry to low wage countries like Mexico and Brazil leading to the destruction of unions and working class communities in the U.S. clearly reveals the need for solidarity rather than competition over the border.

The social ills such as crime, drugs, cancer, environmental problems, etc., are seen everywhere throughout the world, in both industrialized and non-industrialized countries. The technology that the US and other imperialist-industrialized countries possess could be used to improve the conditions of people throughout the world, instead of the technology being under the control of the few and the benefit of those few. Children, women and men are being killed, if not through imperialist sponsored war than by hunger and basic disease which can be easily eradicated, by millions throughout the world under the disguise of "democracy" so the rich can keep getting richer. The bourgeoisie divides the workers by race, colour and gender, it creates racist laws to pick worker against worker.

The most important and crucial feature of the contemporary era has been the expansion of Capitalism into a World Capitalist system. No one has stood alone, every Nation and peoples have been effected by this transformation, the effects have most certainly varied in different forms and shapes, but nevertheless the process hasn't been an even process. R.T. Robertson in his book called *The Making of the Modern World- An Introductory History*, puts this phenomenon well. He writes: *No country can stand alone. No peoples can remove themselves from their past or seek to deny the reality of present world circumstances. Undoubtedly the struggle for equality proceeds apace with transformations and will remain the major preoccupation of the world in the decades to come. But at no time can the effects of integration and transformations within the world order be simply pushed aside and history transcended.*

The correlation between the economies of underdeveloped countries and the US economy can be clearly seen in almost every social issue discussed in this country, from the racist "laws" enacted by the government to the CUNY budget cuts.

so called "develop" the underdeveloped countries extends as far as employing little children to do hard labour. For example in Pakistan, Children as young as six chained to their posts to produce rugs for major Western importers and Mattel promoted a program of sterilization of its female workers in the Philippines in order to avoid maternity from affecting productivity.

Systematic underdevelopment of the "Third World."

The Corporate media which never bothers to inform the American audience the truth about what is going on around the world, rather feeds us demagoguery. The only thing we see is the late night commercials with Christian organizations advertising for the "poor, devastated hungry kids" in the Third World. Why are all those kids starving? Certainly the "Christian" organizations great effort isn't helping them. The so called Humanitarianism of US foreign policy is definitely not helping them, on the contrary it creates the poverty. The reason why the underdeveloped countries are "underdeveloped" is because the US and other Western imperialist countries feed off of them. Trans-National Corporations are set up to employ labor at cheap costs and use the raw materials the country contains. Creating mass poverty to make a higher profit is the motto of U.S. foreign policy.

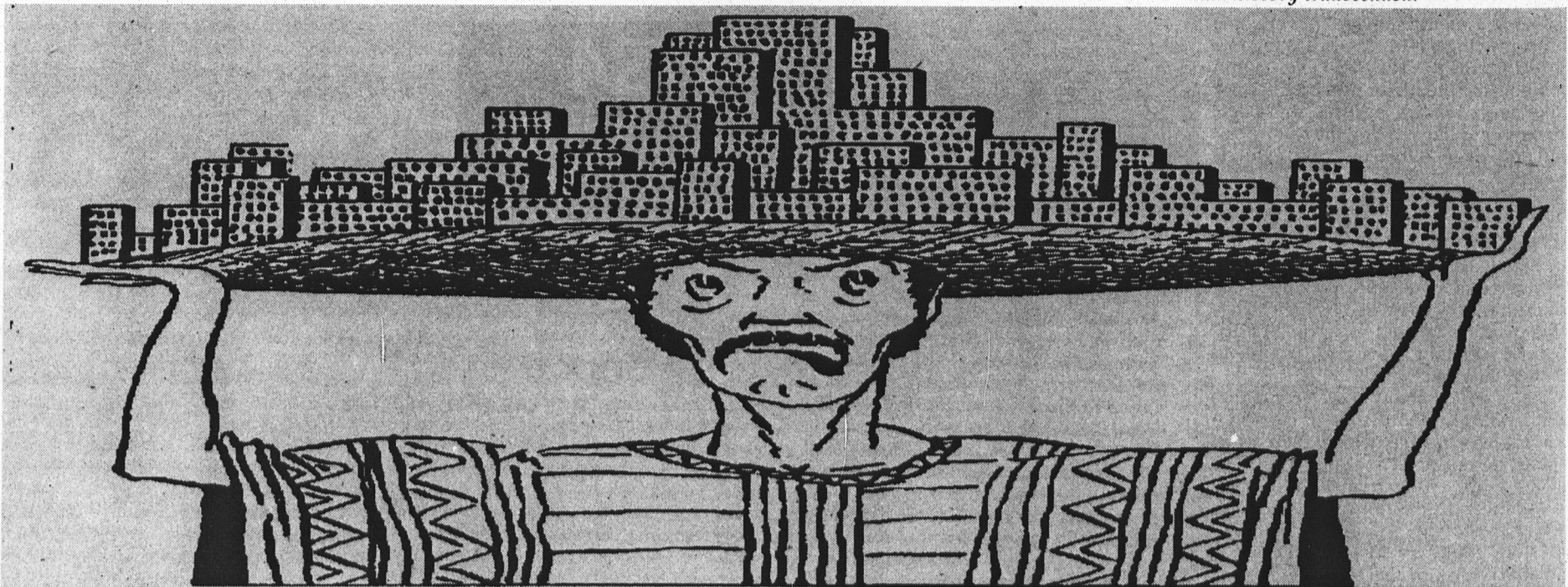
Capitalism is dependent on a global market; continuously searching for new markets to invest in. This dependency lies

the contrary, they purposely keep it underdeveloped. Imperialists set up companies, employs cheap labour and uses the raw materials, thus driving the economy down, where the country is so underdeveloped that it is forced to borrow money from the imperialists. Thus, the underdeveloped country is continuously dependent on the imperialists who keeps them in debt. The UN, World Bank, IMF and NAFTA are some of the institutions and mechanisms through which western imperialism keeps Third World countries under its control.

Globalism

The correlation between the economies of underdeveloped countries and the US economy can be clearly seen in almost every social issue discussed in this country, from the racist "laws" enacted by the government to the CUNY budget cuts. When twenty thousand students were out on City Hall fighting against the \$260 million cut to CUNY and a proposed \$1000 tuition increase, President Clinton was giving \$20 Billion to Wall Street to bail them out of Mexico. The investments of the billionaires of Wall Street collapsed because the Mexican currency dropped heavily due to companies swarming there when NAFTA was put in effect. The profits that the rich make is done on the backs of the poor and working class of the US and internationally.

The US working class and the International working class are related by com-



The Politics of Imperialism (Part 2)

by VJ

1 Coca-Cola and the Church

Imperialism works in many ways in order to ensure the stability of its global order. Coca-Cola, McDonalds, Levis are not merely companies but are the most articulate symbols of consumerism in the world today. Amidst the ruins of the Russian economy the magical M and its accompanying slogan: "Billions Served Daily" cut through the gloom of Russian reality in its neon yellow splendour. The Chinese Air lines boarding passes beckons you to put away your Mao suit and don the snug fitting Levis that are the cultural emissaries of imperialism. The hundreds of sarong clad Sri-Lankans lining up to watch the bad brown terrorists single-handedly annihilated by the simple but strong and good Rambo at the local film theatre learn that America is good and whoever is not in the image of America is bad. In the disco's of Rio, Brazilian youth "vogue" to the rythms of the "material girl" Madonna. The music video, hip-hop and Coca-Cola are merged into one entity in an advertisement presenting Coca-Cola as not simply a drink but as the consumerist utopia. Sexuality, sociability in short the good life



The corporate style churches of today continue to do the dirty work of organizing the thinking of oppressed peoples to remain oppressed. The Vatican and Orthodox Churches were on the front lines with the forces seeking to overthrow "Godless Communism" and with it the social gains like full employment, free health care, education, etc.. won by workers in the former Warsaw Pact countries.

Except for a few examples like "Liberation Theology" in Latin America the ideological foundation of western theism remains fundamentally intertwined with

the rule of imperialism. Even in the case of Liberation Theology, where the extreme poverty and suffering of the masses has led to the transformation of some local Catholic churches into centers of radical organizing. This has

been
challenged
by
the
Vatican
hierarchy

and the local priests involved expelled.

In many countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America the ideological superstructure was based on cultural values rooted in the agrarian, pastoral or hunting and gathering economies. This was replaced by the individualist ethic of Christianity which meant for the poor that they were responsible for their own suffering and that salvation can come only when you die and it created a ruling Christianized elite that would enrich themselves at the cost of the masses. This is not to say that oppression and misery were absent prior to colonization and Christianization. Landlords, caste systems, patriarchy and subordination to nature did exist but the forcible invasion by the west was not for the upliftment of the people from their problems but was driven by profit and racism.

2 Modern Parasites and the Class of the Overthrow

The creation of a local elite in the image of the western imperialist is the principle means by which consciousness is trans-

formed by the recipients of imperialist ideology. The local elites are often trained in the elite imperialist institutions like Oxford, Cambridge in the UK and Harvard & Yale in the US. Aside from these lofty towers of high bourgeois thought there are institutions like the School of the Americas and Westpoint military academy which prepares the local elites to war on the local populations. The School of the Americas in particular is notorious for the making of Latin American dictators e.g. General Cedras of Haiti, general Noriega in Grenada.

Modernization in semi-colonial countries occurs through this elite corp of westernized personnel. The masses as a whole often suffer from lack of basic education thus ensuring the perpetuation of "elites" who only have access to knowledge. This class of "comprador" bourgeois form a extremely corrupt unproductive and parasitic caste upon the people distinguished only by their ostentatious lifestyle and ridiculous mannerisms they picked up from their imperialist masters. They are naught else but servile puppets of imperialism lacking an independent capitalist base.

The consciousness of Third World peoples is fortunately not restricted to the domain of parasites. The introduction of capitalist relations of production also gives rise to a industrial and agricultural proletariat. This proletariat develops a consciousness at once objectively opposed to the local bourgeoisie and foreign imperialists and also opposed to the stultifying backwardness of traditional customs and values. A modern class with a modern and revolutionary ideology - Marxism emerges. The history of the 20th century has confirmed the analysis of the Russian revolutionary Leon Trotsky on the logic of development in non-imperialist countries. Trotsky argued that given the weakness of the non-imperialist bourgeoisie, the tasks of the democratic revolution can only be achieved through a proletarian led socialist revolution. India despite its vast land mass, population and resources has not been able to make the transition to the bourgeois democratic model of the west.

The parliamentary trappings and the formal legislation offering democratic rights are a cynical hoax when 1/3 of the country is living in destitution and over half the population is illiterate. Elections are thus easily manipulated by the bourgeois parties particularly Congress (the main ruling party since independence in 1947) to hoodwink the masses and stay in office. While bourgeois democracy exists in the abstract, in concrete "state of emergency" laws where civil liberties are sharply curtailed is the reality. The basic needs of the people being unresolved the temporary veneer of stability crumbles. In the case of India this

is seen in the movement towards a Fascist Hindu State.

The vanguard of the proletarianized masses of the semi-colonial countries have responded to imperialism by adopting Marxism as their theoretical guide and communist parties as the vehicles of their liberation. In Vietnam and Cuba the workers and peasants or-

ganized in the communist parties were able to overthrow imperialist domination and bring their economies to meet the needs of the populace. In Cuba in particular, this has had remarkable results in bettering the lot of the Cuban masses. Free healthcare, free education, free childcare, full employment are amongst the gains that the Cuban people won by breaking from imperialist rule.

As opposed to the narrow cultural nationalism put forward by charlatans who evoke a non-existent golden age in the pre-imperialist past, Marxists in the so-called Third World have recognized that a new culture is created with the onset of imperialism - the culture of the international working class.

The vicious nationalist wars that are swallowing up whole nations and regions eg. Eastern Europe, Africa, South Asia represents the temporary defeat of the proletarian communist vanguard by the forces of imperialism. In the absence of an internationalist ideology that delineates the interests of the toiling masses from "their" respective capitalist classes nationalist poison fills the vacuum. The fratricidal slaughter in the Balkans is sad testament to this fact.

Unequal development a term coined by radical economist Samir Amin is at the root of communalism. The civil war raging across the globe today from the Balkans to ex Soviet Republics, Africa, South Asia and East Asia are fueled by the investment strategies of capitalism that seeks the highest rate of profit.

The Chinese Air lines boarding passes beckons you to put away your Mao suit and don the snug fitting Levis that are the cultural emissaries of imperialism.

are all, it would appear accessible through a bottle of Coke.

The church as a institution of cultural imperialism is the oldest and bloodiest. The forced conversion of non-Christian peoples with the Bible and the bayonet was a standard practice for several hundred years in the period of colonialism. The bourgeois sociologist Max Weber wrote about the "elective affinity" between capitalism and Protestantism or in other words a system of production for profit by individual entrepreneurs and the ideological constraints of Protestantism or in other words a system of production for profit by individual entrepreneurs and the ideological constructs of Protestantism or the much ballyhooed protestant ethic. The forced introduction of Christianity helped to cement the empires being built by the West. At once the "weltanschauung" of non-European peoples who had developed quite sophisticated and elaborate cultural edifices were burnt down by the Bible wielding barbarians and upon its ashes the Christian ideology of the colonizer erected.

Elections In Haiti: Free, Fair and Futile

by Joe Kave

This article is taken from the Haiti Action Newsletter. Haiti Info is an English language bi-weekly newsletter that has kept thousands informed on Haitian realities from a consistently anti-intervention perspective. For the past 3 years the Haiti Anti-Intervention Committee has been supporting the struggle for progress and democracy and against US military, political and economic intervention in Haiti. Based in New York, we coordinate our efforts with other organizations that are also working for freedom in Haiti. Because this intervention is designed to implement the US's broad neo-liberal program, we have initiated a campaign to meet such attacks on all fronts, both in this country and in Haiti.

The election in Haiti are just about over. Lavalas has won an overwhelming victory. While there have been some "irregularities," the people have spoken. Democracy has been restored.

Except for one small detail. We shall pass over the fact that Haiti is under foreign occupation. After all, do not the Haitian people themselves accept and even demand the occupation? Yet one must ask what are the US and their satellite troops doing in Haiti? Protecting the people? But then why allow the terror apparatus to remain intact and armed? Is it not to guarantee a permanent threat precisely so that a fearful people will continue to cling to the occupation? Well, if US troops are no in Haiti to protect the people from the Terror, then it must be that they are there to protect the Terror from the Haitian people. But, as I say, let us pass over this element of Haitian "democracy." Let us talk about more mundane things... such as who is making the decisions on what factories will be built, what wages will be paid, how much unemployment is "acceptable," what crops shall be grown, how many peasants shall be driven off the land? Who is making the decisions on how much to spend on health care and education? Who has decided to sell off Haiti's patrimony, to privatize her assets (meaning turning them over to US interests)? Who doles out the Haitian budget, when and as they please? Who has decided that her property of the local pirates shall not be touched? Who has decided on how many police to train, who is to train them, and where (and thus who they will be ultimately taking order from)?

Of course it is the "international community," today's euphemism for Washington and the US establishment. All else is in Haitian hands. But what is left?

And should the Haitian government step out of line despite its assurances that it will go along with the IMF program, or should the Haitian people take sovereignty a bit too seriously, then waiting in the wings under US patronage is the old terror apparatus ready to take over once again.

In sum, Haiti is under the total control of the United States. What kind of democracy is it when a country lies under foreign subjection? And what do elections mean when the question of Haiti's fate has been predetermined?

How then to arrive at Haitian democracy? It can only be along the road of struggle against the United States, which means puncturing the illusion that the US works to promote democracy or supports human rights or has the slightest desire to promote the well-being of the Haitian people. And it can only be along the road of struggle against those Haitians who foster such illusions and find justification for accepting an anti-Haitian program. All else is smoke and mirrors!

...THE WAR AGAINST THE SERBS

Continued from back page

sands of Serbs calling for death to America, burning American flags, and had they not been held back by the Yugoslav military, prepared to seize the U.S. embassy.

Economic Sanctions: Fascist or Democratic?

And still, every day, the U.S. kills more Serbian civilians, every day commits more war crimes. And when I am asked what is the one word that I heard used over and over again most often to describe Americans, I have no need to hesitate for the answer is: "NAZIS!" Americans, say the Serbs, are the Nazis of today. Isn't it time for Americans to look at themselves critically and to ask themselves what they are doing? What they are becoming? For surely others in the world are already making up their minds.

The internationally respected Yugoslav philosopher Mihailo Marcovic has written an essay that should be widely read here entitled "Fascism and the New World Order." In it he draws certain historical parallels between the Fascistic "World Order" that Hitler and his allies tried to create in the 1930's and 40's, and the "New World Order" being constructed today. Marcovic stresses that there are several important differences between the two systems: the ideology of liberalism versus fascism, the much higher level of economic and technological development in the America, the contrast between Fascism's culture of militancy with that of Liberalism's induced passivity and apathy. However, he makes clear that these differences are less important than the similarities. The main point being that while the U.S. may have different (and vastly more effective methods) for achieving its objectives, the intentions and objectives of American imperialism are almost exactly the same as those of Nazi Germany: establishing military and political domination over the entire world and over all peoples to ensure absolute and total obedience and total economic exploitation. America's aim of achieving a global monopoly of political and military power by the U.S. as well as a monopoly on the wealth of the world is little different in its essentials from the Nazi-fascist dream of a dominant Aryan race controlling the earth for a thousand years. As long as the Soviet Union existed, it

prevented the realization of both Nazi German and American world domination. But today this mad dream is deemed possible by the regime in Washington.

In terms of domestic and foreign policies there are more similarities than differences. The media is a good example. While there is a very limited degree of free speech here in the U.S. and Western Europe, criticism of the government and the elites is completely marginalized and excluded from the mainstream media. Indeed, there is a very clear line beyond which all media with any weight in American society will not overstep. Also the interests of the mainstream media and cultural institutions are harmonized in precisely the way the Nazis intended their own cultural establishment to be designed. In fact, they had a word for it: "gleichschaltung," which meant the harmonizing of mainstream cultural institutions with Nazi institutions and its ideology. Thus, American society can be considered in the old sense of the word, totalitarian. It is also at least as cynical and corrupt in its objectives as Goebbels propaganda machine, while at the same time far more effective and damaging in its scope. Likewise, there are clear similarities in U.S. and Nazi methods for dealing with political dissent: the vast police and intelligence system of the American state dwarfs that of anything constructed by Hitler and Himmler, though the American approach is less crude.

The similarities are even greater. The method of applying sanctions against entire nations and states is essentially fascist. An individual, individual responsibility and culpability are axioms of the liberal cultural and political tradition. If it proves impossible to identify the culprit for the crime, the true offender will, according to the tradition, be relieved of criminal responsibility rather than punish an innocent man. Only fascist totalitarianism which, in this respect, followed the customs of the most primitive tribal civilizations, in principle allowed for the collective responsibility and collective punishment of a nation or race....

The current sanctions against all countries which have found themselves in the way of attainment of the interests of the leading powers of the "new world order" equally affect all citizens, including the vulnerable old population and the newly born children, only because they belong to a country and a nation. This moral and political scandal of world civilization at the end of the 20th century manifests a way of thinking which does not belong to a liberal and democratic tradition and fully corresponds to fascism.

Methods of Global Domination in the New World Order used against the Serbs

Indeed, economic sanctions are an act of war, even though the U.S. and its allies deny that this is so. Naturally, they would consider it as such if these same sanctions were ever directed against the U.S. Nevertheless, sanctions are just one of the many new and sophisticated weapons of modern warfare that the New World Order is deploying

against the Serbs. It is a type of warfare where both the victim and the aggressor are hidden from view: a warfare of unconventional armies and methods. These methods make sure to destabilize and weaken the country long before any direct military intervention is publicly discussed. In the end the country that is targeted is either coerced into absolute obedience, or else destroyed. Clearly, the intentions and goals of U.S. foreign policy in the New World Order bear a striking resemblance to those of Nazi Germany: the conquest or destruction of entire nations as part of a strategy for total world domination. Obviously, we need to review the methods

Reactionary Force prepares for War



and institutions being developed and used today against the Serbs because they most certainly will be used tomorrow to destabilize and destroy other nations.

Cold war institutions of continuing significance for the New World Order are those of the IMF, World Bank and other aid agencies, which aim to impose a relationship of economic and then political dependency on the targeted country. If we recall the early stages of the effort to destroy Yugoslavia we will remember that it was through these agencies that U.S. foreign policy was enunciated prior to 1991. The role of these agencies is to make sure that all future economic aid and foreign capital is tied to the ever stricter imposition of policies made in Washington. Once this line is crossed the country in question has abdicated its sovereignty and becomes little more than a colony. For countries like Yugoslavia, which refused to bow down to the dictates of the IMF and the US government in the period 1988-1990, the next step is massive destabilization.

In the case of Yugoslavia this meant first of all the incitement of ethnic conflicts and financial and political support for separatist or secessionist movements. The objective is simple: to divide peoples against each other, thereby legitimizing a policy calling for the destruction of their state, which can then be replaced with small, easy to control and exploit, mini-states.

Sponsorship of ethnic conflict is closely followed by the launching of a media propaganda campaign against the targeted country and the introduction of the so-called "human rights groups." Human rights groups today have as little to do with human rights as the slogan "arbeit macht frei" did with the liberation of the inmates of Auschwitz. In reality these are merely agencies of the U.S. government—from which they receive their financial support. All human rights groups in the U.S. today receive sizable amounts of government financial assistance and repay that

financial assistance by carrying out the foreign policies of the U.S. government. Thus, they are sent to the country targeted for aggression with the task of investigating or manufacturing human rights abuses (such as the supposed oppression of Croats or Bosnian Muslims that we heard so much about) which can then lay the basis for the next step in the destabilization plan: the media war.

Since I've already written a piece on the role of media deception in modern warfare for this publication (February 1995) I will limit my comments to this: just as the human rights organizations set the stage for war by falsifying or blowing up small incidents into major atrocities, thereby pitting peoples against each other and creating international incidents, the media plays an even greater role in that not only is it the vehicle for propagating phoney human rights abuses (real human rights abuses rarely get broadcasted), but in that it is absolutely necessary to demonize a people in the media in order to destroy them. This too has such clear parallels to Nazi methods of conquest that it needs no comment.

Another related institutions of modern fascist warfare that is being developed today against the Serbs is the use of so-called "international war crime tribunals." The brazenly one-sided and fraudulent nature of this new institution is glaringly apparent in light of the fact that no Croat or Muslim soldiers have been indicted, even as they rampage and pillage across vast regions of Serbian territory. Ironically, this new weapon of destruction derives most of its historical inspiration, not from the famous Nuremberg and other anti-Nazi trials, but rather from the Nazi and Stalin show trials of the 1930's and '40's. It is from the latter that they derive their real objective: the annihilation of all political opposition and freedom. In the context of the New World Order they are also designed to strip a people of their right to self-determination.

Closely related to the human rights organization are the so-called NGO's or non-governmental organizations or foundations. There is a massive literature that already exists on this extraordinarily sinister phenomenon which goes back to the early part of this century. The Rockefellers, who played a big role in establishing so many of these foundations, spoke of foundations as being a force greater than governments for achieving the political objectives of the super-rich elites and their corporations. The most infamous of these in Europe today is the Soros foundation, established by the billionaire currency trader George Soros, reputed to be the richest man in the world. Through foundations such as the Soros, a country can be effectively destroyed from within. The Soros foundation has bought off important figures throughout Eastern Europe and financed the training and activities of tens of thousands of young people indoctrinated in the most reactionary and totalitarian notions of American culture. In simple terms, Soros has created a new generation of future leaders — a fifth column — prepared to take over the governments and countries of Eastern Europe within the next several years and to govern them like banana republics, completely according to the dictates of Washington. Recently the Soros foundation has been shut down in Belgrade for the simple reason that it financed the most extreme pro-American and treasonous activities imaginable for the last three years, supporting every U.S. policy against the Serbs including sanctions and bombings! If this isn't sabotage, destabilization and treason on a large scale then nothing is.

Also connected to the imposition of American sponsored foundations is the pressure on smaller countries by the United States to allow a degree of political pluralism and diversity of opposition parties in the countries it seeks to destabilize that is



Bosnian SS division during WWII

in every way the very antithesis of the monolithic, totalitarian and unitary state that it itself maintains. Thus, while in the U.S. there are no political alternatives to the so-called "two party system" whatsoever, the U.S. insists on and helps to finance literally hundreds of opposition parties and organizations in Yugoslavia today creating a political climate of extreme uncertainty, political paralysis and near ungovernability. Most of these got their start through Soros.

Of course, one of the very most important methods of world conquest in the New World Order is the use of the United Nations and the so-called "peacekeepers." With the collapse of the Soviet Union, the UN is today completely controlled by the U.S. and its allies. As such, the UN has been transformed into one of the most powerful and multifaceted weapons in the American arsenal for the establishment of the New World Order (i.e.: U.S. global conquest). It was through the UN that the U.S. was able to impose international economic sanctions and a naval embargo on the Serbs and make it binding on all nations. It is through the UN that international foreign policy of war against the Serbs is harmonized. And of course the imposition of UN "peacekeepers" in Yugoslavia was a key turning point in the conflict because it handcuffed the Serbs militarily and established the basis for a military occupation of the region against the Serbs. The UN acts under the false pretense of neutrality, but they are anything but neutral in the civil war in Yugoslavia. Their task from the outset was to militarily weaken and handcuff first the Yugoslav army and then the Croatian Serb and Bosnian Serb armies. In this way they prepared the way for the military build-up of the Croatian and Bosnian Muslim armies that were covertly financed, armed, trained and even led by (in order of importance) the U.S., Germany, Austria, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Iran, and ultimately the military defeat of the Serb forces there. Clearly, the UN plays a key military, diplomatic and economic role in the imposition of U.S. world hegemony by providing the cover of neutrality for the initial military and diplomatic assaults on the country targeted for destruction. This too has enormous influence on the media and the human rights organizations that are, in one way or another, connected to the UN. It should be noted that prior to the recent wave of NATO bombings in September, 22 of 23 human rights groups associated with the UN Commission on Refugees in New York voted for and advised in favor of the bombings. In other words, nearly all of the so-called human rights organizations called for war crimes against the Serbian civilian population of Bosnia! No doubt they will do so again in regard to Serbia proper (Yugoslavia) when the time comes.

Finally, we come to the use of military force itself which, in contrast to the "New

World Order" initiated by Adolf Hitler, is shrewdly and correctly recognized by the American fascists and their allies to be used only as a last resort. In most cases the threat of massive destructive force is sufficient to impose total obedience over a people. Where it is not, as in the case of the Cubans, Lybians, Panamanians, Iraqis and now Serbs, it must be used, but only after the proper conditions are met so that its effectiveness is immediate. Because once it is introduced, all other methods, including war itself, gradually lose their potency. In the first instance, mercenary armies are covertly armed, trained and led by the U.S. and its closest regional allies (in the Balkans that is Germany). Hence, the build-up and training of the Bosnian Muslim and Croatian armies from zero to their present level of superiority in weaponry. Direct military involvement by the U.S. itself must be introduced when the endgame is near and only then. Otherwise, its expense, its unpopularity, its obvious barbarism, and its tendency to force the tortured victim to stand up and fight to the death against the American invader (as in

Americans toward involvement in these colonial wars (despite the scope of media deception). This problem is more than compensated though by the enormous technological advantage the U.S. has against its victims. Consequently, Americans can drop smart bombs from 50,000 feet or launch Tomahawk missiles from aircraft carriers hundreds of miles away, murdering hundreds of thousands of civilians, and yet suffer virtually no casualties. This is yet another important contrast between German and American fascism in that the Nazis were forced to exhibit a higher level of humanity and courage when butchering civilians than Americans, whose methods are by comparison far more depraved and dehumanizing.

What is this war really about?

Having just returned from Yugoslavia I am an eyewitness not just to a war, but to a genocide. I know very well how this term is deliberately misused today by the media and governments to rewrite history, denying the real crimes while exculpating the real criminals. This is precisely what the Bosnian Muslims, the Croats, the Germans and the Americans have done. And why not? They are the biggest genocidal murderers of all time! Americans don't know and aren't told that at the Croatian and



The UN acts under the false pretense of neutrality, but they are anything but neutral in the civil war in Yugoslavia.

Vietnam) can turn the tables on fascists. I won't comment on the so-called arms embargo which was simply an illusion designed for liberals and other day dreamers to ponder.

Thus, American strategy in the New World Order is to hold back direct military involvement to the last moment and rely on other methods to weaken and destroy a people. Essentially, this means combining various methods of low-intensity warfare (sanctions, peacekeepers, media war, etc.) for long durations, decades if necessary, interspersed at strategic moments with high intensity, terroristic use of high-tech weaponry (the equivalent of the policy of dropping atomic bombs on Japan in 1945) for short durations. Another reason for this policy is the complete apathy of most

Bosnian Muslim concentration camp of Jasenovac nearly a million people were systematically murdered between 1941 and 1944, including most of Yugoslavia's Jews. Nor that two Bosnian Muslim SS Divisions were raised in World War II to murder the Serbs of Bosnia. But for those of us who do know the history of the Balkans, and who know what is happening today, the term genocide is appropriate for describing what is being done and being planned for the Serbs. For if genocide means the deliberate destruction and murder of a people, this describes exactly what this war is all about.

The early strategy was to divide and conquer the Serbs. First, you had the Serbs of Croatia. They already have been destroyed — all killed or exiled. Croatia today is a racially pure, Catholic state, just as they intended during the Second World War. It has race laws granting full rights only to pure Croats; all other peoples have minority rights. And not only do they kill Serbs and burn and pillage their houses; they even burn books that mention the name Yugoslavia or that are printed in the Cyrillic alphabet.

Next are the Bosnian Serbs. They are currently being massacred by NATO bombings which have destroyed their communications, water, electricity, and housing, and prepared the way for the launching of new military offensives by the Muslims and Croats. NATO aggression will not stop until the Croat and Muslim forces are capable of a mass murder surpassing that achieved by the wartime fascist regime. The resurrection by the U.S. and Germany of a powerful fascist Croatia once again in central Europe will prove to be a nightmare for all of humanity.

And, finally, there are the Serbs of Yugo-

slavia proper. They are next. The U.S., Germany and its allies cannot tolerate even this strong a Serbian state in the Balkans. Three years of sanctions have literally starved the country, have killed hundreds of thousands of civilians and forced hundreds of thousands of other Serbs to emigrate. It shut down all industry. It cut living standards by half. It has created 50% unemployment. It has destroyed not just the economy but the very fabric of society, undermining the development of the country not for a few years, but for a generation. But that's just for starters. America is preparing to tear even Yugoslavia apart: Kosovo's Albanian separatist movement lies in wait for its orders to attack and launch a new civil war in the south of Serbia and in Montenegro. The U.S. and Germany are also determined to cut off the northern part of Serbia and hand it over to Croatia so that Croatia controls the Danube River and prevents the economic development of Serbia and the southern Balkans. There already are bills in Congress in preparation for this.

But why destroy the Serbs? First of all, it is important to remember that the original objective was the destruction of Yugoslavia, and in particular, *socialist Yugoslavia*. To destroy Yugoslavia it was necessary to destroy the Serbs because they were about half the population and they had the most to lose and the most to defend. Most importantly, they were the most interspersed people in the country, living in sizable proportions in all parts of the country except Slovenia. They were therefore the most supportive of the maintenance of both the multi-national and socialist nature of the state. The Croats, Slovene, Bosnian Muslim, and Albanian populations on the other hand all had historical connections to fascist separatist movements supported by Germany and the U.S. and indeed had a long history of support for such movements. They were therefore the long destined clients of the U.S. and Germany in a post-Communist Balkans. When these movements were brought back to life by the West in 1989 they revived their old racist ideologies, programs and traditions as well, among which included the destruction of the Serbs. It must also be remembered that the Serbs are historically the most powerful of the peoples of the Balkans. Historically, it has been the Serbs who have posed the greatest threat and obstacle to foreign colonial domination. It was the Serbs who were mainly responsible for the gradual destruction of the Ottoman and Hapsburg empires in the Balkans, as well as the defeat later of Nazi Germany and its allies in the Balkans during World War II. In a neo-colonial new world order the Serbs would have to be destroyed at the outset or else the Balkans could never be conquered.

I ask myself often how it is that Americans can justify or allow the murder, the destruction of an entire people? And every time I come down to the same conclusion: in the end the Serbs really don't matter. This war is not really about the Serbs; it's about America and what it's becoming. It's about a country that can butcher ten infants and then turn around and preach about "human rights" and "democratic institutions". It's about this new dark era we are entering, referred to as the New World Order. The Serbs, for all of their great accomplishments as a people and their age-old determination to be free of foreign tyranny, are to be destroyed by a new fascism that is developing in this country, before our very eyes. And the Serbs are only the first of many peoples to die as a result of it.

Imagine if Hitler, Himmler and Goebbels could awake from their graves and witness their present day vindication by America's new fascist alliance in the Balkans! Undoubtedly, they would reluctantly have to smile and say, "America, we've got to hand it to you. You did it far better than we ever could!"



Krajina Serbs have been victims of the largest episode of ethnic cleansing in the war to date

THE POPE, THE NAZIS, AND THE CIA:

by Barry Lituchy

(In light of the recent visit of Pope John Paul II to New York and the extraordinary media celebration of this so-called "great man of peace," I was asked to contribute a short piece on the actual political history of the Vatican in the twentieth century. Needless to say, the real role of the Vatican in twentieth century history is hardly progressive or even "peaceful." The following are some excerpts from an article I wrote in August of 1994 on the historical roots of the breakup of Yugoslavia that deal specifically with the Vatican. My article reviews some of the important literature dealing with this question focusing on the U.S., Germany and the Vatican. One of the most important books mentioned here is Christopher Simpson's **BLOWBACK: America's Recruitment of Nazi's and its Effects on the Cold War**, New York: Collier Books, 1988. Of course, there is a very extensive historical literature dealing with the role of the Vatican in supporting fascism both before and after World War II. Students interested in pursuing this subject may wish to examine Mark Aarons and John Loftus, **The Unholy Trinity**, (1991), Milan Bulajic, **The Role of the Vatican in the Breakup of the State of Yugoslavia**, (1994), Raul Hilberg, **The Destruction of European Jews**, (1985), or Stella Alexander's **The Triple Myth: A Life of Archbishop Alojzije Stepinac**, (1987), among many others. On the current Pope there is also considerable information to be found on his support for former Nazi Kurt Waldheim, for the current fascist President of Croatia Franjo Tudjman, as well as for the destruction of Yugoslavia.)

On the current Pope there is also considerable information to be found on his support for former Nazi Kurt Waldheim, for the current fascist President of Croatia Franjo Tudjman, as well as for the destruction of Yugoslavia.

Blowback is one of the most important histories of the Cold War and ... the development of U.S. imperialist strategy, policies and institutions in its struggle to overthrow the Soviet Union and the other Communist led governments in Eastern Europe in the post World War II era. It uncover(s) previously unknown details about the origins of the C.I.A. and of U.S. covert operations and institutions, in particular the U.S. government's protection of, employment of and early dependency on former Nazi intelligence and other European fascists after World War II. In the case of Yugoslavia, these forces played key roles in the break-up of the country and in the establishment of post-communist regimes....

... Simpson gives a comprehensive account of how the U.S. intelligence agencies and covert operations in Europe got their start and how the U.S. strategy for containing, destabilizing and overthrowing communism in post-war Europe evolved, from the waning days of World War II to the present, with considerable help from two European institutions: the Nazi intelligence service and the Roman Catholic Church, both in search of new political allies after the defeat of fascism in Europe.... What this book confirms is the view that the states in Eastern Europe, particularly those of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, did not fall simply on account of their own internal problems; they were on the receiving end of decades of U.S. sponsored covert military operations working at their destruction....

...U.S. policy toward Yugoslavia after World War II flowed from a larger, general overall strategy or program for overthrowing communism world wide. In other words, while the historical record clearly shows that U.S. foreign policy had a unique tactical approach toward Yugoslavia within the broader context of the

Cold War that was supportive, the ultimate foreign policy aims or goals of the U.S. toward Yugoslavia were essentially identical to those of the U.S. everywhere else in Eastern Europe: the restoration of capitalism through counter-revolution.

The second general point is that U.S. strategy toward Yugoslavia necessitated a policy of covert action involving both intelligence gathering and military operations. Initially, this consisted of the recruitment, training and deployment of large international networks of anti-Communist agents for covert operations. It was followed and greatly supported by the creation of CIA-financed, domestically based emigre organizations in the U.S. These emigre organizations (often affiliated in one way or another to Assembly of Captive European Nations - ACEN) were dedicated to the building of counter-revolutionary emigre armies and to assisting the U.S. achieve its policy goals of destabilizing, invading and militarily overthrowing all of the communist states in Eastern Europe. ... of these agents and emigres recruited by the U.S. government in Europe, the vast

majority of them were either former Nazis, former members of other fascist parties, or simply former Nazi collaborators. This point is actually the main focus of the book and is discussed in detail.

...in the immediate aftermath of the war, the Croatian fascist party (the Ustasha) built their own covert network for organizing and defending themselves and evading the scrutiny of international war crime tribunals. These escape networks were called "ratlines." ... these Ustashi "ratlines" were based in Rome and were built with the indispensable assistance and protection of the Vatican. Hence, the book reveals that the Catholic Church played a significant role in the post-war strategies and policies of the U.S. in Europe. ... these ratlines were quickly discovered and soon thereafter protected and employed by the C.I.C. (Counter Intelligence Corp of the U.S. Army, a predecessor to the CIA). (Over time)...., from about 1948 on, the U.S. government greatly expanded the scope of its covert operations by relying on former fascists from Europe, spending millions of dollars annually on fascist Croatian and fascist Albanian organizations, publications and agents, both in Europe and in the U.S. It is essential to point out that the policy of these Yugoslavian groups and individuals sponsored by the U.S. has been and continues to this day to be violently nationalistic, anti-communist, anti-Yugoslavian: i.e.: for the break-up of Yugoslavia.

Finally, ... (we see) the full and inescapable responsibility of the U.S. government and the CIA for the survival, preservation and resurrection of Croatian (Ustasha) fascism, which thanks to fifty years of U.S. government support, today once again rules in Zagreb. With the help of the Roman Catholic Church, the U.S. government and its fledgling intelligence agencies saved and preserved pre-war Nazism and European fascism to the present day, carving out an important role for it throughout the Cold War, and positioning it for a reconquest of state power in the event of counter-revolution. The preservation of pre-war Croatian fascism and other extreme right wing nationalist movements in the Balkans (particularly Albanian fascism which is discussed here as well) is directly responsible for the break-up of Yugoslavia and for the current civil war in Bosnia.

...The Americans relied on the more ex-



No it's not the flying nun, but its the imperialist Pope and his side-kick Lech "Leech" Walensa.

perienced former Nazi intelligence officers such as Reinhard Gehlen and others to recruit and organize their European spy networks. Clearly, Nazi intelligence was best situated to penetrate and coordinate covert actions in the Communist bloc after W.W.II. ... until ... (the early 1960's), the majority of U.S. intelligence work in Eastern Europe was done by the "Gehlin Organization," a network of former Nazi and European fascist agents, recruited and directed by former Nazi General and head of Nazi intelligence Reinhard Gehlin. Gehlin was hired to undertake this by U.S. Army C.I.C. General and head of U.S. Army Intelligence in Europe Edwin Sibert, by order of the President, Harry S. Truman.

... The reliance of the U.S. government on Nazi fascism for implementing covert action in its struggle against Communism was no anomaly. The U.S. government had a parallel policy for recruiting, staffing and carrying out its chemical, biological, missile, rocket and space research and development programs with Nazi scientists as well....

The most important ratlines in Europe following the collapse of the Hitlerite regime were those running away from Soviet controlled territories, for example like those running from Vienna to Rome — Rome being the true center of post-war Nazism and fascism for many years. Here fascists and fascist collaborators fleeing

of the Vatican), which took special responsibility for developing and maintaining ratlines for fascists after the war. That organization was called the Intermarium.

The Intermarium was a Church organization in Europe which embraced and developed close relations with the fascist and Nazi parties and movement in Europe from the early 1930's continuing on through World War II and after. As Simpson puts it: "For much of the Catholic Church...W.W.II had been an interlude in a deeper and more important struggle against 'atheistic communism' that had been raging for decades," (page 177). The Intermarium built strong ties to all of the fascist governments and parties in Europe prior to the war, and some of its leading members became officials in several of the fascist states. Among the leaders of the Intermarium were Croatian Ustashi leaders as well as clerical fascists from Slovenia, Slovakia, Hungary, Ukraine, Lithuania and so on. The favor shown by the Papacy for Croatian fascism was no secret: the Ustasha leader Ante Pavelic was himself received by the Pope. It was through Vatican channels that the Intermarium was able to resettle fascists in Latin America. "In those Latin American countries where the church is a controlling or dominating factor, the Vatican ... brought pressure to bear which ... resulted in the foreign missions of those countries taking an attitude almost favor-

Rome being the true center of post-war Nazism and fascism for many years. Here fascists and fascist collaborators fleeing justice from all over Europe could find protection, a safe house, new identities and papers, as well as relocation in new lands such as in South America.

justice from all over Europe could find protection, a safe house, new identities and papers, as well as relocation in new lands such as in South America.

But why Rome? Weren't the fascists defeated in Italy during the war? While it is true that the fascist government was overthrown in Italy, its most powerful and important ally, the Roman Catholic Church, eluded any punishment or reproach. Thus, the protection of Nazis and other fascists by the Catholic church (which was official Church policy from the Vatican on down) proceeded without any interference from the Western powers. Not surprisingly, the Vatican has never renounced the many anti-Semitic and pro-fascist pronouncements issued by the Church during the 1930's and 1940's. As Simpson details in his book, there existed one organization in particular within the Church (with close ties to the inner circles

ing the entry into their country of former Nazis and former fascists....," (p. 180). In 1946 the Intermarium intervened with Pope Pius XII to save an entire Ukrainian Waffen SS division (some 11,000 men) and their families (ibid.). It should be remembered that this division had participated in some of the most heinous crimes of history: the mass liquidation of Jews, Russians and Communists in the Ukraine and Poland. By comparison, the German and West European divisions of the SS were merely "good soldiers," although they were adjudged at Nuremberg to have been "criminals in uniform." (See John Keegan's, **Waffen SS: the Asphalt Soldiers**, London: Purnell's History of the Second World War, 1970, pp. 130-155).

In Croatia and elsewhere these Clerical fascists registered Jews in preparation for deportation to the gas chambers. In Latvia and Lithuania clerical fascist priests over-

SOME NOTES ON THE VATICAN'S ROLE IN THE DESTRUCTION OF YUGOSLAVIA

saw the mass executions of thousands of Jews and Communists. The Croatian Ustasha leader Pavelic, himself a Catholic Priest, proclaimed Croatia a "pure Catholic state," and presided over the extermination of 700,000 Serbs, 40,000 Jews and 25,000 Gypsies. Pavelic's policy toward the Serbs was to "expel a third, convert a third, and exterminate a third." This policy was carried out not just in Croatia but in what is today known as Bosnia as well, because most of present day Bosnia was at that time incorporated into the wartime fascist state of Croatia. Muslim collaboration with the Ustasha regime was critical to the execution of these policies in Bosnia.

Indeed, under the Croatian fascist state two SS Bosnian Muslim divisions were recruited: the 13th "Handjar" and the 23rd "Kama" Divisions of the SS. A third Yugoslav Muslim SS division, "the Skanderberg," was recruited mostly from Albanian and Montenegrin Muslim populations under Italian occupation. But it was the Bosnian Muslim Handjar division which was by far the most important of the SS divisions recruited in the Balkans.... Its political indoctrination was headed by the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem (the organizer of pogroms against the Jews in Palestine) who inculcated an ideology of Islamic fundamentalism and anti-Semitic and anti-Serbian racism that is today once again nurtured in the more elite units of the current Bosnian Muslim army. ... the Handjar division ultimately was beaten badly by the mostly Serbian and Yugoslav Jewish partisans it was sent to fight. Instead, as John Keegan explained in his 1970 study of the SS, "it confined itself chiefly to massacring and pillaging the defenceless Christians," (Keegan, p. 105). In other words, its main accomplishment of the war was the mass liquidation of Serbian civilians in Bosnia. As a result, what was previously a majority Serbian population in Bosnia before 1941 became a minority after the war.

One of the most important post-war leaders of the Intermarium was an Ustasha leader named Monsignor Krunoslav Dragonovich. During the war Dragonovich worked as a "relocation official" personally responsible for sending tens of thousands of Serbs, Gypsies, Jews and others to their deaths. He fled to a Vatican sanctuary in 1944. After the war Dragonovich ran some of the most infamous ratlines of all time. Not only did he organize the escape of Ante Pavelic and other leading Ustashi, but he is perhaps best known for organizing the protection and resettlement of numerous Nazi SS leaders including Klaus Barbie "the Butcher of Lyon." Toward the end of the 1950's Dragonovich used his Vatican and CIA connections to become an international ambassador of sorts for the emigre Croatian community. Dragonovich's Ustashi comrades did not simply disappear into the woodwork once they reached their safe country: they went about establishing Ustasha cells in Croatian communities around the world. In 1989 and 1990 they directly financed and supported Tudjman's rise to power (see "Pro-Nazi Legacy Lingers for Croatia," *New York Times*, 31 October 1993 and "Pizza Magnate in Canada is a Croatian Kingmaker," *New York Times*, 16 January 1994). The fact that right wing Croatian political groups were carefully watched over and facilitated by the U.S. government throughout the post-war era is documented in the pages of *Blowback* (pp.176-184).

The success of U.S. policy in Greece,... (etc.) spurred the U.S. government to vastly expand its financial and logistical support to the creation of ever new right-wing "refugee relief programs." The most important of these was the CIA founded "Assembly of Captive European Nations" (ACEN) which became the umbrella organization and launching pad for innumerable fascist and far right refugee organizations and off-shoots, involving

...The Americans relied on the more experienced former Nazi intelligence officers such as Reinhard Gehlen and others to recruit and organize their European spy networks.

itself in one or another in everything from Radio Free Europe and Readers' Digest to the American Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, the Bulgarian National Front, the Slovak World Congress and the Croatian-American Committee for Human Rights. No doubt, the entire history of the anti-Tito/anti-Yugoslav organizations in this country

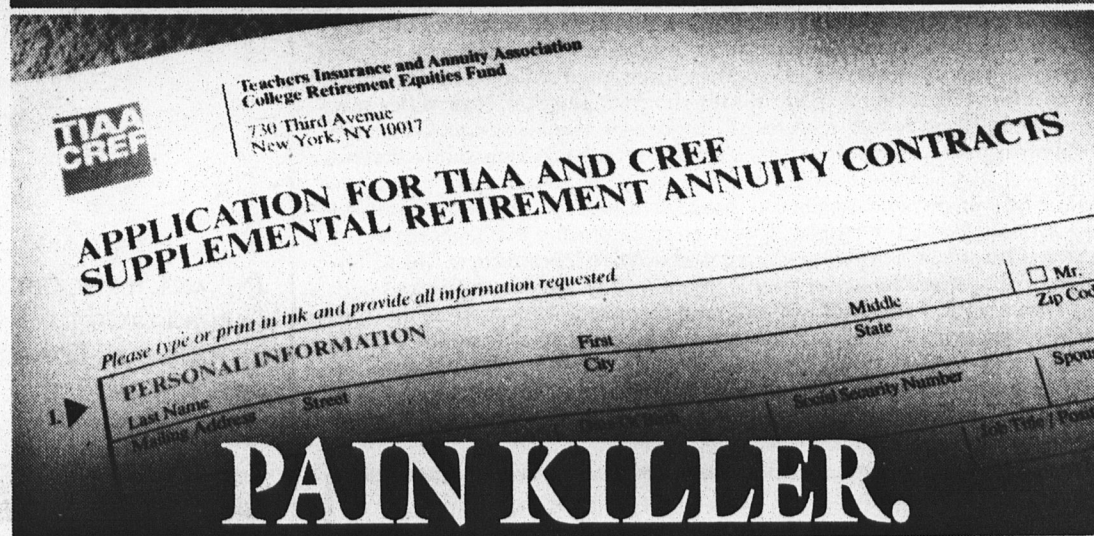
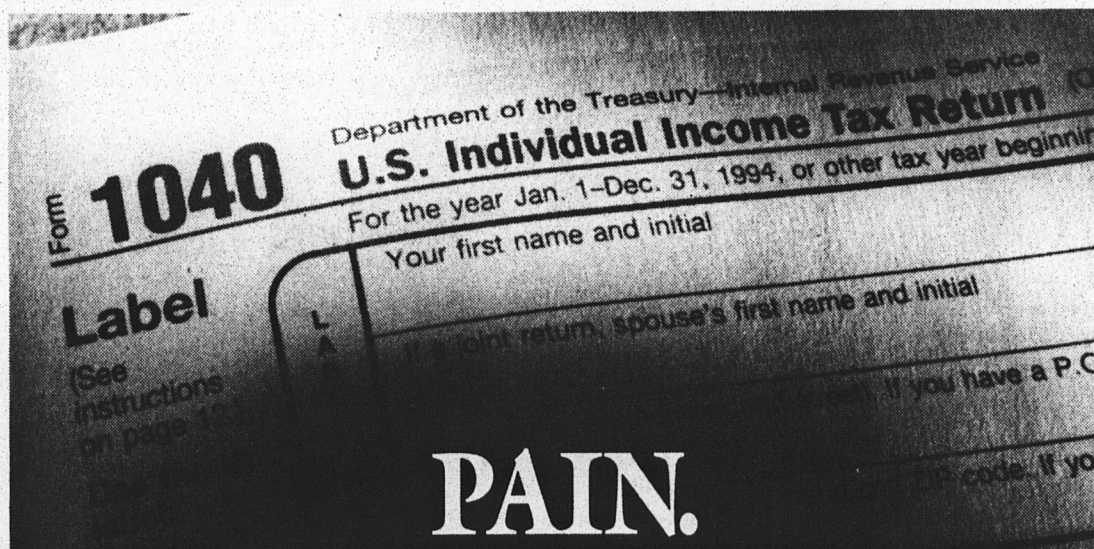
since 1945 could be traced back to this institution....

These activities were no small affairs. CIA employee James Burnham estimated that in 1953 the CIA was spending over \$1 billion a year on its refugee liberation work (p. 127). By 1959 the U.S. Congress established a "Captive Nations Week," and the following year an enormous Captive Nations Day parade was held in New York thanks to massive CIA financing (pp. 270-1).

The vast expansion of funding for "refugee liberation movements" during the Reagan and Bush years directly affected the course of history by helping to undermine the Soviet Union and the other Eastern European regimes.... Today in the 1990's it is responsible for the destruction of Yugoslavia as a state, the destruction of the Serbs as a people in Croatia and Bosnia, and the resurrection of a new Nazi alliance in the Balkans headed by the U.S. and Germany through their new fascistic client states of Croatia and Bosnia....

The College Voice will be holding a public meeting Thursday, October 26 during club hours.

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Allan Speaks

Dear Mr. Wijerama,
I am writing in regard to your piece "Student Government Attempts to Shut Down The College Voice" found in Volume XVI, Issue No. 1, of the College Voice. There are many, many polemical distortions in what you have written. If you would only report the facts as they are, I'm sure that the few readers that the Voice still has would recognize your side of the issue.

However, aside from the whining and cheap shots, there is truly a serious problem with your piece in its "reporting" of Ed Deighans observations. I guess you can hear that Ed said "here" instead of "hear" to you? Your consciously chosen caricature of Ed's speech raises a serious issue about how the Voice really feels about issues of socio-economic class. You seem to be the appointed campus defender of working class interests. But your little verbal caricature reveals quite clearly that you have no respect for *who people are*. It's of the deepest irony that you should reveal your bias against the very type of student whom you claim so often to defend. On this campus we call attention to the fact that we want to learn to practice respect for *who people are*: This means, in one dimension, not putting people down because of their age, culture, differing ability, ethnicity, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, and/or social class.

Aside from the distortions in your piece, I think your sleazy little paragraph on Ed tells us alot about *who you are*. When you write, you reveal yourself. Sometimes unwittingly. But there's always room to learn and we all make mistakes. I think an apology to Mr. Deighnan is in order.

Yours,
Allan DiBiase

I love you man!

In reply to Allan on behalf of the CV board

Two important questions are raised by Allan DiBiase in his letter. First, is there such a thing as the essence of an individual, the second is whether the categories which constitute an individual are absolute. These questions tie in with multiculturalism that has become the cannon through which are measured arguments about identity.

Issues concerning essentialism are still debated in certain circles. Aristotle's metaphysical view was that things have essences independently of what define them. The essence of a chair is essentially different from the essence of a middle-aged Italian American, lesbian women. So they say.

History sees people creating and recreating categories that classifies, organize, and give meaning to social and cultural entities. For example, the idea of king is different from 20th century England, from say that of the 17th century. A "beautiful" dress under Queen Victoria, is Victoria's Secret today. Values, meanings, therefore change with each specific historical context. But, you may say, what do you mean by historical context. Well, to give it a broad definition, it is the set of these values, meanings given to social relations and institutions during a particular era.

The modern era, for example, so the emergence of a Economy (market) and the political (liberal democracy) as two principal cultural traits. Science is another modern holy cow. this fact brought into existence, through a struggle between op-

posing forces, a new set of values and meaning. These are known as Bourgeois values, in reference to the French Revolution.

The US has had a different historical trajectory that led to a different categorization. Institutions like slavery, racial discrimination, the military, Wall Street and say immigration, gave American categories a different flavour. The verbal apologizing, and self congratulating that emerged with "political correctness" distracts people from any kind of knowledge. I don't know who you are but, I respect you. Respect being expressed, for example, by rich whites by living far from poor blacks or Spanish speaking groups. Talk show great Richi Lake arrives at staggering conclusion regarding self respect through the respect of peoples real inner self, and vice versa.

At the core of this false debate the existing contradiction between analyses and policies which deal with groups, and the proclaimed constitutional individualism.

Previous historical categorizations stigmatize certain groups, for example, Jews, Blacks, the working class, Gays, etc. What the Liberals try to do in their well meaning, guilty manner, was to equate between these two categories without any consideration as to how they are in relation to each other. The problem with this view is its ahistoricism and lack of understanding of institutions. The collapse of the Democrats in recent elections can be attributed to their weakness in front of their traditional institution attached to the Conservative Right (Family and God to cite but two.)

**Join
the
College
Voice
Be
heard
by "no
one"
-Allan
DiBiase**

Victory To The Detroit Newspaper Workers!!

The American working class is beginning to show the same fighting spirit that animated the rise of industrial unionism in the 30's. The workers of the Detroit Free Press and Detroit News facing union busting bosses have fought back valiantly for 12 weeks. The bosses private goons from Vance Security and the cops have not been able to give free access to the scabs and the scab run production. They have endured hundreds of arrests and have just been hit with an anti-picketing court injunction. September saw pitched battles between the workers forces and the bosses cops. The workers have received impressive support from the local labor unions who have come out to defend the picket line.

If this strike is not be sold out or dragged out into oblivion it is necessary to organize mass pickets and shut the plant down tight. This is going to require the generalizing of a militant, class struggle rank and file leadership based on strike committees. The rotten labor misleaders who have tied the workers movement in this country to the coat tails of the bourgeois Democratic Party will not and cannot provide this leadership. The nucleus of the new workers leadership can emerge in this spirited battle by the Detroit workers.

Students at CUNY should make every effort to support our class brothers and sisters in the Detroit strike. Organize fund-raisers, speakouts and send messages of solidarity. *An injury to one is an injury to all! Students and Workers Unite!*



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Security Harrassment

College Voice,

On the eve of Sept. 28 a couple of us were playing basketball on the courts. We were approached by the security guards which came in two jeeps and one "golf cart." For the first time in our lives we all felt as though we were criminals. They interrogated us, and made us feel as though we had committed a crime against society. Ever watch a movie about prison camps and you see people being watched by security guards with guns...well we felt like that, only difference was there were no guns. We felt ashamed, disgusted with the system we thought was "perfect." Tells you what we know, CRAP!!!

I wish I could stop here but I can't. This was the straw that broke the camel's back. I bet all of us have had some confrontation with the law but this time it was different. Come on were not Rambo's looking for trouble. Here we were the six of us were having a peaceful game of basketball. We were minding our own business. I was there also, so I do know what had happened, I wish I could say past tense but it is still happening. I don't know if its favoritism and people can step all over us because of our simplicity. Okay enough of me bitching, let me tell you what happened.

As we were leaving the courts the time must have been 7:45 pm. We were approached by security guards telling us to leave. It wasn't that we didn't want to leave but it its the way they asked us to leave. In a crude way. (One of us got very offended because he is known for fighting for his rights. I guess society calls him a trouble maker for fighting for what is right and wrong.) Then when one of us asked one of the security guards to tell headquarters to do something about the lighting around the basketball courts, the security guard quickly took it personally.

He felt as though we were challenging him and his authority. Our question wasn't to "put him down" but it was a question of general info and nothing more. What really pissed me off was when he was abusing his power towards us. Our only problem is that security guards are abusing their power because they can and no one can question them. I hope this letter lets everyone know about what's happening on the campus.

Anonymous

Anonymous you raise a very good point. Security here on campus is not held accountable for their actions, as far as students are concerned. If you have not noticed there are two divisions of "security," one being the Watchdogs who wear light blue and navy uniforms, the other more dubious division of campus security is the barely two year old CUNY S.A.F.E. Team. They can be seen wearing "police style" blue and white. They are the ones who fly around the roads and sidewalks of the campus in their jeeps and "go-carts", and sometimes on bicycles too. These security guards have the power to arrest students and throw them in NYC jails which is what they have done already at other campuses and have threatened to do to student activists here at CSI. The head of the Security force at CSI is Mr. Gene Martinez.

Evidently, Chancellor Reynolds believes that CUNY is very dangerous and needs to be carefully surveilled. Maybe after the next round of budget cuts when students will potentially be demonstrating at every campus trying to save their education, the "SAFE TEAM" will be employed once again in order to "keep the peace." Let's hope the security force will take a stand against their own misgivings or we must force them too. No one should tolerate disrespect.

Maybe the citizens should watch the police since they do not serve the student body but only serve to protect administrative policy. This policy is implemented by Bureaucrats long ago bought off. By the way, the only people on campus that Security has to answer to is President Springer which bodes ominously for students here at CSI.

Arrogance is silly and demeaning, but necessary to maintain a hierarchy of decision making. The police of every state and governmental institution was created under the pretense of "protect and serve." That includes CUNY and its officers..)

College Voice Editorial Board

So Many Forces Against Us

College Voice,

There is so many forces against the so called middle class and lower class of this great land we live in. There is racism, sexism, hate of all kinds which keeps us fighting amongst ourselves while the ruling upper class (which makes up only 5% of the population) does what they please. They use and manipulate us like pawns, slowly taking away all our rights. Soon it will be to late and we will be under such control that we will never able to break

Now we are trying to not be denied our right to an education. The Administration is trying to cut open admissions, a program which aids under-privileged youth in attending CUNY.

free from these constraints.

Everyday more of our rights slip away from us, the majority of us don't even realize what is going on. We are either just to blind to see or are just to busy trying to work ourselves out of this middle class rut. We don't realize the tremendous amount of force against us.

Now we are trying to not be denied our right to an education. The Administration is trying to cut open admissions, a program which aids under-privileged youth in attending CUNY. After all an uneducated person is much easier to maintain control over. How can a person fight against something they do not understand?

They have already cut classes, laid off faculty and made remedial classes restricted to two years. To get a four year degree you have to pass certain entrance exams.

Life is difficult enough to get through, without proper education it is downright impossible. Without the ability to better yourself you will never realize the horror and corruption that is all around us.

The rich keep getting richer and keep taxing the poor to make them stay that way. Racism and hunger for power pollutes our police force so none of us are truly safe.

Ignorance is truly blindness. And we must be able to see, to see the hatred and corruption. This is the only way to stop it. To acknowledge its presence and then deal with it.

Unity is the only thing that will bring us together and make this a truly equal society!

What do you think? Maybe we would like to know. Drop a line to the Voice; room 230, building 1C

One Point of View on Citizens Trust of NYPD

Criminal activity seems to be a more frequent event among police recently. On August 30, 1995, I sat in on a trial that was taking place in NY State Supreme Court under the Honorable Judge A. Kufner Jr. The trial involves two off-duty NYC police officers who were indicted for robbery, theft and attempted homicide in 1992. It seems that many of the police in NYC think that they are immune from the system. Their so called "code of blue silence" doesn't help the situation either. In the past five to ten years I have heard of more criminal indictments and incidents involving police than ever before. The police department seems to be more concerned with the generation of revenue, opposed to the cleaning up the drugs and crime on the streets. Furthermore, how many policemen have been arrested for drug related crimes themselves lately? It must be more personally profitable for an officer to seize money and cash from a drug dealer and keep it for himself, opposed to actually arresting the dealer and having to do the extra paper work, which would in turn be more of a deterrent for the drug dealer.

When we have so called "dirty cops" in our law enforcement system, this does so much harm to the society at large. I have always personally held much respect for police officers. But in the present times I have more fear of the police officers of today than some of the most hardened criminals.

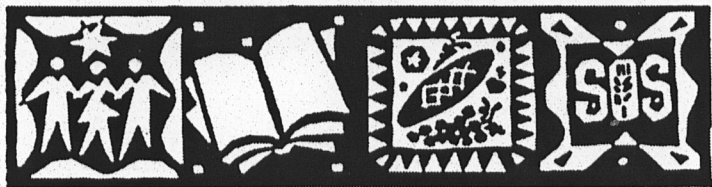
A typical NYC police officer has a tremendous amount of power and seems to be very often abusing it. I have personally witnessed many incidents of unnecessary abuse toward law abiding citizens from police and fire department personnel. The local law enforcement system truly needs to be revised. It seems the Internal Affairs of the NYPD only arrests police officers after very serious crimes are committed at an extreme level. What are the drug dealers and other criminals going to think if they know that the police personnel are getting away with crimes. This will effect criminals psychologically into thinking that they don't have to worry too much about getting caught selling drugs or committing other crimes, because the chances are that the police officer will only confiscate his drugs and money for him or herself and the criminal will not get arrested. This may not be the actual result of every case, but I'm sure indictments of this nature have taken place.

Something needs to be done in order to gain back the old respect most citizens had for the police department which has now turned to fear. More emphasis should be placed on getting drug dealers and criminals off the streets of New York, opposed to the issuing of summonses and the generation of revenue. If there was a way to statistically analyze illegal drug transactions in NYC, I would bet that for every summons that is issued for a parking violation or traffic violation, at least two or three drug transactions take place in this city. We need to address something other than revenue.

I cannot think of a crime that is worse than when a police officer commits a crime. A police officer is supposed to stand for law, order and safety. Our lives, the lives of all the citizens of NYC are in the hands of the police department. Something is wrong and something needs to be done to raise citizen morale and their perception of the NYCPD, along with more severe measures for drug related crimes and when an officer is involved in a crime. The mayor, the police commissioner, and any other bureaucrats that implement policy in New York City with respect to these issues, should be aware that these issues need more addressing.

Submitted by Andrew Golub
Political Science Major

Share Our Strength's Writers Harvest: The National Reading



A BENEFIT TO FIGHT HUNGER

ATTENTION CSI STUDENTS!

*** * Thursday, November 2, 1995 * ***

On Thursday, Nov 2, 1995 at the Williamson Theatre (1P), poets all over the N.Y. area will gather to read for the largest national benefit poetry reading of the year. Don't miss out! All proceeds will go directly to anti-hunger organizations in our area.

WHERE ? Williamson Theatre (1P)

WHEN ? Thursday, Nov 2, 1995
1:00-5:30 p.m.

HOW MUCH ? Free Admission for CSI students (with ID)
* suggested donation

**** Stay posted for more details and spread the word!**

—Sponsored nationally by American Express—



SISTERS

I feel so closed,
 thrown unwillingly against the wall
 yet, my mind refuses to leave behind all.

I try to figure out meaning of my existence
 that clings on so tightly on nothing persistence.
 I am overwhelmed with angst
 searching for *your* comfort
 a comfort that is uncertain to change
 that continuously turns into hate.

I am tired of the rituals that bind us so close!

I thrive on transformation
 one that demolishes ties of barbaric rite.
 A change that is victorious under democratic rights.

Yes, I live on revolutionary thought
 one that emerges out of my destitution.
 I fight to keep my blood flowing
 otherwise I'd be dead without knowing.

I'm buried between bricks
 that have built swiftly...
 on nothing but misery.

I am tired of the rituals that bind us so close!
 —your bickering and allegations.
 Leave me alone!

Before I explode!

Me and you no longer have those ties of blood that we were born to ...fullfill
 I no longer respect you the way I was supposed to.

Fuck off before I try to change you.
 I no longer love you the way I was supposed to.

Fuck off before I try to hurt you.
 Me and you are no longer sisters, that we were once supposed to.

Sixteen

I'm cold
 I'm dead
 sixteen
 dead
 Why are my limbs moving?
 Why is my chest moving?
 I feel nothing
 No tears
 or bloodstains
 I want to change my clothes
 rips
 tears
 Dirt from strangling hands
 I'm cold
 I'm dead
 sixteen
 dead
 There is nothing under my skin
 The strangle marks are still there
 I throw my torn underwear in the trash
 I want to follow them
 I'm cold
 I'm dead
 sixteen
 dead
 My sister makes me take a shower
 I'm dirty
 I feel the grains of dirt
 pierce between my legs
 I can't feel the water
 My skin is red
 It's not hot enough
 I can't scrub hard enough
 The water only makes
 the marks around my neck appear more vivid
 I'm cold
 I'm dead
 sixteen
 dead
 Why are my limbs still moving?
 Why is my chest still moving?
 Why didn't he finish the job?
 Why did he loosen his grip
 before the world went black?
 I'm still dead
 I'm sixteen.....dead
 I feel nothing
 I'm cold
 I'm dead
 I'm dead
 I'm dead
 I'm dead

Junior Hersh

I am a women...

I am a woman
with those ways,
that just don't follow.
with those expressions that
that lead.
I am a women
who dances
struggles
and continues.
Yes, I am that women
that women that's equal to men.
Yes, I am that women
that will pick you up
gently-
fiercely-
angrily-
and take you to those lands.
those free lands,
oceans
to nothingness
and dance.
dance around those
those fires
dance,
fly, fight, walk, run,
through those oppressed,
suppressed,
compassionate struggles.
Yes, I am that fighting,
gentle, hard women.
Oh, yes I am that-
that women, snake, soil, earth, dark-
ness,
that will take you,
take you through those,
loving, ferocious, forgiving, fighting
hearts.

Yes, I am that lost
brutal,
beautiful women!

-Another Female

Clinical

Ineffective
coping related to Malignancy of the
spirit,
is the diagnosis.
Prognosis poor.
It seems that in desperate,
but futile attempt to obtain a
biopsy of the neoplasm,
- A direct result of
the carcinogen that was birth
and youth, for further examina-
tion....
.... to determine appropriate treat-
ment.
- The lesion was stimulated
to a premature metastasis and
has subsequently rendered previ-
ously
healthily and developing tissue, ne-
crotic.
The chemotherapy has
been unsuccessful, although we had
been prematurely hopeful.
The patient is sadly out
of remission.
The condition has finally revealed
itself to be autoimmune in nature.
It is presently being determined
whether it is in the best interest of the
patient and the exhausted supportive
staff.
That pain management in doses
contraindicated
for effective respiration should
be administered in any event.

R. Behr



A Penis For A Nose

The other night,
I dreamed about a man
with a penis for a nose.
A useless object hanging
in the center of his face.
He was old and bald,
and looked a lot like my dad
or my ex-boyfriend.
He was a freak.
A complete misfit.
I dreamed I saw him once,
in White Hall
sitting on the stairs.
His penis nose drooped,
from between his eyes.
A PENIS NOSE!!!
I believe it had a foreskin.

In the dream,
I wondered how would
he go to the bathroom?
What would happen
if it got erect?
Would he be able to breath?
Would masturbation be suicide?
And I would be curious
to see him sneeze.
What would come out?
Would he have to wear a condom
if he had a cold?
What was between his legs?
Did women find him attractive?
Did men?
Would men envy or reject him?

The other night,
I dreamed of a man
with a penis for a nose.
A useless waste of space.
At least I think it was a dream.

Debra Behr

I Riot!
by Larry(LH)Jacobs
(1960's)

I Riot! I'm Hot!
I'm your brother
Although you think not!

I Riot! I'm Sore!
Give me some attention!
Pay me some mind!
Open the door!

I Riot! I Rage!
Held down no more!
I've come of age!
I've come of age.

...Revolution

continued from page 22

ing society as a whole, can be made unilaterally by them. Most of them advocate that the party take the vanguard role in a revolution and that the party should form the state and run the economic system. Perhaps some would even conceive of themselves as appointing their members to positions of authority. This my friends is the beginning of bureaucracy and a new ruling class.

As Daniel DeLeon put it, "Revolutions like comets have a small head-the enlightened thinking and determined minority and a very long tail- the sentiment of a cloudy majority." Leaders must be educators and agitators. They should be the guiding light. They must educate our fellow citizens to reason for a revolution, not only because it is right but because the future of a civilization is at stake. However they should not "assume" power without the consent of the people.

Let us not be parlor or armchair revolutionaries. A good idea is not good if it is locked up in a few people's minds. We have to get out and spread the idea. We have to communicate with people wherever they congregate.

Up to now I have been talking about how we would like to see a revolution come about and assuming that the ruling class doesn't become fascist. We assume that we will have the right to vote for our political choice and that our civil liberties will remain intact. However, I pose the question "What would we do if the ruling class turns to fascism and our civil liberties are taken away well before election time?" There is a good chance that the ruling class will panic, recognizing a ground swell of class consciousness forming. They probably would then strip us working people, progressives and other average folk of all semblance of democratic right. Are we going to be like the working people of Germany of the 1930's just before Hitler took over? At that time, as some of you know, the working class of Germany had two parties that polled about 40% of the vote and they were organized into powerful unions. Their freedoms and strengths were whittled away by the Nazis little by little until they woke up one day and found that Hitler had taken over completely. The workers leaders were in jail and their political parties were outlawed.

I think that the working class of Germany should have fought back each step of the way with the same tactics that the German ruling class used. Hopefully we American progressives can be in a position to fight back if and when the American ruling class decides to be undemocratic.

In my view the only practical way in which to do this is to organize along revolutionary lines within the labor movement, the environmental movement, the student movement, the civil rights movement and any other progressive movement that we can. In other words we should fight back with a strategy of education, class consciousness and organization.

Here I come to another bone of contention with the Marxist Leninists. Some of them claim that in order for the working people and other progressives to successfully bring about the downfall of the ruling class government and establish a truly democratic government and more equitable economic system a vanguard party should lead the way. Some of them claim that the average people as a whole are not capable of establishing a truly progressive society.

They conveniently forget about the times when working people, fed up with oppressive capitalism rose up en masse. They forget about the role played by working people in the Paris Commune of 1870 and the Russian Revolution of 1905. Even the Russian Revolution of 1917 was a massive uprising. The Bolsheviks weren't the leaders in that revolution. After the uprising started the Bolsheviks successfully maneuvered themselves into positions of lead-

I think that the working class of Germany should have fought back each step of the way with the same tactics that the German ruling class used.

ership.

There were also massive uprisings of workers in 1918 in Germany and the Spanish Revolution of 1935. Then there were the uprisings in France in 1968 and in Italy in 1969. In the uprisings of 1968 in France the French working people were able to shut down the entire nation with general strikes for days.

In the Portuguese Revolution of 1975, there was a power vacuum after the death of Fascist Dictator Antonio Salazar. This vacuum was filled by chaos and this chaos led to working people taking things into their own hands. They formed worker committees at many of the large factories throughout their country. These committees there took control of the factories and running them themselves for themselves.

In the United States we have had worker rebellions in the 1960's in primarily black areas of large cities. These rebellions were caused in reaction to the terrible exploitation that existed there.

Our last rebellion here in the United States occurred in Los Angeles in 1992. It occurred not only in reaction to massive exploitation of working people but also in

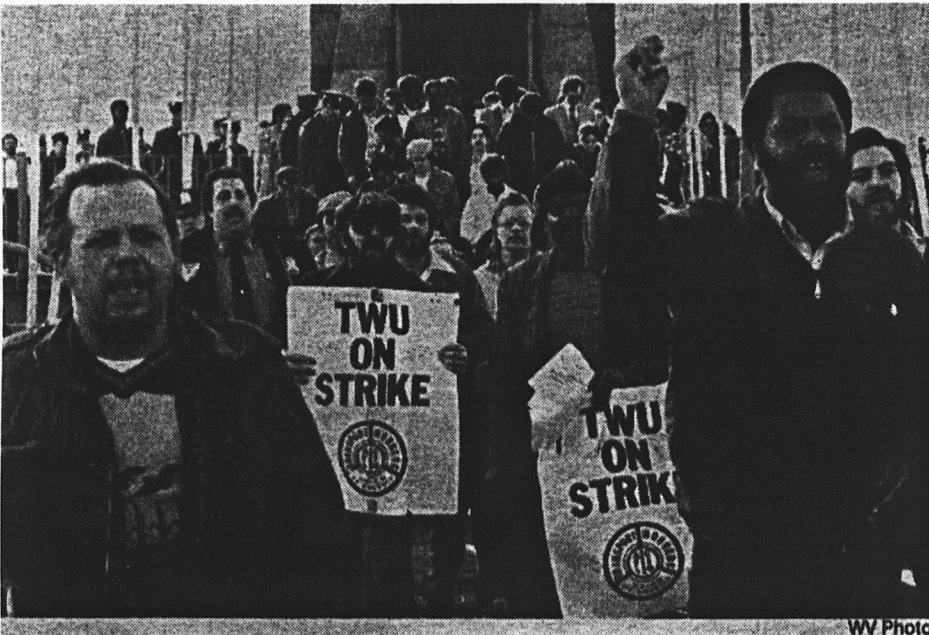
reaction to police brutality and oppression. Furthermore the rebellion included not only black people, it included Hispanics and the white population also.

In every case working people rose up instinctively against ruling class tyranny and exploitation. They took things into their own hands en masse and shook society to its roots.

Unfortunately all these revolutions did not succeed in holding on to power with real democracy. They all lacked sufficient organization. People in general weren't class conscious and were not educated to ideas of holding onto massive or democratic control.

We can learn from these working class revolutions. From the Paris Commune we can learn to be very wary of ruling class power. From the German uprising of 1918 to the uprising in Los Angeles in 1992 we progressives should learn to rely and promote class consciousness, education and organization of as many common people as possible.

In conclusion what we progressives have to do is teach a few elementary principles. People don't have to be revolutionary scholars. Common people just have to know how to act in their own self interest. They have to be class conscious. They have to recognize the ruling class and how it works. They have to understand, as Karl Marx pointed out, we live in an economically unjust society. They have to know what kind of system to put in its place that is economically just. Finally let us remember the immortal words of Thomas Jefferson "The price of democracy is eternal vigilance."



Strike actions by workers are signs of the deep antagonisms between workers and their bosses

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The Religious Question

"The civilized man answers force with force, the barbarian begins with force."
-Daniel DeLeon

by Lou Bardel

You will notice many articles in the October issue of the Voice that deal with the religious question. By no means have we covered all the different forms of religion, but we touch upon the dominant religion in America which is Christianity. Dominant because the superstructure of US society imposes the White Jesus as the absolute. Religion has been the dominant form of ideology throughout almost all of recorded history. Religion, and the practice of, can be seen as a multi-faceted reflection of the real world.

Religion for many people provides consolation to the problems of reality, it offers beauty when beauty can be hard to find, and it also helps appease a deep-seated human need for security. I do not propose taking away from people the solace, comfort or beauty that religion is capable of bringing into one's life. I would like to do away with the need for this particular form of achieving these satisfactions by abolishing the conditions that require the illusion religion offers.

Religious beliefs are not only illusory but they stand in the way of humans mastering both nature and her social relations in the interests of a better and fuller life. If religion is used by the exploiting classes, as Karl Marx said, as an "opium dose" to make working people accept their teachings and the authority of the clergy, then undoubtedly, it is inevitably intertwined with the class struggle.

It would be foolish to renounce the complex role religion has played throughout history, from the great social struggles that have turned the average man from slave to serf to wage earner. For example, Christians in the time of Rome revolted en masse to the oppressive empire, and led to its decay. Jesus Christ supposedly agitated for equality, leading the slaves and poor into rebellion, and he was crucified for it. If the legend of Jesus Christ is correct than he was a great man, although it is probably true that Christ was not the only agitator. He is the one though that Catholicism chose as their posterboy (after he was killed), and in essence his image (a false one at that) has become a complicit partner to everything he supposedly fought against. In America, that is discrimination, exploitation, brutality, and racism. How can the Pope in good conscience stand next to representatives of imperialism, like Bill Clinton, who sends army troops into the Balkans to bomb away until so called "peace" is attained. NATO has killed civilians and "enemies" with equal force. Does the Pope condone this form of resolution?

Workers, poor, and students who are religious should not feel estranged from progressive movements. In fact these beliefs, in certain circumstances, can become powerful revolutionary forces. What I propose is the fight for equality - FOR ALL, self determination, and real peace - all things any religious person would be hard pressed to disagree with if they are not hypocritical. The question remains though, what will be the method that is employed in order to reach these goals. Will it be to wait until the resurrection? Or will it require taking things into our own hands, and coming together to create something now?

NATO has killed civilians and "enemies" with equal force. Does the Pope condone this form of resolution?

Imagine

by Eileen Bardel

They've been thrown into prison, sent into arenas as food for roaring lions, stoned, beheaded, burned at the stake and subjected to unthinkable atrocities by the "well intentioned" and the "inhuman." Their founder and the leader suffered an horrific death because of His teachings. In these modern times, at least in the United States, their fate is not fatal but they may still be scorned and misunderstood for their beliefs. Of course I'm speaking of Christians, followers of Jesus Christ.

The non-believers and skeptics may ponder deeply why people continue to follow this Jesus. Humanitarians live by the Golden Rule. Perhaps these so-called Christians have been indoctrinated or intimidated into living a certain way. Perhaps so but if someone willingly pursues the road less traveled, the way of Jesus Christ, there are reasons worth trying to understand.

Political ideologies abound and the leaders of such try desperately to offer solutions for the ills of society. But can they deliver?

The most well-divided plan for the betterment of mankind is useless if those involved refuse to also change their way of thinking about their fellow man. There are basically two ways to go - the way of give and the way of get. Jesus Christ taught that it is better to give than to receive; that if we want to be understood, we must try to understand the other person's needs. Imagine making decisions and laws based on these principles. What would be the necessity of political parties and feuding factions? When man's solutions fail, God

Christians are forced with the formidable task of trying to change their character, a more arduous feat than changing the problems of others.

becomes the culprit yet at the same time people refuse to embrace His teachings.

Christians are forced with the formidable task of trying to change their character, a more arduous feat than changing the problems of others. Yet before we can offer hope to the oppressed we must first determine if we are the oppressors. It sounds so trite and so pollyanish to the ears of the cynic but there is excitement and challenge in being a Christian. There is peace amid strife, understanding in the midst of chaos and determination in seeming defeat.

Why do I choose to follow Jesus Christ? Because He lived what he preached, He cared about the poor, the sick, the homeless and those with plenty. Everyone was treated with equal concern and respect. Jesus Christ had to point out problems and flaws but He never stopped there. The reason for His revelations were to encourage people to change so that their lives would be better. His companions were often the forgotten and the despised but His concern saw beyond their limitations and problems. He offered hope for a better world to come and He left us with commands to follow that would bring prosperity and peace until that time.

It's a crying shame that so many times it's considered "intellectually correct" to reject the teachings of Jesus Christ. You only need to examine closely His life on earth and the message He brought and the most brilliant of remedies pales by comparison if not centered in God's truth. Jesus Christ understood the politics of His day - the rulers who exploited and used people to satisfy their own selfishness. But His solutions were controversial and He finally paid for them with His life. As God, he overcame death and His hope and help will always be there for man to turn to.

Christians are not perfect; they never will be. But to be a Christian is to possess a hope for mankind; a commitment to follow Jesus because His word is truth and truth sets us free!

"The Opiate Of the People"

From Karl Marx - circa 1844 -
On Religion - Marx and Engels

The basis of irreligious criticism is Man makes religion, religion does not make man. In other words, religion is the self-consciousness and self-feeling of man who has either not yet found himself or has already lost himself again. But man is no abstract being squatting outside the world. Man is the world of man, the state, society. This state, this society, produce religion, a reversed world-consciousness, because they are a reversed world. Religion is the general theory of that world, its encyclopedic compendium, its logic in a popular form, its spiritualistic point d'honneur, its enthusiasm, its moral sanction, its solemn completion, its universal ground for consolation and justification. It is the fantastic realization of the human essence because the human essence has no true reality. The struggle against religion is therefore mediately the fight against the other world, of which religion is the spiritual aroma.

Religious distress is at the same time the expression of real distress and the protest against real distress. Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, just as it is the spirit of a spiritless situation. It is the opium of the people.

The abolition of religion as the illusory happiness of the people is required for their real happiness. The demand to give up the illusions about its condition is the demand to give up a condition which needs illusions. The criticism of religion is therefore in embryo the criticism of the vale of woe, the halo of religion.

Criticism has plucked the imaginary flowers from the chain not so that man will wear the chain without any fantasy or consolation but so that he will shake off the chain and cull the living flower. The criticism of religion disillusions man to make him think and act and shape his reality like a man who has been disillusioned and has come to reason, so that he will revolve round himself and therefore round his true sun. Religion is only the illusory sun which revolves round man as long as he does not revolve around himself.

The task of history, therefore, once the world beyond the truth has disappeared, is to establish the truth of this world. The immediate task of philosophy, which is at the service of history, once the saintly form of human self-alienation has been unmasked, is to unmask self-alienation in its unholy forms. Thus the criticism of heaven turns into the criticism of the earth, the criticism of religion into the criticism of right and the criticism of theology into the criticism of politics.

The Catholic Church-Cancer Of Society

The following article has been reprinted from 1969, and came out of the former Staten Island Community College. The article titled The Catholic Church-Cancer Of Society was labeled as a "scathing" attack upon religion. The commentary piece brought on a two-year lawsuit from concerned students and parents. The court case finally reached the NY Appellate Court and wasn't resolved until 1971. The Appellate division of appeals struck down a county court decision that required school administrators to interfere with student publications. The new ruling held that any administrative meddling was unconstitutional. Any type of imposition of restrictions upon the school publications was "an infringement of the right of free expression of the students attending these colleges." The Appellate Division declared that student newspapers "have been established as a forum for the free expression of the ideas and opinions of the students who attend these institutions of higher learning."

by Frank Giacalone

It has repeatedly been held that, once having established such a forum, the authorities may not then place limitations upon its use which infringe upon the rights of students to free expression as protected by the First Amendment...

Since the dawn of civilization, man has needed some form of supernatural entity to explain all aspects of life. The East wisely chose the god within oneself. The West created, in Judaic theology, an anthropomorphic spirit to adore as their supreme creator, and later fostered in Christian beliefs a notion that the messiah, is said to dwell in a place of eternal happiness, the perfect nation by virtue of this majestic trinity or divine politburo.

Colossal churches were erected as "holy consulates" with priests delegated as divine ambassadors. In urging conversion to their respective congregations, they promise perpetual salvation through substantial contributions, and by pursuing a policy of holy extortion, they buy a place for you in paradise.

The established administration governing the Church, the holy Mafia, acts like a social leech sucking the precious blood of

society—money. Collection in Church are allegedly utilized for benevolent purposes, including poverty, disease prevention, and schools. Unfortunately, however, only a part of this amassed capital reaches its professed goal. Otherwise, how could the pastor obtain his prestigious Cadillac, or the hierarchy its funds to pay lobbyists to vote against an abortion bill in State legislature?

Suspensions exist among lay dissenters that the hierarchy wants the masses to breed more benighted bourgeois Catholics to continue indefinitely the cycle of liturgical affluence.

In reference to the Vietnam war, one would think these disciples of the Prince of Peace would take an overt, adamant stand against it. But in being the most reactionary institution since the French Revolution, coupled with the fear of taxation by the federal government, the flag is venerated as equally as those neurotic masochists they call saints.

Their schools of indoctrination are absolutely astounding. I, unfortunately, was an inmate in one of these institutions of lunacy, administered by outright fanatics who thrived on physical punishment at the slightest breach of discipline. Their dogma was so archaic, that students got a first-rate course in sexual frustration, social inhibition, love of country, and rigid puritanism.

I was imbued with the history of these dogmatic imbeciles, but somehow the entire era of Vatican debauchery, which excelled during the Middle Ages and Renaissance, was curiously omitted. The religious syllabus as it stood, emphasized ridiculous prayers, novenas to the virgin and the frustrated saints, and analysis of the mass and outmoded Catholic norms. Attendance in the extortion meetings (mass) every Sunday was mandatory, and was required, but not enforced, during the week.

The absurdity of it all reaches the point of exasperation when one reads the Legion of Decency, found in the weekly publication of the Tablet, the organ of Catholic propaganda. Though formerly

Agnosticism: Faith In What?

- Jeanine Jayadeva

Trapped in this lackey's undivided care and attention, passion and love; that was me trapped and you patiently abusing your powers of illusory love upon me.

Indeed, yourself trapped in a falsified and made up image of "how to be with the brittle reminiscences of a soul girl"

and

reading your masters directions as they were the words of a lord.

You follow them; yet you don't believe, and use them to be subordinated as you subordinate.

What Lord do you follow the atheist? Isn't your patron a religious man?!

You have rejected another patron's religion, but to take the evil in the other, didn't

your other patron's offer you immortality?

It is evil because you refuse to acknowledge how spiritual you are, so you embrace an other's man spiritual essence as something not objectively spiritual but rather of a rebellious mode.

Once you find yourself embracing a spiritual rebellious wrath, there are no distinct terms that describe your actions.

You go put of yourself to play this game of minds where you have left your brothers of love and met up with the ones of a religion you can't even determine.

You'll tell me you are an atheist but what is the understanding with your fellows and lackeys? If not in polemics of rights and wrongs, of left and right!?

supervised by the hierarchy, it still appears, but fortunately has lost, its former clerical influence. In any case, it is a list of recommended and condemned movies, decided by the omniscient clergy.

General patronage films include all Disney productions, and these Fred MacMurray schokers that provide for excellent mental stimulation and overall intellectual realism. The condemned include Camus' "The Stranger" and Albee's "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf," which are considered dirty and immoral - another wonderful example of the Church's move toward social progress.

This is the established realm of Catholicism, an institution which has continued its "descent into the maelstrom" of corruption and ignorance for hundreds of years by the very nature of its extended influence. For the good of society, it should relinquish its power in politics, and for a change pursue the course of its founder who, for all practical purposes, it has all but openly rejected.



Is the Bible the inspired Word of God?

by Steven Guzzi

If one is going to accept the Bible as the Word of God, one must ultimately do so by faith (Hebrews 4:2). However, faith in the Bible should not be a blind jump into the dark, but an intelligent decision engrafted with in sound evidence (Hebrews 11:1). Many people reject the Bible, being ignorant to its content and its evidence of complete inspiration. Their opposition is often based on worn out arguments and preconceived ideas that aren't in line with the facts, as well as an unwillingness to submit to the authority of scripture in their lives. I will argue that the whole Bible is the infallible Word of God that has been completely, not partially inspired by God.

The reliability of the Bible

If we test the Bible for historical reliability by the same criteria we test any historical document, without any anti-Christian, anti-supernatural bias we will discover that the Bible is an amazingly authentic piece of literature with high historical support. One test for historicity is the bibliographical test, which is the reliability of the copies, determined by the amount of manuscripts available and the gap between the original manuscripts and the earliest copies available. There are over 24000 manuscripts for the New Testament, way more than any other document of ancient antiquity. The gap between the earliest copies—130 AD and the original manuscripts—mid to late first century—is very small in comparison to other famous documents from antiquity, allowing no time for significant alteration from the originals to come about. Bible theologian of Christian history John Warwick Montgomery says, "to be skeptical of the resultant text of the New Testament books is to allow all in accordance with God's promise and prediction to preserve his Word (Psalm 12:6-7, Matthew 24:35).

The Internal Evidence Test determines the credibility of the written records, which is the ability of the writer or witness to tell the truth by being near the events geographically and chronologically. The New Testament passes this test with flying colors, as the accounts of Jesus life, death and resurrection are given by the original eyewitnesses themselves, or those who received their testimony from eyewitnesses (Luke 1:1-4, 2 Peter 1:16, 1 John 1:3). The New Testament was in circulation in the first century where the eyewitnesses, both in and out of classical antiquity to slip into obscurity, for no documents of the ancient period are as well attested bibliographically as the New Testament. This establishes that the New Testament has been preserved accurately throughout time, Christian community of faith would have been around to correct any wrong and exaggerated accounts of the life of Christ. However, many of the events surrounding Jesus of Nazareth were common knowledge, even to the opponents of Christianity (Acts 2:22, Acts 26:24-28, John 11:43-47).

The External Evidence Test determines if the evidence outside the documents confirms the history of the documents in question. Many independent testimonies agree with the New Testament historical information. The Old Testament is supported as well and Christ completely endorsed the historicity of the Old Testament. Archaeology also supports Bible history. Nelson Glueck, a renowned Jewish archaeologist wrote, "It may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted [contradicted] a biblical reference...the almost incredibly accurate historical memory of the Bible, and particularly so when it is fortified by archaeological fact." The Bible's historical nature makes it unique to books that claim to be inspired by God, since other books don't have any historical basis or support.

The Bible claims to be the perfect Word of God

There are over 3800 claims by the Bible authors that they were uttering the Word of God. For example, "(2 Timothy 3:16).

If we believe that some or most of the Bible is inspired by God, but not all of it, we will find we are contradicted by the very parts of the Bible we do believe to be inspired, which renders verses as the above, claiming that all scripture (the whole Bible) is the Word of God. It is true that some other religious books claim to be inspired by God, but not nearly with the same frequency, unique manner and the same evidence to back up the claims as the Bible. It would be a strange paradox if the best literary book in the world, with the most highest moral and religious teachings known to man was written by liars and lunatics.

The testimony of Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ, the most influential person in history, considered by many to be a true prophet of God, and in the Christian religion is God incarnate (the Son of God), claimed the Bible was all inspired and preserved by God to the very word and letter, with such claims as "the scripture cannot be broken" (John 10:35), "Till heaven and earth pass, one jot (letter of the scripture) or one tittle (bit of the Word) shall in no wise pass from the law (scripture) till all be fulfilled" (Matthew 5:18), "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matthew 24:35). Jesus made provision for his disciples to write a perfect New Testament by saying to them "he (the Holy Spirit) will guide you into all truth (the writing of God's Word)" (John 16:13; John 17:17). He claimed to be a prophet, the messiah, the only way to salvation, God, Lord and truth (John 14:6,9; John 5:17-18, John 13:13), which if true makes him infallible. If these startling claims aren't true than he's either a liar, which contradicts his moral integrity, makes him a false prophet and disagrees with what most religions teach about him, or a lunatic, which contradicts his character, or Lord, which agrees with the historical evidence. For example, his resurrection was endorsed "by many infallible proofs" (Acts 1:3), which included predictions of the resurrection by the Old Testament and Christ himself, the authenticity of the documents, Christ's empty tomb, which has never been adequately explained by any naturalistic theory, the transformation of the disciples from cowards before they knew of his resurrection to bold lions when convinced of its truth, his post-resurrection appearances to over 500 eyewitnesses, whom of most were still alive to endorse the New Testament's report of the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:6). The high moral character of the eyewitnesses and the fact that many of them died in defense of the resurrection makes the historical evidence overwhelming. One of the world's greatest historians Thomas Arnold said, "I know of no one fact in the history of mankind which is proved by better, fuller evidence of every sort, to the understanding of a fair enquirer, than the great sign which God hath given us that Christ died, and rose again from the dead." After a thorough study of the New Testament manuscripts Simon Greenleaf, one of the greatest legal minds of this nation and a top authority on what constitutes legal evidence said, "It was therefore impossible that they (the disciples) could have persisted in affirming the truths they have narrated, had not Jesus actually risen from the dead, and had they not known this is a fact as certainly as they knew any other fact."

Bible prophecy

The Bible is loaded with predictions about nations, cities, events and people, even up to hundreds of years before they happened. Hundreds of these prophecies in the Old Testament prophesy in meticulous detail of a Jewish messiah that would come into the world. The manner, place and time of birth, nation, tribe, destiny and manner of death of the Messiah were foretold and historically fulfilled in none other than Jesus Christ. The probability of any one man in history fulfilling all these prophecies by chance is astronomical, proving the Bible is the Word of God and

Jesus Christ is the Messiah. Who alone can predict the future with complete accuracy, but God himself (Isaiah 41:21-23,46).

The Bible as a whole, not in parts

We must read a portion of scripture in light of the rest of the Bible. Each part of the Bible will help shed light on the very part of the Bible we are reading. The apostle Paul says we are to compare scripture with scripture and rightly divide the Word of truth with the Holy Spirit as our guide to understanding (1 Corinthians 2:13, 1 Timothy 3:15). We need to believe the Bible alone and in its entirety to follow this principle. If we believe there are errors in the Bible and yet we believe it is inspired than we accuse God, who cannot lie or be wrong (Titus 1:2) of making a mistake. If we believe some of the Bible is inspired but not everything than we will inevitably be disagreeing with the parts of the Bible we do believe because we will find some scripture verse of which we believe claiming that the Word of God is perfect. We will also find that the part we believe will endorse a part we don't believe since so many parts of the Bible endorse other parts of the Bible. For example, if we claim that the book of Acts is inspired, but not the book of Psalms, what do we do when we find Acts endorses Psalms as the Word of God (Acts 2:25-28, Psalm 16:10)? We'll have a contradiction.

Also, if we pick and choose to what we will accept as truly inspired or not, we will be setting ourselves up as gods that have some kind of authority. And any part of the Bible that we don't understand or like we'll just choose not to believe it. This selectiveness will make us the king makers to what is the Word of God and what isn't. It conflicts with all the verses that claim the Bible is the perfect Word of God. It makes a mockery of scripture since the Bible needs to be interpreted as a whole, even as 1 Corinthians 2:13 points out. Those who take it upon themselves to decide what books, chapters and verses they'll believe mock the fact that God is perfect, all powerful and all knowing (Matthew 5:48), by believing God made mistakes, or he couldn't inspire and preserve a perfect Word. It is no wonder why at the end of the Bible, it says we are not to add or take away from the words of the prophecy of this book (the Bible) and if we do we are following a false gospel and are not saved from hell (Revelation 22:18). The true gospel (good news) of Jesus Christ is in accordance with all the scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). We must believe the Bible alone and in its entirety is the Word of God, or not believe it at all. As Jesus said to those who don't follow the whole Bible, "Ye do err (make a mistake) not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God" (Matthew 22:29). Do you (the unbeliever) still think God didn't inspire and preserve a perfect Word of God in scripture? Who's making the mistake, you or God? Jesus also said, "It is written [appealing to the Word of God as an authority], Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). How can we live by every word of God if they haven't been preserved for us in scripture, or we don't have them all, or we don't know which ones are true, or we pick a wrong one to believe in? I think you see my point.

The Bible has been preserved for us in the original languages—Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic. The Bible hasn't been changed as alleged. But we have many different translations from the original languages into our English language. Unfortunately many of the newer translations and even some of the older ones aren't good translations. However, God has saw to it that a pure line of manuscripts have been preserved in accordance with his promise, which he can't lie or be wrong (Titus 1:2), that he would preserve his Word (Matthew 24:35, Psalms 12:6-7). This line is the "Textus Receptus" Or Received Text and the Authorized Version 1611 King James is translated from this text. The King

If we believe some of the Bible is inspired but not everything then we will inevitably be disagreeing with the parts of the Bible we do believe because we will find some scripture verse of which we believe claiming that the Word of God is perfect.

James is not only the best translation, God has saw to it that it is a perfect translation.

But the Bible has mistakes!

A superficial reading of the Bible is at fault here. Most so called contradictions that people say that the Bible has, comes from taking verses out of their immediate context and isolating them from the rest of the Bible. There are no real contradictions, only misunderstandings of the interpreters who stumble in their understanding of the Word by not carefully reading context and the rest of the Bible (1 Peter 2:8, 2 Peter 3:15-16). Other criticisms of the Bible, such as scientific inconsistencies are unfounded. Although some naturalistic theories under the name of science don't agree with the Bible (1 Timothy 6:20), the actual facts of science and the Bible will always agree. In fact, there are many scientific principles in the Bible that modern science has just recently discovered. For example, the roundness of the earth (Isaiah 40:22), the wind currents, the hydraulic cycle (Ecclesiastes 1:6-7), the first and second law of thermodynamics (Hebrew 1:10-12), etc.

Please, before brushing off the Bible by alluding to alleged mistakes, take enough time to carefully read and examine the Bible. If you don't, it could be a lack of intellectual honesty and indifference to the pursuit of religious truth on your part. Alleged mistakes shouldn't hinder you from examining the possibility of Bible inspiration and inerrancy. Give the Bible the benefit of the doubt and examine the validity of charges against Bible inerrancy and inspiration, for a book as credible and great as the Bible at least deserves that much. If you don't take enough time and effort to examine the Bible you short change yourself and run a high risk of being wrong, which could have eternal consequences. If you don't understand the Bible, realize according to scripture, it is because you need to have the Spirit of God living inside of you, which comes by having a personal relationship with the supreme author of scripture—Jesus Christ. You receive him by trusting his death on the cross as payment for your sin and asking him into your life as your Savior and Lord, believing that he died for your sins to save you from hell. You must abandon any trust in any thing you've done to earn salvation, such as good works, religious tradition, religious acts, moral living and accept salvation as a gift given by the grace (unmerited favor) of God, received by faith in Jesus Christ alone (Ephesians 2:8-9, John 14:6). Perhaps your objections to the Bible stem from not knowing the author personally. This can change however, by humbly calling on Jesus to save you. "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).

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Cult Today!**

The Holy Bible: Is it Truly Perfect?

by Marco Sainte

Christians have been swearing on the bible for thousands of years. They believe that it is a holy guide sent by "God" to help man do right by him. Because of this religious conviction, they do not see the mistakes, contradictions, and other problems that were given to us by an omnipotent, omniscient, and loving entity.

It has been made indisputably clear that men have contributed to this exalted literary work. Those "divinely inspired" writers did not inherit God's gift in being forever correct. Being inspired by someone, anyone, doesn't insure being correct or perfect. I don't have to do much to prove it; the bible does it for me. Let's look at some instances.

In Genesis 1:26 it says and I quote "And God said 'Let us make man in our own image, and after our likeness...'". Since when is "god" plural? "Our image"? "Our likeness"? This is clearly more than one person here. Who were these people? Many Christians say it was the Trinity, you know, the three-in-one concept. This is an interesting answer. It proves that Christians are polytheistic. Look at it. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. That's three gods no matter how you slice it. To defend that Christians will say that this is some great mystery that we cannot understand, that they are all really one god. Let's clear this up right now. Anyone who knows a smidgen of math from a mathematician to a kindergarten will tell you that 3 going into one is mathematically impossible. It's right there. That's all you need to see the nonsense behind this concept. Don't give me that mystery crap, that's pure garbage. A group of people may consider themselves as one, but it's one group of people. Two oxygen molecules and one hydrogen molecule may make water, but they are still three separate entities which are quite substantial in a large quantity. Face it, the trinity points to three separate people...unless God is schizophrenic and has three personalities. That could help.

Adam was NOT the first man on this planet. Whether you want to accept this fact or not, it's been scientifically proven that humans were on this planet long before six thousand years, which is what Christians teach is the time that Adam came about. I'm sure I don't have to remind anyone about this. Here's one example though. In my lessons, I've heard of a 31/2 foot tall skeleton nicknamed "Lucy", dug up in Ethiopia in 1974. She's been dated to be at least three million years old. And she hasn't been the only one. Evidence is popping up all over the place that we've been here for a very long time...not as long as the dinosaurs, but long. Now any Christian who chooses to ignore this and regard it as false is just proving that religion breeds ignorance, and that a religious person just cannot accept the real world around him/her.

And also, to prove my point that Adam and Eve weren't alone and first, after Cain killed his brother Abel in Genesis 4:8, what was Cain's answer? "...and it shall come to pass, that everyone that findeth me, shall slay me." This is in Genesis 4:14.

Now, what other people on earth could there have been to kill him? Don't tell me Adam and Eve's future children, for he didn't say "brothers and sisters", he said "everyone that findeth me," which refers to other people at that time. So those people must have come forth from other parents. And those parents must have been around during Adam's time. I'm not making this stuff up. This is all common sense, or uncommon sense, because so few people are using it these days.

The bible has some bad translations. Let's face it, there have been some poor translations of the bible, and the King James Version is one of them. For example, in Genesis 9:13 God says: "I do send my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth."

Christians say this bow is a rainbow. But the original language that this bible was written in was Hebrew. "Bow" in Hebrew is "k'ishet" which means "bow, bowmen, archers." It doesn't have anything to do with a rainbow. What about the word "ship" or "ark"? In Hebrew it's "muw", and in the original sense it doesn't have anything to do with a sea borne vehicle. So what was it? What about the word "God"? This is a good one. In English, we use capital letters to denote importance. We have god spelt in three ways: God, GOD, and god. But the Hebrew language does not have capital letters. Neither does Greek which is what much of the new testament was in. So that means that the three above mentioned "gods" all mean the same thing in the original languages. Are you thinking? That means the god Baal would have the same meaning and importance as the Christians God, or God's when you think of the trinity. Confused? I'll bet. You really don't know what your scriptures are really saying, because you don't know the original languages. If a word is perverted, the original meaning is lost. Again, I'll leave it to you to figure it out. I'm not the master teacher. I get my information from a source. So you should be able to look it up.

Another occurrence that doesn't make sense is when God calls Moses from Mount Sinai. The top of Mount Sinai. And Moses heard him (Ex 19:20). First of all, God descended on the mountain. To be able to do that would mean that he's smaller than the mountain, which in turn would make him smaller than the planet. Now, someone this small calls down from the top of the mountain, and someone below is supposed to hear. Who's thinking with me? Have you ever seen a mountain? Do you know how big and tall these things are? If you were on top of a mountain, no matter how loud you scream, NO ONE at the bottom would hear you. NO ONE.

So how did Moses hear God? What he had a microphone, megaphone, a loud speaker or something? Don't tell me God made his voice really really loud so that Moses could hear him, or that God is God so he could do anything; I don't live in this mythical world of yours. I live in the REAL WORLD, where things make logical sense. And this world was created by guess who? All of this nonsense is in God's perfect book.

Of course we have the contradictions. For example, why did God destroy Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 19:24)? To kill all of the homosexuals, right? So God has already judged them. Didn't he say he was going to judge people on the final day (Revela. 20:12-15)? The day of judgment? This doesn't make any sense. Why is he dishing out two punishments? According to your teachings they were already in Hell. So God is going to drag them out and re-judge them, then put them right back into Hell again. Does this make any sense? Would a wise entity do this? Please, I'm speaking to the thinkers out there, who use their brains. This is a human slip-up.

What about the contradictions between the gospels? Yes, I'm going to talk about that. First of all, we know that two of the writers never hung out with Jesus. You know, Mark and Luke. What you still don't know? I'm going to clear this up right now. The list goes thusly: Simon (Peter), Andrew, James son of Zebedee, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Canaanite, and of course, Judas. This is found in Matthew 10:2-4. Mark and Luke aren't mentioned ANYWHERE on this list.

Mark was a nephew of Barnabas, a close follower of Jesus (who incidentally wrote a gospel which next to no one has ever seen). Mark was a close follower of Paul and accompanied him and his uncle on their first missionary journey.

Luke was a great writer from Greece, a

gentile nation (one of the nations that Jesus told his disciples not to go into). He was not related to the disciples in any way, shape or form. Like Mark he was Paul's follower and like Mark he got his source of information from heresy, or rumors. He was NOT DIVINELY INSPIRED. He even says it in the beginning of his own gospel (Luke 1:1-3). Basically, he's writing because he felt he had perfect understanding of the events told to him, and simply because everyone else was doing it. He also wrote the Acts of the Apostles.

Now these are gospels "according to". Basically, that means "in the opinion of". That, plus the fact that two of the writers never even walked with Jesus, helps to explain the contradictions between their works. Since I have taken up quite a good deal of space already, I'll deal with one subject, Jesus' supposed resurrection.

Matthew is the only one who says that the soldiers were bribed and a seal and watch was placed on the tomb. (Matt 27:66, 28:11-15). The others can't seem to recall this. They also can't agree on when the burial spices were bought (Luke 23:54-56, Mark 16:1), who prepared the body and how (John 19:38-40, Matt 27:59, Mark 15:56, Luke 23:53), who went to the tomb (Mark 16:1-4, Luke 24:2, John 20:1, Matt 28:2), how many angels there were (Mark 16:5-7, Matt 28:2-7, Luke 24:4), what was in the tomb (Mark 16:5, Luke 24:3, John 19:40), what the angels said (Matt 28:7, Mark 16:6-7, Luke 24:6, John 20:13), what the women reported (Luke 24:9, Matt 28:8, John 20:18, Mark 16:8), what Jesus said (John 20:12, Matt 28:10), the two men of Emmaus (Luke 24:13-15, 35-38), what happened in the visit to the disciples (Luke 24:33, 36-39, John 20:18-26), the second visit (John 20:19), and Jesus' appearance to Galilee (John 21:1, Matt 28:16-20).

Then we get Paul, the biggest contradiction in the entire bible. This man simply does not teach anything that Jesus taught. Just look at Jesus' teachings, then look at Paul's. This is another big contradiction in God's perfect bible.

Jesus says and I quote: "Think not that I have come to destroy the law, or the prophets; I have come not to destroy, but to fulfill." (Matt. 5:17)

Paul says and I quote: "He therefore that ministereth to you the spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham." (Galatians 3:5-9)

This guy is saying that all you need is faith. That you do not have to follow the laws of old, and he uses Abraham as an example. Didn't Abraham follow the laws? As a matter of fact, he received a law, or rather a covenant with God. What's circumcision? Abraham had to have circumcision. All of his male family members had to have it. Isn't it one of the laws of the old? One of the laws Jesus tried to fulfill? I say tried, because when he left a guy named Paul came along, and messed things up. And his writings were included in the bible by the Nicene Council, which contradicted much of it. He says "circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing" (I Corinthians 7:18-19, Philippians 3:3). So a covenant between God and Abraham is nothing? (Gen 17:10) The evidence is clear, Paul is obviously going against Jesus' teachings.

Christians refuse to follow the laws in their own scriptures (save the 10 commandments). This is all Paul's

fault. He is the true founder of the Christian Religion, and in truth his Christian teachings contradict the rest of the bible and Jesus' teachings.

Paul is the one who started the trinity concept. Jesus makes no reference to any other gods save his father. Paul says the law is cursed because it causes people to sin (Romans 4:15). Jesus supported the law and taught that anyone who tells men to break it shall be the least in heaven (Matt. 5:17-19). Paul saw nothing wrong with going into gentile lands to preach. Jesus ordered his disciples not to do so (Matt. 10:6). Paul teaches that Jesus came to save the whole world. Jesus says that he came for the LOST SHEEP OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL ONLY (Matt. 15:21-28, John 7:9).

Paul even contradicts himself! Check out when he relates to people his vision of Jesus (Acts 9:4-7, 22:7-9, 26:13-16). Each time, the story is different. The symptoms of a chronic liar. He himself says he lies, check out Romans 3:7. It's right there.

These are just a few of the mistakes, lies, and contradictions that are in this perfect book that Christians exalt so much. They are all in there, in the holiest of holy of works. I even gave you the chapters so that you can check them out for yourself. I'm not making this stuff up, it's in there.

You have to realize that the bible you have is not a complete version. If you can recall in history there was an event in Europe called the Nicene Council (325 A.D., 787 A.D.). These guys dictated how the bible should be, not God. They picked and chose what scripture should be included and which should not. Most of the rejects were burnt, with very few surviving. Those that are left are pretty hard to find, but they are worth finding.

In conclusion, I just do not feel that this literary collection is all that they say it is. There is just too many problems in it to be defined as "holy" and "perfect". Look up the word "holy" in the dictionary, and you'll see that with all the bible's blemishes, especially with the tampering of the Nicene Council, it just can't be defined as thus. Your God could not have given this device to help man, the injustices surrounding the bible proof of it. With all the killings, burning, excommunication's, and hangings done by the church over this in the Dark Ages, and with the series of unjust wars called the Crusades, how could it be? Not to mention the injustices in the bible. There's rape, murder, seductions, war, lies, betrayals, greed, fornication, drunkenness, favoritism...I could go on and on and on. Come on, like Ragat, it's in there. You just have to read it with an open and clear mind, and see it for what it really is. I'm not saying that one shouldn't read it, for everything has a bit of truth in it, and reading it is worthwhile and fulfilling, but it is not perfect and holy. Like I've said, I'm not making this up. I've got all this and more backing me up. I pick up on all this because I think logically. I can't accept the word mystery, it has to be solved in my mind. Things have to make sense to me. This is a different way of thinking that's not very popular. I'm not the only one who thinks this way though. If you're interested, check out works by a man named Dr. York. He's never been proven wrong on this subject, and I've learned a lot from him.

That's my argument. I would like to thank Steve for volunteering in this project and hope that we can have some more debates in the future. I'm really interested in any comments on my writing from both sides. I also would like to point out that this is just one way of thinking. I'm not saying it's right or wrong, or that the other side is right or wrong. It's just a different way of looking at the world, and you can learn from both. Like I said, I'd really be interested in any comments from any school in the CUNY system. Just address them to me, in the College Voice. Thank you for reading (enduring) my piece.

**Defend Reason,
Fight Religious
Dogmatism!!!**

LET'S CENSOR THE BIBLE-

by Bennet Maurer

"Eat that pork, eat your ham, laugh till you choke on Billy Graham, Moses, Aaron and Abraham are all a waste of time. It's your ass that's on the line!"
-Frank Zappa 1981, *The Meek Shall Inherit Nothing*, from *You Are What You Is*.

Recently Infinity Corporation paid fines in excess of over \$1.7 million. These fines were accumulated over seven years because of Howard Stern's "obscene" material. The truth is that Infinity's license was being threatened and the FCC was making business a harsh way of life for them. That isn't the most important thing about this decision. The most important issue is the people that originally bitched to these governmental cretins, were of the "Christian" variety.

over the country. The warning labels on CD's which make many record stores very wary because of that idiotic label. The other thing that occurs is many record companies force artists to change their material or else they won't be able to have their art sold. Now this doesn't only deal with sexual content, this deals with any type of art that is deemed "dirty" of any type. Censorship on art of all types because of these Christian maniacs is the end result. This is wrong!!!

When countries start censoring all types of art, this leads to the banishment of the first amendment and if that is the case, fascism is the result from this madness.

Donald Wildman and the rest of this klan all claim that America's culture needs more of "Family Values" and to encourage "Christian Values" out of the muck of this sinful material world. Many other groups have copied to this vibe and are following suit. Look at the Contract on America and you will see politicians following like they always do, the bandwagon for them to get reelected. Bob Dole and many of that ilk keep that fight up. And all I say is that this spells DANGER with a capital D. The constitution indicates a separation of church and state, these Christian groups are trying to pass totalitarian measures with Jesus' name attached.

What is occurring now, censorship all

When countries start censoring all types of art, this leads to the banishment of the first amendment and if that is the case, fascism is the result from this madness.

These groups are getting so out of control, Howard Stern's show is being listened to each and every day with Americans' taxpayers money. Can you possibly believe this? Maybe this money could be used to help cure the Aids crisis? Nah, I guess getting Howard Stern to shut up is more important. These groups have also caused Howard's stations to eliminate parts of his show that is deemed "offensive". You could even hear it on K-Rock as well. Which goes to show the absurdity of all this censorship madness.

Remember that Howard as gets censored more and more, our freedom of expression will be taken away. As he is the leading example of this. This is all being done

under the guise of Christianity. Many of these groups are Christian oriented. They have tax-free status making these groups considered a legitimate religion from the failure of the IRS to enforce this law. This was the way that the IRS was able to arrest Jim Baker from the PTL Club. What is very scary is that these groups have aligned their forces with politicians like Jerry Farwell and Ronald Reagan giving these religious organizations carte blanche to whatever they would like to do. Most of these groups do come under the Christian disguise that is why I always use that term.

Robert Dole helped encourage this movement on art and pop culture to continue. Come on Americans these issues are such bullshit can't anyone see the stupidity in it? Science and no other study has proven that listening to words would send any one towards hell or corrupt anybody. In Dole's speech he was mad at all the participants in popular culture except for the men which contribute to his coffers. Arnold Schwarzenegger and Bruce Willis were left out despite their violent flicks which may have more violence then the rest of them. Since Bruce and Arnold believe in Apple Pie, the Flag and a Christian God, they are left alone. Howard Stern on the other hand is Jewish, then he is spewing slime at the Americans. So he must be stopped!!!

Why more people aren't up in arms is beyond me. As I wrote before freedom of speech is the most important tool that we have as a nation. That is only true chance for us to defend ourselves from this dangerous alignment. One which will spell the end of America herself.

The politicians don't have any solutions, so they are creating lies in front of the American people to help sweep the real issues under the table. If you are a politician, chilling out behind a flag talking about

about family values, the press and the public will anoint you God. This gives you easy access for the ballots to be pushed in your favor each and every time. Even though the fact is that with the economy slipping, having a member of the family home watching your child is almost impossible. God forbid the press reports that. They are too busy reporting the new turns in the O.J. situation.

Here is my argument to fight back against these Christians. Which book has more sex and violent references in it than the Bible? Name a book that more people have gone to war for or in the name of? No other book is used to defend whatever position that you have on any issue. The pro-life dudes always claim that it is in the Bible that you shouldn't take another person's life, but they are in favor of the death penalty much of the time. Go figure logic like that. What is the first book that many people see first? Usually the "Good Book". Going by their warped logic, why shouldn't the Bible be banned or censored? Howard Stern or the art that these people are in favor of labeling "obscene" have not caused violence near the scale of the Bible. Remember in your history classes Manifest Destiny?

The last argument I would use at Christians is: "If Pat Robertson is the Christian he claims to be, why does an exorciser of rock and roll demons exist in the organization? And where does this even get mentioned in the Bible?" In my opinion many of these Christian organizations are practicing voodoo and mangling the words of Jesus R. Christ to suit their own particular scam of the day. I don't confess to be a believer of Jesus as my God or Savior, me personally I'm waiting for a guru to get me out of meditation trance. Seriously folks, I would

continued on next page

Religion

by Rory Cohen

There are many ways to interpret religion these days. Some still believe in ancient forms of religion. Others as I do, don't believe in any and see faults in these old styles of worship. Hopefully you (the reader) are open to other types of interpretation.

To begin with I would like to say that I dislike the actual thought of an organized religion. Not a person's belief in a higher being but the idea that someone that is not a "higher being" can interpret god's so-called message to the people. How can one man's interpretation of god's message to the people be true? How can this message last hundreds and thousands of years in an ever changing world without changing itself? Why should a person of modern times make the same sacrifices and base their life on the same ideals as a shepherd did hundreds of years ago? These are questions that should be answered by people who dedicate their lives to the notion that god is a savior waiting for them after they leave this world.

In my eyes the majority of religion is, sacrifice. Sacrificing part of your day to pray to god. Sacrificing part of your day to worship him, to follow the customs and holidays supposedly dictated by him. Sacrificing money and days putting their children through the same rituals that they went through just to deem them fit in his, the lords eyes.

When I speak of religion I mostly refer to Christianity and Judaism, simply because I am not familiar with all the world's religions. When you analyze the scriptures that serve as basis for these religions, the Bible you see is not as pure as everyone thinks. These pages tell of a vengeful and wrathful god. To realize this one can read the story of Sodom and Gomorra. In this story God finds out about a town where

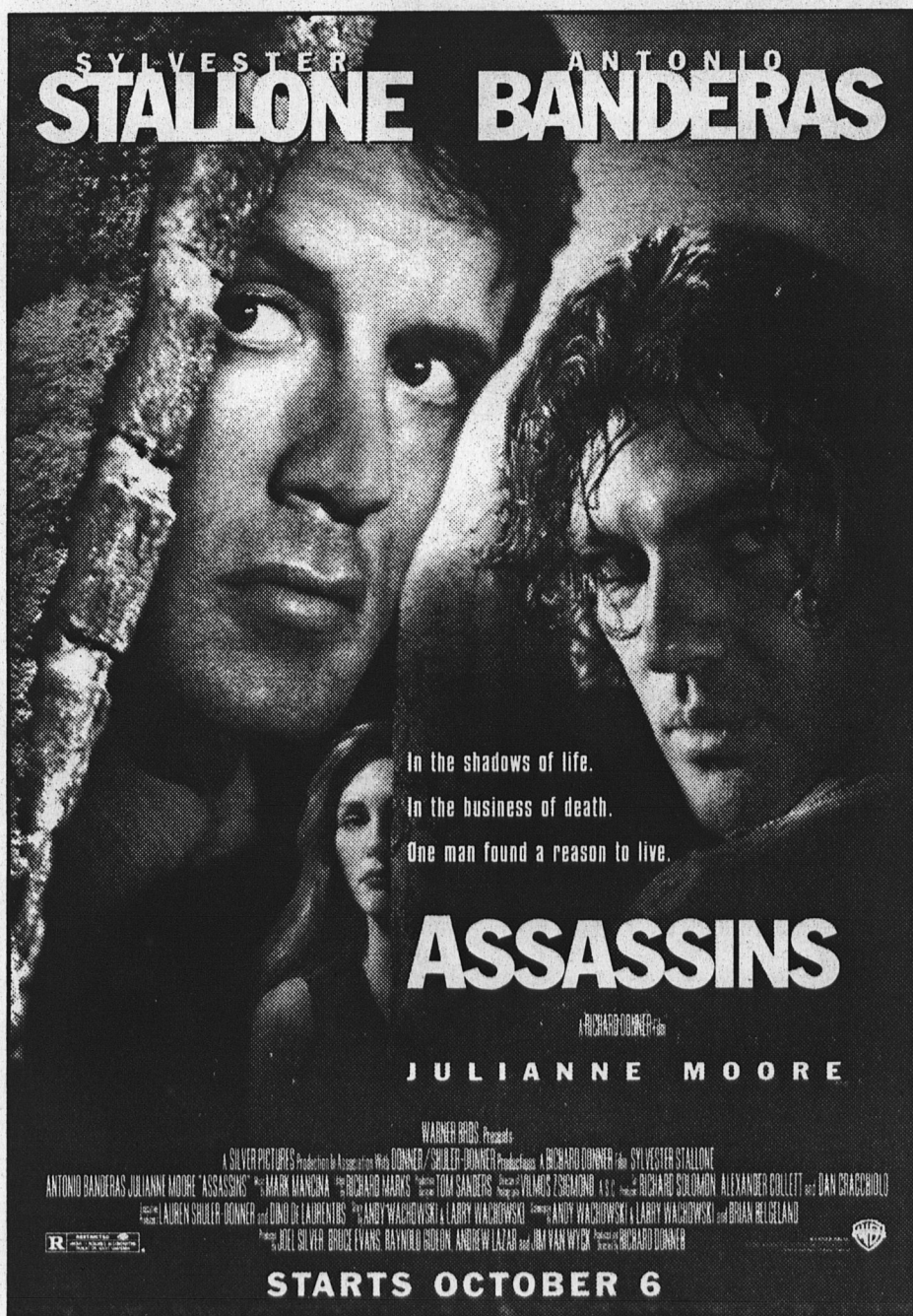
People depend to much on god. A god who might not even exist (wouldn't that be funny). Could it be that people have been worshipping a god that is a non-existent one?

homosexual acts are going on, and has the prophet Abraham send his son, Lot, to see if he can turn these "unfit" men around. Lot even goes as far as to offer his own daughters to the men! Inevitably the men refuse and choose their own way of life. Because of this god didn't think that they were righteous enough he decided to destroy the entire city. He even wound up turning Abraham's wife into a pillar of salt for looking back as he destroyed the city! Does this seem like a god to be worshipped? To make sacrifices for?

I also dislike religious teachings because of it's ability to be used as a crutch for people. People depend to much on god. A god who might not even exist (wouldn't that be funny). Could it be that people have been worshipping a god that is a non-existent one?

Some poverty stricken or those who have had major losses in their life depend upon religion for answers. They use it as an excuse for the losses they have suffered. Saying things like, "God has done this for a reason" or "God works in mysterious ways." They use it as a method to survive each day.

In my opinion people should depend more on themselves than taking chances on a god that has yet to appear.



THE ORGY OF THE SLOTH RAVAGED RAVING REPUBLICANS NEXT YEAR AT SAN DIEGO-

by Bennet Maurer

"Yes sir, no sir, permission to breathe sir, I do I say sir, how do I behave?" -The Kinks-Yes Sir, No Sir, 1968.

Next year the republicans will be attacking San Diego with their convention next August. If you thought the Nazis in cast of swine that will be present, spewing the virtues of The Contract On America, well this fascist rally will have to be considered one of the darkest days of the last twenty-five years in America.

Fresh from the bowels of the big victory, one could only imagine what will be pushed forward on the American people. Being a pernosicator to the highest degree, all you psychics watch out!!! Because I will foresee what will occur at this Convention next year.

I expect that David Duke will instead of giving out flags to all of the people at the convention, bestowed to everyone will be nice clean white sheets. Basically the only black people that will be attending the gig will be cleaning the joint and the tokens used to make the fascists seem legitimate in the public eye's. Can't be too obvious, then the Klan's position will be uncovered sort of speak.

Ronald Reagan will probably be there attempting to give a speech. I heard that he is so brain dead that Pat Robertson will be moving Reagan's mouth with Pat's agenda. I mean wasn't Ronnie basically a robot while president? So now it would only seem fitting for the old clog to have this done to him.

George Bush will be there giving a speech on what he is best known for while president of the U.S. Telling the viewers about the best places that he has golfed. He will be hitting golf balls into the crowd for free mementos. Neil Bush will be in charge of the bookkeeping of this event. If how he ran the Silverrodo Bank in Texas, then expect much money "missing". And George Bush Jr. will be just like his legislation in Texas will be handing out free hand guns to all that are in attendance. This is just in case anyone that is favor of freedom or to disrupt this event.

Bob Dole will be there boring all of the Americans to sleep. He is so old that he will probably drool all over the nuclear weapons to cause all this machinery to melt. I'm sure that he would do just as Bush did while as president. Have a daily flight to Camp David. This Dole is so quick to have the axe towards Clinton but while Reagan and Bush and Nixon, America's true holy trinity, were presidents, he never said a damn thing about the corruption that was running rampant. But he sharpened his fangs when Clinton came to office. Sure Clinton may have the morals of a weasel, but he does have less of an evil aroma than the Holy Trinity. This being stated, Robert Dole with his numerous hypocrisies, would be better off be selling dentures at this convention. And thanks to the like of David Letterman kissing the pineapple's ass, Dole has all the endorsement he could ever need.

We will see Pat Robertson and Jerry Farwell along with most of the Republicans, to see who is the greatest Christian of all time. Pat is so jazzed up I hear that Jesus will come down personally and give Pat two thumbs up. Let's hope not anyway. Unfortunately these "Christians" have taken over the party to give the doctrine that is followed. The Family values platform amongst other goodies delivered by the party.

Robert Packwood will be there to see what kind of republican groupies there are. Based on this crew, one could only imagine the scabs and hags that would actually follow them around. That would make an interesting talk show in itself. Robert Packwood is another one on the censorship bandwagon in Congress but yet has his own skeletons in the closet. Bobby was on the committee in 1986 to

start the disgusting labels that exist on the "dirty" records. Meanwhile Senator has been accused for fondling numerous women. Since he doesn't like rock music, what lead him towards the life of sin? Maybe the doctrine that he follows? Could it be? How come none of the journalists that cover this story ever mention this fact? I guess one could call Robert the Republicans Ted Kennedy without the Santa Clause-like nose.

What event doesn't have media coverage? The republican shrill Rush Limbaugh will be there I'm sure getting the biggest hard on of his life. Do you know why he is so fat? It is from all the crap he swallows from the party. I'm sure if one got to close to his breathe form all the brown lipstick he wears it would probably smell feces-like. There will be Phil Gramm will be having a new porn flick called: "How To Rape Americans Without them ever Feeling it!". Jay Leno will there writing jokes for these people. Just for that reason alone is enough to make anyone not want to watch late night television. Dan Quayle will be the clown of this whole circus. He will dress up like the Simpson's Crusty the Clown for entertainment between speeches on how the Democrats and everyone that doesn't agree with them suck.

The man whose name is a type of lizard, Newt Gingrich will there pouting off his poot as usual. Like most of these so-called moralists aren't what they claim to be. I hope that Newt and Dole's ex-wives appear some place to give the true story of these men. Now Gingrich maybe investigated for the deal he made with Rupert Murdoch and the classes that he taught. The classes he taught may have been used to raise political contributions, which is just more proof why college is a total joke. Well good luck Newt, let's hope the facts come up so that your ass can leave office and be back growing tobacco again.

Now that is only part of the cast and the low lights of this event. Happenings such as this could only make Joseph Goebles laughing in his grave. I didn't even mention everyone at this event. There are also Pete Wilson and Pat Buchanan who go quite nicely with the motif of this convention. They along with most of the other candidates have some ties with Richard Nixon. Maybe for old times sake, they should dig up Tricky Dicky's bones and instead of the flag behind of them, the bones should be there. Since their doctrine is recycled Nixon, wouldn't it make sense? Now with Oliver Stone's new flick eulogizing Dicky, he will be more popular than Elvis soon.

Look at this crew? How could anyone not be scared by this bunch? How watching something such as this wouldn't give you the incentive of throwing your television out of the window or at least take a couple of gun shots at it. Wouldn't the NRA love you? Watching that convention one sees America's freedom leave right in front of their eyes. In fact based on their policies, sharecropping would be back in order. Affirmative Action and numerous other policies want to be eliminated. Why is that?

Let us examine this question much more. The Contracts calls for the constant cutting of the NEA, because cutting the fat out of the government is needed to balance the budget. Which is alot of debris I claim. Do you know what is the most attended place each and every year by Americans? All Census statistics state that museums dealing with art are frequented. Here are numbers to think about with this controversy, more money is spent yearly on marching bands for the military than the NEA. 64 cents spent by each taxpayer yearly on the NEA. 64 cents is what Newt's Boys want to be cut! Aren't there much more important things to worry about? Anytime any government that worries about cutting art in favor of anything we have to worry. Art

is the way we express ourselves and if this is being eliminated what is left to do? A government that under Dwight Eisenhower and since spends most of the taxpayers money on bombs and most other type of explosive type of things. And because of this America only spends money on things to kill people, which means most



President Clinton offers little in alternatives from his Republican Presidential opponenets.

of the other nations never get to see the beauty of the American people through art. Instead America has become broke bullies. As America can't even pay for these weapons anymore. That is as fascist as any government could get.

While the filibuster about how morale Nixon's Klan are, they should be worried about these disturbing facts. America is now the nation with the largest prison population in the world. The wealth between the wealthy class and the poorest class is the widest in the world. Federal Reserve figures reveal that households worth more than \$180,000 owned more than eighty percent of the country's wealth. With this stress brings that Americans are becoming over worked and stressed to survive on any level anymore. With all of this evidence in front of them, the American Dream and religious bigots will be replayed in front of our eyes. No one will refute this gibberish at all. Unfortunately fascism rules in America and is spreading like an E-Bola Virus.

These issues aren't important when Flag burning Amendments amongst the myriad of stupidity that they want to pass. Balanced budget amendment, which is a nice way to run the government especially since Reagan's policies are directly responsible for a large amount of the deficit. Running the government like this will never do. Since this is the new catch phrase in America now, this will be the secret word that will be preached during the convention. The other big part of the Contract is the increase of the Star Wars defense which was proven a couple of years ago that didn't work. And even largely to be a scam. The republicans it seems to be looking for an old way to scam Americans with new language. The worst thing about this amongst their other policies are that nothing is in there talking about how to get Americans off the poverty line and working again. Who really cares about morality when people can't eat? I guess the republicans think that the Bible could be eaten.

If I have painted a picture quite bleak with this scene, well how else could you explain the way that Newt Gingrich's representative district receives over four billion dollars from the federal government each year? And when confronted by this issue, Newt didn't want to cut his county's funds. But yet Newt wants to cut every one else. I'm sure the same truths would be found by journalists if they were actually doing their job. But in the meantime, America based on this convention is proof

that we are a humorless, scared nation. Lenny Bruce stated many times that we should worry about leaders who didn't like to laugh. Well guess what Americans? We better be worried. As we see America convert more citizens on the fascist brigade, all aboard. "It don't matter if you are white or any other race, just believe in

Jesus and you will be saved." That is the motto of the fascist brigade. With the Kinks' anti-authoritative government song leading the way as that song is now a reality.

I wish that I would be able to spread some anarchy at this convention. Anything to stop the gloom and doom that will exist there. I would love to shoot spitballs at these people, yell out insults towards them to let

them know that not all Americans are happy with their policies. Most of all I would love to lead a protest and civil disturbances to crash this totalitarian festival. To break up that would be the ultimate in anarchy in America but since I'm sure that Patriot Missiles will be guarding the joint, I guess I could only talk about doing something such as this. I could still dream and write right? At least the first Amendment is safe for today. After that convention God doesn't even know what will happen.

...CENSOR THE BIBLE

think if this person exists, he would be a kind loving type of God not this judgmental dictator like they spew.

This proves that they are practicing dangerous behavior which is brainwashing the country into being a bunch of check sending robots for these organizations to manipulate for their own purposes. Oliver North's plea was that he was born again. Remember that the Christian Coalition which is run by Pat Robertson controls the school boards in 34 different schools. And the way it is going, America is doomed by this, because we will all be forced to obey and behave the same way which would make for a government like Iran which is ruled by religion. The problem with that is Americans are from all different countries making it impossible to all to accept that Jesus is the savior of the world when we all have different beliefs. With this Jesus bombardment on me, I hope these people are wrong. If it turns out that Ice T is Christ, That would REALLY piss them off. I could see him going up to Charlton Heston and Bob Dole saying: "You worshipped the wrong God and because of this, you'll have to go where the fire burns and it reeks of sulfur." I could dream right?

Americans I speak out to you to help defeat this trend, SPEAK OUT AND EXPRESS THE TRUTH DON'T LET CONSERVATIVE STATEN ISLAND GET THE BEST OF YOU. GO RESEARCH THE FACTS FOR YOURSELF ON THIS CASE, WE NEED ALL THE INTELLIGENT PEOPLE WE COULD GET!!! AMERICA'S FUTURE DEPENDS ON YOU. WE CAN'T LET THESE PEOPLE CONTROL US WITH SUPERSTITION AND WITCHERY!!! USE THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO ELIMINATE THEM!!!!!! HEAR THIS CALL.

The Stinking Corpse of Social Democracy or Why Capitalism Cannot Be Reformed - A Response To H.B.

By MD Wijerama

HB in his article, *A Way To Build A better Life*, in the September issue of the Voice outlined a critique of "capitalism" or the "American way of life". We could not agree more with his passionate disapproval of the "grinding poverty", "low wages, crime, pollution, unsatisfying jobs". He attacks Reaganism and the right wing so-called trickle down economics that has turned American cities into concentration camps for the working poor and minorities. He concludes that, "there seems to be a problem with capitalism and how it is practiced".

In searching for an alternative HB falls into the old trap of pragmatism which has been a perpetual malaise in Anglo-American politics. He states: "My vision of a future more equitable economy is not some pie-in-the-sky lunacy. It is do-able." What is he referring to? "A mixture of capitalism and socialism...tak(ing) the best from each system." No one in their right mind will refuse a more expanded welfare state along the lines of Sweden where the standard of living of working people by all indices is much higher than the US. However strategy for all people interested in fighting for a more just egalitarian society must begin with a concrete historical and materialist analysis of the political economy.

The US version of the welfare state initiated with the New Deal reforms under President Roosevelt in the Depression ridden 30s, as pathetic as it was compared to the Swedes or Germans, is still a relic of the past, an anachronism that only a expanding capitalism based on ever expanding markets and profits could afford. Dozens

of millions of human lives and billions of dollars of land and equipment were destroyed in the second great inter-imperialist conflagration - WW2 - for the American capitalist boom of the post war years to be sustained. Is HB willing to condone a third such catastrophe so that his vision which is essentially welfare statist can be realized?

The American ruling class is operating on the Stalinist corpse in Eastern Europe which it also helped to kill in addition to Stalinism's own internal degeneration. In fueling ethnic/nationalist bloodbaths it hopes that a subservient dependent capitalism can be created which will be a source of new markets and cheap labor. However unlike after WW2 American capitalism today is buried in debt, facing stiff competition from a rejuvenated capitalist Germany bloated after swallowing up former "communist" German Democratic Republic and Japan Inc. in Asia. The same uncontested hegemony that US industry enjoyed after the wholesale destruction of mainland Europe and Japan in WW2 does not exist today!

The US ruling class is thus seeking to maintain its dominance through forcing free market misery down the throats of the world's people, the majority of whom live in semi-colonial regions like India and Africa. This increasingly fascistic New World Order can be seen in the gutting of welfare in the US and the accompanying genocidal rhetoric of ruling class politicians who dehumanize and criminalize the most vul-

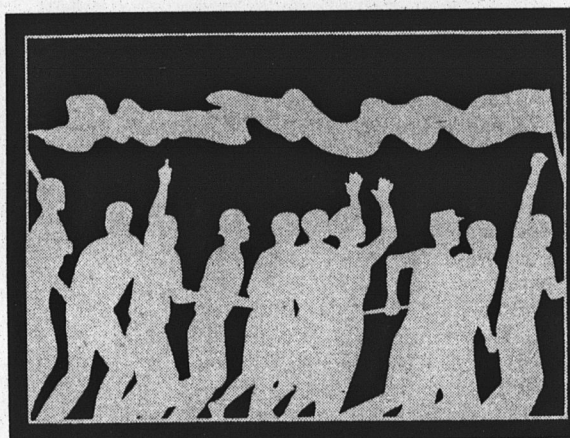
nerable - children, the aged, the sick, the poor, minorities, women, homeless, etc.. The same crisis of the welfare state that is afflicting US capitalism and pushing its rulers to new levels of ruthlessness is paralleled by a general crisis of the welfare state across all of the advanced capitalist countries in Western Europe and Japan. The saturation of world markets is causing a new and more destructive cycle of overproduction (or a devastated consumption base). Social Democratic regimes in western Europe are busy following the example of Reagan and Thatcher laying off thousands, busting unions, privatizing industries and punching wide holes in the social safety net. The US of course pioneers the way but the Social Democrats who are committed to the defense of capitalist privilege can offer no other way out. They offer misery with a human face whereas American misery has the face of racist cop terror enforcing it. Social Democrats the guardians of the capitalist welfare state are very quickly dropping their "social" and becoming very much like US Democrats. US Democrats are dropping any pretense of "democracy" and becoming Republicans.

Republicans are busy courting the likes of anti-Semite Christian bigot Pat Robertson and building American fascism.

HB furthermore ignores the whole question of the State i.e. the repressive apparatus for the maintenance of capitalist rule; the courts, police, armed forces and government. The capitalist State will not willingly allow concessions of the kind that HB is talking about such as "redistribution of wealth back to the producers(workers)" and certainly not deep enough on a scale that is necessary for the reorganization of the economy to meet peoples needs which will require nationalizing the commanding heights of the economy.

The proposition that "large privately owned corporations" could be "democratically managed with workers councils" seems an obvious contradiction in terms that ignores the reality of class conflict. No large private owner, barring a gun to the head, will willfully assent to "his" company be run by the workers which then would no longer be his company anyway. Unless HB is referring to the Reaganite "team concept" hoax which involves workers in the administration of their own exploitation.

A party that is committed to "a mixture of capitalism and socialism" would be too unstable a mix to make even a serious attempt. A workers party or what HB terms "a new progressive political party" that includes "labor unions, environmental groups, minorities, students" etc if it ever coalesces around a social democratic platform like that put forward by HB would most likely have to split and won to a consistently revolutionary program. The many and bloody experiences from the betrayed German Revolution of 1918 to the experience of Pinochet's Chile in the 70s shows the burning necessity to forge a consistently revolutionary leadership of the type created by the Bolsheviks under Lenin and Trotsky.



Revolution

by HB

The subject of this composition is revolution in times gone by and how it may relate to a revolution in our time.

I'm not talking about the phony so-called revolution of the deceitful and misleading Republican Party. The so called revolution of the Republican Contract with America can be characterized more factually

and plastic cars that break down shortly after leaving the show room. We have our ricky, ticky houses that are owned by the banks, houses that we could hardly afford to repair. We have our appliances that are designed to break down after limited use. We can have our television and radio sets, newspaper and magazines where we can

can all name alot more.

Do we need a revolution? A lot of our politicians would say that a few bandaids reforms would make everything fine and dandy. I would say yes we need a revolution. We have to rid ourselves of this criminal economic system and its inherent maldistribution of wealth. Let us, those of us who are class conscious and those who are just looking for a better way of life, remember that this idea of revolution is not just something abstract. Let us not think of revolution as something in the future and let us deal with it as a real and practical eventuality.

What strategy and tactics should we use? Hopefully it will be as peaceful as possible. I advocate challenging the ruling class with our mass political party whether it is the party that I may envision or one that evolves in a way that I may not conceive of should encompass all or most progressive political movements.

This is the way a great socialist of the past, Daniel DeLeon, answered the question "Political action is the civilized, because it is the peaceful method of social debate and of ascertaining numbers. He who rejects that method places himself upon the barbarian plane, a plane where the capitalist class would be but too glad to see him, seeing that thereby would give the capitalist class a welcome pretext to drop all regard for decency and resort to the terrorism that would suit it."

There is another aspect to this approach and that is backing up the ballot box with the necessary physical force. Once again as DeLeon put it, "But civilization is civilization. It implies not only the effort for peace, but also the knowledge of the fact that right without might is a thing of air. Accordingly the civilized revolutionary organization proclaims the right, demands it, argues for it, and willingly submits to the civilized method of polling the votes. And it organizes itself with the requisite physical force in case it's defeated adver-

sary should resort to the barbarian's way of enforcing his will. The civilized man answers force with force. The barbarian begins with force."

In other words if the ruling class and their henchmen won't bow out gracefully after we have won at the ballot box we should have an ace in the hole. We should take possession of our working places and lock out the ruling class. We must do this immediately and in an orderly way.

As far as the military or the police are concerned in a revolutionary situation we are going to have to rely on them not being able to supply the themselves. We should refuse to give them goods and services. We will also have to rely on mass defections of armed forces personnel away from the ruling class.

The reigns of government should be firmly placed in the hands of the people though the only real means of doing this which is real democracy. We should make sure we have this control through thinking out a system where we can express our views and be able to run for office. We the common people should have the authority to elect every position of leadership or office politically and on the job and take part in the decision making processes democratically. This, I think, is the essence of what a revolution can bring.

I would also like to caution against the usurpers of power. I think we should be aware of groups or parties who claim to be members of the vanguard who will in a revolutionary situation as Vladimir Lenin put it "assume" power. These groups be they Stalinists, Maoists, or Trotskyists all claim to be Marxist Leninist and all have the basic same flaw. That flaw is that they all advocate that the vanguard party consolidate power and authority under their control. They could then set up a system whereby some decision making concern-

continued on page 16

"But civilization is civilization. It implies not only the effort for peace, but also the knowledge of the fact that right without might is a thing of air. Accordingly the civilized revolutionary organization proclaims the right, demands it, argues for it, and willingly submits to the civilized method of polling the votes. And it organizes itself with the requisite physical force in case it's defeated adversary should resort to the barbarian's way of enforcing his will. The civilized man answers force with force. The barbarian begins with force."

ally as a counter-revolution.

Let us see what I mean by revolution. Funk & Wagnalls Standard Desk Dictionary defines revolution as "A drastic change in a condition, method, idea etc.."

This is what I also mean when I talk about revolution. What I would like to see is a true democracy. Instead of what we have now, a de facto plutocracy. I would also like to see democracy on the job instead of what we have now, a top down dictatorship. Lastly I'd like to see a redistribution of the tremendous wealth that we have in the United States.

Let me stop here and reflect. Many people will ask me, "Is there a need for such a revolution?" Do we have to change society so drastically when we already have such an abundance of material goods?"

My answer would be, yes some of us, and I emphasize some of us have an abundance of goods and services from this society. We have our shiny new tinny

be further brainwashed. Brainwashed by corporate Media giants into believing what a great society were living in. Yes some of us can be razzle dazzled by this deluge of capitalist junk. After all we worked hard enough to produce it. We should be rewarded for our labors.

Let's stop here again and see what we really do have. Let's scratch beneath the surface of the tinsle and chrome and plastic and see. Here's what we find unemployment, poverty, crime, war, water pollution, slums, waste of resources, emotional problems, terrorism, adulterated foods poisoned by carcinogens, poor medical and dental care, graft and corruption permeating society; bad roads, bridges and parks; destruction of wildlife, wetlands, rain forests and other forests; destruction of farmland, racial and ethnic prejudice, job dissatisfaction, high job accident rates and disease, bureaucracy, starvation, alcoholism, drug addiction, recession, depression, inflation and we

Self-Evident; Institutional Racism

Mark Furhman; Bad Apple or Pick of the Lot?

By JP Patafio

With Democrats and Republicans both questioning the "virtues" of Affirmative Action, repealing civil rights legislation hard won through countless generations of struggle and spilled blood (the peaceful civil rights movement of Martin Luther King Jr. is marked by the blood of its martyrs,) it is hard to believe that racism in this society has retreated into the sewers where it belongs. More accurately the assault on blacks is part and parcel of a strategy to roll back gains made by the entire working class with the tactic of racism. Is it ironic that the institution that is entrusted with "justice" and "equality" is marred most with racism and corruption? I am talking about "law and order," cops, courts - the judicial system. Here it is important to frame the discussion clearly.

One must separate the police officer (subject) and the institution of armed men (object), i.e., the police, army ect. The police officer is part of the working class. She/he

are strikes, as in Detroit, they protect the private property of the boss as opposed to the livelihood of a fellow worker. Or when a community, a group of people (like the CUNY students last year) are protesting against unjust conditions they contain and oppress the dissenters. Ofcourse, there are the everyday acts of arrogance, brutality and law breaking behavior that people encounter. Most certainly they are not the commanders of the economy, just the enforcers of the ruling class' rule, albeit that is why Marxist dub the police as class traitors.

So for those of you out there who may have a friend or relative that is a "good" cop fine, all things are relative to a given context. My point is, however, in this article is to explain why there is nationwide abuse within the institution and what must be done to change it. I am confident that this change will be a relief for the entire working class, including even its "class traitors."

it was a case of "mistaken identity." Not a very original excuse and one that is used often when non-white youth are shot.

In Brooklyn Officer Steven Mizhari shot and killed with the NYPD's new and improved 9-mm, youthful Yong Xin Huang. He claimed it was an "accident," he did not mean to shoot the 14 ear old youth in the back of the head at point blank range. Two Latino youths, 19 and 21 years of age, were gunned down while lying on the floor face down with illegal bullets by two Bronx detectives. They were both shot with over 15 times. What all these cases have in common is that the police officers were not charged or convicted of any wrong doing. They are still walking the streets today, protecting the public and upholding the law.

Officer Fuhrman retired with a pension though he broke the law he was never charged with criminal activities. Then there is the case of Officer Livito, also of the Bronx who used the illegal choke hold to strangle to death Anthony Biaz. Unlike Officer Livito's predecessors he was convicted by a grand jury on homicide charges. This thug in blue Livito had an extensive record of abuse over the years. He is facing other charges by another Bronx resident whom he choked nearly to death. Unlike so many other officers whom killed people, mostly black and Latino, he was indicted by a grand jury. This rare case of "justice" was recently thrown out of court because of a "technical error" by the DA's office. How does the DA respond? He replied that such mistakes are "one of the perils of the computer age," and "You hit the wrong button and the wrong charge comes out." Such dismissing remarks makes one wonder if indeed it happened by chance or contrived. Though the presiding judge did not have to dismiss the case, he did.

Mark Fuhrman described the support, cover-up, and collaboration of other cops. In Philadelphia (home to the infamous Mumia Abu-Jamal case [see pg. 7]) six police officers were recently convicted on charges of tampering with evidence, producing false evidence, and manipulating their authority in order to convict and beat blacks with impunity. The article went on to detail the trail of abuse that effected the lives of hundreds of black people in North Philadelphia; these Robbin' Hoods stole from drug dealers and terrorized the community. There actions where well known throughout the community for years indicating that such practice is common. One wonders how many other police officers knew about it and remained quiet. The convictions of these few "bad apples" will not end the abuse until the roots of the tree are eradicated.

Well what about the FBI or the federal government? Because this branch responds to the interest of the national bourgeoisie, it may, as in the Rodney King case, convict a "bad cop," for the sake of national security, i.e., the prevention of mass uprisings. However, a recent NY Times article gives us some insight into the make-up of the "good old boys." Over 300 federal, state and local officers of the law attended a "Good Ol' Boys Roundups." A racist barbecue in the mountains of Tennessee organized by former federal agent, Gene Rightmyer. There were racist signs declaring "Nigger checkpoint" and racist paraphernalia sold. This former agent used his former office of the Federal Firearms Bureau in order to organize the event. This is not an isolated incident.

There is a lawsuit by women federal agents against the DEA for sexual harassment and abuse. The women in training received a first hand taste of the testosterone behavior of their male superiors. The violence associated by these brutes was

.... "I've seen his police work in action and it's frightening to work with him," said Ray.

.... "He was an arrogant monster...and the department knew it and did nothing about it."

.... "There are many, many Mark Fuhmans in this department and they are in staff positions," Ray told Day & Date.

.... "The Chief has said in the last couple of weeks - 'zero tolerance for sexism and racism.' I'll believe it when I see it," said Ray.

linked to their sexual ways. The DEA instructors began classes by stating that "when you get home, you are going to fuck like you've never fucked before. ... Get your kids out of the house because it's going to be a fucking brutal assault."

There are plenty of cases of racism and sexism in the FBI, which under former FBI chief J Edgar Hoover (pathological liar and sexually repressed) the FBI was indeed a 'good ol' boys' club made up of mostly white males. A few token blacks and females does little to change to dominant character of these institutions of "law and order." More accurately the characters of those individuals that join the team assimilate to the new environment.

Law and Order Need to be Changed

If the justice system is not solving the problem, but only maintaining its continuation, then the present system of laws must be eradicated and replaced with a more humane system. The theories are out there, the organizations are needed. If the judicial system is based upon the laws of capitalism, and protect the ruling class, then another system based upon the needs of working people must take its place.

The Laws in capitalist USA are founded upon inequality. Whence, the officers that uphold the laws of inequality are nothing more than a reflection of the very system which they protect. When Mark Furhman was recorded saying, (Reut22:07 09-13-95) "If I had my way all the niggers would be gathered together and burned," we are hearing not only the words of an individual but the echoes of a segment of racist America reacting to the deepening economic crisis that the country faces. To turn our heads away, or to depend upon the government to subdue these tendencies will not work. The moral dilemma that we face today is rooted in an economy that places human greed in front of human needs, or profits before human welfare.

Today we must confront bigotry wherever it raises its ugly head. We must protest out in the streets when cops kill innocent people, when blacks are targeted by racist, when homosexuals are assaulted because they are gay. We must get out on the streets to demand a better standard of living that millions of Americans are facing today, we must demand higher wages, universal healthcare, jobs for all, a thirty hour work week. These demands are not far-fetched, for there is not a lack of money only will, then the problems that we face will wither away.

In Brooklyn Officer Steven Mizhari shot and killed with the NYPD's new and improved 9-mm, youthful Yong Xin Huang. He claimed it was an "accident," he did not mean to shoot the 14 ear old youth in the back of the head at point blank range.



works for a wage, and like all working people they have to pay off debts for cars, homes ect. Like the rest of the working

Unlike other wage earning positions the police officers job is uniquely different in that he secures the rule of the few over the majority with brute force.

class they have to work each day, selling their labor power, in order to make ends meet. The police are more accurately understood as a section of civil (state) employees that are privileged; they are paid better, maintain excellent benefits and a pension that kicks in after twenty years of work, as opposed to most workers that have little or no benefits, pension plan and a 40+ hour mandatory work week. In short they are not the filthy rich, but neither are they as desperate as most working people are.

The police officer, however, upholds the "law of the land," and this is what distinguishes her/him from the rest of the working class. That law is based upon the private ownership of capital; industry, banks and living labor. Unlike other wage earning positions the police officers job is uniquely different in that he secures the rule of the few over the majority with brute force. The institution of armed men, despite being exploited and manipulated wage earners, make sure that exploitation and oppression continue. So when there

Recent Revelations - a Historical Pattern

LOS ANGELES, (Reuter) - Former detective Mark Fuhrman, a key witness in the O.J. Simpson trial, was an "arrogant monster" whose racism and sexism was typical of the Los Angeles police, a female officer who worked with him said in a television interview aired Wednesday.

He walked on water, literally, and when he said he was God, he meant it," Officer Sherry Ray said on the news magazine "Day & Date," broadcast on KCBS in Los Angeles and other CBS stations.

"Out of roll call, the statement he would make after he had coffee (was) 'Let's go fuck with the niggers.'" He said it all the time, blatantly, outspokenly," said Ray, a 14-year veteran of the LAPD, who was often partnered with Fuhrman at the West Los Angeles division..... In the tapes he also boasted of beating suspects.

The recent revelations of the racist convictions of Mark Fuhrman, notorious former LAPD detective, made public via the OJ Simpson trial is again testimony that within the judicial system, in this case the police, there are outright racist maintaining "law and order" in our class ridden society. Such a case is not isolated to LA, but inherent throughout the entire country, in all police departments, as well as the other branches of our illustrious judicial system.

Mark Fuhrman described how he and fellow officers felt about other non-white ethnicity's. More disturbingly he also describes how blacks and Hispanic's were treated by other racist cops. In New York city a fellow black transit officer was shot at point blank range by a white officer. The white officer claimed

THE BOURGEOIS STATE: THE FACE OF EVERYDAY REALITY

by Ernest Mandel

Through the struggle waged by the labor movement certain institutions of the bourgeois State be-

come both more subtle and more complex. Universal suffrage was substituted for suffrage for property-owners only; military service has become compulsory; everybody pays taxes. The class character of the State then become a little less transparent. The nature of the State as an instrument of class domination is less evident than at the time of the reign of the classical bourgeoisie, when the relationship between the different groups exercising State functions were just as transparent as in the feudal era. The analysis of the modern State, therefore, will also have to be a little more complex.

Part II First, let us establish a hierarchy among the different functions of the State.

In this day and age, nobody but the most naive believes that parliament really does the governing, that parliament is master of the State based on universal suffrage. (That illusion is however, more widespread in those countries in which parliament is a fairly recent institution.)

The power of the State is a permanent power. The power is exercised by a certain number of institutions that are isolated from

phenomenon is a general one throughout Western Europe. The present Fifth Republic in France is presently the most striking and most complete example of this phenomenon.

Should this turnabout, this reversal, be seen as a diabolical protagonist universal suffrage by the wicked capitalists? A much deeper objective reality is involved: the real powers are transferred from the legislative to the executive; the power of the executive is reinforced in a permanent and continuous fashion as a result of changes that are also taking place within the capitalist class itself.

This process began at the time of World War I in most of the belligerent countries and has since continued without interruption. But the phenomenon often existed much earlier than that. Thus, in the German Empire this priority of the executive over the legislative appeared concomitantly with universal suffrage. Bismarck and the junkers granted universal suffrage in order to use the working class to a certain extent as a lever against the liberal bourgeoisie, thus assuring (in that already essentially capitalist society) the relative independence of the executive power exercised by the Prussian nobility.

This process shows full well that political equality is more apparent than real and the right of the citizen-voter is nothing but the right to put a little piece of paper in a

recall that in the heroic era of parliamentarism it was not only with words and votes that this collective interest was hammered out; fists and pistols were used, too. Didn't the Convention, that classical bourgeois parliament during the French Revolution, send people to the guillotine by the slimmest of majorities?

it is necessary to pass an examination. The rule seems very democratic indeed. On the other hand, not just anyone can take any examination at all for any level whatsoever. The examination is not the same for the position of secretary general of a ministry or chief of the army general staff as it is for junior clerk in a small government bu-

No government could last more than a month without having to knock on the door of the banks in order to pay its current expenses. If the banks were to refuse, the government would go bankrupt.

But capitalist society is not going to remain atomized. Little by little, it can be seen organizing itself and structuring itself in a more and more concentrated, more and more centralized way. Free competition fades away; it is replaced by monopolies, trust, and other capitalist groupings.

Capitalist power is centralized outside parliament

Now a real centralization of finance capital, big banks and financial groups, take place. If the Analytique of parliament expressed the will of the Belgian Bourgeoisie a century ago, today it is above all the annual report of the Society Generale or of Burufina, prepared for their stockholders' meeting, that must be studied to know the real opinions of the capitalists. These reports contain the opinions of the capitalists who really count, the big financial groups who dominate the life of the country.

Thus, capitalists power is concentrated outside parliament and outside the institutions born of universal suffrage. In the face of so high-powered a concentration (we need only remember that in Belgium a dozen financial groups control the economic life of the nation), the relationships between parliament and government officials, police commissioners and those multimillionaires is a relationship burdened very little by theory. It is a very immediate and practical relationship; and the connecting link is the pay-off.

The bourgeoisie's visible golden chain — the national debt
Parliament and, even more, the government of a capitalist State, no matter how democratic it may appear to be, are tied to the bourgeoisie by golden chains. These golden chains have a name—the public debt.

No government could last more than a month without having to knock on the door of the banks in order to pay its current expenses. If the banks were to refuse, the government would go bankrupt. The origins of this phenomenon are twofold. Taxes don't enter the coffers every day; receipts are concentrated in one period of the year while expenses are continuous. That is how the short-term public debt arises. This problem could be solved by some technical gimmick. But there is another problem—a much more important one. All modern capitalist States spend more than they receive. That is the long-term public debt for which banks and other financial establishments can most easily advance money, at

reau. At first, this too would seem normal.

but—a big but—there's a progression in these examinations that gives them a selective character. You have to have certain degrees, you have taken certain courses, to apply for certain positions, especially important positions, especially important positions. Such a system excludes a huge number of people who were not able to get a university education or its equivalent, because equality of educational opportunity doesn't really exist. Even if the civil service examination system is democratic on the surface, it is also a selective instrument.

...mirror of the hierarchy in capitalists society

These invisible golden chains are also found in the remuneration received by members of the State apparatus.

All government agencies, the army included, develop this pyramidal aspect, this hierarchical structure, that characterizes bourgeois society. We are so influenced by and so imbued with the ideology of the ruling class that we tend to see nothing abnormal in the fact that a secretary general of a ministry receives a salary ten times higher than that of a junior clerk in the same ministry of that of women who cleans its offices. The physical effort of this charwoman is certainly greater; but the secretary general of the ministry, he thinks!—which, as everyone knows is much more tiring. In the same way, the pay of the chief of the general staff (again, someone who thinks!) is much greater by far than that accorded to a second-class private.

This hierarchical structure of the state apparatus leads us to emphasize: In this apparatus there are secretaries general, generals of the army, bishops, etc., who have the same salary level, and therefore have the same standard of living, as the big bourgeoisie, so that they are part of the same social and ideological climate. Then come the middle functionaries, the middle officials, who are on the same social level and have the same income as the petty and middle bourgeoisie. And finally, the mass of employees without titles, charwomen, community workers very often earn less than factory workers. Their standard of living clearly corresponds to that of the proletariat.

The state apparatus is not a homogeneous instrument. it involves a structure that rather closely corresponds to the structure of bourgeois society, with a hierarchy

In sum, all functions of the State apparatus are reduced to this: surveillance and control of the life of the society in the interests of the ruling class.

heavy interest. Therein lies a direct and immediate connection, a daily like, between the State and Big Business.

The hierarchy in the State apparatus...

Other golden chains, invisible chains, make the state apparatus tool in the hands of the bourgeoisie.

If we examine the methods of recruiting civil service people, for example, we see that to become a junior clerk in a ministry,

of classes and identical differences between them.

This pyramidal structure corresponds to a real need of bourgeoisie. They wish to have at their disposal an instrument they can manipulate at will. It is quite obvious why the bourgeoisie has been tying for a long time, and trying very hard, to deny public service workers the right to strike.

Is the State simply an arbiter?

This point is important. In the very con-



and independent of so changeable and unstable an influence as universal suffrage. These are the institutions that must be analyzed if we are to learn where the real power is: "Government come and governments go, but the police and the administrators remain."

The State is above all, these permanent institutions: the army (the permanent part of the army — the general staff, special troops), the police, special police, secret police, the top administrators of government departments ("key" civil servants), the national security bodies, the judge, etc.—everything that is "free" of the influence of universal suffrage.

This executive power is constantly being reinforced. To the extent that universal suffrage appears and a certain democratization, albeit completely formal, of certain representative institutions develops, it can be shown that real power slips from those institutions towards others that are more and more removed from the influence of parliament.

If the king and his functionaries lose a series of rights to parliament during the ascending phase of parliamentarism, on the contrary with the decline of parliamentarism (which begins with the winning of universal suffrage), a continuous series of rights are lost by parliament and revert to the permanent and irremovable administrations of the State. This phe-

ballot box every four years. The right goes no farther, nor, above all, does it reach the real centers of decision-making and power.

The monopolies take over from parliament

The classical era of parliamentarism was the era of free competition. At that time the individual bourgeois, the industrialist, the banker, was very strong as an individual. He was very independent, very free within the limits of bourgeois freedom and could risk his capital on the market in any way he wished. In that atomized bourgeois society, parliament played a very useful, and even indispensable, objective role in the smooth functioning of everyday affairs.

Actually, it was only in parliament that the common denominator of the interests of the bourgeoisie could be determined. Dozen of separate capitalist groups could be list, groups opposed to one another by a multitude of sectional, regional, and corporate interests. These groups could get together in an orderly fashion only in parliament. (It's true that they did meet on the market too, but there it was with knives, not words!) It was only in parliament that a middle line could be hammered out, a line that would express the interests of the capitalist class as a whole.

Because that was then the function of parliament: to serve as a common meeting place where the collective interests of the bourgeoisie could be formulated. Let us

...STATE

cept of the bourgeois state—regardless of whether it may be more or less “democratic” in form—there is a fundamental premise, linked, moreover, to the very origin of the State: No government could last more than a month without having to knock on the door of the banks in order to pay its current expenses. If the banks were to refuse, the government would go bankrupt.

These men contribute no productive labor but are supported by the other members of society.

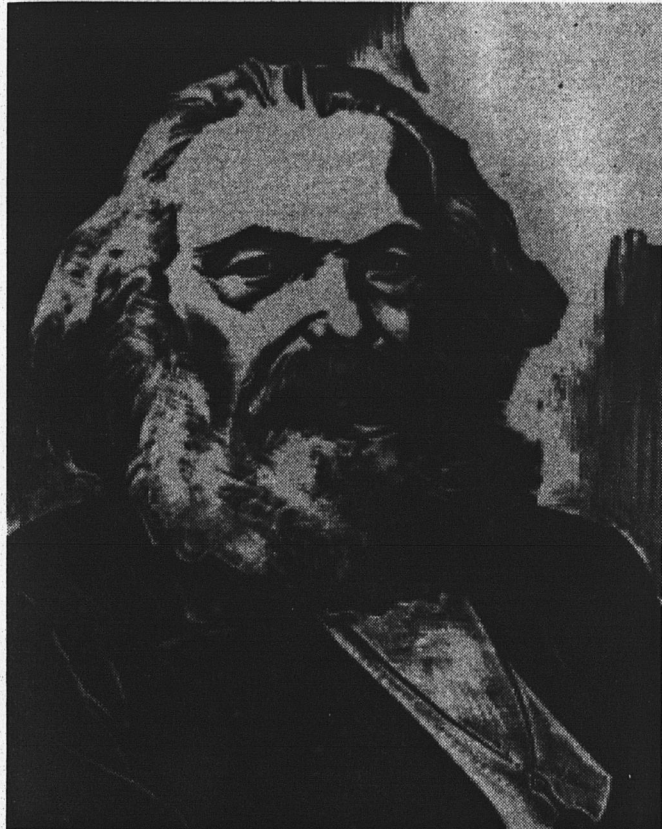
In normal times, there is not much need for watchdogs. Even in Moscow, for example, there is no one charge of collecting fares on buses: Passengers deposit their kopeck boarding, whether or not anyone is

course, concessions to the exploited can be made by arbitrators: that depends essentially on the relationship of forces. But the basic aim of arbitration is to maintain capitalist exploitation as such, if necessary by compromising a bit on secondary questions.

The watch-State, testimony to the poverty of society

Second, the State is an entity created by society for the surveillance of the everyday functioning of social life; it is at the service of the ruling class for the purpose of maintaining the domination of that class. There is an objective necessity for this watchdog organization, a necessity very closely linked to the degree of poverty, to the amount of social conflict that exists in the society.

In a more general, historical way, the exercise of State functions is intimately connected with the existence of social conflicts. In turn, these social conflicts are intimately connected with the existence of a certain scarcity of material goods, of wealth, of resources, of the necessary means for satisfaction of human needs. This fact should be emphasized: As long as the State exists, it will be proof of the fact that social conflicts (therefore the relative scarcity of goods and services as well) remain. With the disappearance of social conflicts; the watchdogs, rendered and parasitical, will disappear—but not before! Society, in effect, pays these men to exercise the functions of surveillance, as long as that is in interests of part of



"Philosophers have only interpreted the world the point is to change it."
-Karl Marx

watching them. In societies where the level of development of the productive forces is low, where everyone is a constant struggle with everyone else to get enough to live on for himself out of a national income too small to go around, a large supervisory apparatus becomes necessary.

Thus, during the German occupation [of Belgium], a number of specialized supervisory services proliferated (special police in the railways stations, supervision of print shops, of rationing etc.). In time like that, the area of conflict is such that an imposing supervisory apparatus proves indispensable.

If we think about the problem a bit, we can see that all who exercise State functions, who are part of the State apparatus, are—in one way or another—watchdogs. special police and regular police are watchdogs, but so are tax collectors, judges, paper pusher in government offices, fare-collectors on buses, etc. In sum, all functions of the State apparatus are reduced to this: surveillance and control of the life of the society in the interests of the ruling class.

It is often said that the contemporary State plays the role of arbiter. This statement is quite close to what we have just said: “surveillance” and “arbitrating”—aren’t they basically the same thing?

Two comments are called for. First, the arbiter is not neutral. as we explained above, the top men in the State apparatus are part and parcel of the big bourgeoisie. Arbitration thus does not take place in a vacuum; it takes place in the framework of maintaining existing class society. Of

society. But it is quite evident that from the moments group in society has a stake in the watchdog function being exercised, the function will disappear along with its usefulness. At the same time, the State will disappear.

The very fact that the State survives proves that social conflicts remain, that the condition of relative scarcity of goods remain—the hallmark of that vast period in human history between absolute poverty (the condition during primitive communism) and plenty (the condition of the future socialists society). As long as we are in this transitional period that covers ten thousand years of human history, a period that also includes the transition between capitalism and socialism, the State will survive, social conflicts will remain, and there will have to be people to arbitrate these conflicts in the interest of the ruling class.

If the bourgeois State remains fundamentally an instrument in the service of the ruling classes, does that mean that the workers should be indifferent to the particular form that this state takes—parliamentary democracy, military dictatorship, fascist dictatorships? Not at all! The more freedom the workers have to organize themselves and defend their ideas, the more ill the seed of the future socialists democracy grow within capitalist society, and the more will the advent of socialism be historically facilitated. That is why the workers must defend their democratic rights against any and every attempt to curtail them (anti strike laws, institution of a “strong State”) or to crush them (fascism).

Promethean Panther

Like Spartacus
Of ancient fame
Like a figure from mythology
Or a super- hero
Or Mandela
Endlessly breaking rocks
On Robbin Island
Or August Blanqui
Languishing
Decade upon decade upon decade
Deep in the dungeons
Of Hugo*s & Zola*s
19th century France
Or Dreyfus
For that matter
Ditched on Devil*s Island
And all the rest
Who have I left out
Of this roll call
Of our greatest hero*s?
Christ crucified?
Socrates?
Joe Hill & John Brown?
Why

always the martyr*s crown?
Unshakeable
Voice
Of the voiceless
Multi-millions
Innocent victims
Of injustice
“FREE MUMIA”
LIKE AN ANCIENT CRY
FOR JUSTICE
ECHOING DOWN THE AGES
the name Mumia suddenly more than a name
a symbol
in foreign lands
the dread lock features
now an icon
something like Samson
You fire us up
Brother
Like no other
Brother
They know you now
in Soweto
In Tokyo
In Rio
In Moscow
In Berlin
In each tongue
The same cry
FREE MUMIA
Tonight on Broadway
Tourists & shallow hedonists
Step *round the homeless & helpless
On their way to see Les Mis
A paradox courtesy of sho w biz
OJ all day
The society of the spectacle
Raises up to become
It*s version of
The trial of the century
Meanwhile in Philly
Sabo gets away with murder
No court tv to expose this mystery
How could it be?

JUSTICE DENIED FOR MUMIA ABU JAMAL

Sabo rules against new trial, appeals to begin

By William Pleasant, Daily Challenge, 9/18/95

As expected, Judge Albert Sabo ruled that he will not overturn the murder conviction nor grant a new trial to celebrated jopurnalist Mumia Abu Jamal. In a 150 page opinion, allegedly written in a mere three days, Sabo declared that Abu-Jamal*s attorneys fail to prove by a preponderance of evidence each and every claim presented in this vourt.” Defense attorneys promised to appeal this expected ruling to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and higher.

Abu Jamal, a popular Philadelphia broadcast journalist tried & convicted for the *81 killing of Philadelphia Police Officer Daniel Faulkner. ABU Jamal was scheduled to be exectued August 17, but international plitical pressure forced Sabo to grant an indefinite stay of execution. In the month long hearing for a new trial, Abu Jamal*s lawyers pointed to scores of irregularities in the writier*s original trial, including the fact that the bullet which killed Faulkner did not match Agu Jamal*s gun. Albert Sabo, who officiated at the original trial, came oput of retirement to conduct the latest series of hearings. He holds the dubious distinction of sentencing more people to death than any sitting judge in the U.S. HE ALSO HOLDS THER RECORD FOR HAVINGHIS DEATH SENTENCES overturned by higher courts. Abu Jamal*s attorneys ahd warned the public weeks ago that it would be unlikely that Sabo would grant a retrial, so the ruling was treated as a sort of an ti-climax top the often dramatic hearings. The case could go all the way to the Supreme Court in the appeals process. Many of Abu Jamal*s supporters believe that there is a good chance that a higher court or even the Supreme Court will grant relief to the condemned writer.

...Active Support Needed Now from Across the Country!

riot gear but were forced back. Local television stations interrupted their regular broadcasts to show live film of cops being hurled back across the highway. As a result, more workers left their homes and joined the lines. At about midnight, the frustrated cops began using industrial fans to fumigate the crowd with pepper gas. The pickets responded by using their signs to fan the fumes back towards the cops. After about an hour of this, the cops began hurling canisters of pepper gas and eventually tear gas. All hell broke loose as pickets hurled the canisters back — along with anything else they could think of. A few choice projectiles also landed on the heads of security guards inside the plant fence.

The cops had no hope of clearing the main driveway, they knew. Their plan, it turned out, was to cause a diversion so that the scab trucks on the inside could rush the back gate. Unfortunately they were largely successful. As a number of pickets went home in disgust, the cops attacked the main gate on foot in order to bring in a scab caravan waiting out on the road. This led to a second, very fierce battle with the remaining pickets.

The pickets were forced to retreat, but not before a new element jumped into the fray. A group of about two hundred high school age youth from Sterling Heights had earlier begun pelting the cops from behind their lines on the other side of Mound Road. Now some of the youth came across the road, a little north of the cops' position, to engage them more directly. The cops turned north to face the whole body of the youth and the remaining pickets. Eventually the cops would prevail, but only after taking several injuries in two hours of fighting. So ended the Battle of Labor Day.

Local media, the day after began blam-

ing the violence on "outside agitators", specifically the Strike to Win Committee. Shamefully, the Teamsters bureaucracy chimed in, only parenthetically blaming the cops and rarely if ever mentioning the tear gas canisters. That the Strike to Win Committee has been a leading element in all the best struggles on the picket lines there can be no doubt. But it was simply ridiculous of the bureaucrats and media to try to hide the cops' viciousness as well as the fact that hundreds of workers fought right alongside the "agitators." Television

ing spirit of labor. But the newspapers have recently made some moves to shore up their position and to try to wear down the strikers in a war of attrition. On September 9 they began using helicopters to fly scab papers over the heads of the pickets. On September 16, they opened up production at their downtown Detroit plant, and also won a court injunction that limits the number of pickets at the north plant's main gate to ten.

None of this would present an insurmountable task to a strike leadership com-

victory could embolden the entire workers' movement, and act as an example of what workers everywhere need to do as they are confronted with the tidal wave of cuts in their living standards and rights sure to come over the next few months and years.

Detroit's corporate elite, for their part, may fear the strike, but they undoubtedly see defeat of such a big action as an important pre-emptive assault against a possible rising tide of trade union militancy over the coming months. In the bosses' terms, American labor is going to have to swallow some pretty strong medicine soon; better to begin doing it now before it is ready to fight en masse.

This growing warfare between society's two major classes is the death knell of the American labor bureaucracy, which has made its living in the era of American class peace. That era has now come to an end. If labor is to survive, let alone go forward, the labor statesmen of yesteryear must be shown the door at the union hall.

The fight of our lives brews. We must enter it with a new leadership committed to a program that can achieve victory. Labor can win strikes by mobilizing mass pickets and shutting scab production! Labor can win big social and political gains too by breaking with the Democrats and building its own mass workers party!

Solidarity Actions Needed Now

When it comes to other workers around the country supporting the Detroit strike, the same issue of fighting the bureaucracy confronts us. If militant union members and supporters wait for their union officers to organize the necessary solidarity actions, they may well wait until hell freezes over. The rank- and-file must take the initiative immediately!

The bureaucrats are talking — its mainly idle chatter so far — about a possible regional or national mobilization to Detroit. Members need to force the issue and begin immediately organizing weekend caravans to join the Saturday night mass pickets.

The two struck papers are owned by two national media chains — Gannett Inc. and Knight-Ridder Inc. Gannett owns USA Today. Labor and its supporters in other cities must hit these companies with pickets and mass protests on a regular basis. Sympathy strikes at other Gannett and Knight Ridder businesses should be our goal.

This is the age of high technology and incredible concentrations of corporate wealth and power. The bosses fight as one, with well worked out national and even international strike-busting plans. The workers movement must do the same.

The Detroit newspapers strike is a pivotal issue for the entire American workers movement. Labor everywhere must give it every ounce of support we can. And we must adopt its militant tactics in all of our struggles. We need to unite and fight for our very rights to work and live! We need to strike to win!

The writer is an editor of the *Working Class Organizer*, a revolutionary socialist newsletter, and is a member of the Strike to Win Committee.

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reporters searched for "peace-loving" strikers who they hoped would denounce the Strike to Win Committee. They found instead long standing Detroit area union members, including "outsiders" from the UAW, wearing bandannas and full-faced ski masks. The workers pointed their fingers squarely at the cops, and the media hysteria began to wane a bit.

A Race Against Time

Saturday night pickets since Labor Day weekend have so far produced more of the same: clashes between strikers and riot-gear cops, with the bureaucrats assisting the cops in clearing a path through the lines only after several long hours of stand off.

The company is certainly finding the whole affair a rockier road than they had first anticipated. Other corporate bosses in the area undoubtedly worry that their own staid "labor relations" may soon be effected with the spread of this new fight-

mitted to winning. The injunction could simply be defied with continued mass pickets. Many workers are aware that Detroit teachers won a bitter strike in 1992 by openly defying a judge's back-to-work order. Properly mobilized, the striking unions and their supporters would easily have the numbers to shut two newspaper plants. And if the scab workforce can't get in to produce the paper, the helicopters would have nothing to fly out with.


Detroit's black community has no love for corporate America but does have a special fondness for bold working class fighters. As labor's natural ally, it could be mobilized by the thousands if strike leaders wanted.

But the union bureaucracy frankly fears that winning this struggle in such a big way would only embolden the rest of the working class to begin fighting likewise. Thus they are steadfast committed to restraining things. With each passing day, they more boldly try to demobilize and demoralize the pickets. On September 16, the Teamster bureaucrats demanded that pickets leave the plant gate lines and join in an idiotic car caravan around the plant. The result? A bunch of traffic tickets and an open scab plant!

It is now a race against time to build a new strike leadership. The Strike to Win Committee continues its fight and is stressing the need to ignore ("bust") the injunction. The group says also that the strikers should democratically elect picket captains and other strike leaders committed to building the mass pickets. It calls on the unions to bargain jointly and not return to work until members in all six striking locals have ratified contracts by majority vote. The members of the Strike to Win Committee have shown terrific courage against the police on the picket lines, and a remarkable tenacity in fighting for the strategy that would win this strike. Their work has set a sterling example for other union members and working class political activists around the country.

High Stakes

The stakes in this fight are exceptionally high. A union defeat would devastate the lives of the strikers and their families, of course. But it would also have a terrible impact on the spirits of all Detroit labor. A



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...Newspaper Strikers in Detroit

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the score on the grassy divider that separates northbound and southbound Mound Road highway outside the plant's main gate. It later came out that the company had been training these police for several weeks in scab-herding tactics, and had agreed to pay all overtime wage-costs incurred.

The cops tried to look tough on the grassy divide. But when they came across to take the gate, the pickets wouldn't budge. It was men in shields with billy clubs and guns against pickets armed only with sticks and paper signs. But in the end it was the cops who were forced to retreat. For a few minutes the pickets even controlled the north-bound highway, shutting down traffic.

It took the union bureaucracy to do what the cops couldn't by themselves. First, officials from the plant's Teamsters Local 2040 made direct appeals to the pickets to stand aside and do "as the cops asked." But this was met with a stony and embarrassing silence. Next, they tried quietly convincing some of the more ambivalent picketers into leaving the driveway. There were just enough pickets to begin with, so when a few bowed out the cops saw that they had a second chance. This time they broke through, and thanks to the union chiefs, a huge herd of scabs got in and the papers got out.

For the rest of that night, and over the next several weeks, the bureaucrats put everything they had into stopping further mass picketing.

It was "adventurism" they said, that would lead only to a court injunction limiting the number of pickets. Their policy

instead? To ridiculously self-impose the same limit on pickets, and divide up the strikers into groups at each of a myriad of distribution sites throughout the metro area. The result was that within a few days the company was putting out hundreds of thousands of scab papers. But the bureaucrats' treachery went even deeper. In the months before the strike, newspaper carriers had been trying to unionize and thus fight the consolidation of their routes. But the Teamsters and other newspaper union did nothing to help, even falsely telling their members that a carriers union would put some of them into supervisory classification and hence out of the union. Even after the strike began, they offered the carriers nothing! Evidently the bureaucrats' real fear was the tra pressure from below an additional several thousand new union members would put on them in a strike.

In an equally despicable move, the carriers' organizing committee "leadership" refused to respect the strikers' picket lines. Needless to say, that was the end of their union-organizing efforts. Many a carrier threw in their lot with the strikers anyway. But those that were convinced to cross the lines became the nucleus of company's then-fledgling scab distribution system.

Dismantling mass pickets, helping the cops scabherd, and crossing picket lines — again the trade union bureaucrats show why they've earned the reputation as the "labor lieutenants of capital." In Detroit, within a matter of days, they had turned an outstandingly favorable situation for the striking unions into a difficult fight. That is how things remained throughout the rest of July and into early August.

Labor Day Weekend Begins

By mid August it was becoming cleared to many strikers that leaving only a handful of pickets at the main scab plant and instead trying to stop the scab distribution system was simply not working.

Increasing numbers of militants gradu-

ally began to come out to the North plant to beef up the lines on Saturday nights when the critical Sunday paper is produced. Union officials were having steadily declining success in convincing their members to leave and picket elsewhere.

A much larger than usual picket line on Saturday August 12 delayed production for two hours, before the cops, again with the help of the bureaucrats, got the scabs through. The lines were even bigger on the next Saturday, August 19, and this time the cops were driven back across Mound road in a scene memorable of the first night of the strike. Again the bureaucrats and cops eventually prevailed, but not before the point had been made that mass picketing was back in season.

Another critical advancement during this period was the organization of the Strike to Win Committee, comprised of a growing number of rank-and-file strikers, members of other unions, and youth supporters of the strike. This writer is also involved, representing the Working Class Organizer newsletter, as are political supporters of the Revolutionary Workers League.

The Strike to Win Committee really took the lead in fighting to build pickets and oppose the bureaucrats sell-outs right from the start. They were on the pickets lines nightly and at every union meeting. As an August 16 flyer by the committee put it, "Every week it becomes clearer that there are two sides to our strike. On the one

hand, strong rank-and-file support for the strike and militant workers using militant tactics fighting in every way they can for the strike to win. On the other hand, union leaders treacherously calling off long-

promised mass picketing, some Teamster and other union leaders breaking up union pickets in order to get scabs through ... We must reject the 'role over and play dead' policies of these union leaders and spread the militant tactics of the workers who have been standing up and fighting to win since the first night of the strike."

The rekindling of the mass pickets and the creation of the embryo of a new leadership — this set up the events of Labor Day weekend. And the Labor Day weekend events gave the strike new life.

On the Saturday of Labor Day weekend, the AFL-CIO officialdom finally felt it had to organize a mass march from one of the nearby UAW local halls to the scab plant. But as one official later admitted to the media, the bureaucracy's hope was that the papers would be out by the time the rally arrived and the event would thus merely "symbolize labor solidarity."

What happened instead is that several hundred pickets as well as the Strike to Win Committee showed up early at the plant and held off the scabs. Still stinging from their battle the week before, the cops failed to get up the nerve to come across the road. When several thousand union marchers finally arrived on the scene, the plant gates were sealed.

When it comes to betraying the union membership, however, the bureaucracy never gives up without a fight. Their next tactic was to try to turn the mass picket into a "non-violent civil disobedience". Among several hundred unionists that had bussed in from across the country, were a number of "marshalls" who — absurdly enough — were urging people to sit down "when the cops come across" and "let them to drag us to the paddywagons".

But Detroit pickets would simply not permit this. "No" they flatly told the marshalls. "Absolutely not." Many blankly stared when they first heard the plan, not believing their ears. Then, after hearing a marshall's windy explanation: "You mean



Detroit cops, hired by company, enforce union busting policies with billyclubs.

you just want us to sit down? That's crazy!" Some just pointed at the cops armed to the teeth, and shook their heads. "We'd just be giving them the gate. So what's the point?"

In the end, they wouldn't even allow the marshall themselves to sit down, telling them to go home if they couldn't do something positive. Sizing up the situation from across the street, the cops wisely chose to stay where they were.

Later that night, at about 3 am, a scab 'semi' made a botched attempt to smash through the chained-shut back gate of the plant and literally run over the picket line there. The cops had refused to protect the back gate from the start of the strike, and so the pickets now had a completely free hand. The end result was three destroyed scab delivery trucks forged into a barricade on the driveway leading up to the gate. This was the first of many barricades that picketers were to build during this strike.

In the end, the cops did not come across on Mound Road until pickets had dwindle to 40 at 8:30 the next morning. Those picketers who stayed all night did so largely under the assumption that the union was organizing a replacement shift for the morning. No second shift ever materialized.

The Labor Day Rally

Pickets at the plant were tiny throughout Sunday due to picketers exhaustion as well as their anticipation of another possible mass action Monday night, Labor Day. Labor Day began with the usual march of about 35,000 in downtown De-

troit, several miles from the Sterling Heights plant. The AFL-CIO and Teamsters bureaucracies felt forced to organize a short mass rally at the main office buildings only a few blocks away.

But again at the microphone union officials gave no leadership. As the rally's numbers began to dwindle there were a few short words from the podium about "coming out again next Saturday night." Angry union members, on the other hand, chanted about shutting the plant down again that night. A Strike to Win Committee flyer called on workers to go directly to the plant to resume mass picketing. One striking Teamster Vice President, however, suggested that people "enjoy the holiday" and relax with their families. Of course, the bureaucrats also paraded out the usual group of Democratic politicians

to profess their pro-labor sentiment. The leading liberal Democrat US Congressman, and former member of the now defunct Congressional black caucus, John Conyers outdid them all, however, when he called for pressuring the INS to stop scabs from crossing the border from Mexico!

Throughout the strike, rumors have circulated that the scabs include many Mexican immigrants, and this has produced periodic displays of bigotry on the part of the mainly older white male strikers. The truth is that the vast majority of the scabs are themselves white American males. But that didn't stop Conyers, a supposed anti-racist Congressional activist, from inflaming the racism and national chauvinism that has historically been the key roadblock for the American labor movement.

The need for labor to break with the Democrats and build a workers party has never been clearer! In both Detroit and Sterling Heights, the cops answer to Democratic mayors and city councils. One of the two struck papers, the Free Press, is in fact the liberal Democratic voice of the Detroit area. It has also come out recently that former "first-lady" Democrat Rosalyn Carter sits on the Board of Directors of the national corporation which owns one of the two struck papers!

The Battle of Labor Day

Saturday night had given the mass of Detroit workers a chance to show what their huge numbers could do. But Monday night was the time for hundreds of the city's most class conscious workers — an emerging vanguard — to show how hard

they were willing to press the struggle in order to win.

For several hours after the downtown rally, the picket lines at the North plant were puny. But with sunset, scores

of militants began to show. Saturday night had made it clear that the significance of the strike had gone well beyond the six striking unions. Now large groups from unions such as the electricians, the iron workers, and especially the UAW began to show.

The Teamster bureaucrats early on faced off against a group of hard-hatted iron workers and told them that obstructing the cops was "not allowed." In response the iron workers told the officials that if they couldn't properly run their strike they should go home. Some of these officials obliged. The tone of the evening was set.

The cops tried once to come across in

If militant union members and supporters wait for their union officers to organize the necessary solidarity actions, they may well wait until hell freezes over. The rank- and-file must take the initiative immediately!

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The College Voice

Community

THE WAR AGAINST THE SERBS AND THE NEW AMERICAN FASCISM

By Barry Lituchy

To travel from New York to Belgrade and then back again is to pass from the enemy's camp to the beleaguered camp of a small oppressed people and then back again. But it is also to pass from a world of lies and war crimes to a world at war. The United States of America is at war with the Serbs. Everyone in Yugoslavia and in most of Europe knows this. But here it is denied.

Even when the most massive weapons of destruction

are launched from U.S. aircraft carriers in the Adriatic or from NATO warplanes 50,000 feet in the sky, each day brutally butchering civilians — men, women and children — still, war is denied.

Even as one million refugees flood into Serbia in the greatest humanitarian catastrophe in Europe since the Second World War — and the U.S. deliberately withholds medicine, blankets, food, aid of any kind, in order to punish the Serbs as part of its war policy against not just the government, but the entire people — still, war is denied.

Even when an entire people, the Serbs of Croatia, are destroyed in a true act of genocide, carried out by the fascistic Croatian military, but organized and led by U.S. military personnel — still, war is denied.

These events are either not reported or under-reported, for the details are too gruesome, too revealing, and too convincing of America's guilt. For the truth is that America is guilty of war crimes in Krajina. In the Krajina, the Serbian region of Croatia, an entire people have been wiped out. Still, America's war against the Serbs is denied.

Instead, Americans are taught to stick their heads in the sand of television dope-operas like the O.J. Simpson "murder mystery." In this way, our cultural establishment successfully trains a country of ostriches how to accept, love and obey a government and a system that destroys smaller countries and peoples, encouraging them to kill each other, while at the same time spouting the most cynical lies about "peace plans," "democracy" and "human rights."

Fascism and the New World Order

We are living in a new age that we do not yet fully understand. What is certain is that our American institutions, our so-called "intellectuals" and "cultural leaders" will not explain it for us. Out academics, scholars, teach-

ers and journalists are as likely to tell us the truth as a whore on 12th Avenue is likely to resemble a nun. Their job is to justify and legitimize the status quo, or simply to obfuscate the mendacities of the power-brokers in Washington or Wall Street. Hence, you get the verbal gymnastics of a Professor Dobos who does fine tricks to convince people that Islamic fundamentalism and Croatian fascism are nothing to worry about, and that all the while America is really on the side of the Serbs.

But people in Belgrade (and I'm sure in other countries, as well; wherever entire peoples are threatened by American military aggression) are beginning to theorize about this new age of darkness that humanity is now entering, this new age since the end of the Cold War that is sometimes referred to as the "New World Order."

I arrived in Belgrade on August 29th, the day before the NATO bombings of the Serbs began. I was there throughout the two weeks of massive bombings. I saw the massive destruction of civilian villages and the atrocities committed by NATO against the Bosnian Serbs on Serbian tv and in the newspapers. On one day ten infants were blown up by NATO jets. On another a small Serbian farming village that unfortunately lay on the road between Belgrade and Pale was destroyed, killing the inhabitants and the livestock. I was at the Serbian parliament and saw that miserable wart of a man Richard Holbrook walk out of his meeting with Yugoslav President Milosevic, acting as if he owned the building, the city and the country. I heard the reports of threats by Holbrook and the U.S. of the bombing of Belgrade. And I saw the mood of the people of Belgrade and Serbia undergo a transformation during the three weeks I was there, from a feeling of betrayal and sadness to one of ever growing outrage and hatred for America and its Western European allies. I saw demonstrations of thou-

Continued on page 8



Tudjman's Croatian military hails back to the days of the Ustashi fascist during WWII

Newspaper Strikers in Detroit Build Mass Pickets! Active Support Needed Now from Across the Country!

by Steve

Detroit, September 22.

A strike by 2500 workers against Detroit's two main daily newspapers and their operating agent, the Detroit Newspaper Agency, has now entered its tenth week. Company efforts to develop a full scale scab operation have led strikers here to build some of the most massive and militant picket lines seen in the midwest in decades. Bloody battles between pickets and cops are now a regular scene each Saturday night, as the six striking unions attempt to shut down the production and distribution of the Sunday paper.

The strike has certainly not been won for support from the overwhelmingly working class Detroit metropolitan area. Hundreds and sometimes thousands of other area workers, especially United Auto Workers (UAW) members from the many neighboring auto plants, regularly join the mass picket lines. For most this has become a fight "for all Detroit labor." And although the company, with police help, has been able to get many scab papers onto the streets, actual sales are widely recognized to be pitifully small. In a desperate attempt to buoy the commitment of its greatly reduced list of advertisers, the company has instructed scabs to continue delivering papers to tens of thousands of people who long ago canceled their subscriptions in support of the strike.

The strike's achilles heel, however, has been its lack of leadership from the officials of the six striking unions. The "Council of Newspaper Unions" tops, including those from the two Teamsters locals, without exception refuse in practice to organize the mass pickets in a serious way and shut scab production down. At times they even sabotage and openly destroy the pickets lines.

In some instances, thousand-strong mass pickets organized by the rank-and-filers and their supporters have succeeded in shutting the plant throughout an entire

night. But the failure by the union officials to mobilize even a few hundred replacement pickets for the next morning only puts the plant gate back in the hands of the company again.

The result is that the scab operation survives. And a potential quick union victory has turned into a long drawn-out affair that could potentially lose. In a war between a multi-million dollar corporation and its wage workers, time is always on the company's side.

Initial Betrayals

Newspaper workers were already laboring under a wage freeze when the old contract expired in the spring. The unions had accepted the freeze as part of a "joint-operating agreement" (or "JOA") between the two "competing" papers. Under the terms of the JOA the two also put out combined Saturday and Sunday papers.



This in turn led to the consolidation of numerous union jobs. At the negotiating table before the walk-out, union officials were willing to give the company just about everything to avoid the strike. But company

It was men in shields with billy clubs and guns against pickets armed only with sticks and paper signs.

demands for cuts in wages, hours, health care and union rights simply went to far. The company also planned to consolidate the routes of several thousand non-union "carriers" who deliver papers to subscribers' homes or sell them on the street. A proposed new "agency" system would have ended the jobs of possibly half the carriers as well as many unionized drivers.

So on the afternoon of July 13 the strike commenced. A rally that evening by union chiefs at the downtown Detroit newspaper office buildings was long on tough-sounding rhetoric but short on specific instructions. Luckily a militant core of rank-and-filers new just what to do: By dark hundreds had gathered in front of the "North" plant in neighboring Sterling Heights to keep scabs out and scab papers locked in.

Normally the North plant plays second fiddle to the company's main plant in downtown Detroit. But for the first nine weeks of the strike, the company would keep the downtown plant shut, and make the North plant the key to its scab production. Just a few hundred pickets was all it took that night, and the company was quickly in trouble. Cops clad in riot-gear from Sterling Heights

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