

## Congress caves in but anti-war movement grows

# Bush plans colonial occupation of Iraq

By Fred Goldstein

Millions of people who are opposed to the Bush administration's plan to go to war against Iraq watched with anger and dismay last week as the U.S. Congress voted to authorize the president to do just that. Many of those in Congress who voted for war tried to justify their capitulation on this crucial issue, saying they were hoping that a strong position would reduce the prospect of war.

This hypocritical posture was exposed the very day of the vote, when the administration leaked plans for an outright colonial military occupation of Iraq. Furthermore, at the time of the vote, the Pentagon was moving key military personnel and supplies into position for an attack.

The vote in the House was 296 to 133 for the war. Those who gave Bush what he wanted included 81 Democrats, led by minority leader Richard Gephardt, while 126 Democrats voted against the Bush resolution. But the Democratic Party leadership made sure to add a pro-war amendment, the Spratt amendment, that required a new vote for war if the UN Security Council disagreed. The amendment was defeated, but 147 House Democrats voted for it.

"We want to make sure our actions are interpreted correctly," said Democratic Rep. Susan A. Davis from San Diego, who voted against the Bush proposal but for the Spratt amendment, according to the New York

Times of Oct. 11. "I think it's important that military action get the support of the United Nations and we retain an ability to go back and take a second look at it."

In other words, no one should interpret their vote against the Bush resolution as being in opposition to a brutal, unprovoked war of aggression against the Iraqi people. Such an illegal and outrageous act of an imperialist war of conquest is permissible, but it is preferable to carry out such a war with UN Security Council support, if possible.

### Senate liberals fall in line

An even more outstanding example of how capitalist democracy works as a trap for the progressive masses at crucial moments was illustrated by the Senate vote—77 to 23 in favor of the Bush resolution.

The Senate is more directly reflective of the ruling class. It is a body with not one African American member, composed mostly of millionaires who run costly campaigns and are elected for six-year terms. It has been clear in recent weeks that the majority of the ruling class has been won over to a war to conquer Iraq, with its 110 billion barrels of oil and strategic position in the Middle East.

There are deep differences over the question of how much emphasis to put on engaging the imperialist allies, as opposed to going it alone. There are also deep differences over the advisability of using a war against Iraq to

*Continued on page 5*

## Mass protests Oct. 26

By Greg Butterfield

Across the United States, thousands of grassroots organizers and a growing number of anti-war, labor, student and community organizations are mobilizing for the Oct. 26 March on Washington, D.C., to Stop the War on Iraq Before it Starts.

In the Western U.S., many others are planning buses, vans and car pools to join a West Coast regional demonstration in San Francisco.

The Oct. 26 demonstrations were initiated by the International ANSWER coalition—Act Now to Stop War and End Racism—and co-sponsored by a broad array of groups and prominent individuals, including the Muslim American Society Freedom Foundation, National Lawyers Guild, New York City Labor Against the War, San Francisco Labor Council (AFL-CIO), Student Liberation Ac-

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What is strangely missing from media speculation on the serial killings in the D.C. area? **3**

### LAYOFFS

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The Cuban Revolution continues to inspire Europeans, who recently gathered in Brussels to support five Cuban anti-terrorists held in U.S. jails **8**

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First they raided the offices of Sinn Fein. Now the British have reasserted direct rule over northern Ireland. Blair's colonial move got Bush's blessing **9**



WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL



PHOTO: ROSA PENATE

San Francisco demonstrations on Sept. 28 and Oct. 6.

### WASHINGTON, SAN FRANCISCO

## Momentum builds for national anti-war marches

Tens of thousands of people across the country—many of whom have never protested before—have been drawn to peace rallies and anti-war marches in recent weeks to demand no Pentagon war against Iraq. Now more than 120 cities are mobilizing to send buses to national anti-war marches on Oct. 26 in Washington and San Francisco. See pages 6-7



WW PHOTO: DEIRDRE GRISWOLD

Larry Holmes of the International ANSWER coalition—Act Now to Stop War & End Racism—was cheered at a peace rally of more than 20,000 held in Central Park in Manhattan on Oct. 6 when he spoke about the importance of the Oct. 26 mobilization.

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# Workers World newspaper:

# A powerful tool for demystifying society's ills

By Pat Chin

*From a talk at the Sept. 21-22 Workers World Party conference.*

What won me to Workers World Party was when someone handed me a Workers World newspaper at a protest against the U.S. invasion of Grenada back in the 1980s. Workers World newspaper is a powerful vehicle for demystifying the ills of society—from racism to other forms of oppression that result from the capitalist system.

This paper continues to grow in popularity. Around 100,000 people, in this country and worldwide, read the online edition of Workers World each month. Thousands more get articles sent to them every week by e-mail.

During times of political crisis, the numbers of readers soar. In the month after Sept. 11, 2001, the online edition of Workers World newspaper with its strong and consistent anti-imperialist viewpoint received a million hits.

When you look at the power of the capitalist media in shaping reactionary public opinion it is easy to understand why a fighting party like ours must have a revolutionary paper—from both an international and domestic point of view. Without it, our party would not be able to function. Workers World

newspaper is in fact the voice of the vanguard.

Our newspaper is the voice of the party, getting out our ideology in the period of attack on Marxism since the collapse of the Soviet Union. It reflects our belief that the working class is the main agent of revolutionary change. While others have diluted their politics or fallen by the wayside, Workers World Party stands firm.

Workers World newspaper is linked to the oppressed communities, reflecting our unique understanding of national oppression. We cover the workers' struggle, including that of migrant laborers. The paper reflects our unwavering support for the struggles of oppressed nationalities and others, including women, lesbian/gay/bi and trans people.

The paper is very important to a revolutionary organization like ours, and we put top priority on getting it out each week. Party branches and individual subscribers can always count on receiving it. This becomes even more important during a crisis like the invasion the U.S. would like to carry out against Iraq, and the movement pays attention to what we say.

Since 9/11, and the so-called war on terror with its repressive Patriot Act, in addition to the deepening economic crisis, workers are awakening to new class consciousness.



WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

When the workers act upon this class consciousness is all a process. The paper can help deepen this consciousness.

Around Labor Day in New York City, thousands of Workers World newspapers were distributed at an anti-war rally. Workers of color and white workers were snatching them up with the front page headline against the war on Iraq. This response shows that workers are beginning to question what the Bush administration is doing. The world is hungry for class truth. Workers World not only tells it like it is; it shows what can be done.

Workers World newspaper reflects our Marxist view of interpreting social phenomena as they unfold and linking this to our general view of why socialism is the only answer to the capitalist system.

## Look for our banners on Oct. 26

# Help distribute WW

Bush's endless march to war is creating a new generation of political activists. They want answers to a lot of questions. What is propelling Bush and Co. into a colossal military adventure? Why is the Democratic Party joining Bush's parade even though it's getting letters and emails running 100 to 1 against war? What has the economy got to do with it all?

Most important, what forces in society can stop the war? How can the antiwar struggle be strengthened by linking up with the social movements of the workers and oppressed? How can we build a permanent organization for social change?

They won't get any of this from the

daily newspapers and television networks.

If you've been reading this paper, you know that Workers World provides in-depth analysis of the class struggle in the U.S., often written by organizers in that struggle. We think you want this kind of information—about the antiwar movement, the labor actions on the West Coast docks and the fight for reparations from slavery—to get into more hands. Ditto on the ongoing activities to free Black political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal, the mobilizations for domestic-partner benefits for same-sex couples, the battle to keep the right to abortion, the fight for the right to a job, and every other progressive struggle.

To help with the distribution of the newspaper in Washington and San Francisco, look for the Workers World banners and literature table at the gathering site. Come by to pick up newspapers for distribution. Try to let us know in advance if you'll be helping out. For more information, call (212) 627-2994 on the East Coast (ask for Marsha) or (415) 826-4828 on the West Coast. Or send an email to wwbundles@wwpublish.com.

If you would like to get out newspapers at future activities, contact us at the phone or email.

Let's answer Bush's lies by building the circulation of Workers World. It's the best antidote to militarist poison.

**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.

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*This week ...*



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### RED BANK, N.J.

**Every Saturday**  
Join us to say: No to war! No to racism! Picket at noon in front of the main gate, Fort Monmouth, Highway 35 Eatontown. We supply signs or make your own. For info IAC, PO Box 307, Red Bank, NJ.

### SAN FRANCISCO

**Sun., Oct. 26**  
Stop the war against Iraq before it starts. Gather 11 a.m. Justin Herman Plaza (Embarcadero BART) 1 p.m. rally Civic Center (Grove & Larkin). For info (415) 821-6545, answer@actionsf.org or www.actionsf.org.

### WASHINGTON, D.C.

**Sat., Oct. 26**  
Stop the war against Iraq before it starts. National march. Gather 11 a.m. Constitution Gardens adjacent to the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial, 21st St. & Constitution NW. March on the White House. For info (202) 332-5757 or (212) 633-6646 or dc@internationalanswer.org or www.internationalanswer.org.

### Workers World

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## Climate of war, racism and violence

# What the media leave out of sniper coverage

By Deirdre Griswold

There is much speculation in the media on what kind of person would meticulously plan the killing of women, men and youths who have done nothing to offend him other than merely exist.

It is known that he carries out his crimes from a safe distance. His command of deadly weaponry with pinpoint accuracy shields him from retaliation.

He does not know his victims, never looks them in the face. They are expendable, it seems, merely to prove a point. And what is that point? Here the speculation turns to the question of power. Is he driven by the compulsion to prove that he has the power, the invulnerability, to defy the world and impose his will on society?

All this is being dissected in great detail in the media.

Oh, you thought this was about George W. Bush?

No, the media are discussing the D.C.-area sniper, who is nameless and has killed nine people, as of this writing. Whether the murders in the suburbs ringing Washington are being committed by one person or several is still a matter of speculation, although the pronoun "he" is increasingly used to describe the one-shot sniper who has gunned down victims at shopping malls and gas stations.

We have no information on who the killer or killers may turn out to be. But we do have an observation to make on

the media coverage.

A notable amount of prime time is being devoted to countering the growing assumption by the public that the killer received military or police training. Many experts—some of them officers, others from the "privatized" armed groups better known as mercenaries—are being trotted before the cameras to say that anyone can learn to shoot this accurately just by playing video games or reading about marksmanship on the internet.

One such expert, representing a guns-for-hire company, explained that it couldn't be a professional sniper because outfits like his only train the "good guys."

Can the networks really get away with dressing up drivel like this as "news" in the reign of George II?

People in the rest of the world don't see it this way. They look at what the U.S. military is doing in Afghanistan, Iraq, Kuwait, Yemen, the Philippines and Colombia, and it doesn't fit their idea of the "good guys." They see the U.S. as the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today—to quote the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during the Vietnam War.

They draw their own conclusions when a killer with what is described as a military-type weapon turns up right near the capital of the nation that is sending hundreds of thousands of troops around the world.

They remember that the U.S. has produced pilots who were caught on tape

cheering when their missiles blew up impoverished villages in Afghanistan or when they incinerated tens of thousands of retreating Iraqi soldiers at the end of the Gulf War on what came to be known as the "Highway of Death."

The U.S. had suffered only a handful of casualties in that war, and most of them from what is called "friendly fire," so this terrible coldness to human suffering did not come from battle fatigue or the trauma of front-line troops exposed to the death of their comrades.

People in other lands are offended that this corporate-controlled culture—through its movies, television and other forms of mass media—has tried to strip Arabs and other Third World people of their humanity. In so many of the televised discussions here that shape public opinion on whether there should be a war, the ordinary people of the Middle East are barely referred to. In fact, they are treated merely as obstacles to the driving ambitions of U.S. politicians, commanders and oil capitalists for domination of the area.

Is it outrageous to suggest that this attitude toward the people of other countries

could be transferred, by someone who had been trained to kill coldly and without an iota of sympathy for the "enemy," into contempt for ordinary people here? In other words, that the killer could have been trained by the military, not just in the use of weapons but in a callous attitude toward civilians?

With all the coverage of this unfolding saga of mass murder, much of it extremely repetitive and even trivial, there has been no discussion of this question, which is on so many people's minds.

It may turn out that there is some other explanation for what is happening. We don't know.

But the Pentagon is becoming more directly involved in the investigation. It is now supplying aerial photos to the police.

One thing is clear. The military brass and the police are not eager to find that one of the thousands of snipers trained by the government committed these crimes.

The Pentagon's involvement also sets a dangerous precedent in the growing encroachment of the military, which has been barred by law from civilian police work, into all areas of life.

## Chicago action tells Ashcroft:

# Drop charges against Arnout

Dozens of protesters turned up the heat on Attorney General John Ashcroft when he appeared in Chicago Oct. 9. Ashcroft was in the Windy City to announce new indictments against Enam Arnout, president of the Benevolence International Foundation, a Muslim charity.

Arnout has been in jail since April. Courts recently threw out earlier Justice Department charges that Arnout and his organization "support terrorism." Now Ashcroft and U.S. Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald plan to charge Arnout with "racketeering" because Benevolence International raised funds to provide an X-ray machine

and anti-landmine boots to agencies with ties to the former Taliban government in Afghanistan.

With just two hours notice of Ashcroft's appearance, protesters crashed his news conference in the Dirksen Federal Building. They loudly charged Ashcroft with violating civil liberties and civil rights, scapegoating Arabs and Muslims, and fabricating charges against Arnout to heighten fear and aid the Bush administration's war drive in Iraq.

The action was organized by the Chicago Coalition Against War & Racism.

-Workers World Chicago bureau



WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

## Falwell's anti-Muslim bigotry spurs protest

By G. Dunkel  
New York

Shouting, "CBS, shame, shame, shame!" some 2,000 people marched from the CBS offices on West 57th Street to the Fox Studios in Times Square here Oct. 13. They were protesting the segment of the CBS program "60 Minutes" that gave right-wing evangelist Jerry Falwell the opportunity to attack Islam and its founder Muhammad.

Referring to massive protests in India sparked by Falwell's diatribe, a speaker from the Islamic Council of North America said: "Hate speech is not free speech. His speech has brought hatred out against Muslims throughout the world. We demand an apology from CBS as well as Falwell and equal time on '60 Minutes.'"

In India, anti-Muslim attacks by police and bigots killed five people and severely

injured 90 during a general strike and demonstrations generated by Falwell's interview.

Sara Flounders, representing the International ANSWER coalition—Act Now to Stop War and End Racism—linked Falwell's interview and the coming Pentagon war against Iraq. She explained: "Falwell's interview has to be seen as part of President Bush preparing for a new war by spreading bigotry, racism and hatred to divide the people. It is important to demand respect and dignity and an end to racism."

She called for a big turnout for the Oct. 26 anti-war march and rally in Washington.

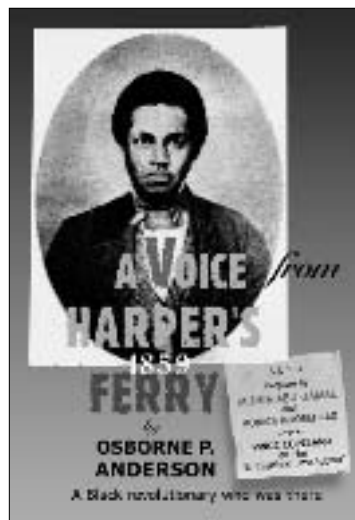
Falwell's bigotry was not the only issue raised. The Bangladesh American Islamic Society marched behind a banner that said: "Stop the Killing in Palestine."

On Oct. 14, CNN announced that Falwell had been forced to issue an apology.

## A VOICE from HARPER'S FERRY 1859

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## While Bush pushes for war

# Layoffs spread in high-tech and banks

By Heather Cottin

Like an avalanche in slow motion, the U.S. economy continues to slide, and workers are being buried in the rubble.

Bush's Labor Department reported that unemployment in September remained unchanged at 5.6 percent. Even Wall Street is skeptical about this figure, however, especially since it comes just before an important midterm election.

Economic writers David Leonhardt and Daniel Altman of the New York Times reflected this skepticism when they wrote on Oct. 13 that "the nation continues to suffer through a broad jobs slump."

"Few companies have hired significant numbers of new employees," they say, "and the worrisome economic signs of the last month have caused some to announce new layoffs, making last year's recession feel to many as if it is still going on."

Robert J. Barbera, the chief economist at ITG/Hoening, a technology and investment company, told the Times, "The job market is moribund."

And while the government is saying that unemployment remains steady,

these reporters point out that "The number of people on payrolls fell in September for the first time in five months, help-wanted advertising has dropped significantly and the number of unemployment-insurance claims, while volatile, has generally risen."

Many of the cutbacks have been in high-technology companies and financial institutions, leading to what these writers call "unusually democratic" layoffs, meaning that better-paid white men are being laid off at the same rate as women and people of color.

But unemployment among African Americans is still almost double that of whites—9.6 percent—and Latinos are at 7.4 percent. More women have become "discouraged workers" who just can't find jobs.

And the number of people who have stopped seeking jobs—since few can be had—is mounting, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Telecommunications job cuts are leading all other layoffs. Lucent Technologies, which had a workforce of 123,000 only two years ago, has announced it will cut 10,000 more jobs, reducing its payroll to 35,000 workers

by the end of the year.

Agere, the nation's largest producer of semiconductors, is a spinoff from Lucent. Agere announced in August that it planned to cut its work force to 7,200 from 11,200 by the end of 2003, close a number of factories and consolidate its U.S. manufacturing. It has been hit hard by the overproduction of fiber-optic cables that led to the bankruptcies of technology giants Global Crossing and Tyco.

Agere has been a major employer of workers in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley, a region that has not recuperated from the closing of Bethlehem Steel's mills in the 1990s.

Big banks are also laying off thousands of workers. J.P. Morgan Chase slashed hundreds of jobs of sales traders and analysts on Oct. 14, the beginning of a planned reduction of 3,000 jobs at its branches around the globe. The Morgan bank had already laid off about 8,000 people since its 2000 merger with Chase Manhattan.

On the same day, the New York Post reported that Merrill Lynch may dismiss more than 20 percent of its investment bankers. The firm has already cut 13,600 jobs, or 20 percent of its staff, since last year's second quarter.

Credit Suisse First Boston announced early in the month that it planned to eliminate 1,500 jobs in October.

These layoffs of bankers, investment analysts and other high-paid specialists will have a ripple effect throughout the economy, especially impacting on service jobs like waiters, dry cleaners, domestic workers and others.

Statistics don't show the social effect

Statistics don't show the social effect on people who are sinking into poverty and insecurity.

on people who are sinking into poverty and insecurity.

While the corporate criminals who stole billions get golden parachutes or an occasional slap on the wrist, workers are plunged into uncertainty and crisis. Marcia Angell, editor of the New England Journal of Medicine, notes that 1.5 million people in the U.S. lost their health insurance in 2001. The layoffs in 2002 will swell that number, even as Bush orchestrates Medicare and Medicaid cutbacks for the elderly and poor.

Meanwhile, both Democrats and Republicans are pushing for a war in Iraq that it is estimated will cost as much as \$200 billion. With a youth unemployment rate this summer at 12.4 percent—up two percentage points over last summer—young people are feeling more pressure to join the armed forces in lieu of finding decent jobs.

The economy is flat. Workers are fed up. And at the same time, a major war of aggression is developing that is becoming increasingly unpopular even before it starts. It is all a prescription for a deepening struggle against the capitalist ruling class, whose insatiable need for profits is endangering the lives and welfare of the people. □



PHOTO: DEAN DEVOSS

## Texans march against legal lynchings

Hundreds of people from across Texas marched in the state capital of Austin Oct. 12 for the third annual March on the Mansion for a Moratorium. For blocks and blocks around the governor's mansion there was a sea of people carrying yellow signs demanding "Moratorium now!" and "Stop ALL executions!"

Speakers included Clarence Brandley, who was released in 1990 after a decade on Texas death row. Brandley's struggle against the racist death machine became a mass movement that forced the courts to recognize his innocence and grant his freedom. Ross Byrd, son of James Byrd Jr., who was dragged to death by three

white racists in Jasper, also spoke out against executions.

The families of prisoners Kenneth Foster and Rodney Reed spoke. Both men are African Americans who have strong cases for their innocence. Kay Babineaux spoke about another innocent man, Nanon Williams. Like Shaka Sankofa, Williams was only 17 when he was arrested in Houston and railroaded to death row. His appeal in a federal court is pending in December.

Most marchers agreed that the racist death penalty is on its way out, even in Texas, as they chanted, "Texas says death row, we say hell no!"

—Gloria Rubac

## LOS ANGELES

# Farm Workers leader tells of Cuba visit

Dolores Huerta, co-founder of the United Farm Workers union, spoke on Oct. 11 at the Cesar Chavez Multicultural Wellness Community Center in Los Angeles about her first visit to socialist Cuba. Hermandad Mexicana Nacional sponsored the event. Huerta's words demonstrated a

commitment to defend the Cuban Revolution and its accomplishments. Pictured from left: Ana Duarte of Workers World Party; Dolores Huerta; and Adrian Garcia of the National Committee to Free the Five Cuban Patriots in U.S. Jails.

—Workers World Los Angeles bureau



Delores Huerta, center

WW PHOTO: PRESTON WOOD

## Congress caves in but anti-war movement grows

# Bush plans colonial occupation

Continued from page 1

establish and proclaim a new general doctrine of "preemption," as opposed to justifying this act of aggression as a special case.

But in spite of these differences, a bloc has been formed in the ruling class between the moderates and the military adventurers over destroying the government of Saddam Hussein and conquering Iraq. The problem they have is getting the mass of the people to go along with a war that has little popular support. This is where the liberals and social democrats play their crucial role.

In the Senate vote, top ruling class moderates fell in line. Hillary Clinton of New York, Christopher Dodd of Connecticut, Dianne Feinstein of California, Tom Harkin of Iowa, and, above all, the so-called anti-war liberal Vietnam veteran, John Kerry of Massachusetts, all threw in their lot with Bush. Of course, Senate majority leader Tom Daschle, after much anti-Bush huffing and puffing, voted for the resolution, as did Charles Schumer of New York and John D. Rockefeller of West Virginia.

On the Republican side, Chuck Hagel of Nebraska, who had done much publicized foot dragging throughout the debate over the war, ended up voting for the Bush resolution "because the stakes are so high."

"Actions in Iraq must come in the context of an American-led multilateral approach to disarmament, not as a first case for a new American doctrine involving the preemptive use of force," said Hagel as a buildup to his yes vote. (New York Times, Oct. 10)

Hillary Clinton declared her vote to be "probably the hardest decision I've ever had to make."

She is probably right, but it has nothing to do with her conscience about war or peace. It has everything to do with her concern over whether U.S. imperialism is endangering itself—and how her vote for war will go over with the masses of workers and progressives, who constitute her social base in New York state and are totally opposed to Bush's adventure, regardless of mealy-mouthed excuses.

### Plans for military occupation

No amount of soft-pedaling the vote for war could get around the hard plans of the Bush administration, leaked to the press on the day of the vote, for a colonial-style military occupation of Iraq.

"The White House is developing a detailed plan, modeled on the postwar occu-

pation of Japan, to install an American-led military government in Iraq if the United States topples Saddam Hussein, senior administration officials said today," wrote David E. Sanger and Eric Schmitt in the New York Times of Oct. 11.

"The plan also calls for war-crimes trials of Iraqi leaders and a transition to an elected civilian government that could take months or years.

"In the initial phase, Iraq would be governed by an American military commander—perhaps Gen. Tommy Franks, commander of United States forces in the Persian Gulf, or one of his subordinates—who would assume the role that Gen. Douglas MacArthur served in Japan after its surrender in 1945."

In a carefully worded phrase, calculated to assure the imperialist allies of their cut if they collaborate with Washington, the Times wrote, "For as long as the coalition partners administered Iraq, they would essentially control the second largest proven oil reserves in the world, nearly 11 percent of the total."

In an earlier passage, the article had said that, "In contemplating an occupation, the administration is scaling back the initial role for the Iraqi opposition forces." Later on it elaborated, "Iraqis, perhaps through a consultative council, would assist an American-led military, and, later, a civilian administration, a senior official said today. Only after this transition would the American-led government hand power to the Iraqis."

### War criminals organize 'war crimes tribunal'

Washington is moving on other fronts to prepare an occupation force preparatory to setting up a puppet state. According to the Oct. 11 Washington Post, the State Department has initiated the Future of Iraq Project. "In the past few weeks, the \$5 million program has quietly gathered speed far from the public disputes in Congress and the United Nations."

The project has six working groups; six more teams are to be established. They are composed of Iraqi renegade defectors to imperialism, called the "Iraqi opposition," as well as other Iraqi expatriates.

They are working for their masters on a new political structure, a legal structure and war crimes tribunals, among other areas. "It sets up a network of individuals who become cadre to work with the future government," said David L. Mack, whom

the Post describes as "a former U.S. ambassador who designed the forerunner to the project.

"Decisions about the project are made by an inter-agency committee that includes officials from the State Department, the Pentagon and the White House," continued the Post. The Justice Department and the Treasury Department also participate.

Washington may ultimately be forced to reconsider its plan for military occupation. No less a figure than former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, a cold-blooded war criminal from the era of the Vietnam War and Chile coup, declared: "I am viscerally opposed to a prolonged occupation of a Muslim country at the heart of the Muslim world by Western nations who proclaim the right to reeducate the country." (New York Times, Oct. 11) Nevertheless, Kissinger is an ardent supporter of the invasion of Iraq.

### An admission of political weakness

In this statement by Kissinger one can feel the fear of the ruling class about how their adventure in Iraq is going to end up. Plans for military occupation are based upon both military strength and political weakness. They assume that the Pentagon can conquer Iraq and stabilize it long enough to establish an occupation. On the other hand, it is a naked admission that the U.S. does not have an ounce of social support among the Iraqi population and will have to try to rule by naked military dictatorship.

The false allusion to the occupation of Japan after World War II has only to do with form and not substance. The U.S. imperialists had defeated their Japanese rivals in the struggle to rule Asia—a defeat that included dropping the atom bomb on two heavily populated cities, killing close to 200,000 people. Wall Street needed to resuscitate Japanese capitalism and imperialism in order to use Japan as a bulwark in the struggle against the Chinese Revolution, the USSR and the socialist camp in the east.

Under the dictatorship of the Pentagon and General MacArthur, the U.S. imperialists restructured Japanese capitalism, helped the Japanese bosses subdue the rebellious Japanese working class, and opened U.S. markets to Japanese products.

In the case of Iraq, its goal is pure pillage and plunder, not only of the oil but of the surrounding Middle Eastern countries.

Washington has only colonial suffering and hardship in store for the Iraqi people. Its aim is to return them to the colonial bondage they suffered after the breakup of the Ottoman Empire, when British imperialism carved out Iraq for its colonial empire.

### A new era of anti-colonial resistance

The entire projection is based upon the assumption that the masses of the world will allow the Bush administration to prosecute a new, bloody war against the Iraqi people. Right now, hundreds of thousands are mobilizing in cities around the world to stop the war before it starts. Every effort should be made to see that the Bush administration never gets the opportunity to carry out such a mad adventure.

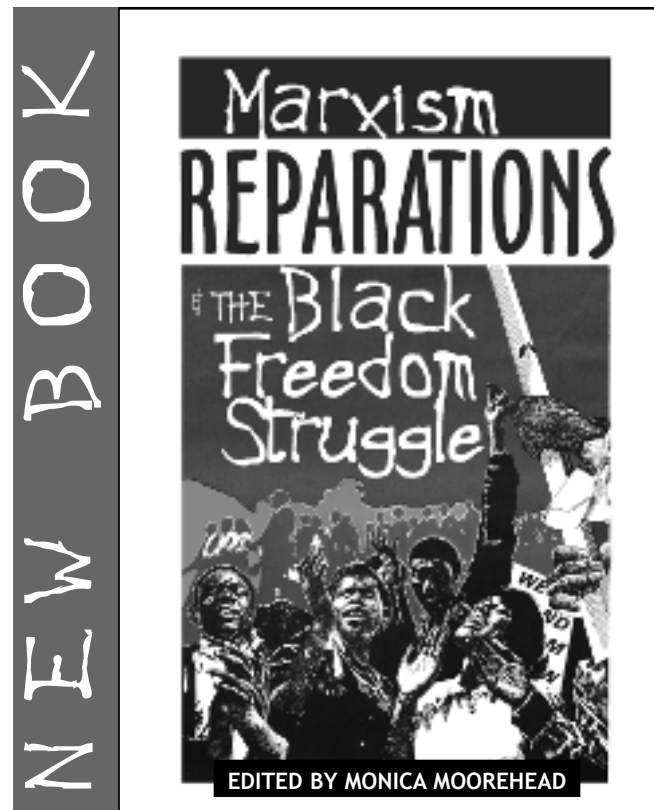
Furthermore, the fierce resistance of the Iraqi people in the event of an invasion, combined with a popular explosion of mass anger in the Middle East, could completely wreck the plans of the Pentagon.

But should the Pentagon, the military-industrial complex and the oil companies succeed in carrying out their aggression and attempt to inaugurate a new era of outright colonialism, the U.S. imperialists will surely find out in the 21st century what the British, French, Belgian, Dutch, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese imperialists found out in the 20th century: that colonial occupation breeds anti-colonial resistance on a massive scale.

Such mad adventures could lead to a historic setback for imperialism abroad and the renewal of the anti-war, anti-colonial struggle right here at home in the United States on a scale not seen in generations.

## Filling at the Pentagon's trough

The Democrats want "to get on to the economy" after the war vote. But the day before the war vote Congress voted 409 to 14 to give the Pentagon \$355.4 billion for the military. Even if the Democrats had a plan, which they don't, they have already given away the money for social needs to the war-makers and the profiteering merchants of death in the military-industrial complex.



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# 'No new war against Iraq!'

## Worldwide protests set for Oct. 26

By John Catalinotto

Organizers at the ANSWER coalition office in New York tell Workers World they are encouraged by what spokesperson Teresa Gutierrez calls the "tremendous international support for the Oct. 26 March on Washington to Stop the War on Iraq Before It Starts."

ANSWER, which stands for Act Now to Stop War and End Racism, originally called the Oct. 26 actions in **Washington** and **San Francisco** along with several other prominent antiwar voices. The call to protest has now broadened to nearly all U.S. anti-war groups, and others.

The original, emailed international call was reinforced when representatives of the U.S. movement, including Gutierrez, Larry Holmes and Khadouri al-Kaysi, participated in an international solidarity meeting in **Baghdad** in mid-September.

As of Oct. 14, major demonstrations have been called in at least nine countries—to coincide or otherwise work in tandem with the U.S. demonstrations

and show joint solidarity with the Iraqi people. Worldwide, anti-imperialists want to encourage the growth of a strong U.S. anti-war movement, says Gutierrez.

In **Puerto Rico**, groups that are pro-independence and those who want to stop the U.S. Navy's use of the island of Vieques as a bomb-testing site have called for an Oct. 26 action in San Juan.

In **Japan**, the movement plans to use its traditional anti-war day of Oct. 21 to organize demonstrations in connection with the U.S. initiatives. On that day there will be demonstrations in six major cities—**Tokyo, Osaka, Sendai, Hiroshima, Fukuoka, and Okinawa**—to oppose U.S. aggression against Iraq.

There will be anti-imperialist protests in **India**. In **south Korea**, groups that organized the Korea Truth Commission tribunals have called for regional protests against U.S. military action in Iraq.

Anti-imperialist groups in **Italy** have joined with Palestinians living in that country to call for a national demonstration in **Rome** on Oct. 26. They will

demand no war on Iraq and solidarity with Palestine. Vast crowds, which some estimated at 1.5 million, demonstrated in 120 Italian cities in early October.

**German** anti-war groups met in **Kassel** Sept. 28-29 to call regional demonstrations for all major cities on Oct. 26. The biggest action should be in **Berlin**, the capital.

**Denmark's** anti-war movement was one of the first outside the United States to call a national march. It will be in **Copenhagen** on Oct. 26 to "Stop the War on Terror." In **the Netherlands**, people will join either a national demonstration in **Amsterdam** or a local one in **Rotterdam** on Oct. 26.

In **Madrid, Spain**, since the preferred day for demonstrations is Sunday, the main demonstration to "Stop the War on Iraq Before It Starts" has been called for Oct. 27. Then, on Nov. 16-17, the Spain-based Committee in Solidarity with the Arab Cause will hold a conference, to which Ramsey Clark and other representatives of the International Action Center and ANSWER are invited.

A Peace Race organized by young people of the Workers Party of **Belgium** is planned for Oct. 26. A coalition has also called for a national demonstration in Belgium on Nov. 10 in solidarity with the Washington and San Francisco actions.

Also in **Brussels** on Oct. 26, the Anti-Imperialist Camp will protest at the headquarters of the European Union to oppose the EU's decision to put revolutionary organizations and organizations fighting for national liberation—like Herri Batasuna in the Basque Country and the Communist Party of the Philippines—on a list of "terrorist" groups.

On Oct. 12 there were demonstrations in 30 cities in **France**. Tens of thousands of people took part.

In **Britain**, where the Blair regime threatens to send troops to participate in a U.S.-led war against Iraq, 250,000-350,000 marched in protest in **London** on Sept. 28. On Oct. 31 the British anti-war movement will move from dissent to resistance, as demonstrators gather in city centers to stop traffic.

## Mass protests Oct. 26

### D.C., S.F. marches get 'overwhelming response'

Continued from page 1

tion Movement, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Global Exchange and many more.

On Oct. 7 the Al-Fatiha Foundation, a U.S.-based organization representing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Muslims, endorsed the Oct. 26 demonstrations. "As people committed to social justice, peace and equality, it is our moral and ethical responsibility to take a stand against an unjust war," said Khalida, a member of Al-Fatiha's board of directors, in a statement announcing the group's endorsement.

Al-Fatiha urged other national lesbian, gay, bi and trans organizations to join with them and many local LGBT groups that have already taken a stand against the war drive.

And on Oct. 10 the Rochester, N.Y., and Vicinity Labor Council (AFL-CIO) became the latest local labor federation to adopt a "No war against Iraq" resolution and endorse the Oct. 26 marches.

The complete list of Oct. 26 endorsers now numbers more than 3,000.

#### March on Washington

On Oct. 15, Workers World spoke with ANSWER media coordinator Tony Murphy. He reported that there are organizing centers in 75 cities and towns planning buses for the Washington demonstration.

The volume of phone calls, letters and emails received by the coalition every day are indications that people in other locales are also mobilizing, Murphy emphasized.

More than 250 people turned out for a New York City organizers' meeting Oct. 10, Murphy said, and most took stacks of flyers, posters and stickers to distribute in their neighborhoods and workplaces.

The Oct. 26 demonstration in Washington will assemble at 11 a.m. at Constitution Gardens, adjacent to the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial, at 21st St. and Constitution Ave. N.W.

After an opening rally, demonstrators will march to the White House to make their anti-war message loud and clear to the

Bush administration.

Among the scheduled speakers are former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark; Jesse Jackson Sr., Rainbow/PUSH Coalition; Rep. Cynthia McKinney; actor Martin Sheen; musician Patty Smith; Ben Cohen, co-founder of Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream; Bishop Thomas Gumbleton of Detroit; President Brenda Stokely, AFSCME District Council 1707, New York; and Shaimaa al-Azzawa, Muslim Students Association.

Also: International Action Center co-directors and ANSWER steering committee members Larry Holmes and Brian Becker; Medea Benjamin, Global Exchange; Ibrahim Ramey, Fellowship of Reconciliation; Daniel Berrigan, Plowshares; IAC co-director Sara Flounders; Mara Verheyden-Hilliard, co-founder of the Partnership for Civil Justice; the Rev. Graylan Hagler, Plymouth Congregational Church in Washington; transgender author and activist Leslie Feinberg; and Damu Smith, Black Voices for Peace.

In addition, there will be taped messages from political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal, former UN Oil for Food Program Director Dr. Hans von Sponek and actor Ossie Davis. A public service announcement for Oct. 26 recorded by Davis has begun to air on radio stations across the U.S.

Detailed information on the march—including a complete list of local organizing centers, bus information and driving directions—is available on the Web at [www.internationalanswer.org](http://www.internationalanswer.org). For more information, readers can also call the Washington office at (202) 332-5757 or the New York office at (212) 633-6646.

#### West Coast regional protest

Nancy Mitchell of ANSWER's San Francisco office told WW that there is an "overwhelming response" to the Oct. 26 West Coast regional protest. "We have more calls and emails than we can keep up with, and 40 to 50 people regularly come to our volunteers' meetings," she said.

There are nearly 40 organizing centers for the San Francisco march, Mitchell re-

ported, from California to Hawaii, Oregon, Nevada and Washington state. A student outreach committee is reaching out to dozens of college campuses and high schools.

Bay Area organizing received a big boost Oct. 11 after anti-war activists targeted the Federal Building to protest the Congressional vote backing Bush's aggression in Iraq.

Protesters, organized by ANSWER and other groups, blocked four entrances to the Federal Building for two hours during the morning rush hour and had a militant standoff with police. Some 42 activists were arrested. The action received a lot of media attention, Mitchell said, and spurred fresh interest in the Oct. 26 protest.

Along with stopping the planned U.S. war in Iraq, a major theme of the San Fran-

cisco protest will be solidarity with the embattled International Longshore & Warehouse Union. The ILWU has a long history of anti-war activism and is a co-sponsor of the Oct. 26 marches.

Following a lockout by port bosses as part of an ongoing contract dispute, the Bush administration recently ordered ILWU members back to work under the anti-union Taft-Hartley Act, citing "national security."

As a sign of the broad enthusiasm for Oct. 26, Mitchell said a store called the Cheese Board in Berkeley had phoned the ANSWER office. "They said they're closing the business that day and telling all of their customers to come to the protest."

For more information, visit the ANSWER web site or call the San Francisco office at (415) 821-6545.

### N.Y. Hudson Valley cauldron of anti-war activity

By Jack A. Smith  
New Paltz, N.Y.

Anti-war activism is erupting throughout New York state's Hudson Valley region, extending from Westchester County, just above New York City, north to the upstate Capital District.

Some 20 peace vigils are held every week in various towns in this fairly narrow, 130-mile stretch of the valley—a phenomenon that began shortly after Sept. 11 last year and has built steadily as the Bush administration seeks to expand its aggression to Iraq.

At least three buses will leave from the Mid-Hudson region to bring demonstrators to the Oct. 26 anti-war march and rally in Washington, D.C. In addition, anti-war protests will be held the same day in Kingston and White Plains. Albany activists will hold their demonstration a day earlier.

Throughout the Hudson Valley, it is estimated that more than 40 anti-war rallies, marches, and meetings have taken place in the last month.

Typical was an event held outside the Ulster County legislature in the small city of Kingston the night of Oct. 10. Some 150 demonstrators showed up to rally outside while legislators debated an anti-war resolution. The Republican-dominated body rejected the resolution 24-9, but the nearby New Paltz Town Board passed a stronger resolution the same night.

The Town of Woodstock also passed a peace resolution Oct. 8, as did several other upstate communities. In addition, anti-war ads have started to appear in local papers.

Across the Hudson River in Dutchess County, peace marchers trekked through Rhinebeck and marched in Poughkeepsie in mid-October. Students from Bard and

# Calif. meetings draw hundreds in support of Iraq, Palestine

By Brenda Sandburg  
San Francisco

As the Navy's Blue Angels fighter jets roared low over San Francisco during the military's annual "Fleet Week," anti-war activists gathered at the Horace Mann school here in solidarity with the Palestinian and Iraqi peoples Oct. 12. The annual military show of force, at the moment the United States is preparing to wage war on the Iraqi people, highlighted the message of featured speakers Ramsey Clark, a former U.S. attorney general in the Johnson Administration, and Palestinian historian Naseer Aruri.

Clark said that in calling for a war against Iraq, the U.S. government has proclaimed its right to violate the sovereignty of any nation. "Not that the government hasn't done so all along," Clark said, noting that the United States has led more than 80 violent interventions in the last 100 years—from the taking of half of Mexico to invading Grenada, Nicaragua, and Haiti, to overthrowing democratically elected governments in Chile and the Congo.

"Who's the greater danger to the people of the world: the United States or Iraq?" Clark asked. During the Gulf War in 1991, he said, the United States launched 110,000 aerial sorties, dropping 88,500 tons of bombs, and killing at least 150,000 people. It also dropped 900 tons of depleted uranium, which has caused widespread cancer and other illnesses among the Iraqi people.

Clark, who led a peace delegation to Iraq in early September, said the UN sanctions, which block medicines from reaching the country, have killed more than half a million children under the age of 5. That is four times more than were killed in the U.S. bombing of Hiroshima. Children and infants are dying of dehydration because they can't get pills, he said, and mothers are so malnourished that they give children sugar water. But, he said, the water is bad so the babies die.

"I watched an 11-year-old girl have her

leg sawed off below the hip without anesthesia or antiseptic," Clark said. "The doctor said he didn't know if he was taking a life or saving it."

Aruri, professor emeritus at the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth, discussed the importance of al-Nakba—"the catastrophe" of 1948 in which hundreds of thousands of Palestinians were expelled from their land—and the struggle for the right of millions of refugees to return. He praised the renewed focus on these issues by organizations pushing for the right of return and students leading campaigns to stop their schools from investing in Israel.

"We're facing an Israeli government that looks more like a military junta" with a South African strategy of apartheid, Aruri said. He recalled that U.S. officials stood in support of Israel at the anti-racism conference in Durban, South Africa. They told attendees "not to pick on Israel," Aruri said. "That's tantamount to saying a rapist is being picked on by the victim for being prosecuted for his crimes."

Alicia Jrapko of the International ANSWER coalition chaired the San Francisco meeting.

Saul Kanowitz, also with ANSWER, talked about a project the coalition initiated: the Commission of Inquiry into U.S.-backed Israeli Crimes of Occupation, which is continuing to gather data and will hold a hearing next year. ANSWER member Nancy Mitchell asked everyone at the meeting to become an organizer for the Oct. 26 national day of action to stop the war against Iraq.

"We are at a critical, critical moment in history, as the Bush administration is marching toward one of the largest bloodbaths," Mitchell said. "The global community is looking to us to see if we can organize opposition to stop the war. We believe we can stop the war and must."

Rulah Khalafawi of the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee-San Francisco and Free Palestine Alliance said, "The Iraqi and Palestinian people have one



WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

Ramsey Clark speaking at San Francisco meeting Oct. 12.

fight—the imperialism of the United States and its demand for oil."

After speaking in San Francisco, Clark and Aruri flew to Los Angeles to speak to a packed house at a Hollywood hotel.

The Los Angeles meeting was co-chaired by Ban Al-Wardi, an Iraqi woman, and Michel Shehadeh of the ADC and the Free Palestine Alliance.

Tamara Rettino of Jews for a Just Peace,

who recently traveled with the international solidarity movement to the occupied territories, showed slides documenting conditions there and the Palestinian people's resistance.

Other speakers at the Los Angeles meeting included immigrant-rights leader Juan Jose Gutierrez of Latino Movement USA and James Laferty of the National Lawyers Guild.



WW PHOTO: J. LA RIVA

Crowd packs Los Angeles meeting in solidarity with Palestine, Iraq.

Vassar colleges have held several anti-war events.

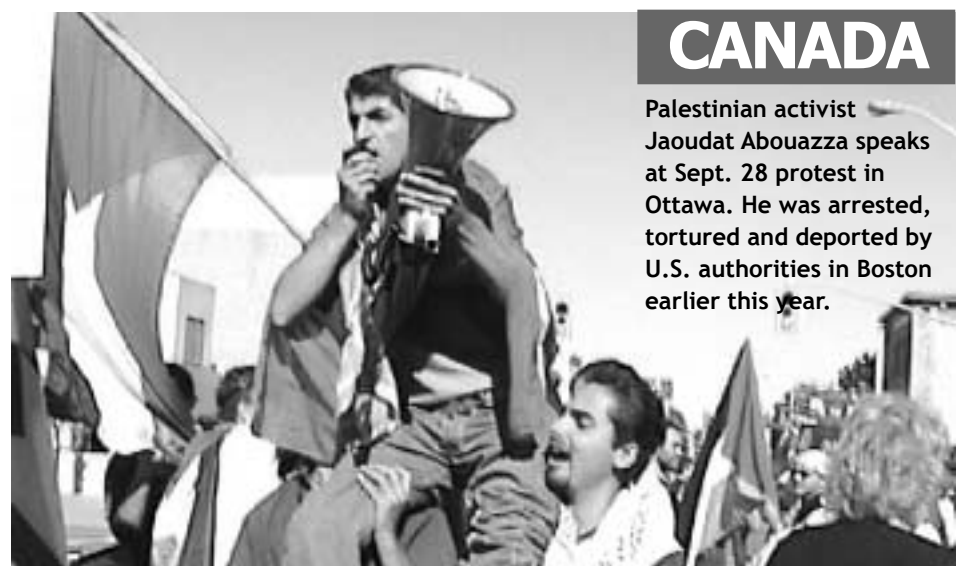
Several AFL-CIO unions in New York state with Hudson Valley locals have taken stands against a U.S. invasion of Iraq, including the Albany Central Federation of Labor, United University Professions and Local 1199 of the Service Employees International Union.

The Albany Federation, which embraces a number of union locals in the Capital District, resolved to "join the growing movement in opposition to any U.S. war against Iraq, and to call on the unions and AFL-CIO at all levels and Congressional representatives to publicly oppose this war." The federation

also endorsed the Oct. 26 international day of protest, as did the UUP.

In a statement to the media Oct. 11, the Mid-Hudson National People's Campaign—the regional affiliate of the International Action Center—declared that the congressional vote backing President Bush's war plans, combined with the Ulster legislative decision, "will greatly increase the size of an already large anti-war movement in the Mid-Hudson region."

For information about buses to Washington on Oct. 26 and local demonstrations, call the Mid-Hudson NPC at (845) 255-5779 or email jacdon@earthlink.net.



## CANADA

Palestinian activist Jaoudat Abouazza speaks at Sept. 28 protest in Ottawa. He was arrested, tortured and deported by U.S. authorities in Boston earlier this year.

## Spirit of Intifada comes to Ottawa

By Elise Hugos  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

The spirit of Intifada came to Ottawa on Sept. 28. In a rally to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the massacre of Palestinian refugees in the Sabra and Shatila camps in Lebanon, protesters called for the Canadian government to cease its support of Israel.

In 1982, the Lebanese Phalangist militia killed a confirmed 2,750 people under the supervision of the Israeli Defense Forces. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, at that time minister of defense and commander of the IDF, was responsible for the crime.

Buses pulled up to Major's Hill Park in Ottawa, facing the U.S. Embassy, from Montreal, Kingston and Toronto. Organizers of the event included the Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights and Palestinian and Jewish Unity. They estimated that 5,000 demonstrators marched.

Similar demonstrations were held in San Francisco, Chicago, London, Paris and Berlin, according to organizers.

Volunteer pallbearers led the march, carrying cardboard coffins draped with the red, black, green and white Palestinian

flag. Marchers broke out of line to dance to the beat of traditional Palestinian hand drums. By nightfall, Parliament Hill was illuminated with candles lit for every victim of the Sabra and Shatila massacres.

Their words echoing over Ottawa's idyllic canals, speakers called for the Canadian government to cut off support for Israel, which they called "a racist, apartheid state."

Although Canada's aid to Israel doesn't come close to the \$6 billion provided annually by the U.S. government, the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement has been in place since 1992. Other contracts, such as the Canada-Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation, help to promote the Israeli war economy.

One of the protesters' stated demands was Palestinian refugees' right to return to their homeland. Some were expelled as long ago as 1948.

"There's always been a double standard when it comes to international refugee law," said Chadi Marouf, director of the SPHR. Referring to Israel's flouting of a recent United Nations resolution calling for immediate withdrawal from the Occupied Territories, he said, "It's mockery of the judicial justice system of the world."

## In the spirit of Che Guevara

# Belgium conference demands freedom for Cuban heroes jailed in U.S.

Special to Workers World  
Brussels, Belgium

"Free the Five, Stop the War" was the clarion call at a daylong conference for Cuba in the capital of Belgium. Iniciativa Cuba Socialista (Cuba Socialist Initiative), a Belgian non-governmental organization, organized the conference. It drew 1,000 people, with broad participation by youths and unionists as well as members of Cuba solidarity groups from Germany, France, the Netherlands and Latin America.

One of the keynote speakers was Harry "Pombo" Villegas, the Cuban revolutionary who fought alongside Che Guevara in battles from the Sierra Maestra to Bolivia. Also featured: Rodolfo Dávalos of the Law School of the University of Havana, who works on the legal struggle of the Cuban Five; Katrien DeMuynck, coordinator of the Belgian Free the Five Committee; and Gloria La Riva, coordinator of the U.S. National Committee to Free the Five Cuban Political Prisoners.

Beautiful wall-sized political art with a Cuban revolutionary theme, produced by young artists of the sponsoring organization, adorned the halls at Saint Louis University. Iniciativa Cuba Socialista holds this annual conference in homage to Che Guevara, who was captured by the Bolivian army on Oct. 8, 1967, and murdered the next day on orders from the CIA.

The U.S. imperialists wanted to eliminate Che Guevara, who by his example in the Cuban Revolution and support for people's struggles in Latin America, Africa and Asia, was inspiring many to act against imperialism. Instead, Che has become an even greater symbol and inspiration for all oppressed peoples struggling for liberation.

Several workshops were held during the day. A cultural-political forum took place at night.

### The Cuban Five

In the workshop on the Cuban Five, Rodolfo Dávalos described how the U.S. prosecuted the five political prisoners because they defended Cuba.

The Cuban Five, he said, "are five young men: a pilot, an engineer, an economist, two who graduated from diplomatic school. Two of them are U.S. citizens. What did they do? They penetrated counter-revolutionary terrorist



Gloria La Riva spoke on the case of the Cuban Five.

organizations in Miami. Their work was not to learn any military information of the U.S., as the U.S. claims. It was simply to learn the plans of the terrorists: When would they plant bombs, when would they try to assassinate?

"Cuba has suffered terrorist attacks for more than 40 years. Not just the Bay of Pigs invasion, nor the nuclear danger of the Cuban Missile Crisis, not just the bombing of the Cubana flight in 1976 or the hemorrhagic dengue biological attack. It goes on even today."

While in Belgium, Dávalos spoke to progressive lawyers' associations on the case of the Five. He reported that the attorneys responded with a willingness to "do whatever is necessary to raise international legal support" for the appeals and their freedom.

DeMuynck and La Riva were also on the panel.

The conference room in which Harry "Pombo" Villegas spoke was packed with admirers who wanted to hear of his experiences as a guerrilla fighter in Cuba's Revolution and as a fellow combatant with Che in the Congo and Bolivia. Villegas began his life in the struggle at 14, soon after the 1952 coup by U.S.-backed dictator Fulgencio Batista. He became involved in the urban underground movement and joined the guerrillas in the Sierra Maestra.

In a Brussels interview with Workers World, he said of Che: "He was an extraordinarily humane person, extraordinarily just, with a great sense of honor, sensitivity and responsibility. In his military activity and character, he was a very disciplined man, very demanding and brave. He lived the principle of not demanding of his soldiers what he himself was not capable of undertaking."

"This gave him a great authority among the guerrilla troops, which assured that his men followed him with absolute confidence," he said.

The evening forum on the five Cuban heroes was marked by poetry by Antonio Guerrero—one of the Cuban Five, along with inspiring music, a video on their case, and talks by DeMuynck, Villegas and La Riva.

### 'In the footsteps of Che'

Katrien DeMuynck said the five Cuban political prisoners held in the United States are the heroes of the current era, following in the example of Che's sacrifice and love for humanity. She said: "Cuba has the right to protect itself against terror. With that goal some courageous young men risked their lives to infiltrate terrorist organizations of anti-Castro Cubans in Miami. They gave to Cuba the information that permitted it to prevent terrorist attacks. Four years ago, five of them were arrested in Miami."

"Five young people who, walking in the footsteps of Che, sacrificed their own lives in the service of their people. Ramón, Antonio, Fernando, Gerardo and Rene are the heroes of this time. In the struggle against war, they are in the vanguard."

She quoted Ramon Labanino in his letter to supporters of the five: "With special interest, we witness that a beautiful process of UNITY among progressive, left, working-class and poor movements, and even with honorable people from different backgrounds who believe in justice and truth, is taking place."

"This is an ideal moment to get together, to unite all our forces, to fight against the real enemy of our peoples: Imperialism, originator of wars, destruction and crimes, which is destroying our planet. The people of the world deserve and need a better future. UNITED, we can make that dream come true."

"If our sacrifice and modest efforts help in any possible way to reach this dream, we will be honored! Count on us, as your brothers, in defending the good causes of the World."

### La Riva: 'All out Oct. 26'

La Riva spoke of the growing war danger and the need for mass mobilizations around the world on Oct. 26. A peace race



PHOTOS: WWW.SOLIDAIRE.ORG, SALIM HELLALET  
Harry "Pombo" Villegas in Brussels. He fought alongside Che Guevara in numerous battles from the Sierra Maestra to Bolivia.

is being organized at Flanders for that day; a big turnout is expected. "The Bush administration is furiously mobilizing troops, its armada and the largest array of weapons of mass destruction ever seen in history to wage a genocidal war against Iraq," La Riva said.

"The faint opposition by politicians in the United States is only a difference in tactics with Bush, Cheney and the ultra-right. They do not differ on the objective of annihilating the Iraqi government and people in order to take over Iraq and its resources and more completely dominate the Middle East. In the days and weeks ahead, we must use every opportunity to mobilize, organize, march, demonstrate, conduct civil disobedience, and fight to stop the war before it starts."

She emphasized that the unity and coordination of Free the Five support committees around the world will be the best way to bring political pressure on the U.S. government to release the five Cuban heroes from prison.

"Just like the fight to stop the war in Iraq, we must appeal to the people, yes, especially the people of the United States, to know, to understand and to help free them. Why? Because we truly believe that once the people of the U.S. and the world know of the existence and motives of the heroic five, they will demand their freedom, too."

More than 1,500 signatures for the Free the Five petition were gathered by the Iniciativa Cuba Socialista and handed over to the U.S. committee to cap the political presentation. Then hundreds of people filled the hall downstairs for a lively salsa dance.

## Massive march answers Venezuela right wing

# Chávez: More power to the people!

On Oct. 13 in Venezuela, in what amounted to a symbolic playback of the failed coup attempt six months earlier, a massive turnout of the poor and oppressed overwhelmed in size the right-wing attempt to destabilize the Hugo Chávez government three days earlier.

On Oct. 10, the Venezuelan oligarchy, supported by some of the high military officers and the big-business media, had held a march of the more well-to-do sectors of Venezuelan society. While the march was large—100,000 people—it was smaller than the one held last April that started off the abortive coup. The day ended with no serious challenge to the progressive government.

Yet on Oct. 13, only two days after a call went out, hundreds of thousands of people—at least three times the number at the



Oct. 13 anti-coup march in Caracas.

pro-coup demonstration—marched 10 miles through Caracas. Their message: "No to the extortion of the coup-makers!"

The process of social change unleashed by the Chávez victory has shown enormous lasting power despite the difficulties

in the economy caused by the oligarchy's sabotage and U.S. imperialism's hostility.

Speaking at the end of the march, Chávez said: "Each day the people should have more and more power, that is the true sense of this revolution. Every day the people should be master of the economy, of the popular economy, of the social economy, of the productive economy. The people have to make themselves owners of the land, of the factories, of capital, in order to carry out the tasks that they have to carry out: build the republic, with equality of opportunity."

On Oct. 10 in New York, two demonstrations faced off before the Venezuelan Consulate. Here too, there were about three times more Chávez supporters than detractors.

—John Catalinotto



## Sinn Fein under attack

# Britain, U.S. target northern Ireland movement

By Ed Childs

On Oct. 14 England imposed direct colonial rule on the six counties of northern Ireland, suspending the existing home-rule assembly in which the government was shared by Loyalists, who want to remain with Britain, and Republicans, also known as Nationalists, who want to unite with the rest of Ireland.

The assembly, often referred to as Stormont, was voted in by the population and is a product of the anti-colonial struggle by the Irish people, led by the Sinn Fein party.

The takeover of the assembly is a culmination of British actions meant to turn back the Nationalist struggle. Recently, colonial police raided the offices of Sinn Fein, arresting four members of the party and seizing all its records.

These raids were orchestrated to blame Sinn Fein for the suspension of the assembly. However, the pro-British Loyalist forces in the assembly had been planning for six months to quit the governing body on this very day.

The Loyalists were demanding a reversal of the gains made by the Nationalist Catholic community in housing, education and access to government jobs. Ian Paisley and David Trimble, leaders of the two largest Loyalist factions, have been whipping up crowds demanding the colonial forces push back the Nationalist community's newly acquired civil rights.

The Sinn Fein newspaper, Republican

News, reported 363 attacks this summer on the Nationalist communities. The British colonial forces and the Loyalist gangs and their paramilitary force, made up mostly of police and army personnel, carried out these attacks.

They included 144 bombings, 25 shootings, 151 homes damaged, 42 serious assaults and two assassinations. Historically, the Loyalist paramilitary forces have done the dirty work for England, whether terrorizing the Nationalist communities or assassinating their leaders.

They are now being paid off in drug money. Nationalist prisoners are saying that the colonial police have offered them release, no matter what their crime, if they either snitch on political activity or sell drugs in the community.

Politicians know drugs can break down a community's will to resist. ABC World News reported recently that Protestant paramilitaries on the streets of Belfast "jealously guard their access to the drug trade in the city, according to authoritative sources."

### Bush and Blair want colonial rule

The English press reported that U.S. President George W. Bush immediately endorsed England's moves to impose colonial rule. U.S. corporations are the largest investors in Ireland and pull out the most profits. British Prime Minister Tony Blair is lined up with Washington's war drive and would find it very beneficial if the U.S.

in turn helped firm up the colonial status of Ireland.

Ireland is also a strategic military location. As U.S. Gen. Alexander Haig explained when he was the head of NATO, whoever controls Ireland controls the sea routes in the north Atlantic and access to western Europe and the Mediterranean. Gen. Haig further explained that it was not in the U.S.'s military interest to let Ireland become independent, because "Ireland could become the Cuba of Europe."

CNN Europe has reported that two U.S. military supply vessels headed to Iraq are due to dock in Cobh harbor in Ireland. This will break Ireland's neutrality stance. Many groups in Ireland are already campaigning against it.

Aengus O'Snodaigh stated for Sinn Fein that the party will campaign and struggle to stop the Irish Defense Forces from participating in NATO or in the European Union's Rapid Reaction Forces and would oppose any action by the Irish government in support of the pending war in Iraq.

Part of the U.S. war drive to turn back anti-colonial struggles around the world has been to target the Irish Republican Army, Sinn Fein and other Irish Republican forces. U.S. forces in Colombia this summer arrested three Sinn Fein leaders, charging them with training the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia—the FARC.

The Sinn Feiners, now known as the Colombia 3, say they were observing negotiations going on between the FARC and the Colombian government, as they had done earlier with the African National Congress of South Africa. The FARC has been carrying out a revolutionary war for three decades; it hardly needs outside trainers.

The Support Committee for the arrested members of Sinn Fein has shown that the long-awaited trial of the Colombia 3 was to be held on the same day as the raids on the Sinn Fein offices by the colonial forces in Ireland. Only the U.S. State Department would have the power to coordinate such a scheme.

### Three out of every five labor unionists killed in the world today are in Colombia.

105 have already been killed this year. You can do something to stop the bloodshed.

Join the International Action Center in our first Plan Colombia Challenge

► Be Part of a solidarity delegation to Bogotá, Colombia, Dec. 4

► Participate in the International Tribunal on the Collusion of Coca-Cola Corporation with the Death Squads of Colombia

Send in your request to travel to Colombia no later than Nov. 1. Cost is approximately \$1,000-1,200.

From Dec. 4 to either Dec. 7 or 14 (your choice) an International Action Center solidarity delegation will travel to Colombia in response to a call by the beleaguered trade unions of Colombia. The delegation will participate in a tribunal called by SINALTRAINAL, the national union that represents Colombian Coca-Cola workers.

After the tribunal, from Dec. 7 to Dec. 14, the unions will host those who can stay in trips to outlying areas near Bogotá. There the U.S. delegation will have a first-hand view of the effects of Plan Colombia, a U.S. \$2 billion military aid package.

Meet with:

- Union members fighting against privatization and unemployment.
- Peasants battling the deadly herbicides used in the U.S. government's "war on drugs."
- Students organizing against Plan Colombia.
- Political and human rights activists fighting against state sponsored terrorism.

"The Colombian people's current struggle for freedom and dignity, and for independence from both foreign exploitation and domestic repression, will shape the future of Latin America. This makes it one of the most important struggles of our time. I urge you to support the SINALTRAINAL union along with all those fighting for a just future in this beleaguered nation."

—Ramsey Clark, IAC founder and former U.S. attorney general

### Support the IAC'S Computers for Coke Workers campaign

SINALTRAINAL has asked the U.S. delegation to help with material aid. What are needed at this crucial moment are computers. By donating \$500 or \$50 you can help union members communicate throughout the country, prepare literature and do all the work that is needed to organize a mass movement.

"What are happening in Colombia today are crimes against humanity. The human toll shocks the senses. I urge you to support the cause of the SINALTRAINAL union workers, who are heroically challenging the Coca-Cola Corporation in its collusion with the Colombian paramilitaries."

—Bishop Thomas Gumbleton

### Here's how you can donate:

- 1) Send a check to the "International Action Center/Colombia Project."
- 2) Donate by credit card. Send in name, credit card number, type of card, amount and expiration date. Add your signature.
- 3) Tax-deductible contributions for educational campaigns about the realities facing the Colombian people, including reports from the delegates, should be written to the "People's Rights Fund/Colombia Project."
- 4) Donate on-line to Colombia Project at [www.PeoplesRightsFund.org](http://www.PeoplesRightsFund.org).



## WW FILM REVIEW

# 'Bloody Sunday': An up-close look at Britain's crimes

By G. Dunkel

"Bloody Sunday" is a powerful and moving film about a pivotal event in modern Irish history: Jan. 30, 1972, the day that 27 peaceful demonstrators in Derry, northern Ireland, were shot by British paratroopers trying to crush the civil rights movement. Thirteen protesters died.

After Bloody Sunday, hundreds joined the Provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA), which was waging a guerrilla struggle against the British occupation. Some 4,000 people died in that anti-colonial war, whose armed phase was suspended a few years ago.

The film is based on Don Mullan's oral history "Eyewitness Bloody Sunday," which gathered the testimony of 500 witnesses and was part of a campaign that created so much pressure on the British government that it was forced to conduct another inquiry into the behavior of its army.

The film puts together actors and surviving "Bloody Sunday" participants—both protesters and former British paratroopers—for a docudrama that begins with the

general in command of the British forces informing reporters that protest marches had been banned.

In a series of swift vignettes—separated by a dark screen, and shot in high-contrast color with hand-held cameras—the film follows both the civil rights organizers and the British commanders as they discuss the best way to crush the movement and the Provisional IRA.

The movie is taut and compelling. When the massacre comes, it feels as if you are in the middle of it. A scene in a hospital—with armed British soldiers guarding stacks of dead bodies while the relatives grieve—is particularly moving.

The film convincingly depicts the heroism of the Irish people and the hypocritical brutality of the British army. It's hard to imagine that Paramount Classics will distribute it widely while London is Bush's only ally in the Iraq conflict. But a pre-release screening in New York, with no publicity, did phenomenally well thanks to word-of-mouth.

Catch it if you can.



# REV. PAUL WASHINGTON, PRESENTE!

## High toll awaits occupation army

**M**arine Lance Cpl. Antonio J. Sledd, 20 years old, was killed in a gunfight Oct. 8 on Failaka Island, Kuwait. His death may be a glimpse of the future: A long line of youths to die patrolling the world for U.S., Inc. That's if the Bush-Cheney-Rumsfeld gang has its way.

This is the future the Bush administration outlined in its "National Security Strategy" document published on the New York Times Web site Sept. 20. It vows U.S. domination of the world. That requires military conquest to terrify its imperialist rivals and an occupation army to restore its brand of "order" and allow the transnational monopolies to ravage the planet for profits.

The Pentagon will try to use air power to keep U.S. troop casualties low during the conquest. Whether this tactic succeeds is still in doubt. But the assault on Failaka Island shows how an inevitable resistance will surely grind up the youths the generals put in harm's way.

Kuwait is supposed to be the country in the Middle East that is friendliest to Washington and the

U.S. military. Its rulers owe their continued exploitation of a share of the emirate's oil wealth to the 1991 U.S. military intervention. Failaka Island is off of mainland Kuwait, uninhabited, and therefore easy to defend. Almost no one has the right to go there.

Yet two Kuwaiti citizens managed to get onto the island with weapons and an automobile. Knowing they faced certain death, they engaged U.S. Marines in fire-fights, killing one. The two were finally killed.

Bush called them terrorists. But a large section of Kuwaitis considered them martyrs and heroes.

The Pentagon brass have sent their troops to occupy Arab and Muslim lands. Now the Bush administration wants to send youths from the United States to invade Iraq in order to install a military government beholden to U.S. interests in the region.

But the burgeoning anti-war movement in the United States is taking to the streets and campuses across the country in order to save the lives of young GIs as well as the women, men and youth of Iraq.

By Betsey Piette  
Philadelphia

The progressive movement in Philadelphia lost a life-long friend and advocate with the Oct. 7 death of Rev. Paul Washington, rector emeritus of the historic Church of the Advocate in the heart of the African American community. He was 81 years old.

Rev. Washington began his ministry in 1946 at the Church of the Crucifixion in South Philadelphia. He also served as Episcopal chaplain at the Eastern State Penitentiary for 10 years. But he is most recognized as one who devoted much of his ministry to addressing the issues of the poor, the oppressed, victims of injustice, and for civil and human rights.

In 1980, Washington, former Attorney General Ramsey Clark, and eight others defied a U.S. travel ban when they attended a conference in Iran. At the time, Iran was holding U.S. hostages.

On his return, Washington said the U.S. government could secure release of the hostages by apologizing for past interference in Iranian affairs. "We had to go to say to the world that in this materialist, imperialist civilization, there is a culture who still cares about humanity," he said in a sermon upon his return.

In 1968 at the Church of the Advocate, Rev. Washington hosted the National Black Power Conference. Two years later, at a time when the organization was coming under increasing police harassment, he hosted the convention of the Black Panther Party.

His church also served as a base for students meeting to protest the war against Vietnam, community activists protesting police brutality



and tenants protesting landlord abuse.

Washington again stood on principal in 1974, when he bucked church rules and agreed to allow the unprecedented and unauthorized ordination of the Episcopal Church's first 11 women priests in his church. In the 1990s he lobbied for domestic-partnership benefits for gay and lesbian city workers, going head-to-head against the powerful clergy of

Philadelphia who opposed the ordinance.

He was jailed with homeless protesters and criticized for demanding that the Episcopalian Church pay reparations to the descendents of African American slaves. He was recognized as a leader in the movement against apartheid in South Africa.

As a member of the commission that reviewed the city's 1985 bombing of the MOVE headquarters that left 11 people dead and destroyed 61 homes, he openly criticized police tactics. Father Washington was a frequent speaker at rallies calling for freedom for political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal.

In 1995, he joined the Million Man March in Washington.

He had little but scorn for the conservative, evangelical Promise Keepers. As a member of a clergy group set up to challenge the fundamentalist men's organization, Father Washington cracked, "Beware of those who adorn themselves in personal piety, because they may be seeking power."

Rev. Paul Washington left a legacy as a person of honor and dignity. He is survived by his wife Christine, sons Paul, Kemah and Michael, and daughter Donya.



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# Building a working-class party

By Deirdre Griswold

From a talk at the Sept. 21-22 Workers World Party conference.

In China there is an ongoing debate and struggle over whether the bourgeois elements, the “entrepreneurs,” should be allowed to join the Communist Party.

Capitalist development in China has gone very far, but the CP is still the ruling party. It has changed very much since the death of Mao Zedong, but it has preserved elements of socialist planning and ownership that the bourgeoisie wants to do away with.

If the Chinese CP were to decide that you cannot be a capitalist and a communist at the same time, we would regard that as a victory for the left, a step back from the direction in which China has been moving ever since Deng Xiaoping.

There was a time when many groups and parties here followed China’s lead. They were inspired by its defense of Marxism and the revolutionary struggles in the Third World during the 1960s, when the leaders of the Soviet Union were promoting peaceful coexistence of the two social systems, socialism and capitalism.

It should be very clear now that this revision of basic Leninism by the Soviet CP, this abandoning of the communist view on the irreconcilable character of the two social systems, contributed to the downfall of the USSR. The idea that capitalism and socialism were “converging” was false. In fact, they were in mortal struggle, something the imperialists always understood.

We were among the first to hail China’s efforts to return to the revolutionary essence of Marxism and Leninism. But unlike the other groups here, we didn’t just adopt all the slogans and views of the Chinese party as our own.

I raise this in connection with our own efforts to build a revolutionary Marxist and Leninist party based in the working class



WW PHOTO

in the U.S. Our focus is on finding those workers who are the clearest and most resolute about fighting this system and all its reactionary manifestations. We recognize that the most oppressed sectors of our class—those with the least to lose and the most to gain from breaking the chains of oppression—will be the strongest fighters for social change.

But what about people who come from other social classes? Can they be members of our party?

## A party of workers

I think we in the United States have the least to fear from this question—both because the working class is the most numerous class and because the workers here, certainly by comparison to many earlier revolutions, have the skills to be the leaders of their own struggle. They do not have to rely on literate and skilled people from other classes to bring this knowledge to them. Certainly not in the same degree as was true in the Russian or Chinese or other revolutions where the workers were a small minority in society, where few could even read or write.

Our party reflects a different reality. We

There is no opportunist reason for joining Workers World Party. We have nothing to offer but hard work, dedication, self-sacrifice and the joy of knowing you are helping to create a just world for everyone.

ARE a party of workers. And we strive every day to become more representative of the multinational working class in this country.

And overwhelmingly, it is those who directly feel the whip of reaction and exploitation who are attracted to WWP.

Certainly, the bourgeoisie is not breaking down the doors asking to join our party.

In China, the problem is that the party is in control of the state and runs society. Having someone from the new bourgeoisie in the party means they will inevitably bring bourgeois influence into the decisions made by the state. They are not joining the party to fight against a bourgeois government. They are joining to try to undermine what remains of a workers’ and peasants’ government.

Our party does not wield state power. Our aim is to liberate this society from capitalism by helping create a workers’ state to replace the capitalist state. That, by the way, is one of the essential features of a socialist revolution: the appearance of new structures, developed by the masses themselves, that begin to contend for power with the old state apparatus. It is the job of revolutionaries to encourage these bodies to exercise the authority that the workers have given them and take the power.

If someone who comes from another class truly understands this and wants to join us, that means they have betrayed

their class origins and joined the struggle of the workers.

Can someone truly betray their class origins and ideologically join forces with a contending class? It doesn’t happen often, but there are notable examples. Frederick Engels was a manufacturer’s son and continued in the family business, although he hated it, so he could help finance Karl Marx’s monumental work in developing socialist theory—both in breaking from bourgeois philosophy and in analyzing capitalist political economy.

There is no opportunist reason for joining Workers World Party. We have nothing to offer but hard work, dedication, self-sacrifice and the joy of knowing you are helping to create a just world for everyone.

This is a period when the dual crisis of imperialist war and economic chaos is shaking up many people. There is already a movement of people from across the class spectrum who are dismayed at the wholesale destruction of the environment caused by unplanned, profit-driven exploitation of the world’s natural resources.

It is a task of the revolutionary working class party to reach everyone with our socialist message, to make them understand that their energies will be most effective when they recognize the pivotal role of the workers in changing society. For years there have been thousands of organizations here that lobby politicians and appeal to the corporations to make reforms, to agree to forgo a small portion of their profits in the interests of the social good.

But the class struggle is heating up and those methods bear little fruit. Lobbying won’t prevent mass layoffs or imperialist war or the hideous effects of global warming. Capitalism is moving more and more into a crisis mode that will bring out resistance from the workers. It’s more important than ever that we build this party, which has understood so correctly the world relationship of class forces, and provide clear Marxist leadership in the stormy days to come.

## How Workers World stands up to red-baiting

By Greg Butterfield

From a talk at the Sept. 21-22 Workers World Party conference.

No left party or group in the United States is red-baited as much as Workers World Party is. The reason is simple. No other group that advocates socialist revolution does as much, is as influential in the broad movement, or challenges the lies and half-truths of the ruling class as consistently as we do.

We aren’t afraid to be red-baited. We’re proud to be reds. We openly proclaim our views and aims, as Marx and Engels instructed us to in the Communist Manifesto. And we fight for our right to be part of every movement that responds to the needs of the workers and oppressed.

We don’t take red-baiting lightly. It’s a form of class war on the progressive movement. It can take the form of active persecution by the state, like the witch-hunts of the McCarthy era. Today the ruling class wants to publicly pretend that communists don’t exist for fear of drawing attention to us. So red-baiting

most often results from pressure on and through the movement.

Looking over the history of the communist movement, we can observe two bad ways to respond to red-baiting.

Some groups try to hide their true red color in hopes of appearing more acceptable to people with anti-communist prejudices. They may even hope to appear respectable in the eyes of the bourgeoisie. But hiding your revolutionary principles inevitably leads to compromising them. And the ruling class isn’t fooled. There’s no such thing as bourgeois respectability for those who advocate workers’ revolution.

The other bad response is to turn inward into empty revolutionary rhetoric and sectarianism. Some groups decide it isn’t worth reaching out to anyone who doesn’t share their perspective. They refuse to work with others or make tactical compromises for the sake of building a broad movement.

In either case, the bourgeoisie achieves its goals of discrediting or isolating communists.

Workers World Party has a different approach to red-baiting. We patiently

answer the political charges associated with these attacks, while continuing to reach out to build the broadest possible struggle against war, racism and all the evils of capitalism. We can do this because we have confidence that our communist program corresponds to the historic needs of the workers and oppressed, and that they will respond to it.

By standing up for our right to be part of the movement, and to give leadership to it, we also strengthen our allies and help them stand up when they’re criticized for working with us.

The ruling class wants to keep communists isolated and apart from the rest of the movement because they know that we are the best organizers and the most consistent fighters against their rule. If red-baiting is successful, it weakens the whole progressive movement.

Think how different the last year would have been if we had listened to our critics and changed our color, or disbanded our party.

There would have been no immediate, strong, anti-imperialist response after 9/11. The leaders of movements domi-



WW PHOTO

nated by social-democratic and anarchist ideology lacked a united perspective and disciplined organization. They were paralyzed and thrown into disarray by the war drive.

But WWP’s political and organizational unity meant we could swing into action immediately. While other groups called off their demonstrations against the IMF, we urged our friends in the International Action Center to turn Sept. 29, 2001, into a bold protest against war, racism and repression. This spurred the formation of the ANSWER coalition. Our bright red strength gave confidence and direction to others in the movement, and Sept. 29 showed that progressives could stand up to the poisonous atmosphere.

## No un discurso sino una diatriba:

# Bush prepara una guerra fundada en mentiras

Por Fred Goldstein

El discurso pronunciado por el Presidente George W. Bush en Cincinnati el 7 de octubre fue diseñado para crear impulso para la guerra de agresión planeada por Washington en contra de Irak. El discurso contuvo una corriente casi no interrumpida de mentiras, vilipendiar y llamamientos a miedo y amenazas, todos disfrazados como “argumentos” para contestar a sus supuestos críticos.

Bush repitió su insinuación, hecho muchas veces en otros discursos, que el gobierno de Irak tiene una conexión de alguna manera con el ataque del 11 de septiembre. Estas insinuaciones fueron hechas sin ni jota de evidencia.

Bush repitió la acusación, denegado por el gobierno de Irak, que Bagdad está produciendo armas químicas y biológicas—otra vez sin evidencia alguna. Él repitió la acusación de que Irak estaba al borde de desarrollar una arma nuclear con que amenazar a los Estados Unidos. Ninguna evidencia fue proporcionada.

Otra vez implicó que Irak había expulsado a los inspectores de armas, cuando, de hecho fue los EE.UU. que sacaron a los inspectores en 1998, antes del bombardeo de Irak en la operación militar “Desert Fox” (“zorro del desierto”). Después, Irak rehusó readmitir a los inspectores porque el equipo de inspección fue dirigido por Washington para violar las condiciones del régimen de inspección por explorar por inteligencia militar que puede utilizar el Pentágono en un ataque.

### Discurso ignora concesiones iraquíes

Bush ignoró por completo en su discurso el hecho de importancia monumental de que Irak ha hecho concesiones mayores para las inspecciones incondicionales del país por parte de la ONU. No solamente anunció esta concesión, sino lo siguió con un acuerdo detallado con Hans Blix, director del equipo de inspección, incluso arreglos para inspeccionar los edificios del gobierno como el estado mayor de la Guardia Republicana y el edificio del Ministerio de Defensa, entre otros.

Este acuerdo fue roto por el Secretario de Estado de los EE.UU. Colin Powell con la explicación que fue basado en una resolución de la ONU de 1998 especificando que la inspección de lugares presidenciales tuviera que ser anunciado con anticipación y acompañado por un oficial iraquí. El gobierno de Irak anunció después que permitiera inspecciones de lugares presidenciales no anunciada con anticipación.

Bush tuvo la audacia de acusar a los iraquíes de agresión por devolver el fuego en defensa propia contra aviones de Estados Unidos y Bretaña que ilegalmente violan su espacio aéreo todos los días. Vuelan en la llamada “zona de no volar” y tiran cuando se les ocurren contra blancos

iraquíes, matando a muchos civiles en el proceso. Estas “zonas de no volar” fueron simplemente declaradas por Washington en violación de todo derecho internacional.

Por lanzar un chorro no interrumpido de acusaciones sin base—mientras omitir cualquier referencia a concesiones iraquíes— Bush lo dejó bien claro que no hay condición con que puede cumplir el gobierno de Irak, fuera de la demisión del gobierno de Irak entregándolo a un régimen títere de los EE.UU., que pueda satisfacer a la Casa Blanca y evitar que el Pentágono lance una guerra no provocada de agresión imperialista.

La hipocresía de Bush no puede haber sido más claro. El mismo día que fue tocando los tambores de la guerra contra Irak por “apoyar al terrorismo” y buscar “armas de destrucción masiva” el estado cliente de EE.UU. Israel—el único poder nuclear en el Medio Oriente—lanzó una invasión masiva contra el campo de refugiados densamente poblado de Khan Yunis en Gaza, utilizando tanques y helicópteros. Lanzaron un cohete en una calle llena de gente, matando a 13 civiles, incluyendo a niños. El Primer Ministro Ariel Sharon declaró que la operación fue “un gran éxito.”

### Bush establece apoyo del Congreso

La meta inmediata de Bush fue de añadir momento al voto por la intervención militar que iba a ocurrir en el Congreso. Este voto tiene el objetivo de presionar al Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU y les deja saber que no importa lo que digan o hagan, Washington va a invadir a Irak.

La primera victoria de la administración de Bush en ganar el apoyo del establecimiento político por el nuevo “unilateralismo” del agrupamiento de Bush, Cheney, Rumsfeld y Wolfowitz vino en la lucha sobre una resolución conjunta del Congreso sobre la guerra.

Esta victoria fue alcanzada el 2 de octubre cuando el líder minoritaria de la Casa de Representantes, Dick Gephardt, un Demócrata de Missouri, se presentó para endosar a la resolución de Bush. Sacaron una foto con los partidarios Republicanos de Bush anunciando al trato en la escalera de la Casa Blanca.

La resolución es titulada “Autorización para el Uso de Fuerza Militar Contra Irak.” Su preámbulo declara de que “debe ser la política de los Estados Unidos el apoyar los esfuerzos para remover del poder al actual régimen iraquí.”

La otra parte de la resolución declara que “El Congreso de los Estados Unidos apoya los esfuerzos del presidente de enfocar estrictamente por medio del Consejo de Seguridad de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas todas las resoluciones relevantes del Consejo de Seguridad aplicables contra Irak y le exhorta a utilizar esos esfuerzos.” Continúa con “exhorta” al presidente a “obtener una acción decisiva por el Consejo de Seguridad.”

Este concluye diciendo que “El presidente está autorizado a usar las Fuerzas Armadas de los Estados Unidos como El determine necesario para (1) defender la seguridad nacional de los Estados Unidos contra la continua amenaza que Irak presenta; y (2) enforzar todas las Resoluciones relevantes del Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas con respecto a Irak.”

Este requiere de fallas de medidas diplomáticas reportadas por Bush a la Casa de Representantes 48 horas después (!!) de que una invasión se haya llevado a cabo.

En otras palabras, esta resolución dice a los imperialistas franceses, los capitalistas rusos, al gobierno chino, que ellos absolutamente no tendrán nada que decir en el asunto de una guerra contra Irak. Esta resolución dice al mundo el imperialismo estadounidense se reserva el derecho y las intenciones de destruir a un gobierno soberano en Bagdad sin el permiso de nadie y que el establecimiento político de

la clase gobernante está totalmente unida en su apoyo a la guerra.

En cuanto a los imperialistas en París, Berlín y Roma, ellos es mejor que se unan o se quedarán afuera. Y aquellos que contaban con los aliados imperialistas a que dilataran la guerra de Bush, ellos deben olvidarse de eso y unírseles.

El discurso fue calculado para cubrir el hecho fundamental que una superpotencia imperialista—con una población de 280 millones de habitantes,

una economía de \$10 trillones de dólares y un establecimiento militar más grande que los próximos 20 países en el mundo— está planeando una invasión sin provocación alguna contra un país pobre de 20 millones, previamente dominado por potencias coloniales, cuyas economías y maquinarias militares han sido destruidas por la invasión de los Estados Unidos y 11 años de sanciones mortales, y el cual tiene 110 mil millones de barriles de petróleo en su territorio, codiciado por los gigantescos monopolios petroleros.

El hablar de guerra también está calculado a distraer a la población de Estados Unidos del hecho de que el mercado de acciones se estrella en cámara lenta; los fondos de jubilación de las masas se están desapareciendo con los planes de 401K que se evaporan; 435 mil trabajadores más perdieron su empleos en la industria de la manufactura en septiembre, y millones de trabajadores ya ni se les cuenta como parte de la fuerza laboral porque ya se han dado por vencidos en su busca de trabajos o está viviendo de ingresos miserables de incapacidad.

El discurso de Bush también tuvo como objetivo el repeler el apoyo decadente por la guerra en las encuestas y el alza en la activa oposición del movimiento anti guerra.

Una encuesta por Gallup el 7 de octubre, como fue reportado por el Washington Post el 8 de octubre, “encontró que una gran mayoría de americanos—53% favoreció una invasión terrestre en Irak, una baja desde el 61% en junio y un 74% en noviembre.” Estas cifras conservativas muestran la clara tendencia de un apoyo en caída, conforme el sufrimiento del pueblo incrementa y la retórica alarmista de la administración Bush, no confirmada, parece más y más hueca.

Es de gran significancia de que el habla de guerra de Bush ha claramente despertado el comienzo un nuevo movimiento anti guerra. Las decenas de miles que participaron el 6 de octubre en la protesta contra los planes de guerra de Bush muestran que el movimiento están superando el estado de retiro al que se aferró después del 11 de septiembre y está acumulando un impulso que va hacia adelante. Esto muestra que una nueva generación de jóvenes se está preparando para una resistencia contra al aventurismo militarista que está saliendo de Washington.

El apoyo masivo que está creciendo para la protesta del 26 de octubre en Washington, D.C. junto con una actividad simultánea en San Francisco, sostiene una de las mas grandes esperanzas de que un reanimación de la lucha contra la guerra imperialista se pueda expandir hacia los trabajadores y oprimidos, y pueda realmente desafiar a los hechores de guerras capitalistas y puedan revertir la campaña de guerra.

No  
sangre por  
petroleo

Sábado, 26 de Octubre

Marcha Nacional En Washington DC  
**PARE LA GUERRA CONTRA IRAK  
ANTES DE QUE COMIENZE**

11 am

Constitution Gardens  
adyacente al  
**Vietnam Veterans  
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