



THE COLLEGE VOICE

FOR FREE TUITION AND OPEN ADMISSIONS

VOLUME XIX • ISSUE NO. VII • DECEMBER 2002

TAKE BACK OUR CAMPUS



WE ARE THE POWER

STUDENTS, FACULTY AND WORKERS UNITE AND TAKE BACK YOUR CAMPUS

NO TUITION HIKES

MONEY FOR EDUCATION NOT FOR WAR

Who Protects Us From You? Civilian Oversight for CUNY Public Safety

ANDREW ZUCKERBERG

In the wake of recent allegations of bias and assault against two college students by CUNY Department of Public Safety Sergeant Peter Licata, it would appear that an appropriate committee would be convened in order to investigate the allegations. A committee represented by the diverse college community: Administrators, Faculty, Staff and Students. However, no such committee exists on the College of Staten Island or any other CUNY campus. Administrative appointees investigate incidents involving CUNY Public Safety officials. Administrative hacks that are looking out for the best interest of the college and not the student body. Obviously the outcome of such investigations will most assuredly exonerate the Public Safety Officer involved. Otherwise, the college may risk tarnishing its great name in the public. Constant examples of administrators before students. So what is the solution to the problem? Simple, the City University of New York should follow the example of the mayor created New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board, and implement a similar system. Doing so would be a sign of good faith by the CUNY administrators in showing that they are not running biased investigations. So how can CUNY organize a Civilian Complaint Review Board?

First it is important to understand the way in which the NYC CCRB functions. As stated on their official department website (<http://www.nyc.gov/html/ccrb/home.html>)

The process begins with the assignment of your complaint to an investigator who will be your contact person throughout the investigation. This investigator will attempt to contact you by phone 24 hours after you file a complaint to schedule an interview. During the interview, you will be required to give a formal statement about the incident involving the police officer(s). In some cases, the investigator may offer mediation.

The investigator finds witnesses and victims and interviews them as well. The investigator will interview the police officers who were on the scene at the time of the incident. Members of the New York City Police Department are required to appear when summoned by a CCRB investigator.

The Investigation

In addition to gathering testimony, the investigator canvasses and photographs the scene of the incident, analyzes Police Department documents, reviews medical records, and collects other evidence, sometimes through subpoenas. Case law, legal references, and police department procedures are researched to help determine the legality of the police officers' actions, and whether the acts occurred with good intent or in bad faith.

The Board's Final Decision

Upon completion of the investigation, the case will be presented to a three-member panel of the Board. To assure total objectivity, Board panels are comprised of representatives from each of the designating authorities: the Mayor, City Council, Police Commissioner. The Board will notify you by letter of its finding. Complaints and their dispositions will remain on the officer's history.

This basic information is a good template to begin with. Of course, certain changes to the makeup of the agency would have to be corrected. First, the Mayor, City Council, or Police Commissioner, would not designate the appointees. Instead, there would be a twelve-member panel. CUNY Central would appoint six board members consisting of CUNY-wide administrators. The other six members would be individuals from the 5 boroughs that will all make application for the position of board member. The civilian applications will be reviewed by an elected CUNY-wide student panel that will then make the final decision as to who the other six appointed members are. Each appointee, whether CUNY or Civilian, will hold his or her position for a term of one

year and can't serve two consecutive terms but may be reappointed. All of these appointees would be working without compensation, although stipends should be made available for minor expenses such as travel reimbursement.

Unlike the investigators employed by the CCRB, the CUNY board will not have any employees working for them. Instead, the twelve panel

There must be some type of immediate action taken to institute a policy which would authorize a CUNY-wide Civilian Complaint Review Board.

members will be divided up into four, three member panels. Each panel will be responsible for an evenly distributed caseload. Once a complaint is received regarding a CUNY Department of Public Safety member, whether in written or verbal form, it will be assigned to one of the panels. The 3-member panel will be responsible for interviewing the complainant and any witnesses, reviewing documentary evidence such as incident reports, audio tape, video tape and any other investigation related item, and interview the subject public safety officer as well as any other public safety personnel present at the time of the incident. Once the panel has reviewed and examined all information obtained through the investigation, a decision will be made as to whether or not disciplinary charges will be filled against the appropriate public safety officer.

Just because a Public Safety Officer has a complaint lodged against him or her, doesn't automatically mean the officer is guilty. Because of the nature of the

work, a Public Safety Officer always has to be ready for anything. However hostile an individual may be towards an officer, the officer must handle him or herself in the most professional manner. Not ever action by a Public Safety Officer will be construed as being proper. Complaints about officer's actions are part of the job. It goes with the territory. There is no doubt that a frivolous complaint can be filed. But regardless of whether the complaint is legitimate or not, shouldn't the complainant feel secure in knowing that his or her complaint will be investigated with the utmost professional and unbiased manner? Wouldn't it also be important for the Department of Public Safety to acknowledge the fact that there may be misconduct on the part of their officers? This way, even on unsubstantiated complaints, the Department of Public Safety could institute some type of retraining process for officers who have had a certain number of complaints lodged against them.

The need for civilian oversight in any law enforcement agency should be top priority. Media coverage offers constant reminders of all the foul-ups and corruption associated with internal investigations. It has been shown time and time again that the police can't police themselves. If that is the case with a large city police agency, what makes the CUNY Department of Public Safety feel that they are up to the task? There must be some type of immediate action taken to institute a policy which would authorize a CUNY-wide Civilian Complaint Review Board. Let the administration do this to ensure that the rights of the students are not infringed upon. If we can't trust the people who are responsible for ensuring that justice is administered on campus, then how can we trust them to administer justice to one of their own? The answer is obvious: WE CAN'T!

The author of this article is a CUNY Adjunct and a former Investigator for the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board.

Defend Civil Liberties and Civil Rights To report bias attacks against Arabs, Muslims, and South Asians:

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

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

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

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

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

Take Back Our Campus

Stop the Attacks on CUNY

RENEE MARHOŃG

Education is a right, not a privilege. An educated society creates progress and prosperity. So why is it that the largest public university is constantly being attacked? Most New Yorkers will agree that education is one of the most integral components of our society, yet the institution that educates over 200,000 students in New York City alone has to fight for basic principles. A public institution is created to serve the community, it is paid for by taxpayers. For example, a community may have a public park or a public school, we do not pay again to enter the school or the park, we do that when we get taxed from our paychecks. Likewise, CUNY (City University of New York) should work the same way. CUNY is comprised of 14 universities, some are community colleges and some are senior colleges and some offer both two year and four year programs, such as CSI. Why do we pay for our education twice, first as taxpayers, second as in tuition? Also, is it not true that a person who becomes a nurse, or a teacher or even a janitor, serves their community far more than he or she serves themselves? Why are students struggling to educate themselves, when education helps our society? Shouldn't our politicians want an educated society?

Believe it our not CUNY used to be free. Students, faculty and workers fought long and hard to get it that way. It remained that way for many years. Today a student pays approximately 1700 dollars a semester in tuition (double that for non-residents), add to that the money spent on books, special fees, a metrocard or parking fees and the expense of eating crappy food on campus and it is easy to see why education has become a privilege.

I am a senior at CSI, while I have been here I have encountered many obstacles especially with

financial aid and registering. Many students if not all have had similar experiences. It is a fact, not a rumor that class sizes are growing, while full time faculty is not being hired. It is also a fact that less classes are offered than in the past. Therefore the quality of education is dwindling as we are paying more tuition, obviously that does not make sense.

I have also encountered the financial aid trauma. Every year financial aid, meaning TAP and PELL are cut. Where does this

the Barnes&Noble implements.

Our university has become a breeding ground for privatization. Privatization is the process by which something that is public, made to serve the people takes part in a transformation into something private that is now made to serve corporations. Education and corporations should have nothing to do with each other. Buildings like 1P are rented out for plenty of money instead of being used by the people who paid for it, the students. The money that is

growing in the buildings causing health problems. Whether you know it or not buildings like 2N are breeding grounds for molds. Sitting in a mold infested classroom for a two hour class does not seem to be the safest way to spend your time. Should going to school be hazardous to your health?

These are real issues on our campus, I did not even write about the problems with parking or the lack of good transportation for those of us who commute to and from school from other boroughs.

CSI and CUNY have many problems, but it is a great institution. My mother a full time working single parent graduated from CUNY last year. I, a working-class student has the opportunity to go to college because it is a public university. If the CUNY Board of Trustees and Governor Pataki and Mayor Bloomberg continue this attack on CUNY, many immigrants, single parents, working and poor students will not be able to afford to go to college. Crime and welfare goes down when people have jobs, and people have jobs only when they have education. These powers that be now what to raise our tuition \$750 per semester, per student. Let's do something about it. We can stop them, these people have no jobs without us students. Join a CUNY Coalition, work with people like the College Voice (collegevoice@hotmail.com) and NYPIRG to stop the city from taking away our campus and our education. Come out to demonstrations and discussions about the future of your education. If we do not save public education now, what will happen when we have children, will we be able to afford \$20,000 a semester for them to go to college. Let's keep admission open and let's force CUNY to reinstate free tuition. Students did it before, we can do it again.



The Professional Staff Congress (PSC) which is the union for CUNY Professors hung this banner in front of the CUNY Graduate Center

money go? Is it a coincidence that every year more black men go to prison than to college? More prisons are built than universities in the United States. Or that New Yorkers will pay an estimated 8 billion dollars alone for the impending war on Iraq?

Once you do register and figure out how you are going to pay your bill, there is the next issue of books. Why is paper and ink so expensive? CSI's bookstore is run by Barnes&Noble, the most expensive bookstore in town. To save money on books the college could run its own public bookstore and purchase books straight from the publisher without the mark up

generated from renting out 1P goes where? The students definitely aren't getting any kickbacks from it. Also apparently our gym has become the next Bally's Fitness Club...people can now buy a membership to our gym. A student has to wait at least a half an hour for a treadmill. Students and taxpayers pay for these facilities not only to be built, but to be maintained, if the are being rented out, why isn't the generated money being passed down to students?

One thing that is for sure, we have a beautiful campus, even I can't complain about that...but there is that one issue of mold

NYPIRG GUIDE TO THE 2002-03 FINAL HIGHER EDUCATION BUDGET

The 2002-03 final budget is disappointing for New York City students. With this budget, an affordable, accessible, and quality higher education in New York City is now further out of reach for the city's students.

Cuts to the Peter F. Vallone Merit Scholarship. The 2002-03 City Budget cuts \$1.5 million from this grant program at the senior and community colleges. These cuts may lower the award at CUNY. Currently, the scholarship provides \$1,450 per year to thousands of deserving New York City students who attend CUNY.

No increases for full-time faculty lines. Full-time faculty are critical to high-quality higher education in New York City. To succeed academically, CUNY undergraduates need to foster ties with professors who are not transient and who have office hours and space on their campuses. Since 1974, CUNY's full-time faculty declined by nearly 49%. Today, just 44 percent of faculty at CUNY community colleges are full-time. The 2002-03 City Budget allots not additional funding to allow CUNY to introduce more full-time faculty lines in their undergraduate programs.

Cuts to CUNY's community colleges. The 2002-03 City Budget cuts \$1 million from the community colleges administrative budget. The burden to fund community colleges must not fall on the students who are currently paying much more than their one-third of the share to make up for the city's lack of funding. For more info visit www.nypirg.org

CSI STUDENTS RALLY AGAINST HATE & RACISM ON CAMPUS

RENEE MARHONG

This semester racism and hate has been the main issue on campus. Throughout midterms and finals students at CSI found the time to speak out against racism and hate in our college. The December 4th rally in the Campus Center was a result of several incidents that have occurred at CSI. The focus of this rally in particular was to finally get a response from the administration about Safety Officer Licata and his assault of CSI student Ayman El-sayed. This safety Officer who was hired to protect students violated student's rights by tearing down a flyer advertising an event discussing the impending war in Iraq. Not only did Officer Licata violate this student's right to free speech but he went on to tell the student that he did not like what the flyer said and to "kill all the Arabs in Iraq" followed by "kill all the Arabs" several times.

Concerned students organized this rally to demand results from the administration's investigation and more importantly to pressure the CSI administration to establish a Review Board for Public Safety. The purpose of this Review Board is to investigate any allegations dealing with public safety officers. This is similar to the Civilian Complaint Review Board which follows up on charges on NYPD officers. No one can police themselves, how can someone who is liable for charges investigate those same charges. If a student is attacked by another

student he/she can call Public Safety to resolve the situation but what does a student do if they are attacked by Public Safety? That is why this Civilian Complaint Review Board is needed. It will help protect students and their rights on campus and will offer a fair due process.

The organizers of the rally personally invited President Marlene Springer and Vice President Carol Jackson to address these issues, especially why this case is taking so long and why Officer Licata is still working on our campus. Various student and community members asked President Springer why there was such a stall on this case and why her office did not release a statement condemning racism in CSI. The president rudely did not even wait a minute to listen to the students; while they were still talking she blatantly walked out of the room and never came back.

Students also confronted the head of Public Safety Gene Martinez. Mr. Martinez also failed to address these issues. If the CSI administration does not listen to the student's points and value the opinions of the campus community they are not doing their job. What we need is a written statement stating that if a public safety officer from the college is found guilty of any bias crimes on campus he/she will be suspended and removed from the college.

During the rally CSI students, Student Government Senators, Community leaders, and the

Student Government President from Hunter College spoke about the seriousness of this case and the need for our administration to attend to the students concerns. Michelle Payton-Garrett a CSI student and Student Government senator brought up the fact that Muslim students who have been praying in the library for the past five years were asked to now pray in a storage room in the Campus Center. This storage room can only hold approximately 40 students; however, there are over 1000 Muslim students on campus. John Bostrom, the President of Peace Action Staten Island lent his voice to speak about community support and to stand up against racism along with CSI students. Zara Khan and SLAB from Hunter College brought up the pertinent issues of institutional racism in CUNY and the fact that we may be paying \$750 more dollars for tuition next semester.

Ronald Macguire the lawyer for Ayman El-sayed, the student who was assaulted explained to the audience the relevance of this case and why it is important to fight racism on our campuses. The university is a place which should cherish diversity and a place where students should feel safe. Ronald Macguire also addressed the ongoing problem of racism at CSI and the incompetent ways in which Public Safety Officers are investigated. Students from the City College of New York (CCNY) and Hunter College stood in solidarity

with CSI students and community members to say no to racism and hate.

The College of Staten Island is a diverse university and all students pay tuition. Foreign students pay double to attend CUNY. All the students on campus should be guaranteed security no matter what their religion is or where they come from. Our administration has failed to guarantee the Muslim, Arab and South Asian students security. All students should be outraged by this and should stand together. The next victim can be you or your classmate.

Students should not feel powerless. Students pay for everything. We pay the administration and we pay the public safety. They are supposed to be there for the students not against the students. You can help out by either sending a fax, email or call to the president demanding this public safety officer be removed from our campus and that the president take a firm stand against racism and hate on our campuses. Students should demand that the administration release a statement that if this officer is found guilty he will be removed. That is the only way to guarantee security for the students. If they do not do this than they obviously support and are protecting this racist officer. For more information or to report an incident of racism on campus please contact the College Voice at 718-982-3091 or email us at CollegeVoice@hotmail.com

A HISTORY OF CUNY

The City University of New York ("CUNY") is the third largest university in America. CUNY is supported by public funds and tuition. CUNY consists of eleven senior colleges offering comprehensive graduate and undergraduate programs, six community colleges offering two year degrees and transfer programs leading to baccalaureate degrees, a graduate center awarding doctoral and master's degrees, a law school and a comprehensive medical program offering a combination B.S./M.D. degree and dedicated to increasing the representation of African-American, Latino and other under-represented groups in the medical profession. CUNY is governed by a Board of Trustees which includes ten trustees appointed by the governor of New York State, five trustees appointed by the mayor of the City of New York, a voting student trustee and a non-voting faculty trustee, as provided by New York State Education Law '6201 et. seq.

39. CUNY contains the largest number of Black and Latino students ever to have attended any university in the history of the United States. A majority of CUNY's 200,000 students are Black and Latino. CUNY annually awards the largest number of Associate, Bachelors and Masters degrees to Black and Latino recipients of any institution of higher education in the nation. The majority of CUNY students also work and come from families with low incomes.

40. In 1847 New York City founded

the Free Academy with the mandate to provide higher educational opportunities to the poor of the city. Several years later the Free Academy was renamed City College and New York City established other public colleges which were eventually consolidated to form CUNY. However, as late as the early 1960's, the student body of CUNY was virtually all-white. CUNY was integrated in the late 1960's and early 1970's when the university adopted a policy of "Open Admissions" offering admission to all graduates of New York City high schools or recipients of high school equivalency degrees. The integration of CUNY was a major development in the history of American higher education because it transformed CUNY into the university with the largest number of Black and Latino scholars in the history of the United States. Since the implementation of its historic Open Admissions policy, CUNY has provided unparalleled opportunities for higher education to communities which had heretofore been drastically under-represented in our nation's colleges and universities.

41. CUNY's 129 year long policy of free tuition ended in 1976, the first year that the majority of CUNY's first year class was non-white. As the proportion of non-white students in CUNY increased, public aid for instruction and financial aid at CUNY diminished and tuition increased. Presently tuition at CUNY community colleges is \$2,500.00 annually, one of the highest community college tuition rates in the nation.

Tuition at senior colleges is even higher. Surveys of CUNY students who left without obtaining degrees revealed that the main reason given by the students for their lack of persistence was unmet financial need and the need to work full time, not academic failure.

42. Since the 1930's CUNY has had a history of student activism and students have organized demonstrations and mass movements that have often criticized policies supported by college and university officials or elected political leaders.

43. Against this backdrop, thousands of CUNY students in 1989 and 1991 organized peaceful student strikes to oppose a proposed state budgets that would have drastically cut the CUNY budget and to imposed large tuition increases on the student body. The 1989 strike ended peacefully after the Governor and the leaders of the state legislature agreed to restore the funding to CUNY, eliminating the need for the tuition increase. Former CUNY Chancellor Joseph Murphy, granted amnesty to the student strikers.

44. Following his decision to grant amnesty to the student strikers in 1989, Joseph Murphy resigned as CUNY Chancellor and in September, 1990 he was replaced by W. Ann Reynolds. In April, 1991 the Governor again proposed drastic budget cuts and a sharp tuition increase and thousands of CUNY students again peacefully sat in buildings on their campuses in protest against the proposed budget cuts. Chancellor Reynolds threatened the

students participating in the strike with arrest, suspension and expulsion. However, in January 1991 the CUNY Board of Trustees passed a resolution specifying that only college presidents had the authority to call the police to campus in response to non-violent demonstrations, not the Chancellor. The January 1991 resolution also required that a college president undertake consultations with campus student government officials and leaders of faculty governance bodies before calling police to a CUNY campus to respond to a demonstration.

45. During the 1991 student strike the CUNY college presidents declined to call the police and the strike lasted for three and a half weeks until the university obtained injunctions from the New York State Supreme Court to evict the strikers.

46. Until 1991 security on CUNY campuses was provided by private security firms contracted by each college. There was no centralized university security agency and the security guards were not authorized to make arrests. If there was a need for law enforcement activity, the college would contact the local police precinct for assistance.

47. Several months after the 1991 student strike, Chancellor Reynolds created the University Office Of Public Safety and hired the university's first Public Safety Director. Shortly thereafter CUNY enacted a security initiative that drastically increased funding for

continued on page 19

CSI Arab-American Student Sues the College of Staten Island

Students at all CUNY colleges have had problems with their administration and Public Safety. Public Safety have been caught tearing down student fliers, spying on students, racially and physically assaulting students. Student first amendment rights have continuously been violated. Many students have stood up for their rights and have taken legal action against their administration, Peace Officers and the Board of Trustees.

A CSI student, Ayman El-Sayed is suing the CSI administration and Sgt. Peter Licata for violating his first amendment right to post up fliers and racially attacking him by saying "kill all the Arabs". Ayman El-Sayed is an Arab American student. Ayman El-Sayed was a past Student Government Senator and is an editor of the College Voice newspaper. This student along with others conducts several events on campus to bring awareness of issues affecting CUNY students.

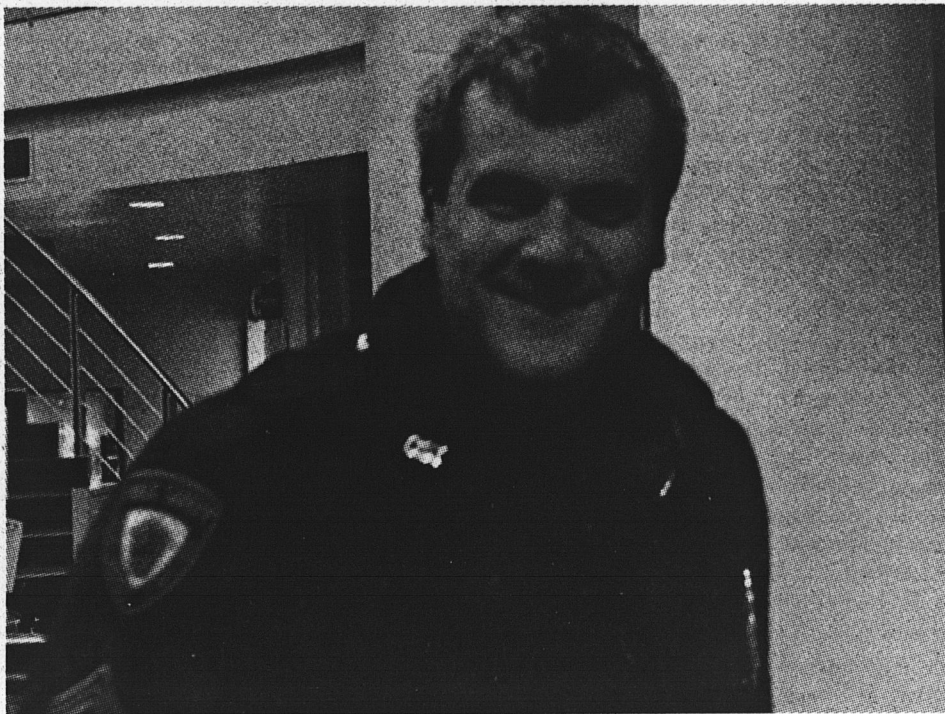
On October 15, Ayman El-Sayed was posting up fliers advertising a Student Government funded event on Campus the next day. The event was a discussion on the possible war in Iraq. Speakers who just visited Iraq were invited to speak to students, faculty and community members about their experiences. Ayman witnessed Sgt. Licata tearing down his fliers. He confronted Licata who was standing with two other Peace Officers, Robertson and Flood. He asked Licata "why did you tear down my fliers". Licata told Ayman that "I don't like what it says" and "we need to kill all the Arabs". The students felt very threatened and scared that a Peace Officer would be saying this to him. He did not know who he can complain to and called the photographer of the College Voice newspaper to take pictures and write an article. Sgt. Licata attacked the photographer by grabbing his camera and twisting the strap around his neck. The student identified himself as student press and Licata let him go.

Ayman El-Sayed then filed a complaint with another Public Safety officer. This officer told Ayman that he was not allowed to take pictures of Public Safety officers. Ayman told him "that is incorrect, I'm a student journalist and I know my rights, I can take pictures of any public officials

especially in public space". The student realized that nothing was going to come out of his complaint and contacted his lawyer. The reason he did this is because Licata racially attacked him and the student felt threatened to walk around campus while the officer was on duty. Ayman also takes late classes and works on campus. He does not finish work until 10pm and was scared to walk to his car late at night while this officer was on duty. Ayman El-Sayed felt there was no other way to guarantee his security but to contact his lawyer.

The students is suing the college demanding first "Prohibiting CUNY Peace Officers from selectively removing literature espousing disfavored viewpoints from public places" and second "Requiring CUNY to establish a procedure for civilian complaints against Peace Officers to be reviewed independently". The administration has not released a statement about the incident and has been investigating the incident for over a month and a half with no result. Students cannot expect Public Safety or administration to investigate public safety and administration. An independent body needs to be set up to investigate complaints by students, faculty or workers against public safety. Students should be guaranteed safety on their campuses no matter who they are.

Ayman El-Sayed is suing along with students from three other CUNY campuses, Hunter, City College (CCNY) and Hostos college. Students from these colleges have also had problems and confrontation with Public Safety. Public Safety have been tearing down student fliers, spying on students and arrested several students for protesting new fees and the cancellation of several classes on their campus. All these students first amendment rights have been violated and nothing has been done. We will see what will come out of the lawsuit. The students have lots of evidence to prove their cases. Students all over CUNY need to stand up to protect their rights on campus. We hope change will come from this lawsuit but it takes student, faculty and workers unity to really make things better on our campuses. Students, faculty and workers need to run our campuses because we know



*CSI Peace Officer Peter Licata says
Kill all the Arabs in Iraq.*



WITNESS OFFICER ROBERTSON



what is best for us.

WITNESS AND ACCOMPLICE OFFICER FLOOD

IRAQ, OIL & IMPERIALISM

BOMBING FOR DOLLARS

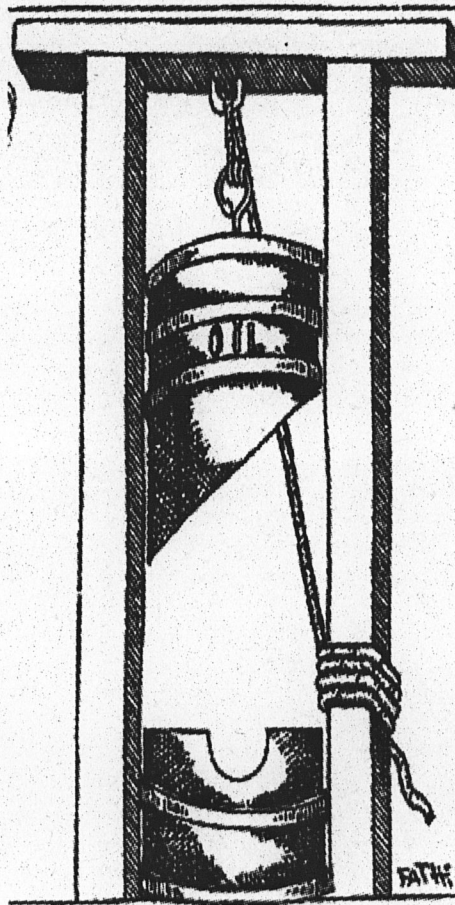
ROY ROLLIN

After a talk he once gave about his covering of the first world war in Europe, radical journalist John Reed was asked what he thought that conflict was all about. He shocked his audience when he replied with one word: profits. The same holds true insofar as the impending war with Iraq is concerned. Only we can be even more specific and say oil. The NY Times let the cat out of the bag when it revealed, in October, that government officials were already making plans on just how they would divide up "the second largest proven reserves of oil in the world (which) they would essentially control...for as long as the(y) administered Iraq." For whether it's Europe in 1917, or the Middle East today; whether it's the Kaiser or Saddam Hussein who are the butt of pro-war propaganda, it is, in fact, the expand or die appetite of America's economic elite that leads to military conflicts with other countries. Or, as a Marine Corps officer, Major General Smedley Butler, put it in a speech he gave in 1933, "when the dollar only earns 6% over here...it gets restless and goes overseas to get 100%. Then the flag follows the dollar and the soldiers follow the flag." The need for economic domination necessarily requires political and military domination to back it up. Imperialist war is the continuation of capitalist "globalization" by more forceful means! After all, they can't just steal the oil and then sell it off at bargain basement prices without having some muscle around to enforce order. No wonder Butler concluded that he "could have given Al Capone a few hints (since) the best he could do was to operate...in three districts (whereas he) operated on three continents."

Of course, today's official explanations focus on lies like "weapons of mass destruction" and "terrorism" just as World War One was supposedly fought to "make the world safe for democracy" and was "a war to end all wars." John Reed was more on the mark, when he called it a "traders' war." For the "democracy" that Americans were fighting to make "the world safe for" certainly didn't apply to Black people. In half of the country they couldn't even vote, while in the other half, where they could, they couldn't even sit down in the same restaurant, or rest room, for that matter, with white people. The war that was supposed "to end all wars" only set the stage for another, even more bloody, world war, a little more than 20 years later, when those powers that had either lost out in the battle for profits (Germany), or felt that they hadn't gotten their fair share of the spoils (Japan and Italy), sought to reverse the results. In between the two "big ones," there were countless little wars. Those were more like the kind we've become used to; where Uncle Sam sent in the marines to ensure Washington's and Wall Street's rights to pillage and plunder the riches of what latter came to be known as the "Third World" or to crush revolutions aimed at ending that

oppressive relationship. Thus, General Butler, who served in almost all of those wars called himself "a racketeer, a gangster for capitalism" who "spent most of (his) time being a high-class, muscle man for big business, for Wall Street and for the bankers."

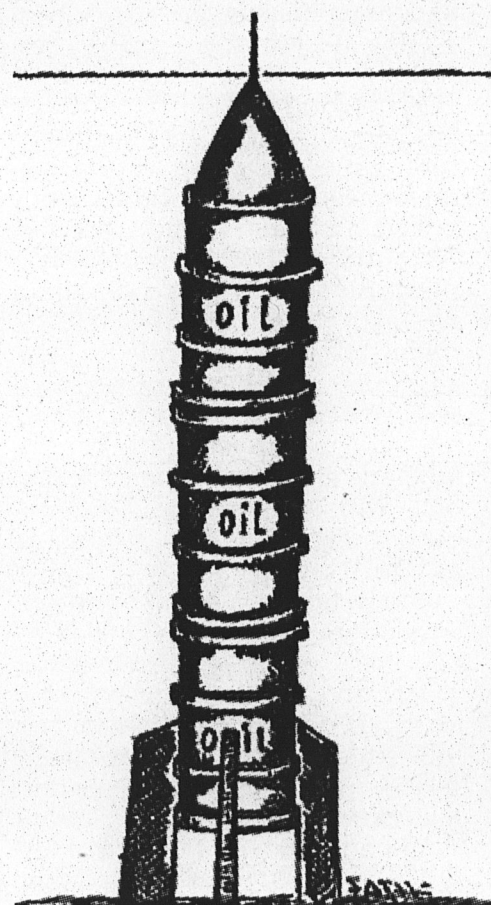
Since, as Butler went on to say, such "wars (are) just a racket...conducted for the benefit of the very few at the expense of the masses," they have to be carried out under the guise of defending American "interests" or "security." Only it's never said just which particular Americans' "interests" or "security" were, or are, being defended. It is, in fact, the "interests" of the the richest



0.5% of the population, which owns 42% of all financial wealth and owns the state that protects their ownership of it, that are being "secured" overseas just as they are at home. And, in the case of the current war drive, it's not just oil interests that stand to cash in. The massive increase in the "defense" budget, which predates September 11, benefit a handful of corporations that get almost half of the Pentagon's orders and couldn't survive without them in the world of "free enterprise" they claim to be defending. Since September 11, the share prices of the biggest defense contractors went up by nearly 10% while the S&P index of the 500 leading share prices on Wall Street went down 20%. (Bush hopes the war will get the rest of the stock market back on its feet.) Needless to say, unemployment, indebtedness, homelessness and hunger have risen as well. But the concerns of working people are not amongst the American "interests" whose "security" needs to be protected by a government of, by and for the rich.

For the other 95% of the American

people, who work on Main Street rather than Wall Street, the imperialist aims and ambitions of America's ruling rich have to be presented in terms of "freedom," "democracy," "human rights" and the like at the same time that they are being presented to the peoples of countries like Vietnam, Lebanon, Grenada, Libya, Panama Iraq, Somalia, Yugoslavia and Afghanistan (to name only the most recent recipients) with napalm, agent orange, depleted uranium and cluster bombs. America only goes to war to enhance the ability of its ruling rich to get even richer at the expense of either its economic rivals or to rip off the resources of much weaker states. US



State Department official George Kennan, one of the architects of the "cold war," laid out the economic interests behind that strategy (which continue to hold true today) when he stated that "the US has about 50% of the world's wealth but only 6.3% of its population. Our real task...is to devise a pattern of relationships which will permit us to maintain this position of disparity." Only to get popular support for this, it's got to cover those aims in lofty phrases that are usually just plain lies. After all, how many working people, who are the ones who will have to pay for the wars, not to mention, fight and die in them, would be willing to do so, if they were told that they were fighting to help make the same bosses who exploit and oppress them here even richer by allowing them to do the same thing to working people, just like themselves, in other countries. They lie, workers die.

So even if Iraq doesn't have any "weapons of mass destruction" or ties to "terrorists," let alone to September 11, its does have oil...and lots of it. In fact, it

has the second largest reserves of oil on the planet and this system runs on oil. By getting rid of Saddam Hussein, the US (along with its allies in the Arab world like Saudi Arabia and Kuwait) will control most of the world's oil supply. They can then hold their alleged allies in Western Europe and Japan, who are more and more reverting to being their imperialist rivals, hostage, since all of them are far more dependent on oil from the Middle East than the US is. Thus, former CIA Director R. James Woolsey told the Washington Post that if France and Russia chose to play ball with the US and not get in the way of the war, "we'll do the best we can to insure that the new government (in Iraq) and American companies work closely with them." Henry Kissinger, however, said it best, when he stated that "oil is too important to be left to the Arabs." As for all the fine words about bringing "democracy" to Iraq, those will have to take a back seat to securing cheap and plentiful oil supplies. A new dictator, this time an American general, will be installed by Iraq's would be "liberators" to preside over the divvying up of the oil loot. After all, what "democracy" would vote to turn over the main source of it's wealth to a gang of outsiders?

During Gulf War One, a government official, in a rare display of official honesty, stated that "if Kuwait grew carrots we wouldn't give a damn." Thomas Friedman, the NY Times foreign affairs columnist and unabashed apologist for all the economic inequality that "globalization" has ushered in, was, as usual, even more up front about US motives. "The US has not sent troops to the Saudi desert to preserve democratic principles," he stated. "This is about money, about protecting governments loyal to America and about who will set the price of oil." That's why General Butler, when he "helped make Mexico...safe for American oil interests in 1914," called war "a racket...something that is not what it seems to the majority of people." If "it seem(ed) to the majority of people" that Bush, Cheney, Rumsfeld and Rice were willing to go to war so that they can get their hands on Iraq's oil, then how many of them, many who can't even afford a car, are going to to willingly give away large portions of their paychecks, let alone their lives, for it. They know that if any of them tried to stage an armed robbery on a gas station, which is what this all comes down to, albeit on a global scale, they'd be either dead or in jail.

When George Bush says that "the danger to our country is grave (and) is growing," he's right. Only the danger isn't coming from Saddam Hussein or Iraq, it's coming from him. For all the talk about "weapons of mass destruction" and "terrorism," Saddam Hussein is not the problem. George Bush, or rather the American ruling class and American imperialism that both he and the Democrats represent and its expand or die appetite are. Indeed, the US possesses far many more "weapons



WHO IS MUMIA ABU JAMAL

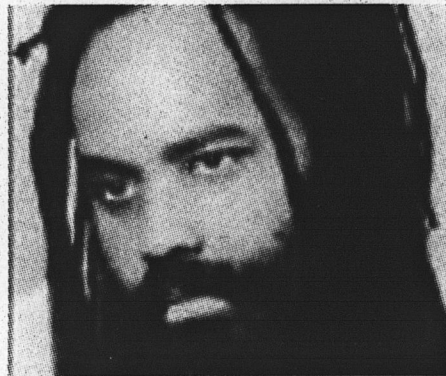
Mumia Abu-Jamal is an award-winning Pennsylvania journalist who exposed police violence against minority communities. On death row since 1982, he was wrongfully sentenced for the shooting of a police officer. New evidence, including the recantation of a key eyewitness, new ballistic and forensic evidence and a confession from Arnold Beverly (one of the two killers of Officer Faulkner) points to his innocence! Mumia had no criminal record. For the last 20 years, Abu-Jamal has been locked up 23 hours a day, denied contact visits with his family, had his confidential legal mail illegally opened by prison authorities, and put into punitive detention for writing his first of three books while in prison, *Live From Death Row*. His case is currently on appeal before the Federal District Court in Philadelphia. Mumia's fight for a new trial has won the support of tens of thousands around the world, including Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Nelson Mandela, The European Parliament, Alice

Walker, Paul Newman, Maya Angelou, Sister Helen Prejean, Danny Glover, Rage Against The Machine, the Detroit and San Francisco City Councils, Amnesty International, and many others. Mumia Abu-Jamal's fate rests with all those people who believe in every person's right to justice and a fair trial. "I remain innocent. A court cannot make an innocent man guilty. Any ruling founded on injustice is not justice. The righteous fight for life, liberty, and for justice can only continue." Mumia Abu-Jamal, Oct. 31, 1998

Facts about Mumia's 1982 trial:

- * The policeman was killed with a 44 caliber gun. Abu-Jamal's gun which he was licensed to carry as a night-time taxi driver, was a 38 caliber.
- * The police never tested Abu-Jamal's gun to see if it had been recently fired. They never tested his hands to see if he had fired a gun. They have never shown Abu-Jamal's gun to be the fatal weapon.
- * No police officers present at Abu-Jamal's arrest claimed to have

heard Jamal's "confession" until two months after it allegedly occurred. This was right after Abu-Jamal had filed police brutality charges. * Abu-Jamal's doctor said that Abu-Jamal, who was unconscious,



said nothing. He reported that a nurse found police with loaded guns pointed at Mumia as he lay unconscious in his hospital bed. * William Singletary, a Vietnam veteran and local businessman, saw the whole incident and has testified that Abu-Jamal was not the shooter. However, the police forced him to change his story and intimidated him into leaving

Philadelphia. * Other key witnesses, such as Veronica Jones — who now testifies in support of Abu-Jamal, were harassed into giving false testimony. Two prosecution witnesses were given special favors, including exemption from criminal prosecution, for their testimony. **Elements in an unfair trial:**

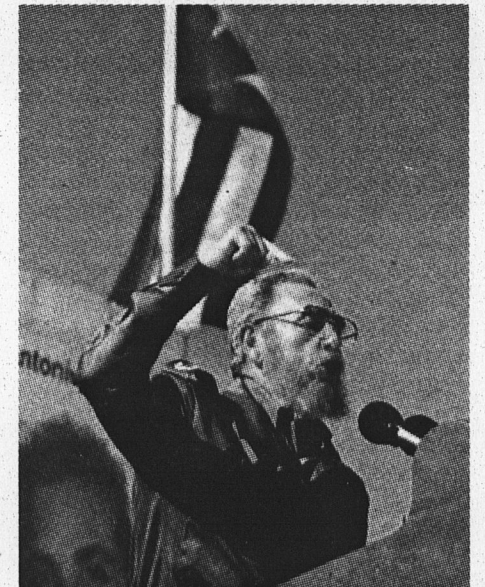
- * The Judge, Albert Sabo, sentenced more people to death than any other sitting judge in the U.S.
- * The public defender didn't interview a single witness in preparation for the trial, and didn't have funds for defending a capital case.
- * The prosecutor removed 11 qualified African Americans from the jury. He also argued for the death penalty because of Mumia's membership in the Black Panther Party, a practice later condemned as unconstitutional by the US Supreme Court.
- * The racial bias of Philadelphia's courts has resulted in 120 people on death row, all but 13 non-white.

THE MIAMI FIVE WHO ARE THE FIVE POLITICAL PRISONERS BEHIND BARS IN THE U.S.A.

Who are the Five?
They are five Cubans who were trying to stop the ultra-right terrorist groups in Miami from carrying out violent actions against the people of Cuba. Since 1959, these organizations have conducted bombings, assassinations and other sabotage, killing hundreds of innocent Cuban civilians. Groups like Alpha 66, Omega 7, Brothers to the Rescue, and Cuban American National Foundation have terrorized the Cuban people for years with impunity.

their society. They have been victims of terror attacks by the Miami-based mafia, many of whom came from the wealthy class that left Cuba after the popular overthrow of dictator Fulgencio Batista. Others of the ultra-right in Miami were police thugs for the Batista regime. Gerardo Hernández, Antonio Guerrero, Ramón Labañino, René González and Fernando González, acting in defense of their people, were living in Miami, monitoring these terrorist groups to prevent future violence. But because the U.S. government -

terrorists. This is the only reason that the five Cubans are in prison. They were framed up in a political witchhunt and railroaded by the U.S. in a 7-month trial in Miami, where it was impossible for them to have an impartial and fair trial. Falsely charged with espionage on the U.S., in reality, the five brothers' mission was to follow the activities of the right-wing to prevent harm to innocent people. After their arrest by the FBI in September 1998, they were convicted June 8, 2001 and sentenced December 2001. The months-long struggle to free Elián González from the Miami right-wing showed the U.S. people the true nature of these Mafia-type groups in Miami, who so cruelly tried to deny a father and his son their right to live together in their own country, simply because that country is Cuba. Terrorists like José Basulto and Ramón Saúl Sánchez, who have been convicted of criminal acts, actually became "spokesmen" for the Miami family. They vowed never to let Elián return home and put him at tremendous risk for their political aims. To all justice-loving people in the



Fidel Castro addresses hundreds of thousands of Cubans about the Miami Five



The Cuban people have been targets of U.S. policy, including a 43-year economic blockade designed to punish a whole people who have chosen a different road for building

through the CIA - has played the principal role in funding, training and arming the ultra-right Miami mafia, the FBI targeted the five Cubans instead of arresting the

U.S. and around the world, we appeal to you to join the struggle to free Fernando, René, Antonio, Ramón and Gerardo. Help us in outreach, education and organizing, because once people know the facts of the case, we are sure they will call for their freedom as well.

For More Information visit www.freethefive.org

FACTS ON THE PALESTINIAN-ISRAELI CONFLICT

Fact: Over 34 new settlements were created since Sharon took office.

The Israeli government has established 34 new civilian Jewish settlement outposts, including eight over the last two months, in the West Bank and Gaza Strip since the February 2001 elections, according to an aerial survey conducted by Peace Now. The number of Jewish settlers is now more than 300,000.

To maintain and protect these settlements, Israel must maintain military occupation in West Bank and Gaza. The Palestinians are segregated in non-contiguous enclaves, surrounded by Israeli-controlled borders, with Israeli settlements and settlement roads cutting through, essentially violating Palestinian territorial integrity.

Fact: The occupation is illegal under international law.

Under UN Resolution 242, Israel is required by international law to withdraw from all the territories occupied in 1967, including East Jerusalem. The

UN has stated time and time again, the only way to end the violence is to end the occupation.

Fact: The occupation is killing children and innocent civilians.

Israelis possess overwhelming military superiority over the Palestinians. The Palestinians have used violent means to resist the occupation, but that does not take away from the fact that Israeli soldiers are shooting individuals with missiles, using American made F-16s and Apache helicopters. Tanks roll into refugee camps, supposedly to root out terrorists. But so many of these so-called terrorists are small children.

According to B'Tselem, 897 of the Palestinians killed from September 29, 2000 through March 30, 2002 have been civilians, including 192 children. There were over 108 assassinations (a war crime according to the Hague Convention -1907).

Fact: The Israeli government demolishes homes, uproots crops, and confiscates land.

Since October 2000, 580 homes

were demolished or blown up. 291 acres of land was confiscated. 34,606 olive & fruit trees were uprooted. In East Jerusalem, Palestinian homes are demolished and land confiscated in order to ensure Jews have a majority in the city (the "Silent Transfer").

Fact: Palestinians suffer a severe water shortage due to the Occupation

The Israeli occupation government has been stealing annually, since 1967, up to 80% of the groundwater from the "Mountain Reservoir," a group of groundwater aquifers located underneath the mountains of the Occupied West Bank of Palestine, including the Occupied Jerusalem. The Palestinian people are allowed no control of these extensive water resources.

Fact: Over 1,000 Israelis have refused military service due to the Occupation.

"We will no longer fight beyond the Green Line for the purpose of occupying, deporting, destroying, blockading, killing, starving and humiliating an entire

people," declares a petition signed by the reservists.

Fact: You fund the occupation.

Israel, whose population is 0.1% of the total world population, gets roughly one-third of all US foreign aid. Annually this amounts to more than \$3 billion in US taxpayer dollars going to Israel, \$2.04 billion of that is military aid.

Fact: Peace is possible.

It is a myth that Palestinians need to be subjugated to keep Jews safe. The occupation is only worsening the position of Jews in the Middle East. True safety only comes with justice and equality. History teaches us that when people come together around a common vision for peace, they can change even the most oppressive conditions.

Join Jews Against the Occupation in calling for an end to the occupation of Palestine

www.jewsagainsttheoccupation.org

TERRORISM AND THE MEDIA

KENNY AGUILAR

The terrorist theme has been increasingly popular since Sept. 11 of 2001 not to be confused with the Sept. 11 of 1973 when the C.I.A staged the coup that killed the democratically elected socialist president of Chile Dr. Salvador Allende. Every time our Supreme Court appointed president Bush makes a speech, he refers to the terrorists' in the mid-east. I am convinced that G.W. has no idea what the word means, because if he did, he would realize that he convicts himself of the criminal charge. In the strictest meaning of the definition, terrorism is "a policy of using violence in a political cause" and a terrorist "being one who practices terrorism". George W. Bush is clearly an expert in this practice in which he learned from his father, who is also an expert among many other leaders of this dictatorship. Those who suffer from this ignorance are the innocent Arabs, Muslims, and Hispanics who are mistaken for Arabs, as well as all

American people because this is creating unnecessary enemies worldwide.

The puppets of corporate America continue to fuel this hatred toward Arabs and Muslims, who have since been

Daily News, Wall Street Journal, The Times, The Post, and many others. It's unfortunate and embarrassing to see my fellow Americans fall for the obvious tactic that the Bush administration is

people; he is waging a war against Iraq in order to take control of the oil. He accuses Iraq of harboring "weapons of mass destruction" as an excuse to get the support of the people. Millions around the world know better and show that they do not support the war and thousands here in America who have not been brainwashed also showed that we do not approve of president Bush's campaign for genocide through demonstrations and the biggest that was held on Oct. 26th in D.C, last month.

I challenge all those who are not free thinkers to turn off their hypnotic televisions and stop reading the crap in the newspapers that are influenced by the incumbent regime they call a democracy and ask questions. You will see and come to understand that the war in Iraq is another military coup engineered by the U.S. in order to inaugurate puppet government officials who will allow for the corruption and exploitation of another foreign nation



equated with "terrorists", through propaganda apparatus uses all traditional media outlets such as those controlled by the pro-Israel state, NBC, ABC, CBS, WPIX, FOX, C-SPAN, N.Y.1, CNN,

forcing upon us. He accuses the Fundamentalists of hating all Americans when in fact he is the one who has a personal vendetta against the Muslims. Bush is not and has not acted on behalf of the American

poetry & art

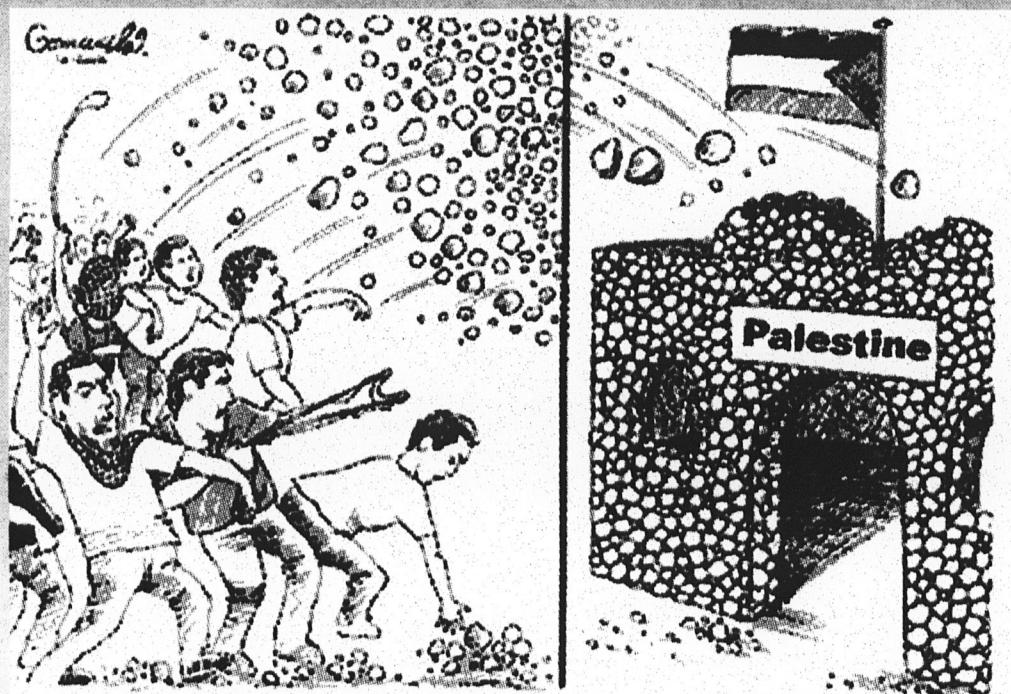
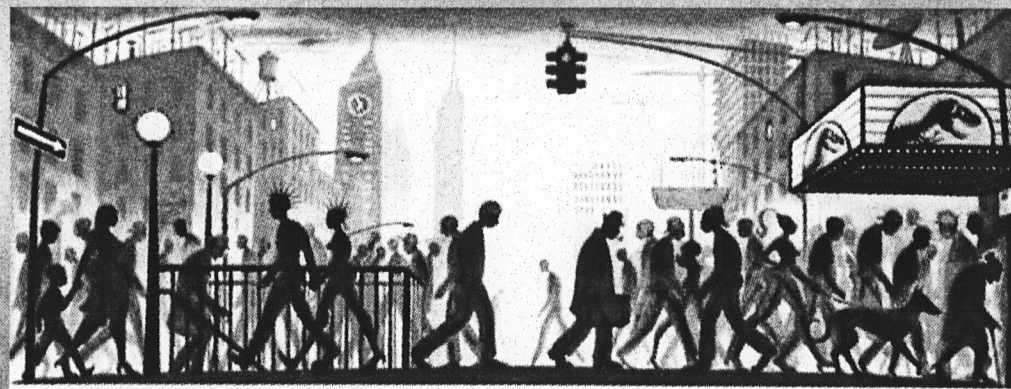
I've
worn out more
than six errors
of my life and nothing in
each stage gave me joy.

I only reached turmoil,
given more than one chance. I
wondered why me. Why was I
chosen to experience the fallacy of
money, the emptiness of riches the
worldly possessions man desires.
The abundance of beauty without the
depth to acknowledge a gift of God.

The will to be of such a great
potential but of no direction no desire,
to put of use. Manifest The strength of
gravity without the whole combination
of a mind, not knowing of what sacred
use to put of myself. Power but having
of no respect, of satin peddles falling to
my feet walking humbly about the
confidence of my people. Ingenious having
no direction or desire of what path I should
choose in which to explore and reason. By
these stages in my life you wonder what life
would mean to a person of everything. I
was missing but of one thing in everyone of
my rebirths, thee most Quintessentially aspect of
life, LOVE. The woven fabrics in nature which
harmoniously give an existence to exist be so
forth so only souly.

Now my life bleeds into wells,
people looking into my knowledge
seeing what I experienced,
now living.

I can rest.



Poetic Terrorism

Man with MK2 Fragmentation Hand Grenade

So esoterically an old man, sitting Indian-style under palm trees
When i spoke i was Muslim but in heart i was a lunatic
Fingers smelling of wild rose and beads,
Hair matted with dust from nightly expulsions to the attic,
A reservoir of memories for savage girls with an iron will.
I used to be one of those attic girls, those knotted chicas
with a nomadic animus.
No clan, no tribe would have me despite my fallacious
desire,
my bedding of the chieftains.
Swimming cups of black coffee like it was the sea,
Wet cigarette sticking out like a spike from my bottom lip,
A heaving locomotive,
An oxygen mask releasing gaseous spore into my lungs---
I'm only paranoid of the crash and burn.
The photograph of that boy, all granades and brown hair
With a cloth across his mouth, though I've lowered it to the
chin
How the ink has come off onto my hands.
Selling secrets for a bit of information, he's running in
hidden
tunnels beneath the streets, clearing the road.
This city is mucleed with the wafting smoke of fires and
revolutions to mythologize a Jew---how the smell is wrapped
in my hair, atmosphere to my scalp.
When a bomb is held within the theorem of soft skin, an
alarm clock tremor were every man is calm,
There are riots and explosions of which the message is
sound if you are a soldier.
If i pull the smoke deep into my throat, hold it in my
mouth, let it loose about my head, as if i were one fiery
death camp fat and ash, Will i know how you worry at the
filter between your teeth as the generals do?
In the photograph neon with your habit, muted black on
white daguerraotype,
A solipsist Muslim girl frames your face with her hands
and remembers washing the sand from your feet, the sweat
from your brow---how the silvery salt fell onto her tongue,
How she imagined you as Sephardic.
Like water-babies you two were vessels of moisture sliding
across the porcelain tub.
Make her crave blonde hair, Norma-Jean eyes, and blue
jean ways
Make her your good-time girl and rush her out into the
streets when it's time for you lights to go out.
Your charge is slaughtering dogmatists, detaining fascists
to a quarantine, and leading the march to freedom in
stolen clothes and artist's ware; no attic girl could argue
that.
Oppression fosters invention and genius, a fever for the
revolution;
No attic girl could argue

"I Know Truth"

I know truth
Truth lies within me
I know truth
It will do everything but flee
Seeing wrong around me
I can't seem to get a grip on
truth
Although truth lies within me
I know right
And I know wrong
I know yes
And I know no
For truth lies within me
But what is truth when it just
lies there-
Still-
Not moving-
Not appearing-
What is truth, when truth
doesn't know me?
If only the wall of confusion
breaks down,
I am sure truth will find me
And truth will know me
For I know truth,
Truth lies within me.

by Shereen Kandil

THE CHINESE ROAD TO SOCIALISM

OR HOW TO PACIFY A HUNGRY JACKAL AND STILL FEED YOUR CHILDREN

VIMUKTHI JAYADEVA

"Communism can only be realized on the basis of a fully developed and highly advanced socialist society. In the communist society, there will be abundant material wealth, and people will have a very high realm of thought and be able to develop themselves freely and in an all-round way. It must be pointed out, though, that the realization of communism will be an extremely protracted historical process." - Deng Xiaoping

China remains as the single most powerful obstacle to US global domination, the single most powerful entity committed to world peace and social justice and as such requires the support and allegiance of progressive people the world over.

China has a landmass the size of Europe and a population of over 1.2 billion and an economy that is currently the sixth largest in the world. China's annual output of iron and steel, coal, chemical fertilizer, TV sets, program-controlled telephone switchboards, grain, meat, cotton, aquatic products and fruits ranks first in the world. In the eyes of US imperialists, like colonial predators earlier, China is a tantalizing prize to be conquered. However the

Chinese Revolution that unified China expelled predatory foreign invaders and led China on its long march to prosperity is alive and well today. Under the skillful leadership of three generations of party cadres



following Chairman Mao Zedong, China is a prize that the salivating jackals of US capitalism have to live without. Indeed following the passing of the first generation leadership of Chairman Mao, Deng Xiaoping oriented the

party and the country towards socialist modernization, a path that almost certainly saved Communist China from collapsing in the manner of the Soviet Union.

President Deng Xiaoping assumed power after the passing of Mao. It was not an easy succession. The Chinese Revolution was struggling to orient itself correctly in a hostile world dominated by big capitalist powers and an unsympathetic Soviet Russia and an internal situation marked by the single greatest problem of feeding, clothing and housing a billion poor people. After embarking on an ultra-left course of basically trying to will socialism into being, the periods encompassing the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution, that resulted in a lot of wasted lives and resources, the Revolution began to mature and think more confidently in terms of the long term. The defeat of the Gang of Four represented the final break in the Party leadership with ultra-left dogmatism of the past. Deng Xiaoping outlined a bold course of "socialist modernization", of developing a "socialism with Chinese characteristics". The basic underpinning of this theory was fundamental Marxism, that is, it is only

possible to develop socialism on the basis of advanced productive forces. Indeed Marx had foreseen that socialism would be possible only after capitalism had unleashed a revolutionizing of the productive forces of society, otherwise only the socialization of poverty would be the result. Particularly for a country as underdeveloped as China, a country that was poorer at the time of its overthrow of imperialism, and local exploiter forces in 1949 than Russia had been in 1917, it was necessary to apply Marxism to the specific conditions and problems of China. Deng realized that the ingrained sterile scholasticism of thought that had developed under the wrong policies of the past had to be defeated in order to move the party in the direction of socialist modernization. His formula of seeking "truth from facts" was a simple yet brilliant tool to get party cadre out of the books and into the actual material conditions that prevailed in society. If the Communist Party could not provide for the basic necessities of the people and furthermore provide hope and prosperity, the people would surely overthrow the Party with more than willing help from the salivating jackal capitalists on the borders who

IRAQ UPDATE:

U.S. WON'T TAKE YES FOR AN ANSWER

ROY ROLLIN

NOVEMBER 21 - Even though Iraq has agreed to even the latest set of outrageous demands from that US/UK figleaf that goes by the name of the "United Nations," the US is making it clear that that still isn't good enough for them. Bush and his underlings are currently going around the world trying to line up support for war; hoping to get either military or financial backing for it. So even if Iraq gets a clean bill of health from the UN weapons inspectors, Bush will still opt for war...since Saddam is, no doubt, hiding a nuke or two under his bed or in the attic. After all, if Iraq is shown to have no "weapons of mass destruction," not only will the Bush gang be shown up for being the liars that are but there will be intensified pressure on the UN to lift its starvation sanctions and

end its embargo against Iraq. This includes allowing Iraq to sell its oil and throws a monkey wrench into US plans to seize it. Clearly this will not do if the Bush gang is to have its way. As an unnamed Pentagon told the press recently, "Saddam...get(ting) a clean bill of health...(is) the nightmare scenario...how do you show that an invasion would be warranted?"

Warranted or not, Bush need not worry about the Democrats any more than the UN. The lust of the right wing Republican regime for war is matched only by the cravenness of its alleged opponents in the Democratic party. After taking a dive on election day, the Democrats have come back to show that they are even more indistinguishable from the GOP than they were before. In spite of their still controlling the Senate until its

winter recess, they almost all voted to support Bush's "Homeland Security" bill, just as they had previously given him a blank check to wage war any where and any time he wants to. Just what was being "secured" by this latest piece of police state legislation was shown by the handouts and concessions to assorted big business supporters of Bush, like the pharmaceuticals industry, that were tacked on to the bill. So outlandish were they, that even right-wing Republican John McCain voted against it. Not so the Democrats; especially NY senators Hillary Clinton and Charles Schumer, who once again gave Bush their backing just as they did when they supported the USA PATRIOT Act that picks up on the shredding of the Bill of Rights where Bill Clinton's "Anti-Terrorism" and "Effective Death Penalty" legislation left off.

Meanwhile, millionaire Mayor Mike Bloomberg is getting ready to lay waste to city services in order to better "balance the budget" on the backs of the city's workers and poor at the same time his fellow Republicans in Washington are set to spend \$200 billion waging war on Iraq's working people. More than ever, it is obvious that the more money spent destroying homes, hospitals and schools in other countries means less of it being spent building them here; that the war on Iraq is just the flipside of the war on the poor; that it is the same enemy and the same fight that working people need to wage to stop both. And more than ever, it signifies that militant mass action and independent working class politics are the only road forward for working people. Any reliance on the Democrats is more of a dead end than ever.

continued from previous page

would then proceed to rape and divide China. At the twelfth party congress in 1982, Deng outlined the course of the party as follows: "China is now at the primary stage of socialism. Throughout this stage the basic line of the Party in building socialism with Chinese characteristics is as follows: to lead the people of all our nationalities in a united, self-reliant, intensive and pioneering effort to turn China into a prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced and modern socialist country by making economic development the central task while adhering to the Four Cardinal Principles and persevering in reform and the open policy."

The Four Cardinal Principles referred to by Deng above—adhering to the socialist road, adhering to the people's democratic dictatorship, adhering to Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought, and adhering to the leadership of the Communist Party of China were enshrined in the Constitution of the People's Republic of China as the basis to maintain the nation.

So Deng effectively combined a steadfast commitment to socialism under the guidance of the party with a policy of opening up to the outside world and reforming the economy. As a result China has grown by leaps and bounds. Its growth rate was in double digits in the 1980s and continued to develop to the worlds envy through the 90s into the present.

Jiang Zemin, the current and outgoing party president continued and built upon the achievements of Deng. His "three represents" theory has now been inducted into the party's constitution as an invaluable tool of guidance. The three represents theory states as follows:

"The Communist Party of China represents the requirement to develop advanced productive forces, an orientation towards advanced culture, and the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the people in China."

The three represents theory is basically a combination, refinement and application of the Four Cardinal Principles and Socialist Modernization to the present and future needs of China. One of the significant changes that Jiang's Three Represents theory reflects is the opening up of the party to the new capitalist elements in China. Jiang outlined the rationale for this policy as follows:

"The basic components and backbone of the Party are

those from workers, farmers, intellectuals, servicemen and cadres. At the same time, it is also necessary to accept those outstanding elements from other sectors of the society who have subscribed to the Party's program and Constitution, worked for the Party's line and program wholeheartedly, and proved to meet the requirements for the Party membership through a long period of tests.

There has been quite a bit of left criticism of this policy as there had been for the policy of economic reform. However, the Party leadership seems to

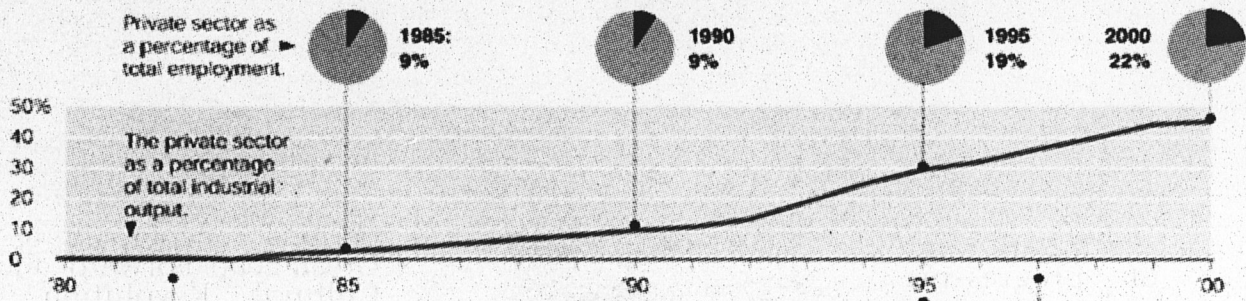
reforms. Corruption has become the number one political and social issue for the country. The Party leaders have focused a lot of attention on fighting corruption but the problem remains a massive one. Corruption in a workers state is what passes for normal legal business practice in capitalist states, but given that China is not a capitalist country the emergence of corruption is a source of great anger for the masses.

However the overall picture of the Chinese economy and society is undoubtedly healthy. China is a country whose per capita GDP is

China is able to neutralize the anti-communist, profit hungry jackals of US capitalism from waging war on China and at the same time grow the basis for a strong independent socialist China.

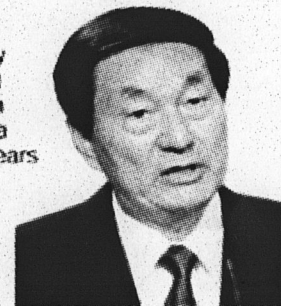
In the arena of foreign affairs China's policy consists of "standing firmly on the side of the people of the Third World countries, opposing hegemonism and trying to preserve world peace." Consistent with this policy China acts within its capacity as an independent developing nation to stem the war drive of US imperialism. In regards to Iraq, "China firmly advocates

As the private sector has become an important part of the economy, the party has taken steps to include it.



1982 Party officials formally allow the development of the so-called individual economy so far as that is a "necessary and helpful supplement" to the state sector.

UPI



1995 A new economic team led by Zhu Rongji (right) comes to power in Beijing. It adopts a new policy that clears the way for privatization of failing state enterprises.

Associated Press

1997 The party formally acknowledges that the private sector has become an important component of a socialist market economy.

understand that it is better to have the capitalist elements within the Party fold subject to the policy and discipline of the Party than to leave them to develop a political line more consistent with their bourgeois class interests. In stating that the Party represents the "overwhelming majority of the people" rather than just the workers and peasants, Jiang makes the policy shift to accommodate "outstanding elements from other sectors who have subscribed to the Party's line and program".

There is no question that the course that the CPC is following is fraught with danger. In the mid 80's a trend towards bourgeois liberalization and the restoration of capitalism developed in the Party and was defeated. At the same time, the opening up of the economy, allowing market forces to determine productivity and growth, has caused quite a bit of pain to large numbers of workers and peasants. The numbers of unemployed are estimated to be around 40 million and a social insurance net is still not fully in effect to care for these workers. Peasants too are hurting under the market

increasing rapidly. Hope for a better future is very much alive for the Chinese people. While the motor of growth of the economy is the market, the steering wheel is commanded by the Chinese people as represented through its 60 million strong vanguard of the Communist Party. Public ownership remains the mainstay of the economy as a way of providing employment to the overwhelming millions of workers of China. While the privatization of agriculture has been painful, it has also led to the increase in the size of the industrial proletariat. The objective of socialist modernization seems to be to absorb the best of scientific techniques, in essence to grow capital, from the outside world, so as to make the whole of the Chinese economy including its outmoded public sector strong and independent. It is not the IMF and the predatory capitalist powers that are leading this growth. This is key. The growth is for China and not for foreign capitalists. Foreign capitalists are allowed to take part in the growth, by investing their capital and importing cheap Chinese goods but it is not for their benefit. So in one stroke

peaceful settlement of the Iraq issue through political and diplomatic means and within the framework of the United Nations." This is not an ideal policy from the standpoint of socialism but it is a policy based on the reality of the balance of forces in the world today. The number one objective of China has to be to build up its productive forces and become an invincible world power that cannot be bullied by imperialist threats. The ability of US imperialism to wage limitless war and dominate the world will develop in inverse proportion to China achieving world class power. The present War of Terror by the Bush gang will end, if not stopped, with the destruction of socialist China. It is imperative for progressive people the world over to defend China from counterrevolution. The defeat of the Chinese Communist Party will surely unleash a level of barbarism on the part of US imperialism that will make this horrific New World Order seem like the good old days.

COLLEGE VOICE WHO WE ARE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Student Government Statement Opposing Racism

To: The College Community

From: The College of Staten Island Student Government

Date: November 5, 2002

Re: An Open Letter to the College Community

With regard to the alleged incident that took place on October 15, 2002 between a CUNY Peace Officer and a CSI Student of Arab-American descent, the College of Staten Island Student Government would like all members of the college community to be aware that we do not condone, nor should we tolerate any acts of bias on this campus.

Reference of the university as a sanctuary of academic freedom and center of informed discussion to be guarded vigilantly is clearly stated in the Campus Behavior Code (Henderson Act), which was adopted by the CUNY Board of Trustees many years ago. The rules and regulations established by the university are there to protect the rights of all members of the college community. With particular regard to students it affords them the right to learn and express their views free from external pressure or interference. The behavior code also states that these freedoms can flourish only in an atmosphere of mutual respect, civility and trust.

With regard to the aforementioned incident the following rule seems to apply best:

(5) Each member of the academic community or an invited guest has the right to advocate his position without having to fear abuse, physical, verbal or otherwise from others supporting conflicting points of view.

Further, within these guidelines are listed the rights and obligations of the university when these rules are violated. We hope that the College of Staten Island will uphold these rules and that regardless of whom breaks them that fair and equal penalties, within the requirements of due process, will be dealt to those who violate this code.

We must remember that the College of Staten Island is an extremely diverse community and that everyone here has the right to express their viewpoints in a civil manner without fear of reprisal. To us the protection of these freedoms should be one of the primary goals of an educational institution.

*Rest in Peace to Our Fellow Student
Mohammed Sakawat Hossain
Who Passed Away November 11, 2002,
We Miss You and Love You Brother*

EDITORIAL COLLECTIVE

EDITORS: Renee Marhong,
Ayman Elsayed, Kih-Hoon Kim

STAFF: Kenny Aguilar,
Shereen Kandil,

Contributors: Andy
Zuckerberg, Roy Rollin, C-Biz,
LeslieAnn Alvaradous
Genevieve DeAngelis,

Design & Production: Renee
Marhong, Ayman Elsayed

Know us: The College Voice
is a monthly journal published
by the students of the College
of Staten Island.

Visit us: Our office is located
at 2800 Victory Boulevard,
Room 1C-230, Staten Island,
NY 10314

Sue us: Opinions expressed
are those of the writers and
not necessarily shared by
anyone else.

The College Voice is a
member of the Columbia
Scholastic Press Association,
The Associated Collegiate
Press and the College Media
Advisor

Voice: 718.982.3091
Fax: 718.982.3098
E-mail
collegevoice@hotmail.com

Letters To The Editor

October 10, 2002

ASC-Office of Parking Services-Room 1A-102
The College of Staten Island
2800 Victory Blvd.
Staten Island, NY 10314

Actually as it goes the fee of \$15.00 for the parking ticket is absurd. I have paid for parking permits for over 16 years at the College. During all those years I have been on the campus 5 days a week. In recent years I have observed NO traffic enforcement on the roads. Each morning I am subject to cars using the campus as a short cut. Tailgaters, dangerous speeding and passing on the campus roads. Upon entering the campus, I observe students being issued temporary parking permits well into the 15th week of the semester. (And as of the writing of this letter 3 cars of students in front of me last night were issued temporary passes). Those same students fill up the staff lot especially during the first two weeks of the semester.

Once again may I state-I live less than one mile from the campus, I left 35-minutes early on the day I was issued the ticket (which was on the first day of class). Due to non-enforcement at the rear gat (i.e.: no traffic control and issue of temporary parking permits) the traffic was backed up at the rear gate. It took me 35 minutes for a regular 2 % minute drive. As preciously stated, I did in fact park in a service area. One that I knew was NOT in fully used in the evening. I have worked in the Campus Planning Office for over 16 years, was part of the team that built this campus and works with Public Safety and B&G [Buildings and Grounds] on a daily basis, therefore I knew the routine. The main issue is that as a faculty member in the evening I was denied a spot in the faculty/staff lot of which I pay a permit fee of \$100 per year. In addition to students who also pay for a parking permit are also denied a space due to the indiscriminant issue of temporary parking passes.

As the years go by I also find it quite a considerable feat that the college has decided upon a tyrannical and fascist approach to the parking summons situation. Actually was it not policy that during the first week of the semester a tolerance was granted regarding the over abundance of automobiles on campus? I find it absolutely appalling that the college is so intent on collecting parking fees that I know as a fact are misused in other areas. In addition the supposed fees are NOT used for the designated repairs and maintenance of the lot as they are intended for.

As it might appear, I am angry, but then again the college and the comical parking enforcement office has created a campus-wide situation of apathy that has permeated throughout the staff, faculty and students and yes you have the \$15. And you can even use it to paint a house for all I care. I consider it a small price to pay for me to get some issues out in the open and into the college newspapers, college community and the Staten Island Advance.

Dear Ms. Springer

I want to tell you about Mr. Bono who is related to Mr. McCormick, Mr. Penisi, three laborers and his secretary. Mr. Bono is also a racist and does not like minorities. The proof is very clear and open. He hates anyone who is smart and surrounds himself with less smart people than himself.

Mr. Bono pretends to like minorities we who pick up the dirt here at the college see this everyday. We lost a good human being to the hatred of Mr. Bono. We will never forget even if Mr. Bono smiles in our face.

Mr. McCormick is also another one that is not to smart. He pretends to know and cannot answer anything. He sits in his office, sends jokes to the secretaries on the computer, plays around with Mr. Penisi and helps Frank Penisi take home college supplies. He also helps the contractors that Mr. Bono wants to come in and get work at the college and supplies are being taken out. He must be stopped.

Ralph G. Giordano

I want to tell you how impressed I am by your newspaper. I had never read it before, and am soon transferring upstate, or I'd beg you to let me contribute.

I teach English as a second language in the Foreign Students Dept. and it was so wonderful to bring in your paper and discuss relevant, unbiased and international incidents. I know that my Palestinian student was surprised to see that he had some support even in the States. It was important for them all to see that not all Americans and USA-ans are complete pawns of the government.

Really, I hope you know that this paper does make a difference. Take heart. Good luck.

Kendra Griffin

LET US KNOW YOU ARE READING
THE COLLEGE VOICE
WRITE TO US AT COLLEGE OF STATEN
ISLAND-COLLEGE VOICE- IC-230, 2800
VICTORY BLVD. S.I., N.Y. 10314
E-MAIL US AT
COLLEGE VOICE@HOTMAIL.COM

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN WRITING,
JOURNALISM, PHOTOGRAPHY, LAYOUT,
POLITICS, ART AND ACTIVISM
COME TO A COLLEGE VOICE WEEKLY
MEETING EVERY THURSDAY CLUB HOURS
1:30, CAMPUS CENTER-RM 230

A I D S

Brought To You by the Folks of Global Capitalism

VIMUKTHI JAYADEVA

"Africa's AIDS catastrophe is a humanitarian disaster of world historic proportions, yet the economic and political reverberations from this crisis have been remarkably muted outside the continent itself. The explanation for this awful dissonance lies in the region's marginal status in global economics and politics" - The Future of AIDS, Nicholas Eberstadt, Foreign Affairs, Nov./Dec. 2002

Africa Can Die

The above quoted horrifying but honest essay by Nicholas Eberstadt in Foreign Affairs magazine, a major journal amongst ruling elites, is a clear indictment of the fundamental immorality of the global capitalist system. Eberstadt reveals that AIDS is

continuing of colonialist/imperialist policies of robbing the rich resources of Africa, the crushing debt, the environmental destruction and the stifling of democracy in the region by euro-american corporations and governments are the clear roots of the "prevalent malnutrition and infectious disease and lack of a health infrastructure". Africa's crisis is not some fact that dropped out of the sky or the result of the blackness of Africa as the racist establishment thinkers want us to believe but it is rather the genocidal impact of global capitalist policy.

Keep Asia Alive To Suck It Dry
However, the essay is not mainly preoccupied with the "humanitarian disaster of world historic proportions" as Eberstadt calls it underway in

existing in the Eurasian landmass.

He appeals to the self interest of the already highly self interested capitalists of the rich white countries to pay attention to the looming catastrophe of an AIDS epidemic in the three principal countries of Eurasia - Russia, China and India because of the economic and military implications this would entail. The potential for huge profits, which is quite high in the region will be totally wasted warns Eberstadt. In Russia expected growth will be reduced to lower than the year 2000 level in the year 2025 if an "intermediate epidemic" took hold. In India by 2025 GNP would rise 80% per capita but would stagnate at the 2000 level if even a mild epidemic took hold. In China workers productivity was expected to rise by 50% per worker over the next 25 years but with even a 1.5% rate of infection these gains would be completely e r a s e d . Eberstadt also quite factually points to the inadequate attention and resources b e i n g allocated to t h e containment of HIV/AIDS by the governments of Russia, India and China.

the stage for the disease's rapid spread", further "the upheavals of Russia's ongoing transition - economic and social dislocation, increased poverty, new freedoms (including greater opportunities for geographic mobility, extramarital sex, prostitution, and drug use) - transformed the country into a far more conducive setting for the spread of HIV/AIDS." Eberstadt quite confidently rattles off statistics pointing to how IV drug use is out of control in free market Moscow today, how curable sexually transmitted disease has increased 33 fold since the wonders of the free market took hold and how prostitution is a high growth industry amongst Russia's newly liberated women. He states with no apparent cheek, "Russia's transition from communism to capitalism has also coincided with a tremendous increase in criminal activity, a trend with important implications for the future of the HIV/AIDS epidemic."

In the case of India, the victory of free market forces over greater state control has had similar devastating results in terms of the spread of AIDS. While India was not a socialist country, the existence of the Soviet Union allowed the Indian bourgeoisie to traverse a more independent economic and political policy that shielded it from being completely at the mercy of the forces of globalization. Indian state capitalism was still never pretty, never fully overthrowing the shackles of poverty imposed upon it by the British Empire.

As in Russia, the spread of HIV follows the pathways of commercial capitalism. Introduced through the commercial centers of Mumbai (Bombay), Chennai (Madras), and Bangalore the disease has spread along the main trunk roads that serve as the transport network for this enormous country. As in Russia the opening up of the Indian economy to globalization has caused a sharp rise in prostitution and illegal drug use. In the early 1990s, Indian social scientists estimated that 2 million prostitutes were at work in the country, and demand has only grown during the intervening decade. Drug use and HIV

continued on next page



an out of control killer in sub-Saharan (Black) Africa. Twenty million human beings from Black Africa are already dead due to the disease. 28 million out of the world's approximately 40 million present HIV carriers live there. Roughly 9 - 11% of African people through ages 15 - 49 are said to be infected with the disease and the rate is reportedly a catastrophic 40% in Botswana. Eberstadt goes on to point out that it is so-called "ecological factors" or more clearly, "prevalent malnutrition and infectious disease" and the lack of adequate health care that is the root cause of why the AIDS pandemic took root in Black Africa as opposed to Europe and North America.

In other words the

Africa, no, his main concern is to point out to the ruling elites here and in Europe that "unlike in sub-Saharan Africa", "the unfolding HIV/AIDS epidemic - will have major worldwide repercussions" when it takes hold in Eurasia (Russia, China and India). He counsels the capitalists that unlike the "marginal" peoples of Black Africa who have no money, the combined income of the Eurasian region in 2000 was a whopping \$15 trillion, greater than that of the US or Europe, so they had better pay heed. If that isn't enough for Messrs. Capitalists of US and Europe to be concerned, Eberstadt points to the "four out of five of the world's million man strong armies, and four of the seven declared nuclear states"

governments of Russia, India and China.

Free Markets Makes Life Cheap in China, India, Russia

One can't fault bourgeois social scientists for not knowing their facts but it is their logic and reasoning that is deeply flawed. Eberstadt wishes to warn the capitalists of the west as we said of the impact on their profit margins of the spread of AIDS in Eurasia, however, his own facts reveal that it is precisely the profit interests of American and European capitalist expansion otherwise known as globalization that is the principal culprit in the spread of AIDS in the region. In the case of Russia, Eberstadt writes that, "the demise of the Soviet state set

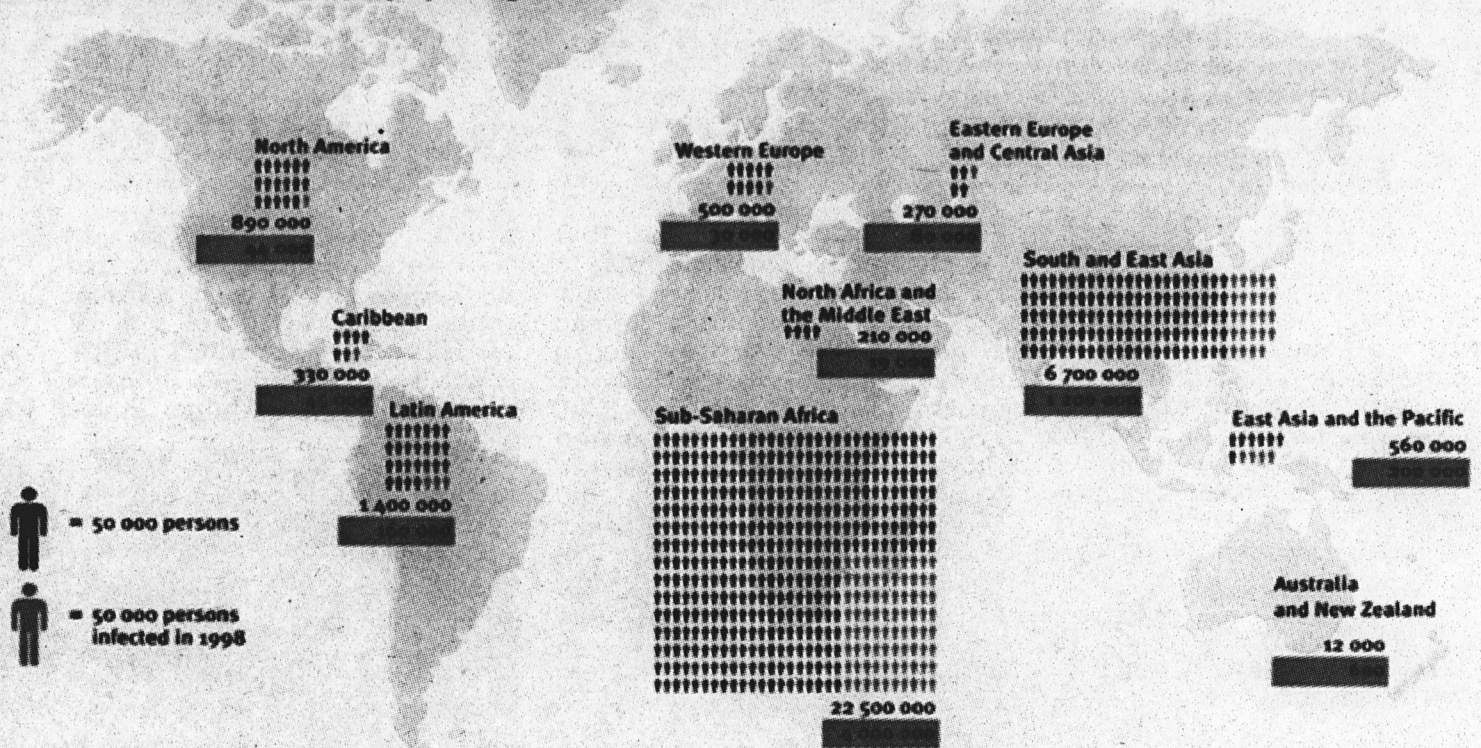
flourish along the border with Burma.

In China we witness the same horrifying pattern of HIV infection. There are anywhere from one million to six million HIV carriers in China today depending on your sources. This upper boundary if accurate would make China the country with the single largest HIV population. Eberstadt relates the familiar theme of HIV transmission in China. The rise of prostitution with the opening up of the Chinese economy and the sale of tainted blood are principal routes of the diseases spread. The rise of sexually transmitted disease in China increased over one hundred percent from 1985 - 2000, the period encompassing the free market reforms in China. Eberstadt states without reservation that the spread of HIV, "reflects the realities of China's ongoing economic transition. With the demise of the rural commune system and the attendant disintegration of public health care in the Chinese countryside, both patients and doctors needed new means of financing rural health care. One such method was the sale of blood or plasma by impoverished farmers to pharmaceutical concerns, clinics, or unregulated agents called 'blood heads.' These transactions typically took place without the benefit of fresh, disposable needles. Officially encouraged through the early 1990s, this trade in blood was outlawed in 1998 — yet it still continues."

Dying Can Be Hazardous To Your Health (and Profit Rates)

According to UNAIDS there are over 5.5 million HIV carriers in the three countries - China, India and Russia but going by the U.S. intelligence's statistics, the collective figure may be as high as 12 million. Eberstadt while outlining the facts of HIV transmission i.e. the spread of poverty and deterioration of public health facilities concurrent with globalization, in an amazing twist of logic warns the capitalists of the US and Europe that "HIV breakout could have lasting economic consequences — in effect, cutting afflicted countries off from globalization". So in short, globalization facilitates the spread of HIV but endangers the globalization project at the same time. This is a typical manifestation of the sharp contradictions inherent in capitalism. Capitalism creates wealth but

Regional estimates of the number of people living with HIV/AIDS



also extreme inequality thereby endangering capitalism itself. Capitalist expansion or globalization creates wealth for multinational corporations and local elites but spreads HIV endangering globalization itself. For bourgeois commentators like Eberstadt it is impossible to draw the logical conclusion that to stop the spread of HIV capitalist globalization must be stopped. It is impossible to state that an opposite global project to that of capitalism, a project of eradicating poverty worldwide and providing healthcare, sanitation and education to all, in other words, that a democratic and socialist project must replace the irrational capitalist globalization project. No, that would endanger his own position as a well paid apologist for the system.

What Causes AIDS? HIV or Merck Inc.

Indeed there is an increasing chorus of opinion that questions some of the fundamental beliefs about HIV and AIDS. The principal point of contention put forward by people such as Gary Null and many others, scientists as well as the infected, is the connection between HIV and AIDS. It is apparent to even the lay observer that HIV takes root most readily in the fertile soil of extreme poverty thus its epidemic spread in sub Saharan Africa. Even Eberstadt admits as much in his essay. AIDS or the complete breakdown of the immune system is said by Null and others to result from the drugs that are administered to treat HIV infection and is not an automatic product of HIV as is contended by the established

authorities on the subject. The current drug regimen in place for AIDS has been likened to the power of nuclear weapons. Yes, you kill some of the infection(s) but you destroy the whole body in the process.

While the truth of the matter seems to require further examination one thing that is abundantly clear is that the capitalist healthcare/pharmaceutical industry is driven by the flow of profits and not by the search for a cure. Indeed curing disease will only kill the golden goose that lays fat profits for capitalist health. So Eberstadt is only partially correct in stating that an HIV epidemic in Eurasia will threaten globalization. The profits of multinational drug dealers like Merck will only rise. However as the overall societies decay there ability to provide cheap labor to the

whole gamut of euro-american corporations will be diminished. The way forward lies in the globalization of justice, democracy, human rights, and not in the globalization of capitalism.

Every catastrophe predicted by the doomsayers of old will not only come to fruition but will seem mild compared to what the profit mad irrationality of capitalism is leading us to. The plague of HIV, the endless wars of Fuhrer Bush, the ecological disaster of global warming are the products of this sick, immoral, rotting system. We have a choice before us - follow the mad bomber imperialists to a collective suicide or fight for a society whose logic is to meet the needs of humanity in harmony with the ecology.

Africa is home to 70% of the adults and 80% of the children living with HIV in the world, and has buried three-quarters of the more than 20 million people worldwide that have died of AIDS since the epidemic began. - UNAIDS Global Summary of the HIV/AIDS Epidemic, December 2000

Approximately 47 percent of the 36.1 million adults living with HIV/AIDS worldwide are women. - NIAID Fact Sheet: HIV AIDS Statistics, December 2000

In the eight African countries where at least 15% of today's adults are infected, conservative analyses show that AIDS will claim the lives of around a third of today's 15-year-olds. - UNAIDS Global Summary of the HIV/AIDS Epidemic, December 2000

Mother-to-child (vertical) transmission has accounted for more than 90 percent of all HIV infections worldwide in infants and children. - NIAID Fact Sheet: HIV AIDS Statistics, December 2000

Approximately 40,000 new HIV infections occurred in the United States in 1998, about 70 percent among men and 30 percent among women. Of these newly infected people, half are younger than 25 years of age. - NIAID Fact Sheet: HIV AIDS Statistics, December 2000

WHAT IS THE ESSENCE OF NORTH KOREA'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS, REVEALED BY THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION?

REV. DONG GYOON KIM

On October 16, the US State Department announced that North Korea had admitted, during an early October diplomatic visit to the capital city of Pyongyang, to having established a uranium enrichment program for nuclear weapons.

According to the New York Times' article of Oct 29, 2002, "The Greatest Threat", by Nicholas D. Kristof, "The scariest place in the world right now is not Iraq, but rather the Korean peninsula," pointed out Kristof. Based on the logic of Bush administration's "war on Iraq," this is honest response to the North Korea's admission that they have been secretly developing a nuclear weapons program in breach of international agreements. For months US officials have been arguing that Saddam Hussein must be ousted militarily on the basis of unsubstantiated claims that Iraq is covertly developing "weapons of mass destruction," including nuclear, biological and chemical arms. While Iraq has been denying such unreasonable claims of the U.S., North Korea obviously acknowledged that they have a program to enrich uranium for nuclear weapons. If this is so, North Korea is more dangerous than Iraq as Kristof pointed out. Yet, the U.S. response to North Korea was a peaceful solution through diplomacy. It is a glaring contradiction between its stance over Iraq and North Korea. This response exposed the complete hypocrisy of the Bush administration's plan for war against Iraq.

In this contradictory situation, we can ask a question. Despite exposing the contradiction between Bush's administration stance over Iraq and North Korea, why did the Bush

administration announce that North Korea had admitted to have nuclear weapons program?

By the Ho Suk Han, a Korean affairs expert, we can get an answer from the following events since 1993. On March 10, 1993, North Korea announced that it would not allow the 'special inspection' by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) instigated by the United States. On March 12 of the same year, North Korea announced that it was withdrawing from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). North Korea was the first country to take such a drastic step that no other nation would dare. None of the US officials had anticipated North Korea to react to the US pressure so dramatically and they were at loss on how to respond to North Korea's challenge.

To the consternation of the world, North Korea went on the offensive: on May 29, 1993, North Korea test-fired a 500 km missile that landed in the ocean near Japan's Noto Peninsula; on the following day, it test-fired two missiles of 3,000 km range (2-stage Inter Continental Ballistic Missiles) with one landing near Guam and the other splashing down near Hawaii. North Korea had demonstrated that it could strike US military bases anywhere in Japan, Hawaii, Alaska, Guam, and Okinawa. It was a chilling demonstration to the US military. In this way, North Korea applied simultaneously political and military pressure on the United States.

The Clinton administration had threatened military actions, if North Korea refused the IAEA special inspection. But in the face of North Korea's defiance and show of force, Clinton was forced to back down and proposed a peaceful solution. Consequently, U.S. and North

Korean representatives met in New York from June 2nd to 11th in 1993. This political conference was a major setback of Clinton's hard-line policy. North Korea laid down its basic demands and the United States

military issues.

On October 16, the US State Department announced that "we have recently received intelligence reports that North Korea has a nuclear program to enrich uranium." A Wall Street

If North Korea had no nuclear weapons, the United States would not have bothered to negotiate political settlements and North Korea and Iraq would have been in the same boat. The United States negotiate with nuclear powers but wage war with non-nuclear nations.

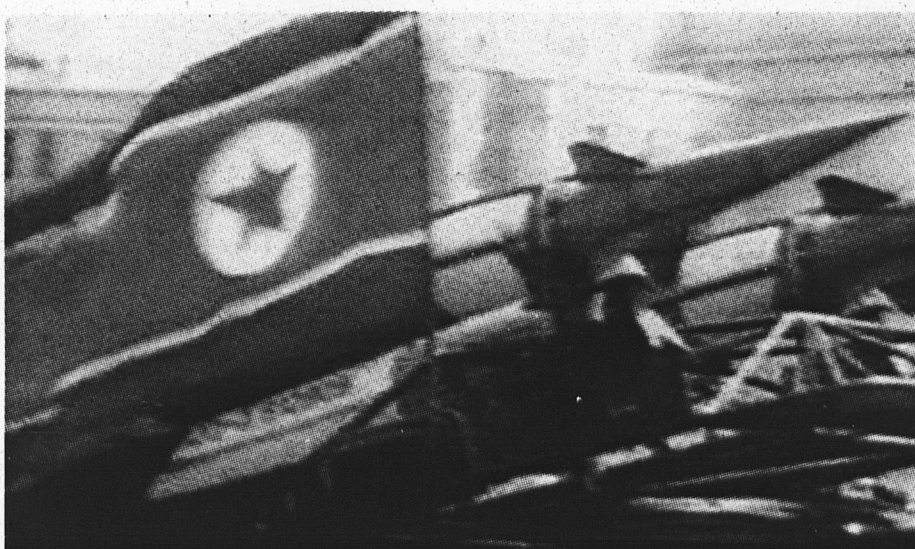
had no other choice but to accept them. The historic US-North Korea Joint Declaration was signed on the 11th.

The 1993 US-North Korea declaration contains four principles: (1) The United States abandoning its hostile policies toward North Korea, (2) Denuclearization of Korea, and peace and security in Korea guaranteed, (3) Respecting North Korea's national sovereignty and non-interference in other's internal affairs, and (4) Peaceful unification of Korea. In October 2002, the Bush administration dispatched a special envoy, James Kelly, to Pyongyang, to renegotiate the US - North Korea accord. Few newspaper reporters and analysts are aware of North Korea's three principles enunciated in the 1993 US-North Korea joint Declaration and of the fact that North Korea has been after the United States to put into practice the three principles it had accepted in 1993. They claim, erroneously, that North Korea wants material compensation for scrapping its nuclear program and that North Korea is using its nuclear card to force the United States to enter into making political deals with North Korea. Nearly all news reporters and analysts are under the mistaken notion that North Korea is using its nuclear program to squeeze out more economic aids. It is naive to think that North Korea has been confronting the United States politically and militarily in order to wring out some dollars from the United States. It is true that economic aid is indeed mentioned in US-NK, Japan-NK negotiations but economic aid is only secondary to political and

Journal article of October 17, 2002, states, citing Bush officials, that the Bush administration received an intelligence report in July 2002 on North Korea's acquisition of uranium enrichment equipment from a third country. Did the United States learn of North Korea's uranium enrichment program in July 2002 for the first time? Not really. Published reports indicate that the United States knew about the enrichment program as early 1999. Pakistan tested a uranium bomb in 1997 and a US government report published soon after stated that North Korea would have uranium bombs by 2004. Benjamin A. Gilman, a US Congressman, stated in a speech at the Asia Society meeting held in October 1999 that North Korea was developing uranium bombs. Bush's security advisor, Condoleezza Rice, told a CNN reporter that "there were scattered reports of North Korean nuclear program prior to 1999, when we received convincing evidence of the North Korean nuclear program. We have received conclusive evidence of the program this summer."

The United States has two 'rogue' nations under "nuclear" suspicion: Iraq and North Korea. The US policy on Iraq differs substantially from its policy on North Korea. Bush is preparing war on Iraq to topple Saddam Hussein and replace his government with a pro-US government. In contrast, Bush wants a peaceful settlement with North Korea.

The United States has negotiated several agreements



continued from previous page

with North Korea since 1990 even after North Korea's nuclear program became known, even to the point of agreeing to a Clinton-Kim Jong Il summit. Saddam has had no such luck with the United States. Instead, he has been under constant threats of war, continuing embargo, political and diplomatic isolation. Bush makes no bones about his desire to replace Saddam.

Why is this so? The answer lies in the relative military capabilities of Iraq and North Korea. Colin Powell admitted in an NBC interview (October 19) that "North Korea's military is much stronger than the Iraqi military." North Korea has nuclear weapons whereas Iraq does not, and North Korea has ICBMs (Inter Continental Ballistic Missile) whereas Iraq does not. If North Korea had no nuclear weapons, the United States would not have bothered to negotiate political settlements and North Korea and Iraq would have been in the same boat. The United States negotiate with nuclear powers but wage war with non-nuclear nations.

At a news briefing on October 17, Rumsfeld stated that North Korea is believed to have 'one or two' nuclear weapons, based on the intelligence collected since 1990. Bush's special envoy James Kelly told Japanese

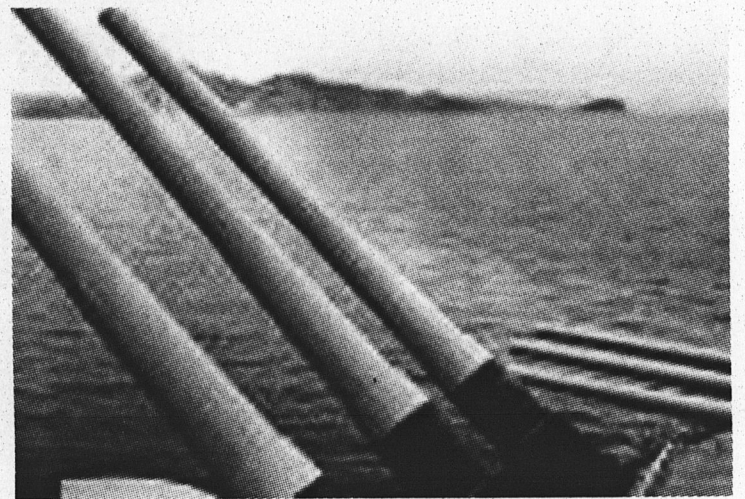
foreign minister Kawaguchi Yoriko and other officials that North Korea has 'a small number' of nukes. A Newsweek article dated October 18th, citing a US official, states that North Korea could be producing 'six or so' warheads within a year. The United States informally admits that North Korea has nuclear bombs and the general public accepts that. According to the British magazine, the Sunday Times (October 27, 2002), China warned the US CIA that North Korea might have 3-5 nuclear bombs. It has been established that North Korea has nuclear weapons, although no one knows exactly how many. Nuclear North Korea is no longer a secret and one must accept this fact and deal with the political and military issues in Korea accordingly. Nuclear North Korea limits the US options.

Why is it that the United States refuses to acknowledge nuclear North Korea? Why hasn't North Korea declared its nuclear power status? First of all, if the United States admits officially that North Korea has nuclear bombs, then Japan would want to build nuclear bombs and the Far East will plunge into a nuclear arms race. The United States must not allow Japan to acquire nuclear weapons in order to keep the US-Japan alliance and the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) alive. Hence, the United States

cannot publicly accept nuclear North Korea. Secondly, North Korea has not openly admitted to possessing nuclear weapons. The reason why is that North Korea has no reason to admit it because all North Korea has to do is to threaten to break the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and not necessarily break it. The threat alone is sufficient to force Bush to come to the negotiating table. The issue is not North Korea might develop nuclear weapons but it is saving the Nuclear NPT. The reason why the Nuclear NPT is so crucial to the US foreign policy and its military should be fully understood. The Treaty is the foundation upon which the US dominance of the world is based. If North Korea's nuclear power status is accepted, then the Treaty will become meaningless in East Asia, which will lead to abolition of the U S - J a p a n Treaty, which in turn will reduce the U S m i l i t a r y presence in the region. The reason why the United States is after Japan to normalize relations with North Korea is

to reduce Japan's fear of North Korea and to keep Japan free of nuclear weapons and under US dominance. The United States acts as if North Korea is yet to develop nuclear bombs even when dealing with North Korea. Why? Because, if the United States accepts nuclear North Korea even privately, then it would not have any leverage left. NK's Nuclear Program issue is the best offense and defense Bush has in dealing with North Korea.

That's why the US administration made North Korea's nuclear program an issue and despite such a contradiction, US policy on Iraq differs substantially from its policy on North Korea. This is the essence of North Korea's nuclear weapons issue revealed by Bush administration.



A HISTORY OF CUNY

continued from page 4

university security and created a CUNY Peace Officer Corps to replace the private security guards at CUNY facilities. The proposal envisioned that the CUNY Peace Officers would be sworn peace officers licensed to use firearms and with the power to make arrests. In 1994 '2.10[27] of the New York Criminal Procedure Law ("CPL") was amended to give police powers to the CUNY Peace Officers, including the powers to make arrests and to use deadly force as provided by CPL '2.20[1].

48. The initial purpose of the Peace Officer Corps was to create a force responsible to the CUNY Chancellor that could be rapidly deployed to arrest student demonstrators without having to go through the procedures mandated by the CUNY Board for calling police in non-violent demonstration situations. Since 1994 the Peace Officer Corps has been used to conduct surreptitious surveillance and intelligence operations monitoring student activists on and off campus; to arrest student protesters engaged in legal First Amendment activity and to prohibit the distribution of literature deemed offensive by college or university officials.

49. In 1995 CUNY Peace Officers arrested 47 students who were engaged in a peaceful hunger strike to protest cuts in funding to CUNY. Charges against the hunger strikers were eventually dismissed. However,

documents obtained by subpoena and through the New York State Freedom Of Information Law ("FOIL") (N.Y. Public Officers Law '84-90) disclosed that in 1995 CUNY Peace Officers compiled a "black list" of 91 students and faculty that was circulated to CUNY college presidents and other CUNY officials. The list was based on information obtained from the New York City Police Department regarding arrests of the subjects at demonstrations that were held off campus. Documents revealed through discovery in a student disciplinary case revealed that in 1994 CUNY Peace Officers in plain clothes conducted surveillance of students attending a demonstration at City Hall.

50. CUNY officials banned controversial speakers invited by student organizers of Black Solidarity Day ("BSD") events at York College in 1994 and 1995 and deployed Peace Officers to prevent the banned speakers from appearing on campus. Documents disclosed in discovery in *Ford v. Reynolds*, 96-CV-0246 (E.D.N.Y.) (SJ) revealed that several CUNY Peace Officers brought firearms to York College on the day of the 1995 BSD event despite an explicit order by the college president that Peace Officers would not be permitted to carry firearms at the event.

51. In 1996 the CUNY Peace Officers began a pilot program utilizing dogs to patrol several campuses.

52. In 1998 CUNY Peace Officers

installed a video camera hidden inside a smoke detector at the entrance to a room used by student activists at City College to conduct their meetings. *Sigal v. Moses*, 98 Civ. 3940 (TG) (S.D.N.Y.). In an affidavit submitted in *Sigal v. Moses* Defendant Timothy Hubbard admitted that one of the reasons the surveillance camera was installed was to conduct surveillance on students college officials suspected to be planning a demonstration to coincide with the college's graduation ceremony.

53. On May 26, 1998, CUNY Peace Officers arrested a 77 year old woman, a nun, and the chairman of the New York State Assembly Committee on Higher Education, the Honorable Edward Sullivan, when they refused to leave a public meeting where the CUNY Board of Trustees was about to vote on a proposal to end all remedial classes at four year colleges in the CUNY system and had illegally gone into executive session. A New York State Supreme Court Justice subsequently found that the closing of the meeting and the excessive security tactics utilized by CUNY security personnel violated the New York State Open Meetings Law.1 *Crain v. Reynolds*, Index No. 115990/95 (N.Y.Cty. Sup. Ct. August 10, 1998) appeal dismissed as moot 687 N.Y.S.2d 79 (1st Dep't 1999).

54. In 1999 a female alumna who was arrested by CUNY Peace Officers for allegedly shouting at a public hearing filed a federal lawsuit alleging that she

had been strip-searched by a police officer while she was in the custody of the CUNY Peace Officers.

55. In 1999 a FOIL by student journalists request revealed that over a two year period the CUNY Office Of Public Safety purchased over 100,000 rounds of ammunition including hollow point ammunition and hundreds of rounds of buckshot and birdshot that, on information and belief, would be illegal for the New York City Police Department to possess.

56. In the mid 1990's, the President of City College disapproved a proposal by Defendant Timothy Hubbard to authorize CUNY Peace Officers stationed at City College to carry firearms when on patrols in the community surrounding the campus. However, several months later Peace Officers began carrying firearms while escorting students and employees to the subway station at City College at night at night. At a meeting with faculty members the college president denied that she knew that the Peace Officers were carrying firearms in violation of her directive.

Excerpts taken from complaint in *Rivera vs. Fernandez*, a Federal Civil Rights Lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of N.Y. Docket # 02Civ.9109

DON'T BE THE NEXT VICTIM

STAND UP AGAINST RACISM AND HATE CRIMES

SHEREEN KANDIL

New York City is and has always been a very diverse city. Muslims, Jews, Christians, blacks, whites, men, and women, all working together, living together, eating together, and going to school together. This city has been a place where no one should feel out of place. The College of Staten Island has a very diverse student body.

Now, at the College of Staten Island, students fear being attacked physically or verbally. When they walk into a classroom, students fear seeing graffiti attacks on their religion, nationality, race, ethnicity, or disability.

People from Staten Island, Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan, the Bronx and New Jersey come to CSI for an education. While learning, the student body also has the opportunity to involve themselves in school activities, whether it would be sports, the arts, or activism. Students come to this college every day expecting safety and protection. What happens when that feeling of security is shattered? A Peace Officer, someone whom students should look to for protection, has destroyed this seal of trust students have with the Public Safety and any other person in authority. Peace Officer Peter Licata attacked Ayman El-Sayed, an Arab-American student here at CSI. He racially attacked Arabs and Muslims. Because of this attack, a rally was held on Thursday October 24, 2002 against Racism and Hate. Although the rally had a large turnout, the hate crimes have not stopped on campus. A swastika was found drawn on a screen in the building of Performing and Creative Arts (1P). Also found in building 1P, were words of hate for blacks. A student walked into the men's bathroom and found words of hate towards Muslims.

In Brooklyn, New York, a Bangladeshi-Muslim student attending the College of Staten Island was murdered. Mohammed Sakawat Hossain was only an 18-year old freshman. Although it is not said to be a hate crime, it is alleged that Mohamed's murder was. Yusra Awadeh, a 16-year old, Palestinian girl,

was jerked from her classroom at Franklin D. Roosevelt High School in Brooklyn because she was wearing a "Free Palestine" T-shirt and a Palestinian flag pin. Yusra did not break any rules nor did she do anything to harm anyone. As Tamer El-Ghobashy of the Daily News says, "The Chancellor's Regulations do not specifically address displaying non-American flags in public

schools."

Hate crime, also known as bias crime, is defined as "the violence of intolerance and bigotry, intended to hurt and intimidate someone because of their race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, or disability," by the Community Relations Service in 2001.

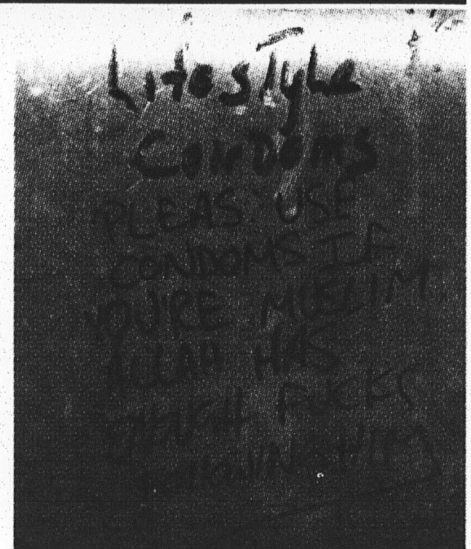
In the year 2000, there were 8,055 single-bias incidents, 53.8 percent were motivated by racial bias, 18.3 percent by religious bias, 16.1 percent by sexual orientation, 11.3 percent by ethnicity/national origin bias, and 0.5 percent by disability and multiple bias. 79.4 percent of these victims were individuals, 3.7 percent was a society or public as a whole, 3.4 percent, were religious organizations, 33.3 percent were business or financial institutions, and 2.7 percent was the government. The remaining 7.5 percent, the victim was unknown, other or multiple offenses. (Hate Crime Statistics, 2000)

According to law enforcement agencies in the year 2000, a total of 7,530 known offenders were associated with 8,063 hate crimes. 64.4 percent were white, 18.7 percent were black, 1.4 percent was Asian/Pacific

Islander, and 0.6 percent was American Indian/Alaskan Native. (Hate Crime Statistics, 2000)

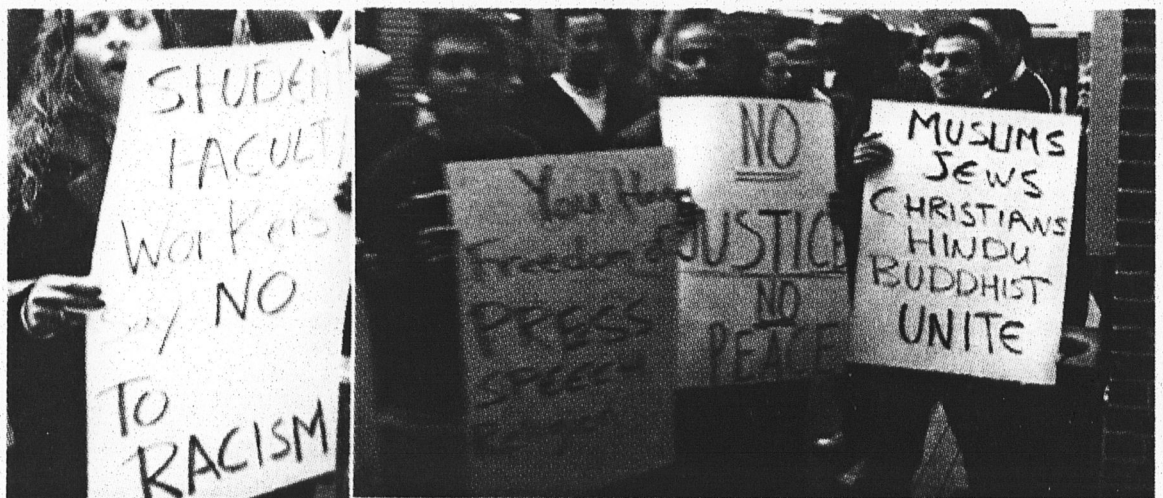
According to the Hate Crime Statistics, incidents of biased crimes committed in schools or colleges are 11.4 percent. Incidents occurring on or in residential properties are 32.1 percent, and incidents committed on a highway, road, alley, or street accounts for 17.9 percent.

Congress has passed many anti-crime legislated acts which include, the Hate Crime Prevention Act of 1999, the Church Arson Prevention Act of 1996, the Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act, and the Hate Crime Statistics Act of 1990. The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) works to try to improve the justice system's response to victims of hate crimes. The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) has a training initiative for law enforcement agencies to generate awareness and to help in identifying, investigating, and taking appropriate action for bias crimes. The BJA also arms agencies with tools for responding effectively to any biased crime. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention



racist anti-muslim graffiti found in the bathroom of building 1P at the College of Staten Island

When they walk into a classroom, students fear seeing graffiti attacks on their religion, nationality, race, ethnicity, or disability. What we have here is a catastrophe. We do not feel safe in our neighborhoods and in our schools. Laws have been passed against hate crimes for a reason. These hate crimes need to be stopped. Something must be done when a Peace Officer attacks a student, or when a student is killed, or when ANY racial graffiti, against anyone, is marked on school property.



CSI students protest racism and hate crimes on campus

(OJJDP) funds those agencies that the BJA trains.

If the government has all of these measures of preventing and stopping hate crimes, why are they still occurring? A walk down the street could lead to death. Hanging a flyer up on a door at your college could lead to racial attacks. Wearing a t-shirt at your school could lead to punishment. Now, at the College of Staten Island, students fear being attacked physically or verbally.

