



June 13, 2002

Vol. 44, No. 23

# WORKERS WORLD

workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite!

workers.org

## MUNDO OBRERO

### ENTREVISTA ESPECIAL

Ismael Guadalupe sobre la lucha en Vieques **12**



### TEXAS GAY PRISONER WINS REPRIEVE

Gay activists and anti-death-penalty activists have fought for Texas death row prisoner Calvin Burdine for years. Burdine's attorney slept through much of his client's 1984 trial. Now, after a long struggle, Burdine will finally be retried or released. **4**

### 'WE DON'T WANT YOUR COINTELPRO!'

The FBI is getting beefed up for domestic spying. This program, aimed at political dissenters, reeks of Cointelpro—the Counter Intelligence Program—masterminded by the infamous J. Edgar Hoover. Now activists plan to combat FBI terror tactics. Mark June 29 on your calendar! **3**

### U.S. WAR CRIMES UNCOVERED IN KOREA

As Bush's imperial war drive deepens, every new military action and deployment is touted as "defensive" or "humanitarian." But the progressive movement in south Korea has uncovered still more evidence of the kind of U.S. war crimes against civilian populations that are the hallmark of Pentagon war. **9**

### Chicago judge frees trigger-happy sheriffs

**3**

### New York phone workers protest layoff threats

**4**

### PALESTINE: the siege continues

**9**

### Russian revolutionaries fight gov't ban

**11**

## India and Pakistan on brink

# U.S. Afghan war destabilizes area

## Colonial legacy fuels crisis over Kashmir

By Fred Goldstein

As the clouds of war gather over the peoples of South Asia, Washington and its junior partners in London are projecting themselves as peacemakers. While lecturing on restraint, however, those who have been the historical and contemporary instigators of war and conflict on the Indian subcontinent are stepping up their imperialist intervention in the region.

The British have sent Foreign Secretary Jack Straw to the region and Washington is sending Undersecretary of State Richard Armitage, allegedly to try to quiet the situation. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld is to go to India and Pakistan the weekend of June 8.

Of course, both the Indian and Pakistani regimes are reactionary representatives of the exploiting classes of their respective countries. Both are trying to court U.S. imperialism to press their claims in the current crisis. And neither is truly interested in allowing genuine self-determination for the people of Kashmir—that is, the right of the people to choose, without pressure from Pakistan or India, what relations to have with their neighbors, including the option of complete independence without the interference of U.S. or British imperialism.

The present crisis was precipitated when anti-Indian forces, presumably Islamic fundamentalist forces associated with Pakistan, carried out an attack on Indian soldiers' families near a garrison in Indian-occupied Kashmir. The background to this attack is a 55-year-old dispute over the status of divided Kashmir. More immediately in the background is a series of massacres in which perhaps a thousand Moslems have been killed and many left wounded and homeless in Gujarat, India. The attacks have taken place with the complicity of the ruling right-wing nationalist party, the Bahratiya Janata Party (BJP) of Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee.

At present there is room for wide speculation about the military-diplomatic maneuvering behind the war moves of both sides. Certainly, the attitude of U.S. and British imperialism has clearly been to tilt towards India and to keep up a steady drumbeat of warnings to the Pakistani government of Gen. Pervez Musharraf to stop the attacks on the Indian presence in Kashmir.

This one-sided emphasis up until now is quite remarkable given that India has threatened to initiate a conflict that could result in nuclear war. It has mobilized 700,000 troops near the border, with 2 million more on alert, and

*Continued on page 10*



## CONFERENCE:

### Take the anti-war struggle to the streets

**5**



WW PHOTOS: G. DUNKEL, SARAH FRIEDMAN AND JOHN CATALINOTTO

It was standing-room-only as more than 600 activists from around the country packed a June 1 emergency anti-war conference in New York City. By day's end, they had prepared a blueprint for militant upcoming actions.

## SUBSCRIBE to Workers World

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Special trial subscription: \$2 for 8 weeks

\$25 for one year

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

WORKERS WORLD NEWSPAPER  
55 W. 17 St. NY, NY 10011 (212) 627-2994

# Memo to racist, sexist movie reviewers: *ENOUGH!*

By Teresa Gutierrez

Most mainstream Hollywood movies do not merit precious space in this newspaper. But when a New York Times review attacks a movie on a racist, sexist—and even class—basis, it's worth a word or two.

The thriller "Enough" was maliciously reviewed by Stephen Holden in the May 24 New York Times. Holden described the film, starring Jennifer Lopez, as an example of "a new Hollywood sub genre: the male yuppie horror film.

"The unspoken premise behind it," he continued, "suggests that a new generation of cold young men has arisen who are so obsessed with fattening their portfolios and chiseling their abs that they have forgotten to

grow souls."

The movie, he says, "also exploits an ugly undercurrent of class warfare."

The movie is by no means a classic. But the film that has earned the ire of this one reviewer addresses one of the most horrible byproducts of a sexist, capitalist society: woman battering.

The main character in the movie—played by Lopez—is a woman who is a victim of a mean and incredibly misogynist and racist male with lots of money.

What appears to have really gotten this reviewer so mad is that the character decides to no longer be a victim. She fights back. And she fights back hard.

Moreover, she wins.

That's why Holden is so angry. To

top it off, the woman is a waitress. The fact that a worker—and a worker of color to boot—wins out over a real estate magnate is the "ugly undercurrent of class warfare" that Holden refers to.

I went to see "Enough" to find out why Holden was so indignant. I sat in a theater full of Latinas and Latinos. All were cheering Lopez on. They were cheering her to go all the way, in a show of righteous people's justice against someone who thought he could always get what he wanted.

What will Holden write when not only women—but all the Latino masses, other people of color and workers and oppressed everywhere—say "enough" to all capitalist oppression?

We can hardly wait.

## Union members slam pro-Israel policies



Approximately 75 labor union members picketed outside the AFL-CIO general board meeting at the Sheraton Hotel in New York May 21. The protesters criticized the AFL-CIO leadership for its support of the Israeli government and sale of State of Israel Bonds. The protest was initiated by New York City Labor Against the War, and endorsed and supported by the International ANSWER coalition.

Ray LaForrest, a NYCLAW organizer, explained: "We trade unionists demand that the AFL-CIO break with the U.S. policies that support Israeli terror. We stand in solidarity with the Palestinian people."

—Story and photos by Judi Cheng

## HOLD THE DATE!

**Workers World Party  
Annual Conference  
Sept. 21-22, 2002  
New York City**

Workers World Party, 55 W. 17th St., 5th floor,  
New York, NY 10011; (212) 255-0352; ww@workers.org

Spend a weekend learning, exchanging views and information, and networking with others who are fighting for socialism and liberation. If you're looking for analysis and a guide to action on how to turn back the militarist, racist tide coming from Washington and Wall Street, this is the place to be.

There will be plenary sessions, workshops, and many opportunities to share experiences with Marxist thinkers and fighters of all ages. Catch the spirit of a party that has been on the cutting edge of the struggle against capitalism since 1959. For more information and how to register, call, email or write us.

JOIN US. Workers World Party (WWP) fights on all issues that face the working class and oppressed peoples—Black and white, Latino, Asian, Arab and Native peoples, women and men, young and old, lesbian, gay, bi, straight, trans, disabled, working, unemployed and students.

If you would like to know more about WWP, or to join us in these struggles, contact the branch nearest you.

**National Office**  
55 W. 17 St.,  
New York, N.Y. 10011  
(212) 627-2994;  
Fax (212) 675-7869  
wwp@workers.org

**Atlanta** P.O. Box 424,  
Atlanta, Ga. 30301  
(404) 235-5704

**Baltimore** 426 E. 31 St.,  
Baltimore, Md. 21218  
(410) 235-7040

**Boston** 31 Germania St.,  
Boston, Mass. 02130  
(Enter at 284 Amory St.)  
(617) 983-3835;  
Fax (617) 983-3836  
boston@workers.org

**Buffalo, N.Y.**  
P.O. Box 1204  
Buffalo NY 14213  
(716) 857-2112  
buffalo@workers.org

**Chicago** P.O. Box 06178,  
Wacker Drive Station,  
Chicago, Ill. 60606  
(773) 381-5839;  
Fax (773) 761-9330;  
chicago@workers.org

**Cleveland**  
P.O. Box 5963  
Cleveland, OH 44101  
phone (216) 531-4004  
cleveland@workers.org

**Detroit**  
5920 Second Ave.,  
Detroit, Mich. 48202  
(313) 831-0750;  
detroit@workers.org

**Houston**  
P.O. Box 130322,  
Houston, Texas  
77219 (713) 861-5965  
houston@workers.org

**Los Angeles**  
422 S. Western Ave.,  
Room 114,  
Los Angeles, Calif. 90020  
(213) 487-2368  
fax (213) 387-9355  
la@workers.org

**Milwaukee**  
P.O. Box 12839,  
Milwaukee, Wis. 53212  
milw@workers.org

**Philadelphia**  
P.O. Box 9202,  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19139  
(610) 352-3625;  
phila@workers.org

**Richmond, Va.**  
P.O. Box 14602,  
Richmond, Va. 23221  
richmond@workers.org

**Rochester, N.Y.**  
2117 Buffalo Rd., PMB.  
303, Rochester, N.Y. 14624  
(716) 436-6458;  
rochester@workers.org

**San Diego, Calif.**  
3930 Oregon St., Suite 230  
San Diego, Calif. 92104  
(619) 692-4496

**San Francisco**  
2489 Mission St.  
Rm. 28,  
San Francisco,  
Calif. 94110  
(415) 826-4828;  
fax (415) 821-5782;  
sf@workers.org

**Seattle**  
1218 E. Cherry #201,  
Seattle, Wash. 98122  
(206) 325-0085

**State College, Pa.**  
100 Grandview Rd.,  
State College,  
Pa. 16801  
(814) 237-8695;  
jxb58@psu.edu

**Washington, D.C.**  
P.O. Box 57300,  
Washington, DC 20037,  
(202) 347-9300  
dc@workers.org

This week ...



### ★ National

Memo to racist, sexist movie reviewers . . . . . 2  
 Union members slam pro-Israel policies . . . . . 2  
 FBI 'reforms' mean more repression . . . . . 3  
 Chicago judge lets trigger-happy sheriffs go . . . . . 3  
 Gay death row prisoner wins reprieve . . . . . 4  
 Napoleon Beazley executed . . . . . 4  
 Phone workers protest layoff threat . . . . . 4  
 June 1 anti-war conference . . . . . 5  
 Voices of resistance . . . . . 6  
 Bayan at anti-war conference . . . . . 6  
 Students at anti-war conference . . . . . 7  
 Ben Dupuy at anti-war conference . . . . . 7

### ★ International

Washington's warmongers in India, Pakistan . . . . . 1  
 Stand with Vieques . . . . . 8  
 Interview with Vieques protest leader . . . . . 8  
 Movement in Korea exposes U.S. war crimes . . . . . 9  
 Activist tells of Israeli terror in Nablus . . . . . 9  
 Russian gov't tries to ban revolutionaries . . . . . 11  
 Belgium union victory . . . . . 11

### ★ Editorials

Marx and Tyco . . . . . 10

### ★ Noticias En Español

Ismael Guadalupe . . . . . 12  
 LGBT Musulmanes . . . . . 12  
 Camacho Negrón . . . . . 12

## WW CALENDAR

### BOSTON

**Sun., June 9**  
 Protest 'Israeli Independence Day' Protest 54 years of Zionist racism and genocide and the U.S.-Israeli war against the Palestinians. Gather 11:30 a.m. for a noon rally, then march to site of 'Israel Day' event. For info (617) 522-6626 or email ANSWERBoston@iabcoston.org or on the web at www.iabcoston.org/Palestine.

### NEW YORK

**Fri., June 7**  
 Workers World Party Forum: The India-Pakistan Conflict—A Marxist analysis. Hear Fred Goldstein. Also a salute to the Puerto Rico Day Parade, including an update on Vieques. 7 p.m. At 55 W. 17 St., 5th Fl., Manhattan. For info (212) 627-2994.  
**Sat., June 15**  
 WWP summer classes on socialism. For info (212) 255-0352 or ww@workers.org

### Workers World

55 West 17 Street  
 New York, N.Y. 10011  
 Phone: (212) 627-2994 • Fax: (212) 675-7869  
 E-mail: editor@workers.org  
 Web: http://www.workers.org/  
 Vol. 44, No. 23 • June 13, 2002  
 Closing date: June 5, 2002

Editor: Deirdre Griswold;  
 Technical Editor: Lal Roohk; Managing Editors: Greg Butterfield, John Catalinotto, Shelley Ettinger, Leslie Feinberg, Gary Wilson; West Coast Editors: Richard Becker, Gloria La Riva; Contributing Editors: Joyce Chediak, Naomi Cohen, Teresa Gutierrez, Monica Moorehead, R.M. Sharpe; Technical Staff: Gery Armsby, Lyn Neeley, Leslie Senior; Mundo Obrero: Carl Glenn, Carlos Vargas; Internet: Janet Mayes

Workers World/WW (ISSN-0043-809X) is published weekly except the first week of January by WW Publishers, 55 W. 17 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10011. Phone: (212) 627-2994. Subscriptions: One year: \$25; foreign and institutions: \$35. Letters to the editor may be condensed and edited. Articles can be freely reprinted, with credit to Workers World, 55 W. 17 St., New York, NY 10011. Back issues and individual articles are available on microfilm and/or photocopy from University Microfilms International, 300 Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48106.

Selected articles are available via e-mail subscription. Send an e-mail message to info@workers.org for details.

Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y.  
 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Workers World/WW, 55 W. 17 St., 5th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10011.

## Activists challenge new Cointelpro

# FBI 'reforms' mean more repression

By Monica Moorehead

On May 30, Attorney General John Ashcroft and Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Robert Mueller held a news conference to announce that the FBI would be turning its full attention to combating "terrorism."

In essence, this means that the FBI will no longer be legally restricted from carrying out all kinds of political surveillance, from wiretapping to Internet spying, in pursuit of forces that in its opinion pose a "terrorist" threat to the United States. This, of course, has the full blessings of the entire Bush administration.

The legislative arm of the government has accused the FBI and CIA of not doing enough to prevent the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. The U.S. ruling class, government and mainstream media are using this debate to whip up fear among the public to help justify unfettered new powers for the FBI and CIA.

For instance, the cover of a recent Newsweek featured pictures of two Arab men who supposedly were involved in the airplane attack on the Pentagon. The caption under their pictures stated in bold letters: "The 9/11 Terrorists the CIA Should Have Caught."

And for added sensationalism, the words "terrorists" and "caught" were in red.

The article chronicled the movements and actions of these two men inside and outside the United States for the past several years. They are described as Al-Qaeda operatives.

### What's really at stake?

The criticism over how the FBI and CIA analyzed and reacted to intelligence gathered before Sept. 11 is one thing. It amounts to an internal struggle within the U.S. government.

The larger issue is their reaction to the criticisms that are being seriously posed by sectors within the progressive political movement—a movement that is steadily growing in opposition to Bush's global war plans.

Rather than investigating how the FBI and CIA analyzed their intelligence sources before Sept. 11, this movement says, there should instead be an outcry for public disclosure of the Bush administration and Pentagon's war plans for the coming months and years.

Immediately following the Sept. 11 attacks, the first reaction from Ashcroft and Bush was to racially profile Arabs, South Asian people and Muslims. This amounted to a terrible witch-hunt.

Thousands of people were rounded up and detained without the due process that is supposed to be one of the main pillars of bourgeois democracy regardless of whether one is native- or foreign-born.

As the nine-month anniversary of Sept. 11 approaches, how many detainees are still languishing indefinitely in jails, especially in New York and New Jersey?

The government used this racial profiling as a weapon to deepen racial hatred, fear and suspicion within the U.S. population. Islamic charities had their assets frozen and were shut down as the government accused them of aiding and abetting "terrorists."

But as many can see after the Ashcroft/Mueller announcement, the U.S. government counterintelligence plot does not end with racial profiling. It was never the intention to stop there.

The next target has always been the U.S. political movement at home as well as those forces abroad that are challenging U.S. imperialist dominance in the Philippines, Palestine, Iraq, north Korea, Colombia and many other places.

### Return of Cointelpro

Bestowing these powers on the FBI reeks of Cointelpro—or Counter-Intelligence Program—during its prime. This program was masterminded by the first FBI director, the infamous J. Edgar Hoover, who launched it in the early 1950s following the anti-communist witch hunts.

In its infancy Cointelpro's main targets were the emerging civil-rights movement, and later, more radical movements like the Black Panther Party, Young Lords, American Indian Movement, Students for a Democratic Society, anti-Vietnam war activists, the women's and gay liberation movements, and others.

Under the guise of safeguarding "U.S. national security," Hoover's operatives used every dirty trick in the book to discredit, undermine and destroy those organizations seeking racial justice and revolutionary social change. Cointelpro used surveillance on the leaders of these movements, including Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Kwame Toure (then Stokely Carmichael) and Jamil Ahmed Al-Amin (then H. Rap Brown).

These tactics included infiltration by FBI informants to foment divisions, frame-ups, imprisonment and murders.

Cointelpro was never totally dismantled, even after certain restrictions were imposed on the FBI in the 1970s in response to the devastating attacks on the political movement.

There are still victims of Cointelpro in jail today—mainly activists who have been im-

prisoned for 20, 30 or more years because of their political beliefs and actions. They include Mumia Abu-Jamal, Al-Amin, Sundiata Acoli, Dr. Mutulu Shakur, Leonard Peltier, the MOVE 9 and hundreds more.

### ANSWER: We won't be intimidated

The FBI and the Bush administration are hoping that this latest announcement of the escalation of so-called "counter-terrorism" will intimidate the political movement and stop it from achieving its goal of building a powerful anti-war, anti-racist struggle inside the United States.

The fact that Ashcroft and Mueller made their announcement following the historic march of 100,000 people in Washington, D.C., on April 20, indicates how nervous they are about this movement's full potential. This is why they feel so compelled to strengthen their repressive apparatus of harassment and finger pointing.

But this attempt to beat back the movement only strengthens the resolve of many political activists. That was evident at the June 1 anti-war conference organized by the International ANSWER (Act Now to Stop War and End Racism) coalition in New York. ANSWER was the main organizer of the April 20 Free Palestine demonstration.

Among the many fight-back proposals announced at the conference was a regional demonstration to be held at FBI headquarters in Washington on June 29 and simultaneous protests at federal offices in other cities.

Mara Verheyden-Hilliard of the Partnership for Civil Justice told the more than 600 conference participants: "Today we have launched a national fight-back movement to stop John Ashcroft and the FBI from bringing back the very worst features

'We have launched a national fight-back movement to stop Ashcroft and the FBI from bringing back the worst features from J. Edgar Hoover's reign over domestic intelligence.'

**Converge on the FBI Washington Headquarters June 29!**

from J. Edgar Hoover's reign over domestic intelligence.

"Ashcroft's changes have been presented as an innocuous update of FBI procedures," said Verheyden-Hilliard. "This has become the preferred method of presentation by Ashcroft as the Justice Department shreds the First Amendment and the Bill of Rights."

"Ashcroft is facing a growing and powerful anti-war, anti-racist movement that won't be easily intimidated," said Larry Holmes, co-director of the International Action Center. "We're not going to let Ashcroft, the FBI, Bush and his right-wing gang tear up the Constitution with the complicity of the Democratic Party and Congress."

"We're not going to stand by silently and let them open up a war on political dissent, and stop the very necessary movement against his war-mongering, pro-rich madness."

## U.S. injustice at its worst

# Chicago judge lets trigger-happy sheriffs go

By Bill Massey  
Chicago

In June 1999, a young African American couple—Dominique Mapp and Cory Simmons—were in a car that crossed paths with a vehicle carrying five liquored-up sheriffs. All the cops were white. They had been drinking, first at a cocktail fundraiser for Cook County Sheriff Michael Sheahan and then at a bar.

The five sheriffs reportedly harassed the couple immediately. One officer threw a beer can at Cory Simmons. The sheriffs, in their vehicle, chased the couple's car. They shot out the rear window of the couple's automobile.

Simmons desperately drove through the South Chicago suburbs trying to lose the drunken cops. Mapp has testified that she crouched on the floor of the car in shock and panic, shouting, "They're going to kill us!"

Bullets just missed their heads as the couple drove to a police station in Robbins, Ill., a southwestern suburb of Chicago.

The sheriffs were not charged until October 1999. The trial was not held until this year.

Sgt. Thomas Lanigan and Officer An-

thony Bohling were charged with attempted murder, aggravated discharge of a weapon and official misconduct. Officers Andrew Remus, Daniel Troike and Robert Jones were charged with official misconduct and obstruction of justice.

The last charge was because they initially lied about firing a weapon and covered up for Lanigan, who did the shooting. Lanigan is the nephew of a top aide to the Cook County sheriff.

Lanigan was later forced to admit that he fired bullets. But he concocted a story that the couple fired at him.

Lanigan had four guns in his car. The other sheriffs were armed as well. Police found no evidence that Mapp or Simmons was armed.

Yet on May 30 the five cops were found innocent on all charges by a white judge—Clayton J. Crane. The sheriffs had chosen to be tried by a judge rather than a jury.

A 911 tape introduced by the defense recorded the sheriffs yelling, "Kill 'em, kill 'em." Although there was no evidence of any shots other than those fired by the sheriffs, the judge ruled, "I cannot be convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that they didn't think shots were fired at them."

So if the sheriffs said they thought non-existent shots were fired, that's good enough for the judge.

Cory Simmons' mother, Sharon Hinton, said, "You have a badge and you can get away with anything."

Dominique Mapp said she still fears for her life. "I could not believe they got away scot-free. They were trying to kill us. I have nightmares all the time."

Simmons and Mapp have filed a civil lawsuit against the five. They will seek a jury trial.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson said the acquittal "sends the message that police officers have carte blanche to abuse their authority." Jackson led a protest march in front of the Cook County sheriff's office.

Jackson characterized Judge Crane's judgment as "highly politically motivated." And, Jackson concluded, "It seems their political connections allowed the cops to circumvent the law."

State Attorney Dick Devine, known for his defense of police frame-ups, said he accepted the judge's decision and saw no evidence of racism.

In fact, this is U.S. justice at its typical, racist worst.

## TEXAS

# Gay death row prisoner wins reprieve

By Gloria Rubac  
Houston

Texas death-row prisoner Calvin Burdine, a gay man, will finally be released or retried.

Burdine's attorney, Joe Cannon, slept during his capital murder trial in 1984. A federal court overturned his conviction two years ago. But the state of Texas appealed, saying that the attorney didn't sleep during the "important" parts of the trial.

On June 3, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the state's appeal, thereby letting the reversal stand.

"Today an alert and conscious Supreme Court put to rest this case, which helped wake up the country to the chronic problem of abysmal legal representation in capital cases," said Burdine's attorney, Robert McGlasson.

Harris County Assistant District Attorney Roe Wilson said Burdine would probably be retried. Burdine was convicted of killing his former lover.

McGlasson said he would fight attempts to retry the case, saying that evidence has grown stale largely because of the state's protracted effort to preserve Burdine's conviction.

"Burdine's case has attracted worldwide attention, and rightly so," said activist Lucha Rodriguez, a member of the Texas Death Penalty Abolition Movement. "Texas' appeal was ludicrous. To put forth that the attorney didn't sleep during important parts of the trial shows the reactionary path that Houston and the state of Texas have taken in building the assembly line of death here."

## Anti-gay trial

Gay activists and anti-death-penalty activists have fought for Burdine for years.

In 1995 a news conference was held in support of Burdine, who was expecting an execution date at the time. Lawyers Deborah Gilman of the American Civil Liberties Union and Mitchell Katine of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby focused on the anti-gay conduct of both the district attorney and Burdine's own attorney.

In closing remarks to the jury, prosecutor Ned Morris responded to attorney Canon's plea to spare Burdine from the death penalty. "Sending a homosexual to the penitentiary certainly isn't a very bad punishment for a homosexual, and that's what Cannon is asking you to do," Morris said.

Katine said that it was ludicrous to think any gay person might be pleased about getting sent to prison.

In fact, when Burdine arrived on death row, he was brutalized and lost his vision in one eye. He now wears a patch to cover the eye.

Even harsher criticism was leveled at Cannon, who let three people onto the jury who admitted in court to being biased against gays. Cannon did not call witnesses who might have helped the defense and, as the world now knows, slept during significant parts of the trial.

Burdine's case has been given wide coverage in Houston's leading gay newspaper, *The Voice*, and also in the national press. The Supreme Court's June 3 decision was praised by several mainstream Texas newspapers.

But death penalty abolitionists warn that the Supreme Court is no champion of those on death row.

The high court ruled in 1984 that defen-

dants whose lawyers represent them incompetently can get their convictions overturned, but set a formidable barrier: The defense must prove not only that the trial lawyer fell below minimum standards, but also that the deficiencies had a likely effect on the verdict.

Applying that standard, the Supreme Court and lower courts have upheld convictions in which the defense lawyer was drunk or mentally ill, finding no proof that the lawyer's conduct hurt the client's case.

Just last week, the high court voted eight to one to uphold a Tennessee man's death sentence. His lawyer presented no closing argument and was later found to have been mentally ill during the trial.

The late Joe Cannon was also found to have slept through part of the trial of another Texas client, Carl Johnson. Johnson's death sentence was upheld, and he was executed in 1995. At that time George W. Bush was governor.

Burdine came within moments of execution in 1987 before receiving a court-ordered reprieve.

Bush was asked about Burdine's case while campaigning for president in 2000. He cited a federal judge's order granting a new trial as evidence that the state's death-penalty system worked. As he spoke, the state was seeking to have the order overturned.

Activists in the Texas Death Penalty Abolition Movement look forward to having Burdine back in Houston's county jail, either to be released or retried.

"When the state sends Calvin to Houston, we will be with him and working on the outside with the gay community as well as all Houstonians to build unity and a fight to demand that Calvin Burdine be released!" the group announced.

Letters of support can be sent to: Calvin Burdine #000758, Polunsky Unit, 3872 FM 350 South, Livingston, TX 77351.



## Phone workers protest layoff threat

Thousands of workers represented by District 1 of the Communications Workers union demonstrated outside the Verizon building on 42nd Street in midtown Manhattan May 29. The crowd was estimated at 5,000 to 8,000 workers.

They demanded no layoffs and that Verizon, the regional telephone monopoly, respect the contract signed last year.

Verizon bosses claim that 2,000 CWA workers are "surplus." The union's response is that these workers are only surplus if Verizon wants to stop giving its customers service.

Slogans on many of the placards and T-shirts pointed out that if Verizon wants to cut costs, it could save \$40 million by simply firing its two top executives.

—Story and photo by G. Dunkel

Njeri Shakur protests outside the death house before Napoleon Beazley's execution May 28.

PHOTO:  
PEGGY CONNOLLY



## Napoleon Beazley executed

# Family, friends vow to fight on

By Workers World Houston bureau

Napoleon Beazley was executed by the state of Texas on May 28. Texas murdered a man who was a juvenile at the time of his crime, who graduated high school with honors, was president of his senior class, a star athlete, active in his church in the small town of Grapeland, Texas, and had no prior criminal record.

Around the world there was outrage. Almost 100 people protested the execution outside the Texas death house in Huntsville. Afterward, his extended family greeted supporters and spoke with reporters. Beazley's parents, Rena and Ireland, his sister Maria and his brother Jamaal had actively campaigned for him. They stood by him until the end.

On May 27, Rena Beazley and Ireland Beazley had their last visit with their son. They spent the next day in Houston using all the energy they could muster to talk about their son and urge people to call or fax the Parole Board and governor to ask for clemency.

At 11 a.m. they were in the radio studio at KPFT Pacifica Radio in Houston. Gloria Rubac and Njeri Shakur, co-hosts of "Fight Back," interviewed the Beazleys and then opened the phone lines for questions and comments. The hour was lively and gave the Beazleys the opportunity to open their hearts to listeners.

After the Pacifica show, Ireland Beazley and Rubac did an extensive interview with the BBC.

Then the family attended the 23rd Annual Pan African Festival in Herman Park, sponsored by the SHAPE Community Center. SHAPE Director Deloyd Parker urged the hundreds of people within earshot to sign postcards requesting clemency. Many folks went up and hugged Rena Beazley and told her to be strong and that they would keep the Beazleys in their prayers.

Twenty-four hours later their son was dead.

On June 1, there was a funeral and a celebration of Napoleon Beazley's life. Over 700 people attended, overflowing the small church. "We had a beautiful, uplifting service," said his mother. "This was not sad. We had only upbeat songs and there were so many flowers from all over that it looked like a paradise. We thank the people from all around the world for their notes and cards."

Activist Njeri Shakur of the Texas Death Penalty Abolition Movement said: "We were all moved by the strength of this family. The parents are so strong in their love for each other and for their children. And now they are promising to direct their anger at Napoleon's execution toward fighting the death penalty."

"We have plans to join the Abolition Movement and do something to fight the death penalty. We must end this monster. My 17-year-old son deserved a chance to live. Texas needs to get some backbone and stop the killing," Rena Beazley said.

Beazley said her son had learned to be a warrior during his years on death row. "Yes, and I think we are learning to be warriors too!"

## At June 1 anti-war conference

# Activists share lessons, forge bold plans

By Gery Armsby  
New York

A standing-room-only crowd of more than 600 people attended a June 1 anti-war conference sponsored by the International ANSWER Coalition at New York's Fashion Institute of Technology. The gathering provided activists with education, information and resources on the current U.S. war drive. They also deliberated over anti-war strategy and produced bold plans for actions in opposition to U.S. repression and war stretching into the early months of 2003.

Highlights included a moving series of presentations conveying the inspirational struggle of the Palestinian people under U.S.-backed Israeli occupation and a call to action in response to recently announced changes that grant the FBI new, Cointelpro-like powers.

ANSWER, which stands for Act Now to Stop War and End Racism, was also a main organizer of the largest-ever U.S. demonstrations in support of the Palestinian cause in Washington, D.C., and San Francisco on April 20.

Participation at the conference was very broad. It included people of many different experiences, geographic regions, nationalities, genders and abilities; those new to the anti-war struggle as well as seasoned activists; elders and youths, gay and straight.

Jennifer Wager of IFCO/Pastors for Peace welcomed the crowd and chaired an opening panel that launched the day-long program of talks, workshops, educational presentations and activist strategy sessions by emphasizing popular struggles around the world targeted by U.S. military, economic and political aggression.

### Challenge to new FBI powers

International Action Center Co-Director Larry Holmes introduced components of an action plan proposed to the conference by the ANSWER steering committee, including a call for a march on the FBI and Justice Department headquarters in Washington on June 29 and a campaign to hold independent hearings on U.S.-backed Israeli war crimes in Palestine.

"John Ashcroft announced a few days ago that he was removing the so-called restrictions put on the FBI during the mid-70s when there was an exposure of the Counter-Intelligence Program that came to be known as Cointelpro," Holmes reported.

"We've got to remind people what Cointelpro was about. It wasn't just about spying. It was a war on the Black movement, the Puerto Rican movement, the Native peoples' movement, the radical movement, the anti-war movement, the solidarity movement ... it involved not only infiltration and surveillance, but frame-ups, assassinations, murders."

Holmes then implored the crowd; "We have to respond to this as a movement."

Representatives from the Partnership for Civil Justice Legal Defense and Education Fund presented further analysis of the newly expanded FBI powers.

Attorney Carl Messineo explained that the FBI refers benignly to its activities as surfing the Web while "what they really are talking about is a massive data mining operation involving huge, Borg-like computers" capable of compiling and maintaining detailed dossiers on anyone.

"On June 29," PCJ attorney Mara Verheyden-Hilliard promised, "we will stand in front of the FBI, which is conveniently across the street from the Justice Department in Washington, DC, and we will tell them, hell no to Cointelpro."

Monica Moorehead, a national coordinator of Millions for Mumia who spoke at a morning workshop addressing the Patriot Act and civil rights, welcomed the ANSWER proposals.

Moorehead expressed her impression that "the action plan and momentum for June 29 coming out of this conference will have a significant effect, especially given recent announcements concerning the FBI's unrestricted powers. That demonstration in Washington can serve both as a response to these developments and help elevate the plight of political prisoners who are also victims of the In-Justice Department."

### Labor against the war

Two co-conveners of New York City Labor Against the War (NYCLAW) addressed the conference.

Mailhandlers Local 300 President Larry Adams explained, "Like you, NYCLAW sees 9/11 as a pretext to unfold an overall global agenda of pillage and plunder of the world that's particularly aimed at destroying the national liberation movements of oppressed peoples all over the world and to promote reaction in this country."

Brenda Stokely, president of AFSCME District Council 1707, pointed to the importance of the gathering "because it is essential in any movement for freedom and justice to build a principled united front against this government and against all of those that are bent on continuing to exploit and oppress people throughout the world as well as in this country."

Adams also helped lead a workshop where labor activists strategized about how to increase labor participation in anti-war activities.

Other workshops covered topics such as corporate globalization and U.S. economic intervention, international movements opposed to U.S. military intervention, and building grassroots opposition to the war on campuses and in communities. A workshop on U.S. strategy in the Middle East drew over 120 people to hear experts and discuss in depth the latest developments in Palestine, Iraq and Sudan. A presentation on Afghanistan by Workers World editor Deirdre Griswold sparked a lively discussion about the history of that country.

### Eyewitness Palestine

Conference participants were shown a short video of the recent ANSWER coalition delegation to occupied Palestine. The dramatic footage illustrated the daily crisis for Palestinian people living under the Israeli-imposed apartheid system of racist violence, discrimination, restrictions and checkpoints.

Delegation members described the coalition's plans for organizing Independent Commission of Inquiry hearings to investigate U.S.-backed Israeli war crimes in Palestine, including evidence they gathered while in Gaza and the West Bank.

Elias Rashmawi of the Free Palestine Alliance, himself a Palestinian, followed their presentations with an eloquent appeal to the activists to consider the meaning of Palestine's—or any oppressed na-



Rebeca Toledo, left, speaks in workshop on U.S. military intervention

WW PHOTO: JOHN CATALINOTTO

tion's—struggle for self-determination.

He told the rapt audience, "To understand Palestine you can hit the books and read the details of history, which is important, extremely important. But let me break it down for you. There is a Palestine that has a people that fight and struggle to maintain their humanity. And this Palestine is one that you can imagine best as you can imagine your own life."

An afternoon session was dedicated to strategizing in smaller groups about how to continue building the anti-war movement. Activists used these sessions to share lessons from recent organizing efforts. They discussed action proposals, including an international day of protests Oct. 19 and a march on Washington on the Gulf War's 12th anniversary, Jan. 18, 2003.

Sixty people joined a concurrent session to plan for the independent hearings on war crimes against Palestine.

A final session, chaired by International Action Center Co-Director Brian Becker, was dedicated to summing up the day's work and hearing from international guests from Palestine, Haiti, Venezuela and the Philippines as well as representatives from an array of progressive struggles.

Noted author Leslie Feinberg drew connections between the fight for lesbian, gay, bi and trans liberation and the need for strong resistance to the Bush administration's war drive.

### Why they came

WW spoke with many activists who attended the conference.

Janyce, 20, an activist from Los Angeles, said, "This was awesome. It makes me want to go home and work twice as hard and start an ANSWER chapter in Riverside [Calif.]." Janyce had organized for the April 20 demonstration in San Francisco, filling a 50-passenger bus in the space of two days.

Schuyler, a high-school sophomore from New Jersey, took time off from his studies and part-time job to attend the conference. He said, "I really learned a lot, especially about Cuba, and I really appreciated the African American union leader, Brenda Stokely, who was very inspiring in her presentation linking the war against Afghanistan with poverty and social issues here at home."

Jamal, 27, learned about the conference at the April 20 demonstration in Washington. He volunteered to help with conference security. "There was a group of 10 to 12 Zionists counter-demonstrating outside," Jamal said. "We talked to our people and asked them to ignore them. It was a weak showing of their side and their ignorance."

"I thought the conference itself was extremely positive. We covered a lot of the issues that are going on around the world, in the Middle East, Latin America and Asia, and even here in the U.S.," Jamal con-

cluded.

Judi Cheng, a Workers World Party member who staffed an ANSWER outreach table, remarked: "Everyone got a lot out of it and left with a better sense of what direction the progressive movement has to take in the coming months."

### 'An outstanding step'

Several ANSWER steering committee members also shared their impressions and reflections on the conference.

Elias Rashmawi told WW, "The conference, in my opinion, was an outstanding step toward cementing international solidarity and principled positions for an anti-imperialist force, including forces for social justice and self-determination, on the road to transforming the peace and justice movement in the United States to reflect the conditions of people victimized by globalization in the U.S. and everywhere else."

"We, the Palestinian people, salute the International Action Center for anchoring the ANSWER coalition, as it convened perhaps one of the most crucial and significant gatherings to propel the struggle of the Palestinian people forward."

"We are also gratified and humbled by the principled positions of the constituent member organizations of the ANSWER coalition, for their historic stand and solidarity with the Palestinian cause during both the April 20 mobilization and the conference of June 1."

Mara Verheyden-Hilliard found the large attendance to be "evidence of a very powerful movement of people in the U.S. who are forming together to fight the tide of government repression."

"The conference was significant in the breadth and diversity of people who attended and who are actively engaged in mounting an aggressive challenge to any attempts by Ashcroft and FBI Director Mueller to silence or quiet growing dissent against the Bush administration's corporate global war drive."

"I was struck by the high numbers of relatively new, relatively young activists at this kind of a gathering," said Sarah Sloan, a youth organizer for the International Action Center. "And it was great how much people appreciated the anti-imperialist message that resounded throughout the conference."

"The fact that 600 people from all over the country would come together to plan the next nine months of anti-war activities astounded me," said Chuck Kaufman, co-director of Nicaragua Network. "The level of enthusiasm and support for the program proposed by the ANSWER steering committee indicates that we have a strong anti-war, anti-racist coalition made up of many diverse forces and that we will continue to grow."

# Voices of resistance



Jennifer Wager



Randa Jamal



Larry Holmes



Teresa Gutierrez



Sara Flounders

**JENNIFER WAGER**  
*IFCO/Pastors for Peace*

“When I look around this room and see all of you, I can feel the energy and the spirit that’s been building and building against the Bush war drive. We’re here to continue building this movement.”

**CHUCK KAUFMAN**  
*Nicaragua Network*

“Why weren’t we paralyzed like so many others in the peace movement? Because the groups that formed ANSWER have a clear understanding of the U.S. imperialist objectives, a clear understanding of the nature of corporate globalization, a clear understanding of what the right of self-determination means to the oppressed peoples of the world.”



**LARRY HOLMES**  
*International Action Center*

“We need to build a movement that is based on solidarity with the people of

the world who are struggling against national oppression and imperialism, both outside the borders of the U.S. and inside. We don’t want a self-absorbed, timid, modest, conservative and meek movement. We want a radical movement. We want a movement that reaches out to the oppressed, the poor and the working people.”

**ELIAS RASHMAWI**  
*Free Palestine Alliance*

“There is a Palestine that has nothing to do with the imperial designs of anything. It has to do with hopes and fears; with the olive trees and the sky and the sea. It has to do with how we plant our vegetables and then eat them. It has to do with how we die and get buried. It is that Palestine. It is that South Africa. It is that El Salvador. It is that U.S. It is our inner cities. It is your family. It is mine. That is what we call Palestine.”

**MARA VERHEYDEN-HILLIARD**  
*Partnership for Civil Justice*

“We’ve fought the FBI in the past and won. The reason they are unsuccessful is because of our ability to mobilize.”

**YOOMI JEONG**  
*Korea Truth Commission*

“In Bush’s ‘axis of evil’ speech, North Korea, along with Iran and Iraq were accused of supporting terrorism and manufacturing weapons of mass destruction. Such a statement comes from the president of a country that is the largest manufacturer and exporter of weapons of mass destruction, and one that supported the terrorist regime of the Taliban for years with millions of dollars.”

**TERESA GUTIERREZ**  
*Committee to Stop U.S. War in Colombia*

“You don’t have to be a guerrilla in the jungles of Colombia to earn the ire of Washington. You can be a democratically elected president in Venezuela or an activist for peace in Chicago.”

**LARRY ADAMS**  
*New York City Labor Against the War*

“NYCLAW asserts the view that here in the belly of the beast—where we’re the so-called victims of terrorism—there is opposition to the immediate reaction of our ruling class; that, like you, we see 9/11 as a pretext to unfold an overall global agenda of pillage and plunder of the world that’s particularly aimed at destroying the national liberation movements of oppressed peoples and to promote an agenda of reaction at home.”

**RANDA JAMAL**  
*Al-Awda NY-NJ and the Free Palestine Alliance*

“The situation in Palestine is very critical and everybody needs to take part in it. It’s a universal issue.”

**CARL MESSINEO**  
*Partnership for Civil Justice*

“While we know that it’s Israeli fingers that are pulling the triggers, what they’re aiming [at Palestinians] are U.S.-made and U.S.-paid-for weapons and, under international human rights law, that places an equal amount of culpability on the steps of the U.S. just as well as that of the Israeli government.”

**DR. HILLEL COHEN**  
*epidemiologist*

“What became apparent is that, while the crisis of immediate epidemic in Palestine under Israeli reoccupation was ostensibly averted, there is another, much deeper crisis. And perhaps crisis is not the best word because it’s a continuous degradation. A continuous attack on the health standards of the people.”



**SARA FLOUNDERS**  
*International Action Center*

“The one thing that first impresses you about the strength and the capacity of the Palestinian movement is that you can really see and feel the ability of a political mobilization of the entire people. And a political consciousness that truly is a more powerful weapon than the overwhelming force of the Israeli military machine.”

## RIYA ORTIZ: ‘Get troops out of Philippines’

By John Catalinotto

Workers World spoke with Riya Ortiz of the New York chapter of Bayan, the biggest popular mass organization in the Philippines. Ortiz, who was born and raised in the Philippines and is now a New York resident, was seated at the Bayan table at the side of the Fashion Institute of Technology cafeteria where the ANSWER conference was taking place June 1.

“Our organization, Bayan, which means ‘people,’ works on two levels,” she said. “On the one hand, we promote the rights and welfare of the local Philippine community, focusing on the needs of working-class Filipinos and of women. While carrying out this work we join with other people of color to fight against racism.

“This work in the U.S. and in New York we relate to what is happening in the Philippines today. For example, we show that the migration—and 10 percent of the Filipino population is living outside the country—is driven by the economic crisis. Remittances, that is, the money the workers in the Diaspora send home, keeps the home economy afloat.

“Another part of our work,” she continued, “is to build support for the progressive movement in the Philippines. We carry out



anti-war campaigns. We fight to get the U.S. troops out of the Philippines and to keep them out.

“We are part of the ANSWER steering committee and are active both in New York and on the West Coast, where there is a large Filipino community. Today we spoke in the workshop on globalization and the one on military intervention. It is always good to merge with other progressive groups to fight the common enemy—U.S. imperialism. We stand in solidarity with the oppressed peoples all over the world,” Ortiz concluded.



Carl Messineo and Mara Verheyden-Hilliard



Elias Rashmawi



Brenda Stokely



Larry Adams



Gloria La Riva



Yoomi Jeong

### BRENDA STOKELY AFSCME District Council 1707

“I live in a community where there’s a lot of Arab brothers and sisters and I was concerned after 9/11 about finding that some of those people had been dragged off in the dead of night and then jailed without any due process. I was concerned that Latino, Asian and African American and other brothers and sisters were going to be whipped off to go and fight someplace else. When I went to our board, which is made up of all people of color, the majority women, I thought I was going to have to struggle to convince them. I didn’t have to raise any struggle. They immediately said, my brother, my husband, my uncle, my cousin is not going over to fight that war as long as there is racism and exploitation here in this country.”

PHOTOS BY DEIRDRE GRISWOLD,  
JOHN CATALINOTTO, G. DUNKEL

### ARTURO GARCIA Bayan International-USA

“When the United States invaded the Philippines in 1898 and occupied Manila and initiated a war against the Filipino people, they said the war will be over in one week. But the war lasted for 16 years. The U.S. sent 126,000 troops and killed more than a million Filipinos. But our struggle went on. And now they are repeating history once again.”



### GLORIA LA RIVA Committee to Free the Five Cuban Political Prisoners Held in the U.S.

“Nothing exposes the hypocrisy of Bush’s so-called war against terrorism

so much as what the U.S. government has done, especially in recent years, against Cuba with its special groups of terrorists in Miami, which the CIA and FBI have fed, nurtured, trained and armed for 43 years.”

### WILLIAMS CAMACARO Centro Civico Venezuela

“The U.S. State Department could not hide its joy to the coup of April 11. In the first coup, the countries that participated were the United States, Colombia, Spain and the Israeli secret services. And all the same elements are still operating and co-operating against the democracy in Venezuela.”



### LESLIE FEINBERG author and lesbian/gay/bi/trans activist

“Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people are an integral part of every human society. So the left wing of our movement understands the truth that the union movement was built on, that an injury to one is an injury to all. ... As a gay, secular Jewish revolutionary, I greet my Muslim sisters and brothers

here today as an ally. I fight shoulder to shoulder with you against the state terrorism that is emanating from the White House, the Pentagon, and the Justice Department. Don’t let the Zionists fool you when they say they speak for all Jewish people. I fight for Palestinian freedom.”



### MAHMOUD AHMAD Free Palestine Alliance

“My parents and I have yet to meet the rest our family in Palestine, like so many other millions of Palestinians around the world. Like so many other millions of Palestinians around the world we continue to live our lives as Palestinians, living in the Diaspora, waiting to execute our inalienable, un-negotiable right to return to live in a democratic, secular Palestine.”



—Compiled by Gery Armsby

## BEN DUPUY: ‘U.S. behind Haiti repression’

By G. Dunkel

Ben Dupuy spent 22 years in the United States opposing the Duvalier dictatorship that, he stressed to Workers World, “by and large depended on the United States.” Some years ago he moved back to Haiti, where he is secretary general of the National Popular Party and co-director of the newspaper *Haïti-Progress*.

Dupuy was a plenary speaker at the June 1 emergency anti-war conference in New York. He also participated in a workshop on “Fighting Corporate Globalization and U.S. Economic Intervention” at the ANSWER coalition event.

Dupuy told Workers World: “The United States wants to control Haiti, just like the rest of Latin America. It preaches the kind of democracy that will allow the local government to sell its neo-liberal policies. But when the people stand up, it supports their repression.”

He said the targets in this latest wave of repression are peasants who have been driven to the wall.

He talked about the struggle of orange-grove workers in St-Raphaël, in the north of Haiti. They want a contract from the transnational company Cointreau.

Goons reportedly hired by local landlords attacked a workers’ protest May 27, killing two. Two journalists covering the demonstration were badly beaten, then thrown in jail along with five demonstrators. One of the journalists was from *Haïti-Progress*.



No charges have been filed against any of these prisoners. They haven’t seen a judge. This is a blatant violation of Haitian law, which gives the cops 48 hours to bring prisoners before a judge. What’s worse is that the journalists haven’t gotten the medical care they need for their serious injuries.

“Since President Jean-Bertrand Aristide agreed to implement the U.S. program in order to get back into power,” Dupuy continued, “and to align himself with the old regime and its supporters—the big landlords—he lets this kind of repression go on.”

The U.S. establishment, which raised a big stink about Haitian election laws that it claimed kept candidates it supported from winning, has been silent about the attacks on the orange workers.

## NADIA: ‘Interested in taking action’

“Three of us came to New York today from the University of Maryland in Baltimore along with the ANSWER bus from that city,” Nadia told Workers World on June 1.

She and many other young people took part in the emergency anti-war conference held in Manhattan. More than 600 people registered at the activist event organized by the Act Now to Stop War & End Racism coalition.

Nadia explained: “We have a group we call the Justice Action Coalition, or JAC. Some of us were in the Muslim Student Association, but we got together with other activist students we met at the university library to form JAC this semester, and worked toward organizing for the April 20 march in Washington.”

She said she liked the workshop she attended at the June 1 anti-war conference “that focused on organizing. I want to de-velop our organizing skills and am more



interested in taking action. We will be working on the action projects proposed at this conference,” Nadia concluded.

—J.C.

## Salute to Puerto Rico

# Stand with Vieques, now more than ever!



By Berta Joubert-Ceci and Teresa Gutierrez

For over 100 years the people of Puerto Rico, the last colony of the United States, have been struggling for self-determination. Today the Puerto Rican people continue to wage this long-standing heroic battle for the right to determine their own fate.

They have fought against brutal repression, intense economic exploitation and all forms of racist domination. For decades, the Puerto Rican people have inspired people around the world and have been in the forefront of every major Latino struggle in the U.S.

The Puerto Rican people's defense of their beloved flag, their land, their culture

and their people has always set a revolutionary example, especially for other Latinos internally colonized within U.S. borders.

Today one particular struggle of Puerto Ricans inspires not only Latinos in the U.S. but oppressed people everywhere. That is the struggle to get the U.S. Navy out of the tiny, beautiful island of Vieques, just off the Big Island of Puerto Rico. This battle has raged for over six decades, but never more fiercely than in the last three years.

And whether that struggle is up or down, it has won the hearts and minds of many. From Korea to Palestine and throughout Latin America, people of all nationalities and walks of life have joined in solidarity with the people of Vieques.

An errant bomb killed David Sanes, a civilian worker on the U.S. Navy base, during military exercises in April 1999. His death, one of many over the long years of occupation, ignited an explosion of outrage.

Immediately after Sanes' murder, thousands carried out various forms of struggle. Protests, civil disobedience, forums, cultural events and more flourished in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Indeed, solidarity was shown to Vieques around the world.

Camp Garcia has been the scene of many demonstrations right in front of the U.S. Navy. Banners from around the world can be seen flying proudly in solidarity with the people of Vieques.

During protests at Camp Garcia, U.S.

Navy personnel have pepper-sprayed protestors indiscriminately, including children and elders. According to Amnesty International, the Navy has used large quantities of chemicals and pepper spray. Prisoners are handcuffed and made to kneel on the ground for hours in the hot sun.

In May, Republican Rep. Robin Hayes from New Hampshire said "Vieques Island is the best place for the Navy to conduct its training. We bought it. We paid for it."

Now more than ever, solidarity with Vieques and all of Puerto Rico should be placed high on the agenda of the anti-war and solidarity movement.

## Vieques protest leader

# Post 9/11: 'We will shout louder'

By Berta Joubert-Ceci and Teresa Gutierrez

"What has been the impact of Sept. 11, 2001, on the struggle to oust the U.S. Navy from Vieques?" That's what Workers World asked Ismael Guadalupe, a principal leader of the fight-back on the island. Guadalupe represents the Committee for the Rescue and Development of Vieques, an organization that has fought for decades to get the U.S. Navy off the island.

This is how Guadalupe eloquently answered:

Sept. 11 was a historic event that devastated not only the people of the U.S., but also all nations of the world. It was a painful and regretful event for all. It affected our struggle, since organizations that supported us lost people in the attack. And the incident took place precisely in the city where our support is so significant.

We noticed immediately that our struggle was going to be affected. Organizations and political leaders were asking us to revise our demands, saying that it was counter-productive to continue our demands against the Navy, since we were now supposed to close ranks against terrorism and that should be our conduct.

Our Committee reviewed all that was happening. We had received information from inside the military facilities, from people that worked with us in disobedience, and they said that there were some factors that could endanger our people. They said that the Navy had put Camp Garcia on high alert and ordered guards to shoot.

During this post-9/11 period, and taking into account everything that was being raised, the organizations in Vieques issued a call for a moratorium.

The moratorium was to basically serve as a safety measure for our people. At that moment we could not put people in danger with civil disobedience because they could get shot. This was due to the situation in the U.S., a declaration of war against Afghanistan and the support that there was at that moment for the U.S. president and the U.S. military that could be used to further repress our movement. So we had to

Ismael Guadalupe, right, joined protest against U.S. bases in south Korea in 2000.

WW PHOTO: SHARON BLACK

weather the storm.

On the other hand, this helped us to launch discussions about terrorism; to condemn it, and above all to point out that the main terrorist—the U.S. government—hides the terrorism it practices in Vieques with its bombs, its machine guns, its ships. That Washington's terrorism includes deceiving our people, telling them that if the Navy leaves Vieques everything will end—including any U.S. aid—and that our country will fall apart. And that's a form of terrorism because they characterize us as a people incapable of producing.

### 'We will shout louder!'

This was a critical time. We noticed that groups proposed to us that we should endure it all, quit asking for the Navy to leave, that we have to reconsider our positions. Politicians and recognized leaders from Puerto Rico and the U.S., as well as people in Congress, proposed this all to us.

All of this led us to insist on our position that now more than ever we should demand that the Navy leave Vieques because now there was a scenario of a war where we ourselves could be placed as objectives of that war.

This also apparently served for the governor of Puerto Rico to distance herself from our position. But we insisted and the governor had to recognize that our people remained firm that we would not go back—despite the fact that there were government officials saying that we should endure this because nobody in the U.S. would listen to us now.

To this we said "perhaps there are no ears to hear us in the U.S., but here we have voices, and if they don't hear us, we will shout louder."

The Puerto Rican government in all this has distanced itself, we don't know what its strategy is now. It seems to be silence.



What they have done, together with the police after 9/11, is to increase brutality. There has been more aggression against our people, abuses by the Navy, the military and state police.

They had said that the police were supposed to guarantee our right to protest. The reality is absolutely the opposite. The police are here to defend the Navy's bombing practice. Police are here to defend the property of the federal government.

What the Navy has done is to get the state police to do the work they are supposed to do: Repression has increased since 9/11.

### 'Patriot Act already in practice'

We have been discussing and studying the Patriot Act in many forums. We knew that many of the provisions were already in practice. What happened however was that these laws had not yet been legalized. Telephone interruptions, which are prohibited by the Puerto Rican constitution, are imposed here, making it clear that this is a colonized nation, without sovereignty. The most fundamental laws are determined by another country.

So what are we going to do? We are going to continue exposing our situation. On June 10 I will be at the United Nations giving testimony about Vieques to the De-colonization Committee.

There have been steps made to devel-

op a network of support of everyone in the U.S. And there have been discussions to organize a major mass action in April 2003. That's the date that the Navy has said it is leaving. So the demonstration is to pressure the Navy to comply with what it has said. We continue with our denunciation that there is no respect for our people—who 70 percent voted for the Navy to leave, and yet they refuse to leave! The Navy imposes itself over the will of the people.

We continue to prepare ourselves for the next round of bombings. It is important to divulge the abuses by the Navy indiscriminately launching tear gases. To demand that the Navy stop now its continued abuse against a people that demand peace. But [the Navy's] answer is war.

It is important to also remember that our struggle is not just to carry out civil disobedience during the Navy practices. There are activities here every week and the encampments are always active. ... the Navy recognized that the biggest blow they receive is the work that is done every day to bring down the fence that divides the military base from the civilian part. Last year, more than \$11 million was invested for this.

We need the solidarity of all the peoples of the world, particularly from the U.S. We will never give up our sacred struggle to get the Navy out of our island. As long as there is one Viequense, the struggle will go on.



# Growing movement in Korea exposes U.S. war crimes

By Sharon Ayling

An international delegation of the Korea Truth Commission recently returned to the United States after spending a week in south Korea.

From May 17 to May 24, the delegation traveled around southern Korea investigating sites where civilians were killed during the Korean War. Out of the 3 million who died from 1950 to 1953, about a million were civilians.

Over the past two years, the KTC has sent seven international delegations to Korea in an effort to uncover the facts about U.S. responsibility in these civilian deaths.

The delegation learned that as the United States fought the northern Korean People's Army and southern Partisan guerrillas who resisted U.S. occupation, it also carried out brutal repression of the civilian population. These were the people the U.S. claimed it was defending during the war.

At each of the 12 sites that they visited, delegates heard people recount their painful experiences as if they had happened yesterday.

These witnesses told of being shelled and strafed by U.S. fighter jets, of their homes burned to the ground, of losing their mothers or fathers, of living with disabling injuries.

The delegates were also shown structural damage to buildings and tunnels.

On a beach on the eastern coast of Korea near the industrial city of Pohang, 63-year-old Choi Pang Il told the delegates of the horror he witnessed on Sept. 1, 1950.

About 1,000 refugees had gathered on the beach a few days before. They had come down from the surrounding hills to escape the U.S. bombing. They were camped along the shore with about 50 of their cows.

Two large U.S. naval battleships were stationed in the bay, which today is dominated by the world's biggest steel mill.

At about 2 p.m. that day, a big storm with heavy rains hit the encampment. People started running for cover under the trees. That is when the two ships opened up with their heavy guns.

The U.S. Navy bombarded the fleeing crowd for 30 to 40 minutes.

Choi explained that since the investiga-

tion of the site had just begun, only 40 of the people who died had been identified so far. One hundred people are believed to have been killed. He lost a younger brother and his father in the bombing.

## 'Boldly demanding an apology'

Yoomi Jeong, KTC leader in the United States and organizer of the delegation, spoke with me about her impressions of the trip shortly after we both returned from Korea.

"One of the things that impressed me this time was the newly gained political consciousness of the survivors and families. Previously, people were generally afraid to speak and were not sure who was responsible for their suffering, especially when the killings were carried out by the south Korean military or police.

"Now with the activities of the KTC and the progressive movement, more people are aware of the historical background to their suffering. Now they are more boldly demanding an apology and compensation from the U.S. government," Jeong said.

"In April, 'Kill 'Em All,' the BBC documentary on the U.S. massacre of civilians at Nogun-ri, was shown on Korean national television. It had a big impact on the population's understanding and acceptance of what KTC has been saying—that the U.S. deliberately targeted civilians during the war.

"Now many more are speaking out about their bitter suffering and they are finally finding a sympathetic audience.

"Another change that I noticed is that the mainstream Korean media is giving much more attention to the civilian massacre cases. The delegation received wide local and national media coverage—newspapers, radio and television. Reporters were aware of the issue and seemed genuinely interested in reporting on the people's suffering."

## A growing movement

Workers World asked Jeong how this movement is going. "It is definitely growing," Jeong replied. "A new group, the National Association of Families of Massacre Victims, has been formed and is putting forward its own demands.



WW PHOTO: SHARON AYLING

Ahn So Ahk, center, telling the KTC international delegation what she found on Chung Rim Molgaewol beach near the city of Pohang, south Korea, in 1950. When the Korean War broke out, thousands of young Koreans who had been detained as "subversives" were executed. Ahn's two brothers were among some 200 from the area who were taken by south Korean military boat and dumped into the bay. Nine days later, Ahn found her brothers' decomposed bodies among many others washed up on the beach. Yoomi Jeong, left, is translating.

"And last winter, the 'grandmothers' of this movement staged a month-long demonstration in front of the National Assembly in Seoul. Every day for a whole month in very cold weather, women in their 70s and 80s picketed the government building demanding recognition of their suffering."

During the trip, the delegation met with Jeon Kap-Kil, a member of the Korean National Assembly from Kwangju. He is the main sponsor of a bill on the civilian massacres.

Jeon told the delegation that after the Assembly passed a special law acknowledging a massacre on Cheju Island, survivors and families got together and demanded a law be passed recognizing the many other massacres. The bill now covers 100 sites.

The bill would require the south Korean government to acknowledge that these massacres occurred and were carried out by U.S. troops or south Korean troops under U.S. command. It would also recognize the innocence of the victims, and require that memorials be erected and annual commemorations be held at all of the sites.

Jeon said that getting the bill passed is an uphill battle. The Defense Department doesn't want this investigation, and offi-

cial are very cautious when speaking about the U.S. government.

While the military ended its direct rule in south Korea 15 years ago, it still holds vast power—except for its subordinate relationship to the U.S. military command.

"In addition to passage of this bill, the movement is also demanding that the Korean government finance the excavation of these sites and the identification of the remains so that they can be returned to the families for proper burial," Jeong said.

Workers World asked what people in the United States can do. "We must demand that the U.S. government declassify the thousands of Pentagon and CIA documents on the war so that an independent investigation can be done—not a whitewash like the one the Pentagon carried out on the Nogun-ri massacre.

"And, of course, the movement must demand that the U.S. government officially apologize for these crimes, compensate the victims and their families, and withdraw its troops that have continued to occupy Korea to this day.

"It is more important than ever to expose U.S. conduct during the Korean War in light of Bush's 'axis of evil' threats against north Korea that raise the real danger of another war on the Korean Peninsula," Jeong concluded.

## Palestine under siege

# Activist tells of Israeli terror in Nablus

By Leslie Feinberg

On May 31 Israeli troops re-invaded the Palestinian city of Nablus from three directions. It's no secret. But where is the live coverage on U.S. media reports?

Where are the headlines? News of this brutality by Washington's proxy settler regime is suppressed.

Tom Koutsoukos told Workers World that independent accounts, some of them posted on the Internet, are reporting what the U.S. media are ignoring. He explained that the whole city is under a shoot-to-kill curfew, as are other cities.

Israeli military officials themselves admitted they had arrested 3,000 people in the Balata refugee camp—home to some 22,500 Palestinians.

Koutsoukos traveled from Chicago to Nablus on April 10 as an international solidarity movement participant, "to basically act as a human shield to try to

increase the safety level of the Palestinians." He explained, "I've always been very concerned about the plight of the Palestinians and felt this was something I had to do."

Nablus is 3,000 years old—one of the oldest continually inhabited cities in the world. The Casbah is the oldest part of the city. Koutsoukos recalled, "Someone told me 80 percent of the city had been destroyed by the Israeli invasion. I was able to visually confirm that.

"You can't go anywhere where there isn't just massive destruction and rubble. It's horrifying."

Imagine the outcry from the summits of power in the United States if the center of Rome had been obliterated.

The Israelis arrested Koutsoukos outside the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem on May 2. He spent 25 days in jail. He was immediately deported and banned from returning for 10 years.

He concluded: "I believe that one of the reasons that the last invasion of Nablus on April 2 is not so well known is because what happened in Jenin shortly afterwards overshadowed it. The infrastructure of Nablus was of course targeted and the city was virtually destroyed.

"There were 80 people confirmed killed,

including eight ambulance drivers. And three of the refugee camps there were shelled mercilessly and continuously.

"It was just an all-out, one-way war against a defenseless civilian population using the most sophisticated weapons available. It was just horrifying. People should know about it."

## HIDDEN AGENDA U.S./NATO takeover of Yugoslavia

This book presents evidence gathered by dozens of nongovernmental hearings in 1999 and 2000 that the NATO countries engaged in a decade-long conspiracy to foment war in Yugoslavia in order to split it up.

Now NATO has military bases all over the Balkans, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Central Asia. They are the Roman legions for Western transnational corporations and Big Oil.

Order on line at [leftbooks.com](http://leftbooks.com) and get 20% off list price of \$19.95





## Marx & Tyco

The science of biology can be applied to an infant, a teenager, or an old person. Despite all the changes that occur as the body ages, science has discovered basic truths that illuminate the workings of human physiology in all stages of life.

The same can be said about Marxism and its discoveries about the workings of capitalism. This social and economic system has aged considerably since Karl Marx wrote his monumental work, "Capital," yet understanding Marxism is as eye opening today as it was in the mid-19th century.

The basic, irreconcilable contradictions hardwired into capitalism that Marx analyzed not only still exist, but have become more intractable and destructive than ever.

A case in point is the disaster now facing the company Tyco International—and all the people who work for it, have invested in it, or otherwise depend on its existence. Tyco is a huge conglomerate that at one time hoped to overtake Enron. Tyco's former CEO, L. Dennis Kozlowski, has just been indicted in New York for tax evasion. He is charged with arranging to have over \$13 million in art he purchased for his Manhattan apartment sent fictitiously to the company's headquarters in New Hampshire in order to evade New York sales taxes. In fact, the art went straight to his home.

But there's much more to this story than tax evasion, something the rich do all the time. The Manhattan district attorney had Kozlowski arrested one day after he resigned as head of Tyco. Tyco has been in a tailspin, having lost \$86 billion in market value this year.

There is much nervousness on Wall Street about the "aggressive" accounting practices of companies like Enron and Tyco. They and their accountants—like Arthur Andersen Inc.—have found creative ways to cook the books and make it appear that they are in better shape than investors thought. In Enron's case, this involved setting up elaborate subsidiary companies that took out loans which never appeared on Enron's books.

Meanwhile, the top officers of these companies have been paying themselves princely salaries and even bigger benefits.

What few of the financial commentators want to explore, however, is that Tyco, Enron, Global Crossing, Qwest and other huge firms facing bankruptcy didn't get in trouble just because of the greed of top corporate officers. The real problem is the greed—actually, the necessity—of big concentrations of capital to keep expanding. It inevitably leads to a crackup. It has happened many times

since the 19th century. The high salaries and benefits paid to CEOs are just a glaring symptom of this—and are what they have come to expect for taking the risk of flouting the law while they cut down competitors. (One such ruthless CEO fired a few years ago by Sunbeam, for example, had become known as Albert J. "Chain Saw" Dunlap. He's suing for \$5.5 million severance pay.)

Marx and his collaborator, Frederick Engels, described the reckless growth of a capitalist boom, when no amount of return on capital is ever enough and production expands seemingly with no end in sight. But the growth of the means of production eventually outpaces the market, and the result is a bust. No capitalist country has been able to overcome this phenomenon. Only the socialist countries have eradicated the boom-bust cycle from their economies.

For several years, the more pessimistic analysts have been worrying if there will be another Panic of 1873, when a financial collapse was touched off by the tremendous expansion of railroads into the West after the Civil War. Railroads seemed like such a sure thing as trade opened with the Pacific that venture capitalists threw their money into building more and more of them. Eventually, there were too many rails and too many cars and it triggered a collapse of the whole economy.

Tyco International is a conglomerate with many businesses, which includes undersea fiber-optic cables. Global Crossing, now bankrupt, was another big player in the field of fiber-optic cables. This new technology is carrying data around the world, but like the rail lines before it, there are now too many fiber-optic cables for the market. Tyco leased out space on these cables when they were in short supply, just a few years ago. Now customers don't need long-term leases because there's an abundance of carriers.

So Tyco started using creative accounting. When a company sells something on a five-year lease, say, the income it gets is usually spread over the five years of the contract. But recently, as it began running into difficulty, Tyco boosted its income on paper by counting the whole amount of the contract in the first year.

Many workers will be angry that Kozlowski is free on \$3-million bail and will probably get a hefty severance package from Tyco, despite his arrest. And they should be. But the bigger crime is capitalism itself, which is looting the world in pursuit of profit. It's not enough to understand this system. As Marx the revolutionary said, the point is to change it.

# India and Pakistan

*Continued from page 1*

it has vastly superior weaponry. Clearly the right-wing nationalist regime of Vajpayee has put the Musharraf government's back against the wall in the present situation. As of this writing, Vajpayee of India has refused all offers of negotiations.

If Washington were seeking to be evenhanded, and not trying to manipulate the crisis to its advantage in its fraudulent "war against terrorism," it would be quite simple for the capitalist press and the State Department to denounce "intransigence" and "bullying" by India in such a dangerous situation. But that is not happening.

### Washington uses war threat to squeeze Pakistan

Indeed, the Austin, Texas-based think tank Stratfor, which has sources in the Bush administration, put out a report on May 28 indicating that the U.S. had used the threat of allowing an Indian attack on Pakistan to force the Pakistani government to let the Pentagon put U.S. troops on Pakistani soil. This despite the political risks to Musharraf.

"While publicly seeking to defuse the crisis," wrote Stratfor, "Washington used the Indian threat to change the equation for Pakistan. Officials made it clear that, in fact, permitting al Qaeda to operate in Pakistan is a greater threat to regime survival [the new U.S. term for threatening the overthrow of a government—F.G.] than permitting U.S. forces to operate against al Qaeda. If India attacked Pakistan and the United States remained neutral or actively participated, the consequences for Pakistan would be catastrophic.

"Musharraf conceded and U.S. forces entered Pakistan. Obviously, with India and the United States involved, Musharraf had to reevaluate the value of his nuclear capability. The United States clearly had the ability to destroy Pakistan's nuclear facilities more effectively than India might. When Washington announced a shift in its nuclear policy to permit first strikes, Pakistan was the unmentioned target."

While this information has not appeared in the capitalist press, it is consistent with the orientation of the Bush administration, both in the present crisis and in the recent period. Washington has sought to bring the Indian ruling class more firmly into its camp. Rumsfeld met with Indian officials and promised to sell New Delhi advanced radar systems for the first time. In May for the first time there were joint U.S.-India military exercises.

Of course, Washington could completely shift overnight if it had to act to bring the Vajpayee government into line.

The problem for the U.S., since it forced him into collaboration, is how to pressure Musharraf without bringing about his demise. The supreme criterion for managing the crisis as far as Washington is concerned is its own imperialist interests.

The primary concern in Washington

is the war in Afghanistan, which requires Pakistani collaboration. This has to be coordinated with the struggle against the Palestinian national movement and all the machinations that have to be carried out to try to impose a protectorate on the Palestinian people. Then there is the planning for a war against Iraq, which has been postponed but undoubtedly not shelved permanently; the deepening intervention in the Philippines; the war against the Colombian liberation forces; planning the next coup against the militant progressive regime of Hugo Chávez in Venezuela, and all the other undisclosed plans for war and intervention on the drawing boards of the Pentagon and the CIA.

### Bush has his own war plans

This India-Pakistan conflict has flared up and interfered with the war program of the Pentagon. Washington is trying to get things back on track and avoid a disastrous destabilization of the region. In the process of getting back on track, the Bush administration, via Armitage and Rumsfeld, will use the crisis to further their own war aims.

To really understand this conflict, it is of limited use to look only at the present maneuvers of the various powers involved. In fact, what London and Washington have done for generations set the stage for the present conflict. They fanned the flames of national, religious and ethnic conflict; they promoted reactionary forces while encouraging the suppression and extermination of progressive and revolutionary forces; they poured weapons and CIA agents into the area, and, most recently, they have carried out a massive war of terrorism against Afghanistan, with a destabilizing effect on the entire region.

The conflict over Kashmir itself is a ticking time bomb, a legacy of the British-inspired partition of India in 1947. The British colonialist art of divide and rule was brought to perfection after India was conquered by the British East India Company in the 18th century. England was a small island with advanced productive forces and weapons but limited population. In order to rule the vast continent of India, the British ruling class had to devise ways of pitting state against state, people against people, religion against religion, in combination with brute force and iron repression.

### Partition and the fate of Kashmir

The British developed a strategic plan to foment country-wide Hindu-Moslem division as far back as the end of the 19th century, when the British colonial authorities first began to feel the rumblings of the Indian national movement for self-rule following the Great Rebellion of 1858.

Partition was the final result. It had been 50 years in the making. The creation of India and Pakistan was the last edict of the British colonial office before London formally relinquished its rule over India under the impact of the mass, anti-colonial movement.

The justification for the formation of Pakistan as a haven for Moslems was the persecution they suffered as a minority in India at the hands of reactionary sections of the Hindu ruling class. But it was the British who promoted the advancement of the Hindu ruling class with its caste system of oppression. These same colonial authorities encouraged discrimination against Moslems and played on this persecution to set up an antagonism that would divert the mass struggle away from the class domination of the imperialist rul-

**SUBSCRIBE TO WORKERS WORLD**  
SPECIAL TRIAL SUBSCRIPTION \$2 FOR EIGHT WEEKS (NEW SUBSCRIPTION)  
\$25 for one year

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Workers World Newspaper**  
55 West 17 St. NYC 10011 (212) 627-2994



# on brink

ing class and the indigenous ruling classes—the landlords and the capitalists—into a religious one.

The colonial office over a long period laid the basis for the antagonisms that resulted in the suffering of millions at the time of partition. They have been reignited in recent years by the Congress Party and, in an extreme form, by the right-wing BJP.

At the time of partition the British announced they were leaving and decreed that all majority Hindu states under direct British rule go to India and all majority Moslem states go to Pakistan. Princely states could belong to whichever country the ruler chose.

The feudal maharajah in Kashmir sat on the fence for a period. He jumped to India once a struggle broke out over Kashmir and his rule was endangered. The British military officer corps participated on both sides in this struggle.

Kashmir was divided between India and Pakistan. India got the major and most developed section. In the Indian-occupied territory, a Moslem majority was ruled by a Hindu feudal aristocratic dynasty. The Indian government promised a plebiscite to determine the will of the Kashmiri people, but it never took place and the Indian bourgeoisie gradually consolidated its repressive rule.

The struggle over Kashmir has dominated relations between the two countries since 1947. It was easier for the imperialists to control two smaller states than one large one, and even easier to subjugate the peoples of the subcontinent by seeing that the conflict over Kashmir was never resolved.

This legacy of British imperialism was inherited by U.S. imperialism, which absorbed the British Empire after World War II as a weakened Britain withdrew from positions in the Persian Gulf, the Indian Ocean and Central Asia.

## U.S. brought nuclear horror to the world

If U.S. imperialism is now trying to become the “mediator” to keep a massive war from breaking out, it is not because of sympathy or concern for the masses of India and Pakistan. After all, this is the government that carried out the only nuclear attacks in history in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Indeed, when the capitalist media describes the horribly destructive force of the nuclear bombs in the Indian and Pakistani arsenals, they quantify their destructive power by comparing it to the devastation wrought by Washington’s nuclear bombing of Japan.

The U.S. ruling class brought the world to the edge of nuclear conflict when it threatened nuclear war with the Soviet Union in 1962 during the Cuban missile crisis. It is only because one faction prevailed over another in the Oval Office and the Pentagon war room that the world was spared a nuclear holocaust. The crowd in the Bush administration today is to the right of the Kennedy administration in 1962. In fact, the government recently released a Nuclear Posture Review advocating the expanded use of nuclear weapons.

All the progressive forces of India, Pakistan and Kashmir are opposed to having the colonizers insert themselves into the present situation. But the reactionary bourgeois regimes of Pakistan and India will compete with each other to gain the favor of Washington. This will strengthen Wall Street’s and the Pentagon’s stranglehold over the region in the long run and further their war plans.

## To please Bush

# Russian gov’t tries to ban revolutionaries

By Bill Cecil

On May 9 people across the former USSR marched to honor the 57th anniversary of their triumph over Hitler. Two weeks later another aspiring world conqueror arrived on Russian soil.

Unlike Germany’s fuhrer, George W. Bush was welcomed with pomp and ceremony—at least by the Putin administration. Ordinary Russians felt different.

On May 23, some 1,000 people rallied outside the U.S. Embassy in Moscow to protest Bush’s plans for global war and the Putin government’s plan to ally itself with NATO. They chanted and sang a song now popular in Russia: “Want to live! Down with America!”

Speakers compared the early death, hunger and disease that returned to Russia with capitalism to the devastation caused by the World War II Nazi invasion. Veterans of that war took part in the protest, which was called by the Moscow Committee of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, Russia’s biggest political party.

Members of the Communist Youth Vanguard blocked traffic and scuffled with police. They formed a human chain, chanting: “This is the wall of the Soviet border! Bush, go back, and take Putin with you!” and “Re-vo-lu-tion!”

Protests were also held in Leningrad (St. Petersburg) when Bush visited there.

Anti-capitalist and anti-U.S. resistance is growing in Russia, even as the regime bends over backward to please the Bush administration and U.S. troops occupy former Soviet republics in Central Asia and the Caucasus. This year’s May Day march in Moscow drew the biggest turnout in years—200,000 people.

On May 29, OMON riot police attacked unionists protesting the Russia-European Union summit in Moscow. Many were beaten. Two dozen—including V. Petrov, coordinator of the anti-capitalist trade union Zashchita Trud (Defense of Labor), and S. Sychev, union leader at the big GPZ factory—were arrested.

The protesters carried signs against rent hikes, demanding an end to debt repayment to Western banks and protesting the new capitalist Labor Code, which allows a 58-hour work week. Under Soviet law, the maximum was 35 hours.

In tandem with its efforts to please the Pentagon and Western investors, the Putin regime is trying to suppress one of the most active anti-capitalist parties in Russia. On May 16 the Ministry of Justice refused to register the Russian Communist Workers Party-Revolutionary Party of Communists, claiming its program is “incompatible with the Constitution.” The cops objected to a paragraph advocating a “revolutionary transformation of the social order with the view to establish the dominance of public property in the means of



PHOTO: COMMUNIST RU

production to provide the free development and well-being of all.”

Under Putin’s laws the party would not be able to legally call a demonstration or run candidates for office. There is a danger that its newspaper Working Russia may be banned. No wonder the Bush administration considers that Russia is “now a democracy.”

The RKRП-RPK was formed in defiance of Boris Yeltsin’s 1991 ban of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. It has been active in strikes and labor struggles around Russia, and calls for workers’ soviets and the return of socialism. The RKRП, which merged with the RPK to form the new party, has been registered for 10 years and has received millions of votes in elections.

In a statement, the party’s leadership quoted Nobel Prize winner and Duma Deputy Zhores Alferov, who said recently, “Fascism begins with anti-communism.” The statement continued: “The party will not move away from its aims and will continue waging the struggle of the working people against forthcoming fascism. We will not tremble at continuing on the road we have chosen.”

The RKRП-RPK urges that protests be sent to the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation, Russia 109830 GSP, Zh-28, Moscow Ulitsa Vorontsovo Pole, d. 4, by fax to 011 7 095 916 2903 or by e-mail to [www.minjust.ru/contacts.html](http://www.minjust.ru/contacts.html).

## Belgium union victory

# Long struggle wins freedom for Clabecq 13

By John Catalinotto

After six years of mass struggle and over three years of defense work, metal-worker unionists in Belgium known as the Clabecq 13 have won an important victory for labor. A court in Nivelles ruled May 22 that all charges be dropped against nine of the 13 defendants, and that the other four get suspended sentences on minor charges.

The Clabecq 13 leaders, themselves from immigrant families, immediately hailed the victory. They called for extending the struggle to defend all immigrant workers and also for solidarity with Palestine.

The class conflict took place in a small country that was once a major colonial power and is now a NATO member. This working-class victory has meaning beyond Belgium’s borders. It involves the vitally important issues of job protection, labor’s right to bring the struggle into the streets and the question of how to conduct the class struggle in the union movement. It also is a lesson in the possibility of winning freedom for political prisoners.

Observers of the U.S. labor scene may well see similarities between the Clabecq struggle and that of the Charleston 5, a court challenge that resulted in a labor victory for longshore workers here.

The Clabecq defendants are 13 militant labor unionists. They faced charges under a reactionary 1886 law for “inciting violence” during a mass demonstration of laid-off steel workers in 1996.

Their case has become a symbol of the fight against cuts in social programs and the restructuring, outsourcing and layoffs now facing tens of thousands of Belgian workers and millions of workers across Europe. Similar drastic cutbacks have already devastated the living standards of blue-collar workers in the United States.

### Rank-and-file militancy

The Clabecq 13 are also a symbol of rank-and-file militancy and militant local union leadership in contrast to the unions’ national leadership. The metal workers’ union’s top leaders are close to the Socialist Party, which is in the government. Though the SP is socialist in name, it has been more for compromising workers’ rights than for fighting to defend them.

Clabecq is a small town 13 miles south of Brussels. The steel plant there employed 2,500 workers until 1996.

Steel barons aimed at cutting 60,000 jobs in this sector nationally. Faced with a shutdown of the plant, and refused aid by the regional government, the Clabecq unionists started weekly general assemblies in the plant.

When the factory stopped paying workers’ wages and benefits at the end of 1996, workers went to the mayor of Clabecq. Suspecting the worst when they saw police filming them, they asked to have the film.

Denied the film, they went to the local police station where a window was smashed, along with those of some banks

on the way. This later became the basis for the charges against the union leaders.

Later in 1997, some 70,000 people demonstrated in Clabecq to support the unionists, something not seen for 50 years in Belgium. Clashes grew as the unpaid workers defended themselves with bulldozers against the gendarmes, or National Guard, who attacked with tear gas and water cannons.

Through the years supporters combined mass rallies with legal defense. They continued to broaden the support for the Clabecq 13 among Belgian and European labor unionists and beyond. Within Belgium, the Workers Party of Belgium has been a major supporter of the 13.

This growing support forced the government to drop its plan to prosecute the militants under the 1886 law.

Clabecq 13 leaders Silvio Marra and Roberto D’Orazio are both from Italian immigrant families. On victory day, D’Orazio called on his supporters to “continue the struggle against any injustice, especially like the injustice against refugee Semira Adamu,” a victim of laws making it possible to jail and deport people. D’Orazio also appealed for support of the struggle of the Palestinian people, “victims of the same system suppressing those who fight for their rights.”

The struggle will now continue within the union movement for the social-democratic union federation, the FGТВ, to remove its ban of the Clabecq militants.



PHOTO: WORKERS PARTY OF BELGIUM

# Ismael Guadalupe sobre la lucha en Vieques

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci  
y Teresa Gutiérrez

M.O.: ¿Cuál ha sido el impacto de 11 de Septiembre del 2001 sobre la lucha para sacar a la Marina de los Estados Unidos de Vieques? Esto fue lo que Mundo Obrero preguntó a Ismael Guadalupe, uno de los principales líderes de la lucha en la isla puertorriqueña. Guadalupe representa al Comité de Rescate y Desarrollo de Vieques, una organización que ha estado luchando por décadas para sacar a la Marina de la isla.

Esto es lo que Guadalupe contestó:

El 11 de septiembre fue un hecho histórico que sacudió no solamente a los EE.UU., sino a todos los países del mundo porque fue un hecho lamentable y doloroso. Donde nuestro grupo de lucha se vio afectado ya que organizaciones que nos apoyan perdieron gente ahí. Y se da precisamente en una ciudad donde está el apoyo nuestro bien grande.

Se comenzó a notar de inmediato que se iba a ver afectado ese apoyo. Sentimos que organizaciones y políticos estaban pidiendo que nosotros revisáramos nuestras demandas, a plantear que era impropio que nosotros exigiéramos, que continuáramos con nuestra lucha contra la Marina ya que en este momento había que cerrar filas contra el terrorismo y que nuestra aportación debía ser eso.

Nuestro comité comenzó a ver todo lo que estaba pasando, recibimos información dentro de las facilidades militares, de gente que trabaja con nosotros en la desobediencia, y nos planteaban que había unos elementos de peligro para nuestra gente. Que se habían establecido unos códigos de la Marina que se clasificaban, poniendo las facilidades militares la base del Camp García a un nivel de mucho peligro e inclusive que había órdenes de disparar.

Nosotros en ese período posterior al 11 de septiembre y teniendo en cuenta todo lo que se estaba levantando, urgimos a las organizaciones en Vieques a hacer un lla-

mado para una moratoria. La moratoria perseguía básicamente, una medida de seguridad hacia nuestra gente y que nosotros no podíamos en este momento echar gente a la desobediencia civil porque les podían pegar un tiro basados en que había una situación en los EE.UU., una declaración de guerra contra Afganistán y que la simpatía que había en ese momento hacia el presidente y a los militares de los EE.UU. podría ser utilizada para reprimir a nuestro movimiento. Había que [dejar] pasar esa tormenta.

Y esa tormenta nosotros la pasamos con esa moratoria que nos sirvió por un lado, para montar un discurso aquí y aprovechar hablar del terrorismo, condenar el terrorismo, sobre todo el que EE.UU. esconde, que es el que ellos practican en Vieques con sus bombas, con sus metrallicas, con sus barcos. Que han aterrorizado incluso con el chantaje a este pueblo, diciéndole que si ellos [la Marina estadounidense] se van, aquí se va a acabar todo. Sin la ayuda se va a desplomar este país. Y eso es un terrorismo. Porque ellos nos ponen a nosotros como personas incapaces de producir.

## ‘Gritaremos mas fuerte’

Éste fue uno de los períodos críticos. Que nosotros notamos inclusive de grupos que a nosotros nos planteaban que debíamos aguantarnos, no seguir pidiendo, tienen que reconsiderar todo eso. Políticos que nos lo planteaban, dirigentes reconocidos nos planteaban eso. Políticos en Puerto Rico y en los EE.UU. y en el mismo congreso de los EE.UU. Todo esto nos lleva entonces a insistir en nuestra posición de que ahora más que nunca debíamos reclamar que la Marina se debía ir de Vieques porque había un escenario de guerra donde nosotros mismos podríamos ser puestos como un objetivo de esa guerra.

Esto aparentemente le sirvió de base al gobierno de Puerto Rico para que se alejara un poco de nuestra posición. Nosotros insistimos y el gobierno tuvo que reconocer que nuestro pueblo se mantenía firme

y que nosotros no nos íbamos a echar para atrás, a pesar de que había funcionarios del gobierno que plantearon que debíamos de aguantarnos porque no habían oídos en los EE.UU. que nos escucharan. Pero nosotros planteamos que quizás allá no hay oídos pero acá hay voces, y si no nos oyen, tenemos que gritar.

El gobierno en todo esto se ha estado alejando, no sabemos ahora cuál es su estrategia. Da la impresión que es el silencio. El gobierno lo que ha hecho es que junto con la policía, después del 11 [de septiembre], ha incrementado toda esta brutalidad. Ha habido más casos de agresiones contra nuestra gente, abusos de parte de la Marina y los policías militares hacia nuestra gente. Abusos también de la policía estatal. Ahora las funciones que tenía la policía como nos habían dicho, han cambiado.

Nos decían que la policía estaba para garantizarnos el derecho a protestar, y es todo lo contrario. La policía está para garantizarle a la Marina que realice sus bombardeos. La policía está aquí para proteger propiedades del gobierno federal, cuando el gobierno federal tiene ese personal para hacerlo. La Marina lo que ha hecho es sacar la policía estatal para hacer el trabajo que tienen que hacer ellos. La represión ha aumentado a partir del 11 [de septiembre].

## ‘Acta Patriótica ya en práctica’

La Ley Patriótica la estuvimos discutiendo, participando en varios foros. Sabíamos que muchas de las provisiones ya han estado en práctica desde antes, lo que pasa es que ellos no lo habían legalizado. La intervención telefónica, que la constitución de Puerto Rico lo prohíbe. Aquí se impone esa ley, dejando ver bien claro que éste es un país colonizado, sin soberanía. Que la determinación de las leyes más fundamentales la tiene otro país.

¿Y qué vamos a hacer nosotros? Nosotros vamos a continuar divulgando nuestra situación. (ejemplo: informe de Amnistía Internacional).

El 10 de junio estaré en las Naciones Unidas dando testimonio sobre Vieques al Comité de Descolonización.

Se han estado dando pasos para desarrollar una red de apoyo por todos los EE.UU., y se ha discutido hacer una movilización masiva en abril del 2003, ya que la Marina ha dicho que se va en mayo del 2003. Para presionar a la Marina a que cumpla con lo dicho. Seguimos con la denuncia de la falta de respeto a nuestro pueblo, de un pueblo que en un 70% votó para que se fueran y no se quieren ir. Donde la Marina se impone sobre la voluntad de un pueblo.

Nosotros nos seguimos preparando para los próximos bombardeos. Es importante que se divulguen los abusos de la Marina, lanzando gases [tóxicos] indiscriminadamente. Exigir a la Marina que pare ya pare de seguir abusando contra un pueblo que lo que pide es paz y su respuesta a esto guerra.

Es importante recordar también que la lucha no es sólo la desobediencia [civil] durante las prácticas de la Marina. Aquí hay actividades todas las semanas y los campamentos están activos todo el tiempo. El sábado pasado en el periódico El Vocero salió un artículo donde la Marina reconoce que el golpe más grande que reciben ellos es el trabajo que se hace todos los días de tumbar la verja. El año pasado, más de 11 millones de dólares tuvieron que ser invertidos para esto.

Necesitamos la solidaridad de todos los pueblos del mundo, particularmente de los Estados Unidos. Nunca nos daremos por vencida nuestra lucha contra la Marina de EE.UU. en nuestra isla. Mientras haya un viequense, la lucha seguirá.

## Camacho Negrón liberado después de 16 años

El 24 de mayo, después de 16 años de prisión en los Estados Unidos, el luchador por la libertad puertorriqueña y prisionero de guerra, Antonio Camacho Negrón fue finalmente puesto en libertad. Su libertad había sido programada para comienzo de la semana, pero fue dilatada por el gobierno.

Al día siguiente, rodeado de familiares y partidarios, Camacho Negrón se dirigió a la congregación durante un evento en su honor en la iglesia St. Mary en Harlem.

Arrestado en 1986 por supuestamente haber participado en una “conspiración en la transportación de dinero fuera del estado” es un robo a la compañía de transporte de dinero en carros blindados, Wells Fargo, en Connecticut. De hecho, su arresto y la de otros 15 fue parte de una red contra el movimiento independentista de Puerto Rico.

Camacho Negrón agradeció a los héroes anónimos que contribuyeron a su libertad y prometió continuar su lucha para liberar a Puerto Rico de las manos coloniales de los Estados Unidos. El también leyó un poema que el mismo escribió para su hijo, Esteban.

—por Imani Henry

## LGBT Musulmanes se reúnen en D.C.

Especial para Mundo Obrero  
Washington, D.C.

Al-Fatiha tuvo su Tercer Retiro Internacional en Washington, D.C. entre el 24 y 27 de Mayo. El grupo se auto describe como una organización internacional dedicada a las lesbianas, gays, bisexuales, transgéneros, musulmanes y sus aliados. El evento atrajo a participantes de los Estados Unidos y por lo menos cinco otros países.

El retiro no fue abierto para el público o la prensa. Pero eventos públicos fueron programados para permitir que miembros de otras comunidades sepan más sobre el importante trabajo de Al-Fatiha y el movimiento internacional LGBTQ.

Los paneles de discusión y la presentación de un film el 24 de mayo estuvieron llenos de participantes. El tema

del primer panel fue “La creación de un Movimiento Progresista Internacional de LGBT,” Los oradores fueron, Surina Khan de la Comisión de Derechos Humanos de Lesbianas, Gays, Joo-Hyun Kang del Proyecto Audre Lorde y Leslie Feinberg editora de este periódico.

Feinberg, quien es lesbiana y transgénera dijo al grupo musulmán, “Yo soy una obrera, judía secular socialista. Por eso dejen que mis primeras palabras sean estas: Yo estoy hombro con hombro con los pueblos árabe y musulmanes en este salón y en todo el mundo en la batalla contra el verdadero axis diabólico: la Casa Blanca, el Pentágono y el Departamento de Justicia. Y con todo mi aliento y todos mis nervios y lucho por la liberación palestina.”

Ella recibió muchos aplausos cuando agregó esto: “Yo no creo en que nuestra

sexualidad, expresión de género y cuerpos puedan ser liberado sin formar una furiosa movilización contra la guerra imperialista y el racismo, lo cual es una parte integral de nuestra lucha.”

El segundo panel, “Vidas escondidas: Las voces de LGBT Gente Viviendo en Países Musulmanes,” que incluyó a oradores de Egipto, Indonesia y Pakistán.

La película titulada “In Nombre de Allá,” por Parvez Sharma, fue presentada en el evento. Esto le da voces a los musulmanes en todo el mundo.

El retiro internacional concluyó con una discusión enfocada sobre la relación entre las LGBT judíos y musulmanes.

Al-Fatiha tendrá un contingente en el desfile de Orgullo de la ciudad de Nueva York el 30 de junio. La primera vez que una organización LGBT musulmana tomará su lugar en este evento.