

defenestrator

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The defenestrator is Philly's sporadic newspaper for resistance, creative revolution and action. To defenestrate Power means total refusal of its tools and tentacles. Like the Hussites had their oppressors thrown down from the Prague castle into the angry mob below, the defenestrator wrestles power and privilege from its highest and most protected strongholds and casts the beast out of the window and down into the angry hands of the people.

Deadlines for future issues:
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The defenestrator is free in Philly. Outside of Philly, send \$2 per issue postage paid. If you care to distribute this fine paper, you can get 10 or more for 80 cents each. We ask you sell them for no more than \$1.50 a piece.

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May 1st is a day of internationally celebrated class struggle. One of the most inspirational and militant of this year's Mayday protests was the celebratory rioting in Vieques, Puerto Rico. After 60 years of the island being bombed by the US Navy to prepare for its various military adventures elsewhere in the world and years of fierce struggle by the people of Vieques to kick the Americans out, this Mayday was the day the military announce to pull out. Locals made sure they were held to their word, storming the base and trashing everything in sight including humvees, buildings and various structures. Unfortunately locals will be living with tons of toxic waste left them from their colonizers including depleted uranium responsible for the high cancer rates on the Island.

How Would You Like To Be Evicted In 11 Days?

It might just happen to you if PA Senate Bill 257 and/or House Bill 314 pass legislation. Lawmakers are proposing an "Accelerated Eviction" law which will allow landlords to evict a tenant in 11 days with only 10 days to appeal. Currently tenants have the right to 30 days of appealing and can be forced out after 21 days, but Senators and Representatives are proposing to make it easier for landlords to give any one of us the boot.

On Tuesday April 29th, the Tenants' Action Group (TAG) organized a bus outing of tenants and tenant supporters to Harrisburg to visit the lawmakers at their offices. TAG organizers pointed out in a press conference and to several house reps that these bills will force those in poverty to face homelessness as a result of this new law. They

described the hard realities that tenants face in finding new housing at the same time they are being evicted. Finding a new apartment and getting money together in 11 Days is just impossible!

Also present to oppose the bills was a delegate from the AFL-CIO and a representative from the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, who explained how this bill would jeopardize the safety of abused and low-income women who will face eviction.

These proposed bills are a clear injustice to working people! If you'd like to find out how to oppose the bill, call the Tenants' Action Group at 215-575-0700 Ext. 266

from the Daily Grind (see page five)

Philadelphia Palestinian tortured by US

How do we respond when we open our newspaper and find out a local construction worker has been jailed and tortured by the US government? Nabil Mohammed Ayesh, who is Palestinian was picked up September 11, 2001 for driving with an Arabic bumper sticker that says, "God is Great." Although his immigration status was on appeal, he was imprisoned for 387 days along with hundreds of others in the hysteria after 9/11. The US Justice Department denied these people the right to attorney and for months refused to even name, or account for those they held. According to Attorney General John Ashcroft national security required the "detainees" be kept isolated from the public. We now find out that Nabil's secret detention in a Brooklyn, NY prison included "six months in solitary confinement with his window painted over." Sensory deprivation for extended periods is

psychological torture. It is considered "cruel and unusual" for those who warrant punishment. Why was this man with an expired immigration visa tortured for months in solitary confinement? The article points out that the US government imprisoned Mr. Ayesh without charging him with a crime. But the flagrant and grotesque violation of this man's human rights is most certainly a crime. The abuse of Nabil Mohammed Ayesh was committed by specific institutions of the US government and was authorized by specific government officials. Who is responsible for the crime of torturing this innocent man? Did the US Justice Department's Attorney General Ashcroft order this treatment? This violation and hundreds of unnamed others mark a historic step toward a wholesale institutionalization of torture in the United States "justice" system.

Death Penalty activists phone zap Governor Rendell

By the Blanketman

On April 16, 2003, approximately 1,000 people across Pennsylvania called Governor Ed Rendell's office to demand an immediate halt to the death penalty. The calls, coming every 45 seconds on average through the day, shut down the governor's switchboard. According to Jeff Garis, Executive Director of Pennsylvania Abolitionists United Against the Death Penalty, the group that organized the phone zap, said that the action was to launch a six-month campaign by anti-death-penalty activists to demand a moratorium on the death penalty. If Governor Rendell does not enact a moratorium, activists plan direct action in Harrisburg. The phone zap came after a committee of the Pennsylvania State Supreme Court recommended a moratorium because of racist trends in sentencing, inadequate representation and the chance of executing the innocent. Four innocent men have already been released from Pennsylvania's death row.

If you would like to contact the Pennsylvania Abolitionists United Against the Death Penalty, for more information on the death penalty, call 215-724-6120, e-mail PAUADP@aol.com, write to PAUAD, P.O. Box 5812, Philadelphia, PA, 19102 or visit www.pa-abolitionists.org.



It is time to call for an end to this practice of government authorized torture. Under any circumstances. Period. Mr. Ayesh deserves personal restitution. But more importantly the public officials responsible for this violation of Mr. Ayesh's human rights should be charged and held to account.

Bob Allen

endsanctions@cs.com www.campaign-toendthesanctions.org

The article on plans to deport Nabil Mohammed Ayesh can be found at: http://www.philly.com/mlid/inquirer/2003/04/28/news/local/states/pennsylvania/cities_neighborhoods/philadelphia/5732352.htm

Under and behind the lie "the war is over" ...

What is going on in Iraq?

by Kitty Bryant

Since the US launched its invasion on March 18, Iraq has become a nation torn apart, without a functioning central government. The US military again deliberately destroyed essential human services in the key cities of Basra and Baghdad, to create siege conditions to demoralize and disable Iraqi resistance. Today and in the weeks ahead Iraqis will die at a steady rate from the combined effects of the US invasion: casualties of bombings or other forms of military attack, casualties of US attempts to "pacify" a population that rejects US rule and finds US soldiers frightening and offensive, casualties of destroyed hospitals, of impure water, of cholera, typhus and diarrhea, casualties of economic and psychological depression with no resources left to live off.

Other Iraqis will die defiant, as the time bomb ticks under the US soldiers who are increasingly unwelcome by anyone in Iraq, except rich people who have their own security forces and their own pocketbooks to look forward to.

In the US invasion, Iraq's capital city Baghdad was bombed, day and night, for two weeks straight - 300 missions were flown every day, for fourteen days, against targets in Baghdad. 300 multiplied by two weeks equals 4200 targets that were bombed, in a cruel onslaught that the US proudly named "shock and awe" which it was - a campaign of terror against Iraqis soldiers and civilians, night and day.

Imagine if 4200 sites in Philadelphia had been attacked by bombs this spring - imagine how many buildings and services we rely on would now lie in ruins. Imagine our neighbors' homes in ruins, our children without feet or arms or any bodies anywhere to be found and buried.

When the US invading army made its entry into Baghdad, it was greeted by a city torn apart by fear and anger. Some Iraqis are pinning their hope for life and "security" on the US occupation forces, but many Iraqis will never feel safe until armed US soldiers leave Iraq, and until the US government stops interfering with the affairs of the Iraqi people - their oil, their government, their military, their development, their future.

The US superpower with its cruel military machine has torn into a new country, Iraq, having paved the way to invasion by a twelve year low-level war fought through sanctions and military operations disguised under deceptive labels such as "no fly zones" and "containment," policies endorsed by such reputed leftists as the editors of The Nation magazine (notably David Cortright). As it did in Afghanistan, but without the open endorsement of the United Nations (which this time is relegated to the sidelines), the US is trying to erect an Iraqi government that will appear to be nationalist, but will in actuality govern on behalf of the economic and military interests of the United States.

In the model of Afghanistan, and under the management of the same Bush administration "envoy," Zalmay Khalilzad, the US and Britain seek to impose on Iraq a puppet government headed up by a single figurehead or by a ruling troika, but this project is looking increasingly unlikely. The Pentagon favorite,



sleazeball expatriate businessman Ahmed Chalabi, leads a small US-trained private army, the 1,800 Free Iraqi Forces who have established themselves in the wealthy Baghdad district where Iraq's rich business class formerly resided, the Mansour District. According to a report in The Inquirer, the militia is composed of a blend of exile Kurds, Sunnits and Shiites who arrived in Baghdad three weeks ago to become part of the invasion force, operating in the capacities of translators and guides. Their uniforms are exactly like US soldiers' uniforms, except for their chest patches, which read "FIF." They patrol the city alongside US troops; they also protect Chalabi's headquarters creating the impression that the Mansour district is now "Chalabi-land."

A huge chasm exists in Iraqi society between those who stayed in Iraq during and after the 1991 Persian Gulf War, under the combined effects of dictatorship and US war, and people like Chalabi and his militia of exiles, who lived safely outside Iraq and now position themselves, opportunistically, to sweep back into Iraq, to work alongside the US. The more the Pentagon loves Chalabi, the more he will be hated within Iraq.

Another major schism within Iraq is created by the separate interests of the Kurds, who benefited from US sanctions and war against the Saddam Hussein central government of Iraq. Like the Palestinians, the Kurds are victims of British post WWI colonial policies that

denied them a state. The Kurdish homeland is divided among Syria, Iran, northern Iraq and southeastern Turkey, the state with the largest Kurdish territory. The long civil war fought between Kurdish forces and Iraq's central government was fueled by both sides - from the Kurdish side by leaders who refused to accept

regional autonomy unless it included control over the rich northern oil fields around Kirkuk and Mosul, and from the Iraqi side by leaders who remained adamantly opposed to granting full political and economic rights to its Kurdish minority. The US has used the Kurdish leaders, and the Kurdish leaders have used the US - it has been a game of self-interest on both sides, that culminated in a fiasco in 1996, where Barzani (the KDP tribal chief) actually invited Saddam Hussein to send his troops into northern Iraq, where Chalabi's INC and the US CIA had set up shop. As a result, an INC-CIA plot to assassinate Saddam Hussein was ruined, and the CIA operatives were killed or driven out of northern Iraq.

For reasons of history, the US-Kurd relationship (for instance, between Jay Garner, the US consul in Iraq, and KDP chief Barzani) is not based on love, but on mutual distrust and opportunism. Talabani's recent efforts to ingratiate himself with the US represents the PUK's desire to secure for itself a premier place when the US divvies up Iraq's riches

Nationalists in Iraq, including Kurds who do not follow the tribal leaders, do not agree that northern Iraq should function as an autonomous area or serve as a platform for a separatist Kurdish agenda. The two Kurdish leaders, Barzani of the KDP and Talabani of the PUK, have always put tribal and Kurdish interests above national Iraqi interests, whereas the majority of people in Iraq see the nation of Iraq as a united country whose resources

belong to all the people. (The majority of Iraqis also believe that Kuwait should become part of Iraq, and not held in the hands of the Kuwaiti royal family and ruling elite.)

It appears that those US officials who are in charge of Iraq appreciate nothing about Iraq, as must be expected from an invasion project that never had anything positive aspect to it, from the point of view of Iraqi self-determination or independent economic development or freedom from US control. This is the Afghan model - the "success" of the post 9/11 overthrow of the Taliban regime, whereby US-selected Hamid Karzai "rules" Kabul but Afghanistan is ruled by no central government.

The failure of Afghanistan will be repeated in Iraq, until the US gets out and the Iraqis are freed to form their own future, free from US imperialism. I predict this because I cannot imagine the US succeeding in its so very obvious attempt to impose a government unacceptable to the basic demands of Iraqi sovereignty.

For Iraq to work according to the Afghan model, it will be necessary for the US and Britain to oversee the formation of a government that will (1) cooperate with US occupation, rather than oppose US occupation, (2) agree to pump and develop Iraq's oil in accordance with US development models, rather than insist that Iraq's oil remain completely free of foreign control, (3) agree to open Iraq up to US business interests, rather than to pursue a contrasting socialist model of development, whereby Iraqi oil would be used to develop extensive, free social welfare services, such as clinics, hospitals, schools and universities, (4) agree to repress Islamic "fundamentalism" in the same manner in which political Islam was suppressed under Saddam Hussein and is suppressed today, with US approval and money, in Egypt. This is a minimum program of what the US and Britain will demand of any transition or final government that will be allowed to take over control from the US and the British military.

One alternative to US/British imposed government is a government formed, as it was in Afghanistan, under a UN umbrella. This is often offered as an alternative to US-imposed rule, as if the UN had any political or economic or military independence from its US patron, on which it depends for its breakfasts, lunches, and dinners. The Iraqis who lived under twelve years of UN-authorized sanctions and who saw the operation of the Oil-for-Food program will not be taken in by a UN label affixed to a US manufactured product. The Iraqis see that the UN, as the governing body of the international community, was unable to protect Iraq from US invasion, just as it was thoroughly complicit with the destruction of Iraq's economy by sanctions, and so there are no illusions in the Iraq about the good intentions of either the US or the international community.

No discussion of the US invasion of Iraq can be complete without connecting US hegemonic ambitions in Iraq with Israel's ambition to colonize all of historic Palestine.

continued on page 15

gentrification watch



by Spam

Many Spruce Hill residents breathed a sigh of relief when the City Historical Commission announced it was abandoning plans to designate Spruce Hill as a historic district. The designation would have increased the cost of housing by restricting what types of repairs can be made to buildings in the designated area. Resistance to the historic district led to the creation of the Spruce Hill Alliance. The Spruce Hill Alliance serves as an alternative to Spruce Hill Neighborhood Association. Spruce Hill Neighborhood Association (SHNA) is notoriously dominated by real estate interests, the upper middle class, and Upenn. The challenge now for Spruce Hill Alliance is to create a real neighborhood organization by reaching out to the immigrant, african-american, working class, and Islamic communities in Spruce Hill that SHNA has never really made a sincere effort to reach or listen to.

The price of housing in Spruce Hill had already increased sharply when the Penn assisted public school opened with a restrictive catchment area deciding who can go there. With a public school system that is falling apart, many parents are willing to spend huge sums of money to send their child to what has been described as "the nation's only ivy league elementary school."

Meanwhile, in New Jersey, the law firm that helped the late activist Ethyl Lawrence win the famous Mt. Laurel decision has hired Paul Scully and Bill Beckler to organize for the degentrification of New Jersey. The Mt. Laurel decision was a court decision won through the dedication of Ethyl Lawrence, a descendant of african-american New Jersey sharecroppers. Many years ago, the mayor of Mt. Laurel spoke at her church and told them that the low income rural families who had lived in New Jersey for generations would have to move out, if they couldn't afford to live in the new, high priced suburban developments. Ethyl Lawrence sued and won a court decision that requires every county in New Jersey to require that affordable units be part of all new developments. One result is the housing project Ethyl Lawrence Homes in which a group of low income families, mostly people of color, live in New Jersey's poshest suburb and send their kids to some of the best schools in the country. The law firm that won the decision has hired Scully and Beckler to back the decision up with organizing. Their organization, the New Jersey Regional Coalition is working on an interfaith conference of clergy on regional economic development.

For more information, call Bill Beckler at 267-474-8655

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FCC Commissioner Copps comes to Annenburg Center

Only commissioner to oppose further media centralization speaks to packed house

By the Blanketman

May 7, 2003- Michael Copps, one of the commissioners at the Federal Communications Commission, who was an aide to Senator Fritz Hollings (D-SC) and appointed to the FCC under Bush, Sr., is by no means a radical. These days however, with the FCC racing to remove the last barriers to total media centralization by allowing the major networks to merge and a single corporation to own all the TV and radio stations AND the newspapers in a locality by June 2nd, he finds himself working with media activists as he tours the country to stir up the public "before the genie is let out of the bottle."

The current head of the FCC, Michael Powell (Colin Powell's son), is spearheading a change in FCC regulations that would eliminate the bans on (1) owning TV stations and newspapers and/or both a radio and television station in the same market, (2) controlling more than one of the four major broadcast networks (such as NBC), (3) providing TV broadcast services to more than 35 % of the nation, (4) owning more than 8 radio stations in the same market, and (5) combining more than two television stations in the same market (if one is one of the top four stations). Despite the historic implications of this change, the major media, which stands to benefit from it, has succeeded in blacking out any mention of it in the news and the FCC held only one unpublicized official hearing- in the middle of the week, in the middle of the day in Richmond, VA!

As the lone commissioner trying to stop what could lead to total monopolies of media in some localities, Copps has been holding his own hearings to warn the public, bringing him to the University of Pennsylvania's Annenburg Center. Copps began by describing the comment period when citizens can submit their opinions on upcoming regulations. Of 18,000 comments, 50 corporations and corporate associations asked for the deregulation, 35 consumer groups opposed it, and of over 17,900 individual comments, "we have yet to find a single one in favor of deregulation." He then described the effect of the 1996 Telecommunications Act that deregulated radio. "In 1996, the largest media conglomerate owned 85 stations; now the largest [Clear Channel] owns in excess of 1,200 stations."

As a result of this "enormous amount of media consolidation," Copps continued, radio stations replace local programming with more canned, national programming and lay off most of their staff when they are taken over by big media conglomerates. There are fewer minority-owned stations, less diversity in programming and more advertising. Copps cited the FCC's own charter that television and radio stations, having been given a piece of public property- the airwaves- are supposed to serve the public good, "nobody seems to care about that now." He finished with a call to the public to stop this latest round of deregulation that would throw television and newspapers into the same pot.

A six-person panel followed. The first speaker was Vince Maisano of the Communications Workers of America who explained that unions who organize workers in the media face censorship by television stations that don't want to run ads attacking other stations or even cover labor issues at all. Maisano pointed out that Clear Channel hosted pro-war rallies that its news then covered. Jeff Gelles of the Philadelphia Inquirer said that when he came to Philadelphia in 1981, there were four papers. In a year, there were only two, both owned by Knight-Ridder, a national newspaper conglomerate. "Let's leave bad enough alone," he concluded.

The next speaker, Loraine Ballard Morrill, head of news and public affairs for Clear Channel in Philadelphia, then gave one of the most oddly guarded and subliminally subversive presentations I've ever seen. Beginning by citing her progressive background, she then described how, "on one hand," Clear Channel had laid off so many of her colleagues and all of the music programming had been replaced by computerized playlists. "On the other hand," she couldn't "speak from her heart anymore" and was very grateful that she was still employed and really hoped to stay employed. Her obvious fear masked by her forced cheerfulness, Ballard-Morrill reminded me of a POW blinking out "TORTURE" in Morse code during a press conference. This is what a mainstream journalist is reduced to if she wants to keep her job.

Heidi Gold of the League of Women Voters warned of all of the nation's news' being controlled by one corporation, comparable to TASS, the single news agency in the old USSR. Edward Schwartz, of the Institute for the Study of Civic Values, said that not only was media now bad, but that with the domina-

tion of cable, you have to pay for it. The last speaker, Joel Waldfoegel, a professor at Penn's Wharton School of Business, said that while media centralization led to more specialized and diverse formats, there were less minority-owned and -targeted stations.

During the public-comment period, dozens of people spoke- all clearly against more media centralization. John Callen, of the Screen Actors Guild, pointed out that from '93 to '96, the number of major media companies dropped from 23 to 6. Chuck Tauber, station manager of WVUD at the University of Delaware, said that his internet search turned up over 13,000 hits on "radio sucks," more than any other word combined with "sucks," including "France" (only 2,000 hits). Pete Tridish of Prometheus Radio criticized the media industry studies supporting deregulation by pointing out that they only focused the availability, price and revenues of advertising, not what people need. From a different angle, Colin O'Brien, general manager of the Stardust Ballroom in Pennsauken, NJ, said that Clear Channel got the township to seize the property of his workplace to build a hockey rink for one of the teams it owns. "So Clear Channel can get you even if you don't listen to the radio," he chimed.

If you want to know more about the control of media by fewer and fewer, larger and larger corporations and what you can do to take back the media, check out the following groups:

Media Tank- www.mediatank.org/ownership.html, **Center for Digital Democracy**- www.democraticmedia.org, **Prometheus Radio**- www.prometheusradio.org, **AlterNet**- www.alternet.org/mediaculture, **Free Press Media Reform Network**- www.mediareform.net, **MediaChannel**- www.mediachannel.org, **Cheap Channel**- www.cheapchannel.org, and **Reclaim the Media**- www.reclaimthedia.org.



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Monthly Grind



News for, by, and about working people in Philadelphia

SEPTA Proposes To Screw Us ...Yet Again

You might have heard that SEPTA is gonna try to raise fares and cut service again. - Folks in Southwest Philly learned about it first hand when SEPTA came to Turner Middle School at 59th and Baltimore on April 24th. The suits from SEPTA weren't happy to be there, but they have to hold public hearings about the budget proposal so the public can testify and have some input. At this particular meeting lots was at stake. Southwest Philly residents were pissed and prepared to fight over the proposed closing of Angora Station on the R3 Line.

At the start of the hearing, SEPTA gave a fancy slideshow presentation about their budget proposal for the rest of the fiscal year. It was filled with perplexing graphics and complex data that would take a Master's Degree to understand in the 20 second slots given per slide. It didn't

take a genius to figure out that SEPTA wasn't interested in letting people know what was really going on. After the slideshow, one by one, Angora Station patrons stepped up to the mic, furious and ready to raise hell. Riders pointed out that SEPTA did a poor job of analysing data and advertising for important public hearings. They explained that they hadn't been given notice of the hearing and if it hadn't been for the hard work of some Southwest Philly residents, people wouldn't have known about it at all.

SEPTA workers represented with an R3 Rail Engineer. He testified that SEPTA's reasons for shutting the station down due to "low ridership" were absolute bull. As someone who knew how SEPTA spins their policies from past dealings, he countered SEPTA's excuses one by one and pointed to alternative ways to build ridership and patron support. He gave SEPTA some good suggestions, saying they could save costs and raise ridership by making Angora station smaller and involving community organizations in making decisions for the station. He ended by saying, "It's a myth that the rail is just for rich, white suburban people." The room gave him a unanimous holler of support.

The testimonies continued to expose SEPTA's horrible planning and upkeep of the station, while getting complete applause from the room. Residents were so pissed off, they vocalized their willingness to organize in a joint effort with SEPTA to increase ridership at Angora, despite the fact that it is completely SEPTA's job in the first place.

Public transportation is a right, not a privilege! With the upcoming 2004 Budget Proposals, working people in Philadelphia will soon face massive cuts and possibly layoffs. The State of Pennsylvania, SEPTA, and the city's administrators obviously care more about their own fat salaries, and not the hard working folks that rely on public transit for their lives. The Angora Station riders have made it very clear to SEPTA - DON'T CLOSE THE STATION!



The 2004 Budget: Complete Disaster For Us All!?!?

Huh?!?! SEPTA! What are you thinking? You keep fooling us into thinking you're all so worried about low ridership, yet you continue to make proposals that are sure to drive people out of this city for years to come!

So your 2004 Budget proposal comes complete with: Four major Regional Rails(including the R1 to the Airport) completely discontinued! Nine Regional Rail Stations stopped for good! Cuts in weekend services! Dozens of Bus routes halted! To top it all off, you're proposing to raise the fares AGAIN?!?!

What a wonderful plan to raise ridership, and confidence in public transit. What's next, you're going to knock the EI out for good? Maybe we should all just buy stretch hummers likes you and your buddies drive. At this rate, Philly's working class will be driven into deep poverty, when we already have a growing housing crisis

The city would rather spend their budget on subsidizing projects that turn into nothing, like the 8th and Market Disney scandal. They love to fund things like Operation Safe Streets, which has resulted in a police state in parts of the city, and misery for the working poor and unemployed. They care more about giving loot to University of Pennsylvania, then making sure public transportation in this city is just that: public.

Why don't they concern themselves with funding a dying transit system, that working people rely on to make it to their jobsites on time? We NEED public transit, it's not an option! The city's working poor have been suffering since the last hike increase in 2001. Now they want to raise fares another 5.5%

SEPTA likes to scapegoat the TWU (Transit Worker's Union) and their contract demands as a problem in their budget, but it's just an attempt at creating division between the transit workers and the working people who ride the transit. We have EVERYTHING in common, as we ALL deserve better wages, healthcare, and the right to organize ourselves to demand what we deserve!

The real reasons behind the budget crisis are: The lack of funding by city, state, and federal subsidies, due to the insane funding of the war, and fear tactics with Homeland "Security." SEPTA's extremely poor budget planning that gives minimal room for working class communities to make their needs and concerns heard. The lack of investment in making SEPTA's system accessible, affordable and available for people to . And we wonder why people are moving out of the city? You can view this horrible 2004 budget proposal at www.septa.org

Drug Rehab Cuts Will Result In Many Left Homeless & In Jail

The State of Pennsylvania has more than just transit cuts planned for Philly. There is also a big slash in state funding for drug rehabilitation programs. Our beloved hoagie-eating Gov. Rendell has shown our city he doesn't care about victims of addiction with a \$66 Million cut in state funding to social programs that aid thousands. Philadelphia will be one of hardest hit cities is with \$6.1 mil being lost! There are over 5,000 uninsured Philadelphians that will be pushed out of rehab centers by this loss in funding. This will result a huge rise in homelessness, crime, and more crowded prisons. If and when this new budget comes into action, thousands will be left stranded around July 1st. The ironic thing is that this is about the same time SEPTA plans on cutting routes and hiking fares! Its pretty clear that the state doesn't care about poor people.

Our Biased Opinion...

The rich politicians down in Harrisburg and in Washington DC. are once again running things to benefit themselves, and the special interests that paved their campaign. They are pushing us into further debt, unemployment, higher crime and packed prisons; and we say hell no!

The government gives giant economic subsidies for rich C.E.Os and their stockholders, instead of using that money for programs that insure the quality of life that is our right. Our government's policies are tearing us apart. It needs to end! What are we to do about it? How should we organize to stand up for ourselves? We work hard to feed our families, pay the bills, and give a lot of it away to subsidize rich folks and their businesses. We here at the Monthly Grind have simply had enough!

This page contains articles from the first issue of the monthly grind, a new monthly newsletter of daily class warfare. The defenestrator recommends the Monthly Grind over the Metro when riding SEPTA!
CONTACT US: monthlygrind@hotmail.com

May 13, 1985: What the Corporate Media Didn't Tell You

An interview with Ramona Africa

by Hans Bennett

Ramona Africa is the sole adult survivor of the May 13, 1985 massacre of 11 members of the MOVE organization. The FBI and the City of Philadelphia dropped a C4 bomb on MOVE's 6221 Osage Avenue home in West Philadelphia. Carrying the young Birdie Africa (the only other survivor) with her, Ramona dodged gunfire and escaped from the fire with permanent scarring from the burns.

After surviving the bombing, she was charged with conspiracy, riot, and multiple counts of simple and aggravated assault. Subsequently Ramona served 7 years in prison. If she had chosen to sever her ties with MOVE, she could have been released far earlier. In the face of this she held true to her revolutionary beliefs and was uncompromising in the face of state terror. Since her release from prison, Ramona has tirelessly worked as the MOVE Minister of Communication on behalf of the MOVE 9, Mumia Abu-Jamal, and all political prisoners and prisoners of war.

A few months ago I rode my bike out to see 6221 Osage Ave. for the first time since I moved to Philadelphia. Upon arrival I was shocked to find "PERMIT PARKING FOR PHILA. POLICE CIVIL AFFAIRS" posted directly in front of the 6221 lot. I later verified that 6221 Osage is now an actual police station. Particularly striking is the presence of Civil Affairs: the Philly's political police. As Ramona Africa talks about in the interview Civil Affairs played a key role on May 13 in their role as the official diplomats.

This May, I spoke with Ramona about 6221 today. "Ever since they rebuilt the houses out there, they never intended to sell 6221. They made it a police station with police present around the clock, 24/7." Ramona does feel insulted by the police station there, but says that it "is indicative of this system. On May 13, 1995, councilwoman Jamie Blackwell (whose district includes 6221 Osage Ave.) introduced a resolution to make May 13 'kiss a cop day.' Why May 13 of all possible days? That is the mentality of these people and we don't expect anything different from them."

Things were tense when last Sept. New Jersey Judge Shelly Robbins New reversed an earlier decision granting supervised visits to John Gilbride for his son Zachary Africa who was under the full-time custody of his mother Alberta Africa (a MOVE member). Because of past psychological and physical abuse, Zachary Africa had told the previous judge that while he loved his father he was afraid to be alone with him,

and subsequently only wanted to be with his father if his mother was with him also.

Seeing Judge New's decision as illegitimate, Alberta and MOVE said that they would not hand Zachary over for unsupervised visits and boarded up the windows of their Kingsessing headquarters in West Philadelphia because of the threat of a police assault. The national media showed interest as CNN's national news did a 5 minute feature as well as many other stations on forms of media.

While the Philadelphia PD officially stated that they were giving MOVE their space and did not want any confrontations, their actions showed otherwise. During the nights that I spent with MOVE late at night while they were on 24 hour watch at their front gate, I observed an unusually large number of police cars passing by. Besides this harassment, were two major incidents at this point.

On the night of Sept. 11, 2002 the police made an aggressive act in front of the MOVE's Kingsessing home. As a group of MOVE supporters was backing their car out the driveway following their visit, a police car drove up and blocked them (almost causing a collision). The MOVE supporters were suspicious of the police motives and when the cops demanded they leave their car without giving any reason for it, the driver hit the horn to alert MOVE inside the house.

When Ramona Africa and others came out of the house and confronted the police, the cops claimed to not have known that it was the MOVE home. The police claimed that the MOVE supporters' car with Virginia plates fit the profile of a vehicle suspected of kidnapping a young child nearby. During a Sept. 20 press conference at MOVE's house I asked Civil Affairs Captain Fisher about the Sept. 11 incident and he denied that it ever happened despite the numerous neighbors that witnessed the police cars there that night.

On Sept. 13, 4 cops came to the MOVE house to get Zack, even though the court order specified that the first unsupervised visit would be this upcoming Friday (Sept. 20). According to MOVE, the police claimed to have a court order saying that Gilbride would have custody, but when MOVE demanded to see it, they explained that Gilbride himself had it, so they could not show them. This supposed court order is also suspect because if he had one, Alberta Africa should have been given one also. However,

Alberta and MOVE said they hadn't gotten anything of the sort.

On Sept. 27 Gilbride was shot dead in his car by what looked to be a professional hit. While there was an initial fear that the police would blame MOVE for the murder, the police officially don't suspect MOVE and the murder remains unsolved.

Last month when 7 year-old Zachary Africa and a friend were in Alberta Africa's backyard in Cherry Hill, NJ, they spotted a man wearing all black with dark paint on his face. Given the recent events with Alberta and Zachary Africa, it appeared as if this may have been related. While concerned about who was in their backyard and why, Ramona is unsure about it. "We really don't know whether it was the government, grandparents, or some nut. We just keep a close eye on our kids. That's all we can do."

Hans: Can you please talk about the weeks leading up to May 13, 1985?

Ramona: Things were relatively quiet. The biggest thing that happened was on April 29. We heard our dogs barking and upon checking it out, we saw cops out back that were counting the dogs or something. We knew they were up to something sneaky, so we turned on our loudspeaker. Note that we didn't have our speaker on 24/7 like the media attempts to portray.

With the loudspeaker, we let the neighborhood know that there were cops in the back of our house, and we didn't know what they were up to, but we knew it was no good and we didn't trust them. We weren't going to let them sneak in and attack MOVE people without the neighborhood knowing what was going on.

Civil Affairs cops (the official diplomats) like George Draper, Ted Vaughn, and others came to our home that day and knocked on the front door. My sister Theresa Africa and I came out and talked to them at length with them standing right on the steps of our house for at least a half hour. We explained to them why we turned on the loudspeaker. That's all that happened that day.

Two weeks later, on Saturday, May 11, DA Ed Rendell got officer Ted Vaughn to charge us with terroristic threats, disorderly conduct, and nonsense like that stemming from April 29. Rendell then had the arrest warrants approved by Judge Lynne Abraham (now Philadelphia's DA) who was acting as the emergency judge for that Saturday. Based on the events of April 29, Abraham signed warrants for myself and 3 others.

People need to understand that this incident happened two weeks prior. How in the

hell can it be an emergency if it waited 2 weeks? Second, if we were guilty of terroristic threats and officers Vaughn and Draper felt threatened by us, why would they talk to us on our steps for over a half hour. It's nonsense, but that's the excuse they used for the warrants, because they had absolutely nothing else to use.

The City of Philadelphia tells people that there were complaints from neighbors about us. That may very well be true, but they've never been able to verify for us who complained and what they specifically complained about. Even if this is true, you explain to me when this government ever cared about black people's neighborhood complaints. Since when is it such an issue that the FBI & the Justice Department get involved in something like that? Anybody with half a brain cell has to know there's something wrong with that.

People also need to understand that when I went to court after the bombing, every charge listed on Rendell & Abraham's May 11 warrant was dismissed. During the pretrial motion, trial judge Michael Stiles was forced to dismiss every single charge. This means that they had no valid reason to even be out there.

They did not dismiss the charges placed on me as a result of what happened AFTER they came out. This is illegal, and an inconsistency because if the police had no valid reason to be out there, that should mean that anything coming after that would also be invalid. They wouldn't drop the other charges because I would have been released. People's emotions were so high at that time after May 13, there not about to put me back out in the streets.

You can see how this was nothing but a setup. Meanwhile, the media sat back and did everything possible to justify what this government did. They had warrants for four adults, but they knew there were many children in the house. On the morning of Sunday, May 12, one of our supporters (Gloria) went to the Italian market for us and took a couple of our children with her. By the time she came back, they had cordoned off the street. But when Gloria pulled her car up, the Civil Affairs cops (including George Draper) looked in the car (seeing Gloria and the children) and let them through the barricade to return to MOVE's home.

continued next page



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They let the children back into the house knowing what they were getting ready to do. All that nonsense about looking for every opportunity to remove the children from the situation is a bold-faced lie. They're aim was to kill everybody in that house-particularly the children. According to Police Commissioner Sambor at the time, they saw MOVE children as being as much, if not more of a threat than the adults. So, we understand why they let the children back into the house.

Anybody can see that their aim, very simply, was to kill MOVE people-not to arrest anybody. They had overwhelming opportunity to arrest MOVE people if that's what they wanted to do. They knew our schedule as well as we did. They would follow us around when we left the house. I walked the streets by myself and would often stop and speak to the Civil Affairs cops. They could have snatched me up anytime.

Hans: Could you please give your personal account about what happened inside 6221 Osage on May 13?

Ramona: There's unfortunately not a whole lot I can say because I was in the basement with the children the whole time. When it had begun to get dark at around 8 or 9 Sunday night, we saw cops in houses across the street, and we knew they were set to attack us. In response, we took the kids to the basement and after a while down there water started pouring in from the hoses.

Then the tear gas came. They said that they used explosives to blow 3-inch diameter holes in the wall to insert tear gas. But photos show that the whole front of the house was blown off. The police estimate shooting over 10,000 rounds of bullets into the house during the first 90 minutes. They said they used all of the ammunition they had brought and had to get more from the armory. I did hear a lot of gunfire. Then for a pretty long time things were pretty quiet. It was then that they dropped the bomb without any warning.

At first, those of us in the basement didn't realize that the house was on fire because there was so much tear gas that it was hard to recognize smoke. After a while it seemed to be getting hotter and the smoke was thickening and choking us. That's when we started realizing that it was more than just tear gas. Conrad opened the door and we started to yell that we were coming out with the kids. The kids were hollering too. We know they heard us but the instant we were visible in the doorway, they opened fire. You could hear the bullets hitting all around the garage area. They deliberately took aim and shot at us.

I personally tried to get out with some of the kids at least twice before the last time when it was so hot with the flames everywhere. After I escaped with Birdie, they immediately took both of us into custody. I didn't realize how badly I was burned when they threw me onto the ground and handcuffed me.

On the 13 minute police video given to us in court, they were across from us on Osage and you could hear the cops talking in the background. There was a shot where you could see the house fully engulfed in flames and you can hear the cops talking and laughing in the

background. You can hear them say: "That's the last time they'll call the commissioner a motherfucker." It shows you their mentality. This wasn't about an arrest.

Hans: The corporate press often reports that MOVE was shooting guns at the Fire Department as well as the police. What evidence was presented in court in regards to MOVE firing weapons from their house?

Ramona: I don't recall them presenting anything other than saying that MOVE shot at them with automatic weapon fire and that they heard it. But then they got messed up because after digging through all of the rubble, they couldn't find a single automatic weapon. Then

they said they found a handgun and some type of shotgun or something. I've never seen a gun in a MOVE house. Not in the Osage house or any other. That's all I can say about that.

After digging through the rubble with those big claws, who knows where that came from? Even if those were our weapons, that couldn't have created automatic weapon fire.

During the later civil trial, two or three fire-fighters said they never heard or saw MOVE people shooting at them at all. They said they did hear automatic weapon fire but that it was from the police. The fire commissioner tried to say that he didn't fight the fire out of fear of putting firemen in danger. Meanwhile when the whole thing started, he had 4 huge hose on

our home for over an hour. If they weren't in danger then, why couldn't they do it later when the house and block was on fire?

By their own admission, they're saying that MOVE gunfire was a response to the use of explosives to blow holes through the walls of our house they. Even if that were true, you're blowing up a house and then you have a problem when someone defends their home?

They will wreck havoc all over the world. They will beat you, kill you, lock you up, shoot at you, bomb you, and do all this crazy stuff to you, but they want to be seen as

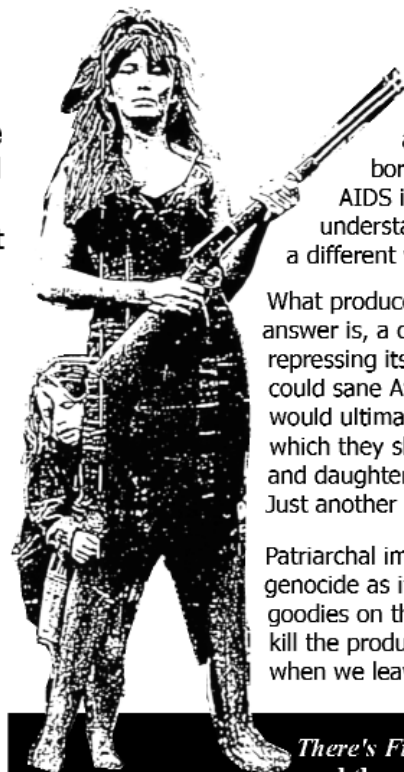
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HOT OFF THE PRESS! JUST PUBLISHED!

The Military Strategy of Women and Children

Amazon revolutionary theory for Women's Liberation by Butch Lee

Why should we need Amazons? Women have always killed men. From time way out of mind. Prisons are full of women who stabbed men, shot holes in men's precious bodies, ran men over with cars, poisoned men, beat men to death with some real "heavy metal" as they slept. X-ray through your lying local newspaper, you'll see. Nothing new. So still and again, Amazon isn't a dot.com, it's about killing men and the gender male.



Now, in this exploration, we are moving onto the ground of metapolitics. Wild, vast and more primal than the little, fenced-in suburban plots of what amerikkka calls "politics". From the rape bordellos of the Balkans to the mass murder by AIDS in Afrika, women are being pushed to understand men's society and, most importantly, ourselves, in a different way. The longest Amazon journey begins today. [...]

What produces a system that bases its daily life on doing genocide? The answer is, a commodity civilization that formed itself through centuries of repressing its own "internal colony" of women, killing millions of us. How could sane Afrikans or Indians guess what this strange euro-capitalism would ultimately do? To white men, who were "made" by a social process in which they shared in the torturing and killing of their mothers, wives, sisters and daughters, doing genocide against other peoples was no big deal at all. Just another day at the office. [...]

Patriarchal imperialism is the only so-called civilization that has always used genocide as its primary fuel, its primary harvester. It ain't hard to spread the goodies on the banquet table and invite friends to dinner when you steal and kill the producers. And revolutionary women's culture begins when we leave the table.

There's Fighting in Iraq but the Real Women's War is in Afrika
read the postscript online at <http://www.kersplebedeb.com/afrika.html>

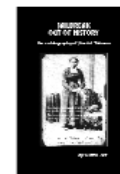
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Other books by Butch Lee:

Jailbreak out of History - the re-biography of Harriet Tubman
Chapter four of *The Military Strategy of Women and Children*, this is a major biographical study, which refutes the standard "American" version of Harriet Tubman's life. At a time when violence against women of color is at the center of world politics, uncovering the censored story of one Amazon points to answers that have nothing to do with government programs, police, or patriarchal politics.

Night-Vision; Illuminating War and Class on the Neo-Colonial Terrain
"Night-Vision was so compelling to me because it has a spirit of militancy which reformist feminism tries to kill. It has that raw, unmediated truth-telling which I think we are going to need in order to deal with the fascism that's upon us." - bell hooks



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The drugging of our youth

by "D" from New Jersey Indymedia -- <http://newjersey.indymedia.org>

Early on August 10, 2002, a 16-year old anarchist from northern New Jersey, Alex Asch, was sent across the country. He was enjoying a leisurely day at the Institute for Social Ecology (ISE) in Plainfield, Vermont, where he had spent his summer, when two "Juvenile Transport Officers" went in and demanded that ISE turn Alex over to them or else face a legal battle.

Since Alex cared so much for institutions that are crucial to social revolution, he willingly submitted himself to their will, so that ISE would not have to be legally threatened, and was subsequently taken away to Turnabout Stillwater Academy, a youth "rehabilitation" camp in Salt Lake City.

At Turnabout Stillwater, Oppositional Defiance Disorder (ODD) is treated, a loosely defined behavioral diagnosis that labels "actively defying", "refusing to comply with rules", and "academic impairment" as being disordered. Ever Reviled Records, a collective that Asch had participated in, put out a statement saying that his parents sent him to school psychiatrists, who prescribed him sedative drugs, and put him in special programs, all against his will. The school psychiatrists said Asch had ODD. He went to the ISE to pursue his interests in political theories of social ecology, but his diagnosis of ODD followed him to Vermont, and led him to Utah, where he remains.

"I'll obviously be here for a tremendously long time," wrote Asch in a letter from February 2003. "I have only been outside once within the past 35 days now, yet I'm still in that beautiful environment berry picking."

An escalating level of clinical diagnoses and consequential drug treatment of the youth in the U.S. is not something that we always hear or read about, but it is drastically effecting people below the age of 18. Pharmaceutical drugs are increasingly being over-prescribed to youth in the treatment of psychological illnesses. Alex Asch is just one of thousands of teenagers and young people who have been subjected to the consequences of being diagnosed by an arbitrary "illness."

At least 500,000 children and teens in the U.S. are taking antidepressants, according to McMan's Depression and Bipolar Web page. This number is increasing, as a number of reports have presented. "A 1999 study in the Journal of the American Medical Association notes that antidepressant use amongst preschoolers has doubled between 1991 and 1995," according to the web page. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) data reports that 3,000 prescriptions for Prozac had been written for children younger than age one.

There is some indication that Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs), or antidepressants, have a detrimental impact on treating emotional disorders in children. Some common names of SSRIs include Prozac, Zoloft, Paxil, and Luvox. An example of this can be found in the examination of cortisol, a brain chemical. A single 30mg dose of Prozac doubles the level of cortisol, and recent evidence has come out that cortisol produces brain damage, according to Dr. Ann Blake Tracy, Director of the International Coalition for Drug Awareness. In The Next Generation Medical Guinea Pigs - Our Prozac, Zoloft, and Paxil Babies, Tracy wrote, "This drastic increase in cortisol causes a multitude of serious physical reactions including impairment of linear growth, as well as impairing the development and regeneration of the liver, kidneys, muscles, etc." The possibility of brain damage and an impairment of growth are risks that children can be exposed to, if taking SSRIs.

8 In 1998, Tracy reported that there were one

million children between the ages of six to 18 on SSRIs. The fact that children had been taking drugs that had been made for adults, was a cause for concern. This concern was placated on January 3, 2003, when the FDA approved the use of Prozac to treat children ages seven to 17 for major depressive disorder (depression) and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). This is the first time that an SSRI has been approved to treat this age group, and represents an increasing level of prescription drug usage amongst youth in the U.S.

The FDA reported that the approval of Prozac for pediatric use was based on two placebo controlled clinical trials in depressed outpatients whose diagnoses corresponded to standard rating criteria. They claim that the drug produced a statistically significant effect on the "Childhood Depression Rating Scale R." There were no long term experiments on the use of Prozac to treat children, thus the effects may be harmful.

Rick Giombetti, of the International Coalition for Drug Awareness, said that the FDA does not test drugs it approves for medicinal use. All of the clinical trials that lead to the approval of drugs for commercial use in the U.S. are funded and directed by the companies who market and manufacture the drugs. He explains that, given that private drug companies rely on marketing drugs they have exclusive patents for, these companies do anything but long term drug testing in the trials they fund or that they do everything they can to conduct trials which favor the new drug.

In his article published in August 2001, entitled Prozac Hangover, Giombetti explained that drug companies market new drugs as scientific breakthroughs with few side effects. These kinds of advertising claims are made in light of a complete lack of long term testing of new drugs.

Additionally, according to FDA spokespersons, there have been more adverse reaction reports on Prozac than any other medical product. In October 1993, a total of 28,623 complaints of adverse side effects were filed with the FDA, including 1,885 suicide attempts and 1,341 deaths.

Something is wrong with this picture; people aren't even physically developed until their teenage years, yet toddlers are being treated for symptoms that could just be individual personality traits.

"Pharmaceutical corporations are slowly becoming as influential as oil, defense, and media corporations in state institutions," said Deicide, a friend of Alex's and member of Ever Reviled Records. "Do pharmaceutical corporations have the

right to wield such absolute power over the political system and thusly dominant political culture? I think it is also unfortunate that the subjects of this phenomenon are children, who are often not in an emotional, cognitive or political position to challenge its legitimacy."

As of now, Turnabout Stillwater intends to end Alex Asch's "treatment program" on June 28, 2004, when he is legally an adult. His only way of communicating to his friends in New Jersey is through censored letters. He was not allowed outside for over 70 days, and is currently being forced to take unknown pharmaceutical drugs.

"Alex is just one subject of a uniquely contemporary phenomenon," said Deicide. "It is quite possible that America's children are being drugged into a state of complacency by corporations that are aware that without such apathy and indifference, the public, especially the youth, would be more difficult to control." Asch essentially feels the same way as Deicide about the interrelation of psychiatric treatment and pharmaceuticals in youth to the bigger picture.

"I am able to develop a perspective of this environment as a residential and domestic reflection of mass civilization and attempting to learn within thought or educate myself as much as possible and coming to an amazing understanding of hierarchy, hegemony, authoritarian ideology or enforcement, or the systematic enclosure that brings upon human tyranny within ecological alienation and environmental destruction," wrote Asch in a letter from October 2002.

★

Send your support to Alex at:
Alex Asch
Turnabout Stillwater
2738 South 2000 East
Salt Lake City, UT
84109

For more information on the pharmaceutical industries, check out: International Coalition for Drug Awareness (<http://www.drugawareness.org/>), ProzacSpotlight.org (<http://www.prozacspotlight.org/eagle/1.html>). "Prozac Hangover" by Rick Giombetti can be found at: (http://seattle.indymedia.org/front.php3?article_id=6219) More details about Alex Asch can be found at: (<http://www.infoshop.org/inews/stories.php?story=03/03/27/4778597>)

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YET ANOTHER WITNESS EXPOSES POLICE FRAME-UP OF MUMIA ABU-JAMAL

MAY 2, 2003

Philadelphia, PA.

Yet another witness has come forward to expose the police frame-up which has kept celebrated journalist Mumia Abu-Jamal on death row for over 20 years.

In a declaration filed last week in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit by Jamal's attorneys, Kenneth Pate swears that his half-sister, Priscilla Durham, in a telephone conversation with Pate in 1983 or 1984, repudiated her testimony against Jamal at his 1982 trial for the murder of Police Officer Daniel Faulkner.

Durham, a security guard, was on duty at Jefferson Hospital on December 9, 1981,



when Jamal and Faulkner were brought into the emergency room with gunshot wounds. According to Pate, Durham told him that the only statement Jamal made at the hospital was, "Get off me, get off me, they're killing

me," when the police were interfering with his medical treatment. This directly --contradicts-- Durham's testimony at Jamal's trial that she heard him yell out, while surrounded by numerous police, "I shot the motherf---er and I hope he dies." The story of Jamal's purported "confession" at the hospital was not reported for two months by any police officers. According to Pate, the police appealed to Durham to "stick with" them because, as a security guard, she was part of the "brotherhood" of law enforcement officers. Durham claimed at Jamal's trial that she had reported the alleged confession to her supervisor. Jamal's jury never heard the testimony of a police officer responsible for guarding Jamal at the hospital who had filed a written report shortly afterwards in which he said that Jamal had made no statements - the trial judge

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They don't fight but they win

During the war with Iraq, as the media began to criticize the Bush administration for failing to anticipate Iraqi resistance, Donald Rumsfeld made a statement to the effect that the American people were seeing the war "through a straw." The view of the war (as seen through a straw) is definitely claustrophobic. To a great degree the media has swallowed the administration line, barely batting an eye as television stations were bombed, Al Jazeera taken offline by 'hackers' and non-'embedded' reporters killed by US soldiers. Even though Bush promised a 'new kind of war' to be fought with precise weapons without large civilian loss of life, the US army stated outright that it was not their responsibility to count Iraqi casualties. The mainstream media also chooses to downplay the economic motivations for the war, preferring to tell the story as one of good vs. evil, a story that is more interesting and easier to swallow than the tangled web of politicians and CEOs protecting each-others interests and looking to make a buck. The networks themselves, who report the war, are just strands in the corporate/political web of this so-called military industrial complex.

These are some of the real 'winners' in Iraq:

Bechtel

Bechtel's corporate board includes George Shultz, secretary of state during the Reagan administration. Riley Bechtel, the firm's chairman and chief executive, was recently appointed to President Bush's export council. Caspar Weinberger was a Bechtel director, vice president and general counsel before becoming Reagan's secretary of defense in 1980. Being well connected pays off. USAID (US Agency for International Development) has handed Bechtel a slice of Iraq in the form of reconstruction contracts worth up to \$680 million. In the early 80's Donald Rumsfeld helped broker a deal between Saddam Hussein and Bechtel to build an oil-pipeline to Jordan that later fell through. Back in those days, when Saddam's daily use of chemical weapons was no big deal, Bechtel even helped him build a plant which manufactured ethylene, and ingredient of mustard gas.

The Carlyle Group

Former President George Bush, former Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci, former Secretary of State James Baker are among the well-connected heads of this huge investment firm that has large holdings in the infrastructure of war.

Halliburton, Kellogg Brown & Root, and VP Dick Cheney

The Halliburton Subsidiary, Kellogg Brown & Root contract was secured from the Pentagon in Dec 2001. This 10 year contract enables them to run military related projects anywhere in the world for a guaranteed profit. They will get the job of extinguishing oil fires and repairing the Iraqi Oil infrastructure. Although the exact details of the contracts are classified, an army public affairs officer estimates that since the contract was awarded, Brown and Root has received about \$830 million, while Cheney, who owns the parent company, Halliburton, and steers the war machine from the white house, still draws up to a million dollars a year in compensation from Halliburton.

Lockheed-Martin

Lockheed-Martin has the dubious distinction of being the world's largest weapons manufacturer, with 2002 sales of \$26.6 billion and a backlog of more than \$70 billion, according to their website. Involved in the manufacture of many well-known weapons systems, fighter-planes and other military vehicles, Lockheed Martin has a vested interest in war. The Committee to Liberate Iraq (CLI) is a group of war hawks who have been lobbying for the bombing and overthrow of Saddam Hussein. The Committee chairman is Bruce P. Jackson, a former vice president at Lockheed Martin from 1993-2001. Lockheed Martin spent more than \$11 billion in campaign contributions and lobbying since 2000.

Raytheon

Best known for its Tomahawk cruise missiles (at \$2 mil a pop) and "bunker-buster" bombs, Raytheon also manufactures the "brains" for many other defense and weapons systems. \$14.5 billion a year (up to 85% of its total revenue) comes from the machinery of death, with billions re-invested to keep politicians in their pockets.

Boeing

Best known for making commercial jets, 40% of Boeing's yearly revenue comes from the sale of fighter planes, weapon systems, and other war technology. War is good money for Boeing and they do what they can to keep it going. In 2000 they spent \$7,820,000 on political contributions, notably to the appropriations committee's defense subcommittee, the committee that doles out the money.

Clear Channel

Clear Channel is the country's largest radio conglomerate, owning 1,200 stations in all 50 states. With old ties to George Bush, Clear Channel has been using its media monopoly to promote the war and censor dissent across the US. Positioned to gain greatly from FCC deregulation, it seems clear that they are hoping to win some substantial favors from this administration.

Sources & further reading:

corpwatch.org
rationalenquirer.org
seen.org
schnews.co.uk
defenestrator.org

EMBEDDED CORPORATIONS

It was a hastily planned demonstration. We knew who we wanted to target and what we wanted to say. The first stop of the (early) morning was Lockheed Martin, fore-runner among arms manufacturers. The Philly white-pages listed Lockheed IMS 800 Spring Gardens and a quick check on the web seemed to confirm that it was a subsidiary of Lockheed Martin. Next would be Dyncorp, another multi-billion dollar government contractor who bill themselves as an 'IT Solutions' company but also contract armed security in political hotspots like Bosnia and post-Taliban Afghanistan. We knew who the bad guys were and we knew where to find them.

We hit the diner for breakfast at about 7. We hadn't seen the Lockheed office on the way downtown and we were starting to worry, so went to see what was going on. She said that all there was where 800 Spring Gardens should be was Philadelphia Traffic Court. Weird. We paid our waitress and went to check it out. Sure enough: the only building on the 800 block of Spring Gardens was the traffic court, a line of disgruntled Philadelphians stretching around the block. A tacky sculpture of smooshed aluminum blocks stacked one upon the other bore a placard that said 'BLOCKHEED'. Curiouser and curiouser. Next to it was an electronic gate that the occasional business-type, wearing id badges, would walk through. Was this the dreaded Lockheed, hiding its ugly face in the back corner of the traffic court? After some confusion, we decided that we'd protest traffic court.

No sooner had we unfurled our massive banner, proclaiming "WAR = PROFIT", than, you guessed it, a traffic cop comes flying out in a rage.

"You can't demonstrate here!"

"Yes we can."

"NO YOU CAN'T, THIS IS TRAFFIC COURT!"

"This is the sidewalk, and it says in the phonebook that Lockheed Martin has an office here."

"I don't care, you have to go!" The cop tries to take our banner but

we don't let

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The May Day Slaughter at Fourmies, France

by Bob Helms

Fourmies is a town near the Belgian border in Northern France, whose entire industrial life was in the wool industry during the late nineteenth century. In 1891 its population was 15,700, and almost everyone made their living from one of the 37 mills that had sprung up during the preceding twenty or so years. Both the population and the labor movement had increased dramatically in this town, just as was the case everywhere else in the region. Although there was nothing so unusual about this place before, the town's name (meaning "ants") was permanently etched into the national memory when the French Army opened fire on its children on the first of May, 1891.

During the previous year the movement for an 8-hour day had been gaining strength in France, and candidates who called for a reduction in work hours and a minimum wage had won surprise victories in the legislative election for the district where Fourmies (pronounced "FOOR-me") is located. Also labor organizations had been holding assemblies and lecture events at Fourmies and nearby towns. The local leader of the movement was a locksmith named Hippolyte Culine.

During the month of April, there had been public lectures by prominent socialists, and on the 29th, the Parti Ouvrier held a meeting of 1,000 people in a local theater, from which came a firm resolution against the bosses and the church. This caused alarm among the elite in Fourmies, and so they held a rally on the 30th, denouncing the "criminal leaders" of the activists and their revolutionary theories. Within a few hours the labor leaders circulated their response, energetically urging workers to celebrate May Day, but to do so calmly and with dignity. The may day celebration was also a strike rally, because the factory owners declared may 1st to be a regular work day (it was a Friday), and that any movement to the contrary would be severely suppressed.

The activities began early when the May Day arrived. At 6 a.m. young activists entered a factory in nearby Wignehies, urging its workers to join the celebration before being chased off by police. For the next few hours Culine rushed from factory to café, from street to street in Fourmies, with a growing crowd of striking workers, chanting "eight hours! eight hours!" At one factory, a worker was roughed up by police. In response, his comrades pelted the cops with stones.

At quarter past nine there was an encounter with a squad of six mounted cops, who rushed into a crowd of workers in front of the Café Cygne ("Swan Café") which was being used as the strike headquarters. About twenty men and women were beaten with the butts of sabers, clubbed, and thrown to the ground. More stones were hurled at the cops, who responded with gunshots fired in the air. A few arrests were made at the same scene.

After conferring with worker-delegates from the various factories and a tense verbal encounter with police officials, **10** Hippolyte Culine made a speech from

the steps of the church, urging his comrades to form a delegation to secure the release of those under arrest.

From about 11 to 4 p.m. there were several smaller encounters of the same nature, and the



number arrested rose to fifteen. The mayor spoke with the worker delegations about the arrests, and promised that they would be released by 5 that afternoon. The mayor didn't pass that instruction on to any other officials, and so it was intended to pacify and distract the strikers. Police officials telegraphed their superiors elsewhere, reporting a "very tense" situation. As a result, three companies of army troops were dispatched, and by 4:30 the main square of Fourmies was under military occupation. It was a bad time for a show of force, though. Crowds formed to demand the promised release of prisoners, and people, many of whom were teenagers, made banners and flags to march with. Women were gathering stones in their baskets. So it went for a few more hours. Just after six, two girls named Maria Blondeau and Louise Hublet, decked out in flowers and dressed in traditional costumes so as to personify "May," led a parade of 150 young people out into the square, and they were joined by another 50 demonstrators, to be confronted by a wall of bayonets. The soldiers advanced, and the kids threw stones at both the soldiers and the police who were stationed in front of the mayor's office. The police fired their revolvers in the air. One more demonstrator was arrested, and the soldiers returned to their original position. Within about five minutes, another crowd of about 2,000 had formed a short distance away, again led by Louise and Maria, now accompanied by a young man named Kleber Giloteaux waving a big French flag and calling out sarcastic slogans. The demonstrators marched straight up to the soldiers and shouted in unison: "Let us pass!" Just then, stones began raining down

on the soldiers from an adjacent street-entrance and nearby rooftops. Several of the soldiers were hit, a few falling to the ground bleeding. There was an order to fire in the air, and the guns sounded. At this point, young Giloteaux pranced forward with his flag and cheerfully called out, "Long Live the Army!" It was about 8:25 in the evening, and another command went out, from Major Francois Chapu: "Fire! Fire! Rapid-fire! Watch the banner!"

This time the army of France dumped 8mm ammunition from its state-of-the-art Lebel rifles, along with pistol-shots from the nearby policemen, directly into the demonstrators. Maria (18 years old), Louise (20), and Kleber (19) were all killed on the spot, along with six others, including boys aged 11 and 14. Thirty-five more were wounded.

Shortly after the shooting stopped, a Catholic priest emerged from the church and started pronouncing the "last rites" over the dead and dying teenagers. Somehow he wound up in newspaper cartoons, gallantly standing between the

guns and the citizens, shouting God's command for peace. He hadn't actually done anything like that.

The May Day 1891 slaughter at Fourmies took place on the same day as a shoot-out in Paris between police and anarchist demonstrators. The two events brought on a long cycle of violent revenge between anarchists and governments, involving bombs exploding at the hang-outs of the rich and assassinations of politicians. In reprisal, anarchists endured a tremendous number of prison terms and executions of anarchists.

Today at Fourmies, the key buildings on the square, in front of which the blood flowed long ago, are still standing. A simple monument attests to the memory of the murders that made the town famous. The inscription reads, "Nine workers, on strike for their just rewards, were killed on this square during the fusillade of the First of May, 1891." Almost nothing has been written about this tragedy in English.



The horrible Mayday tradition of revenge against cops and capitalists continues to this day. Here at the annual Mayday riots in Berlin Germany. See : kanalB.de

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"That was the sort of struggle they opted for..."

An interview with Rhoda Dalang of the Cordillera Peoples' Alliance and Flora Belinan of the Cordillera Alliance

By Pranjali Tiwari
defenestrator Asia Correspondent

The Cordillera Administrative Region lies at the very north of the Philippines' Northern Luzon Island. Stretched prominently through the region is the 'cordillera' itself, a mountain chain "running the backbone of the island like a spinal cord." These fertile mountains have been the foundation of indigenous communities for centuries.

Collectively, the indigenous population of the Cordillera are referred to as the 'Igorot', or 'people of the mountains.' More specifically, there are seven main ethno-linguistic indigenous groups in the region- the Isneg, the Tinggians, the Kalingas, the Bontoc, the Kankana-eyes, the Ibaloi, and the Ifugao. The livelihood of people in the Cordillera, generally based on rice farming and other agriculture, has been increasingly threatened since the 1970s in the wake of so-called "developmental" projects. I recently managed to talk with Rhoda Dalang of the Cordillera Peoples' Alliance about some of these threats and indigenous peoples' responses.

P: Could you tell me a little about what the Cordillera Peoples' Alliance is?

Rhoda: The Cordillera Peoples' Alliance is a federation of organisations of indigenous peoples in the Cordillera established in June 1984. It was a product of peoples against hydropower dams and logging concessions along the

interior of the Cordillera region. Out of those two simultaneous resistances was born the CPA. Originally it was launched with only 20 organisations, now it is 130 plus. So most of the organisations are those affected by logging concessions and the dam on the Chico River.

Flora: That was the time of the Marcos administration [Ferdinand Marcos was dictator of the Philippines from 1966-1986]

Rhoda: Yes. The big plans at that time, as I said, involved a logging company owned by a Marcos crony, and then plans for a dam on the Chico River, funded by the World Bank. See, in the Cordillera there is a whole mountain range, and it is said the potential for hydropower is very relevant. It is said it can produce the whole energy requirement for the biggest island in the Philippines, more than 50% of the country. If harnessed, the projection is we need not be importing but a little oil. If all these rivers are used for hydropower, we can be self reliant, they say the majority of our energy requirement will be provided. So there are many plans for dams.

The Chico dam was going to submerge the area of the indigenous people, their municipal centres, schools, highways, and of course rice fields. They were all going to be submerged. Well, that dam is no more, after indigenous peoples' protests. That is one of the real success stories of the indigenous peoples up north. The dam did not push through and the logging stopped. But some people died, and there was burning of the areas of the logging concession that was carried out... but fortunately the project got stopped.

P: What kind of actions and campaigns did CPA use at the time?

Rhoda: So many. From lobbying to petitions and protests. There was an attempt to bribe the indigenous peoples' elders. I was a student at that time. So we conducted a series of education and protest actions- that was at the National Capital Region with students, professionals, and a lot of national and international support. So students in the National Capital Region and in the regional centres supported this protest movement.

Elders and some younger people from the indigenous communities even went to Manila.

P: How significant was that victory against the Chico River dam?

Rhoda: Well, in fact one of the significant relevances of that Chico struggle was after that dam was cancelled, the World Bank has made a policy, after the successful struggle of these people, to get consensus or consent of indigenous peoples on projects funded by the World Bank. Specifically it's for indigenous people. So every indigenous person in the world benefitted from that struggle, it covered all indigenous peoples' areas. Of course, if the World Bank initiates projects in non-indigenous areas, there's no need for consensus! But in fact since then there has been no World Bank funded project in the Cordillera... until recently. There is now the rehabilitation of the main arterial road connecting the interior of the Cordillera, which may actually benefit us.

P: What kind of work is the CPA doing now?

Rhoda: Now it has grown so big, it has so many activities. Mainly it conducts education and campaigns against big projects implemented in the cordillera. It focuses on projects that involves so many number of people, there are so many projects going on there. You can only do so much, so it has to focus on the major ones.

So at this time there is a campaign against gold and copper mining companies, and then there's another dam! Yes, there's another dam. It's called the San Roque multiple [partly funded by the Japan Export-Import Bank]. Unfortunately it is already constructed amidst all the protests, all the national and international support, the dam is constructed. It has already impounded water so it is ready for operation, but its operation has been cancelled thrice for this year. Just the signature of the president is required and the dam will be in operation.

P: How has the construction of that dam affected the lives of the people living there?

Rhoda: Just like the Chico dam. There were more communities affected by the Chico dam, but it's also true in San Roque. In terms of actually submerging houses and rice fields, it is much much less compared to Chico. But they are going to submerge pasture lands and areas where these people can earn money by small scale mining and gold panning. That is the secondary source of income for the area. Actually the Philippine government is claiming that only 9 houses will be actually submerged, which is true, there are only 9 huts. But the secondary major source of income for families the gold panning and pasturing will be submerged, so down there there are thousands and thousands of farmers who will be affected due to flooding.

The dam is supposed to be a flood control mechanism, but it is already the third dam along that river system. There are two dams

already operational. If you impound the water to one dam then two then three, and they get full one, two, three- and then they release the water... can you imagine what's going to happen downstream? How in the world are they going to manage the release to avoid flooding? No farmer, not a single farmer believes that the Philippine government or the managers of that company will be able to manage the release of the water so that it will not affect their rice fields and their houses.

P: You have done your activism under Marcos and now under Gloria [President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo] too. How are the two situations different for indigenous peoples' campaigns in the Cordillera?

Rhoda: How is it different? Well, Marcos was a fascist dictator- but people were able to resist. Recently there was one protest action right in the National Capital Region, they really harassed the people! When I was a student during our protest campaigns for the earlier dams, I didn't experience any real harassment, at least as an indigenous person. When we were out as students protesting other issues and against the fascist regime, not strictly indigenous issues, then there was real harassment. But this time around the indigenous people are really harassed.

Flora: See, the big difference is, the Chico river dam was located in the interior of the Cordillera while the San Roque dam is right near the centre, near the cities. So of course in the interior, many of the people were armed. So that kind of struggle was an option.

Rhoda: Yes, they were building a dam in an area where people were prepared for armed struggle- because that was the sort of struggle that they opted for. That's not happening in San Roque.

P: So it seems there has been a lot of government repression this time around?

Rhoda: Yes, of course. Some of the military intelligence units... well, the teenagers have been questioned by the regional intelligence units. They are monitoring all the young ones. They are checking attendance of all the young boys and girls in the area affected by the San Roque dam. They are monitoring the consciousness of the people and the willingness to take that option once again. If that option is very prominent, then constructing a dam will mean so much trouble!

For further information or to express international solidarity, contact the Cordillera Peoples' Alliance: cpa11@skynet.net



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The Death of a Captain and Other Hopeful Disasters

by dave onion

In the last weeks, the US has continued on its insane (and traditional) course of devastation and immiseration with its invasion of Iraq. The world rose up with insurrections, demonstrations and riots to stop them. It was the biggest global mobilization in history with millions in the street on February 15th alone. In between global demonstrations there was a steady stream of news coming in of sabotage, blocking planes and trains carrying war supplies, trashing of military and recruiting offices, even the fragging of some officers during the 1st days of the war. Resistance was as high as ever.

Still, the invasion happened. Bush, Cheney etc. said repeatedly they wouldn't be dissuaded regardless of how many people opposed the war. Granted, the death toll was not in the hundreds of thousands; it didn't compare to the massacres at Hiroshima or the UN sanctions that stole a million and a half lives since the last war. The bombs rained down on Iraqis in the most severe and unrelenting spectacular display of terror, incinerating entire blocks and their inhabitants. As of today, the Iraq Body Count website totals over 2000 dead civilians that were killed in the last few weeks of slaughter. Not counted was the killing of "combatants", many, perhaps most not even members of the Iraqi army but Iraqis defending their lives and homes and volunteers from elsewhere defending Iraq from an anti-Islamic invasion. Now with FOX news and company smugly declaring victory over terror and gloating over the apparent ineffectiveness and mid war decline of the anti-war movement superimposed over footage of Iraqi devastation, a strange victory is being projected by spectacular means upon the minds of the American public. Soldiers coming home to kiss their spouses, a sick self-righteous patriotism feels dominant.

But all is not as it seems. Between the lines of the mainstream press, through their seductive gaze, from the words and images that have filtered in from the rebel press, internet and the foreign press less invested in a domestic victory, different pictures emerge.

Fragging at Camp Pennsylvania

A pretty clear sign that not all was well for the Empire when early morning March 23rd, just 2 days after the invasion had started, a grenade exploded in an officers tent at Camp Pennsylvania in Kuwait killing a captain and sending 15 others to the hospital, including a Captain and other slightly higher ups. Papers reported "soldier slays comrades" in a clear display of propaganda, as if the deliberate killing of superiors was some sort of insane freak accident. Army Sgt. Asan Akbar, a Moslem from California was arrested for the attack. According to articles in the mainstream press about the incident, had told his

less than enthusiastic about the impending slaughter. For a second it seemed the road home led through Camp Pennsylvania. Many anti-imperialists and anarchists saw hope in the fragging. With the war now well underway, it was apparent that the regime would pay no attention to protests or actions here in the US, but a situation where military forces where facing internal sabotage could well stop the war at the point of production. Asan Akbar's (provided he actually did it) actions sent waves of demoralization across US bases in the gulf and a message of solidarity to all other enlisteds who'd just spent the weeks or months in terrible conditions in the desert under the abuse of their superiors and could no doubt at the very least see where Akbar was coming from. Anti-imperialists everywhere where touched by such praxis. But as far as we know, a chain reaction never happened and the US slaughter went on as planned.



KARIM SAHIB / Agence France-Presse
A man who says he shot down a U.S. Apache helicopter hoists his weapon as he celebrates in front of the aircraft in Karbala, Iraq. Iraqi television showed a videotape of what it said were two U.S. crewmen, who appeared unhurt. See related story below.

There were other signs of discontent among the armed forces. Reports from journalists and activists with less military sympathy than the military's embedded journalists (on loan from the corporate media), told stories of wide discontent among US forces. Many soldiers where more than eager to get the hell out of there. "The road home leads through Baghdad" sentiment said it all. The bulk of the troops were not there to fight, but to get back home, if they had to kill, the quicker they could get it over with the better. After all, the poverty

mother before leaving to the Gulf, he would have nothing to do with killing Iraqis, his job was to just blow up bridges. He'd also voiced fear of being persecuted for his Moslem name. To us its a confirmation that things could be taking a bad turn for Imperial forces; definitely that the vibe among soldiers was

draft brought thousands of poor and working class people who saw enlistment as one of the only ways out of poverty into positions of waging war on other poor folks. Throughout the conflict, GI rights hotline (girights.org) rang off the hook with people desperate to get out of the position of murder, their own mis-

ery and possibly their own deaths in Bush's war. Conscientious Objector applications shot up. Interviews with soldiers consistently referred to protests in their hometowns and despite the mandatory pentagon rhetoric trickling off GI lips, it became apparent via news of global protests that though they may be on the winning side, they weren't fighting a popular war.

Once the war started the resistance moved to the Iraqi streets. The heat on US streets turned down considerably in frustration and defeat as Bush rained hell onto the Iraqis. As widely predicted, the post invasion occupation set the stage for mass resistance on the part of the colonized Iraqi population. In the last days alone, Iraqi protests against US occupation have happened in across the country and with a rage that's made it impossible to marginalize the fact that the war is more than a clash between opposing armies, but a violent occupation. In Baghdad, tens of thousands came out on April 18 with a clear message: "Get Out or We'll Kick you out!" Invading troops responded to some protests in a true capitalist democracy abroad sort of way, by showering angry Iraqis with lead. US troops killed over 50 Iraqis during demonstrations alone in the last few weeks: When a speech by a US installed governor in Mosul on April 16th was interrupted by jeering and shouting, Marines shot into the crowd killing at least ten people. 13 where killed and 75 injured as soldiers shot into a demonstration on April 28th in Fallujah. 2 days later a thousand protesters returned to protest the massacre. When a rock flew and broke the window of a military vehicle, US troops again opened fire this time killing one and wounding 16. On the Fox News ticker came the words "protests in Iraq are signs that Iraqis are embracing their new-found freedom"

The occupiers in effect planted and nourished the seeds that will no doubt bring on attacks reminiscent of the Algerian resistance against their French colonizers. US Empire is stretching itself thin. Despite Bush's announcement that the war is now over, their business on Iraqi soil is obviously far from over.



1 2 Demonstrator outside of Clear Channel in Bala Cynwyd, PA, protesting pro-warbiased media coverage, May 10, 2003. Photo by Mike Rosenburg

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Film review

The Weather Underground

Directed by Sam Green and Bill Siegel- 118 minutes
Presented at the Lost Film Festival 8.0, April 12, 2003,
at the Rotunda with Q&A with Sam Green

by the Blanketman

The Weather Underground is a documentary about the underground, revolutionary organization of the same name. For those who may not know, the group began as the Weathermen, based on a line in Bob Dylan's *Subterranean Homesick Blues*, "You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows." The group was a faction that split off from Students for a Democratic Society at their 1969 convention and who believed that white radicals should join in armed struggle with the African-American Black Panthers and Latino/a Young Lords to "bring the [Vietnam] war home" and overthrow the racist, imperialist government of the United States. Their first big action was in Chicago in August 1969 when they declared the "Days of Rage"- basically taking to the streets with helmets and sticks to fuck shit up.

After a few days of banging heads with the cops and some property destruction, the group decided to change tactics. They changed their name to the less sexist "Weather Underground" and moved to a top-down Marxist-Leninist revolutionary-cadre model. Several

hundred women and men organized into cells in cities across the U.S. who were under a central committee, called the Weather Bureau, to maintain secrecy and resist infiltration by the government's COINTELPRO agents. (This was largely successful- only one FBI agent was able to infiltrate any of the cells, and because of pressure for any sort of arrest, was almost

immediately revealed when the feds busted the cell.) The group also practiced polyamory within their cells- to smash monogamy and patriarchy and to make even their sex lives revolutionary.

The Weather Underground staged bombings at the U.S. Capitol and two dozen other government- and defense-related buildings through the 70s. After an accidental bomb blast in a Manhattan brownstone in March 1970 killed three of their members, including Terry Robbins, the member who was most in favor of targeting military personnel, the group decided to avoid casualties and took elaborate precautions to do so. Despite the intense criticism of their "violent" methods, the Weather Underground killed fewer people in its lifetime than SEPTA does in a year. Members of the group remained underground until Mark Rudd turned himself into the authorities at the end of the 70s. Most of the Weather Underground turned themselves shortly afterward. Because of the illegal tactics of the FBI in trying find them, most of the charges didn't stick and they managed to get out with minimal jail time. A few others went on to join with the Black Liberation Army, the United Freedom Front and the Revolutionary Armed

Task Force and continued their struggles into the '80s. Unfortunately, most of those who did, such as Laura Whitehorn, David Gilbert and Kathy Boudin, ended up with very long prison sentences when prosecuted in the Reagan Era. While Whitehorn was finally paroled about three years ago, many are still incarcerated.

The Weather Underground, the movie by Sam Green and Bill Siegel, is an insightful look at the organization and the lives of those who fought in it. The film is composed of archival footage, some never released before, and interviews of some of the members, an FBI agent who was trying to infiltrate them and some of their liberal critics, such as Todd Gitlin. Gitlin, currently being trotted out by the mainstream media as a "former radical" to red-bait the peace movement, still seethes with resentment towards the WU. The fact that mainstream funders probably asked the producers to give it a somewhat critical and remorseful spin is evident, but not so much so that it obscures the very informative interviews with the former members of the Weather Underground. The filmmakers interview Bernadine Dohrn, Mark Rudd, Laura Whitehorn, Bill Flanagan, Naomi Jaffe, Bill Ayers and David Gilbert, and this is what makes the movie really worth seeing. Brian Flanagan contrasts on his past radicalism and underground existence with his current life, managing a New York City bar while reflecting on his past critically (and

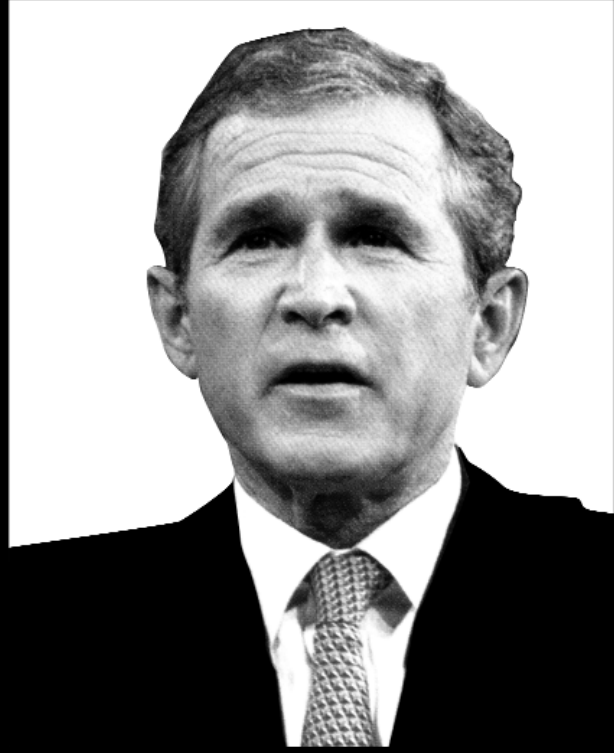
a shot of his winning money on Jeopardy, of all things!). Laura Whitehorn is still hopeful for revolutionary change, even after over 17 years in federal prison. Mark Rudd, now an English professor, is remorseful about leaving SDS for the WU, but David Gilbert, who stayed active until the mid-80s and is now serving life in New York, is unrepentant.



The Weathermen in the streets of Chicago during the Days of Rage, 1969.

To top it off, the soundtrack features Fugazi. How can you beat that?

INTERNATIONAL



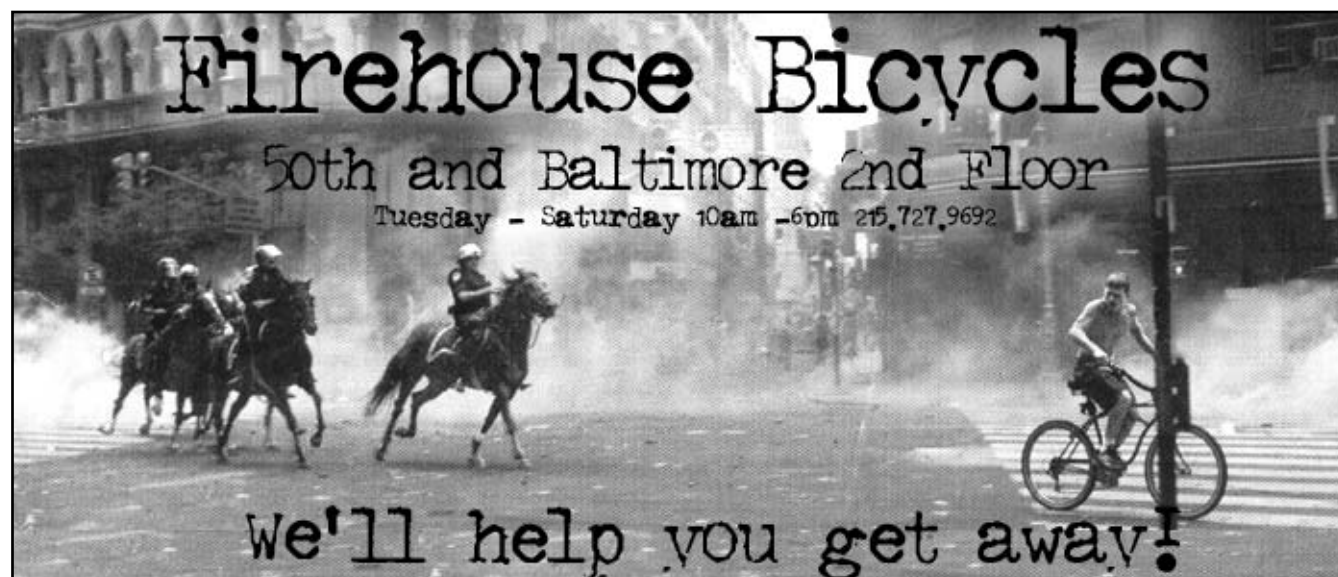
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Legal proceedings about the murder of Carlo closed!

In the afternoon of May, 5 the judge Elena Daloisio decided: the enquiry against Mario Placanica, the policeman of the paramilitary Italian police (Carabinieri) who shot Carlo Giuliani, the young protestor at G8 in 2001, is closed.

In the afternoon of May, 5 the judge Elena Daloisio decided: the enquiry against Mario Placanica, the policeman of the paramilitary Italian police (Carabinieri) who shot Carlo Giuliani, the young protestor at G8 in 2001, is closed (it). The reason why this murder won't be prosecuted is not only that the cop was defending himself (motivation that was abduced also in a previous time by the accusatory lawyer Silvio Franz (it)), but also because for the 53th article of the Italian criminal code this is a case of legitimate use of weapons. This may constitute a possible and dangerous legal escape for other similar situations in the future, covering by legal consequences every murder a policeman could commit because of him being "on duty". Anyway, for this decision, there won't be any trial against the shooter, Mario Placanica, who is going to be completely acquitted.

It's shocking to understand the basis for this decision, constituted by the experts' reports on the situation in which the murder took place. Daloisio says there's no reason why these reports should not be considered as reliable and based on reliable methodologies. But does Daloisio have any element on the past life of these experts? "We can't have any doubt on the thoroughness of this enquiry" she insists. The hypothesis that has been abduced in the experts reports is that the bullet was deviated by a rock in its trajectory, and that the policeman didn't shoot toward the protestor but toward the sky just to frighten him. Also the other cop, Filippo Cavataio, who was driving the jeep assaulted by the protestors, has been acquitted. He was accused of repeatedly passing with the vehicle over the shot body of the protestor, but Elena Daloisio thinks this just caused light wounds to the protestor. Here we have to remember that the autopsy on which she is basing on has been considered as "too superficial" also by the accusatory side. The tribunal of Genoa speaks out about all these facts showing off that the decisions are taken without having any doubt, while it is quite easy to see how many shadows have not been considered in conducting this enquiry.

"Placanica will go on working as a good policeman" is the comment of his lawyer, happy for the decision, and after all, none of the high officers of police forces who were involved in this enquiry has been judged guilty or condemned, even if it has been evident that many lies they said about the events of Piazza Alimonda (the Genoa square in which the protestor died) when not trying to avoid to give a testimony. Even if all this is clear, some of those high officers will be sent in Iraq, and no one blamed or tried to act legally against their evident lack of professionalism and ethics (to use soft terms) about the G8.

The closing of this enquiry not only leaves a murder without any responsible, but also tries to hide and delete all the responsibilities both of the people who directed the operations in piazza Alimonda, and of those in the highest vertexes of police and government who were in Genoa. The worst risk is that this decision will have reflections in all the other proceedings about the events of Genoa. We hope that this indecent legal proceeding won't put the word end on these events, because we want the truth and we will work and rise up our heads and fight until the truth will come out.

No justice no peace.

(from indymedia.org)



RAW NO 2012 REFLECTIONS ON WAR

In Samuel Delaney's Tales of Neveryon Old Venn demonstrates a trick with mirrors that offers some insight into the nature of reflections. Take a piece of paper and write the word 'front' on one side of the paper, and the word 'back' on the other. Hold a mirror up to the 'front' side of the paper. In the mirror, predictably, you will see the word 'front' in reverse. Now if you put a mirror behind the paper, reflecting the reflection, you might expect to see the word put right-way-round again, but instead, what you see is the word 'back' spelled out in the proper direction.

This series of relationships offers a good description of the relationship between the media, the anti-war movement and the counter-protesters. The media and the establishment spell out a fairytale that the anti-war movement promptly reverses. The counter-protesters come out to put things back in their proper order. But rather than turning the thing back on its head, they only succeed in showing what's really behind the 'establishment' perspective: fear, bigotry, hate. It almost felt like they were on our side: an 'exhibit A'. People who call Asians 'wetbacks' and think that telling people with jobs to 'get a job' is an insult. They just prove that we're right

1 4

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"In Germany they first came for the communists and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time no one was left to speak up" Pastor Martin Niemoller

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Sunday July 6, 2003 – 2PM

Attacks on the Constitution: From the Smith Act to the Patriot Act 2

On July 1, 1953 Sherman Labowitz was arrested for violations of the Smith Act, passed by the U.S. Congress on June 28, 1940 as the Alien Registration Act, it made it an offense to advocate or belong to a group that advocated the violent overthrow of the government. Philadelphia was the first case to be lost by the government and marked the beginning of the end of the McCarthy era. Sherman will join us as a speaker today.

Civil liberties are threatened. The freedoms that so many have fought for have been shredded by the USA PATRIOT Act. Now, the Department of Justice has drafted secret legislation, the Domestic Security Enhancement Act (Patriot Act 2), which grants sweeping power to the US government, eliminating or weakening many of the checks and balances that remained on government surveillance, wiretapping, detention, and criminal prosecution even after passage of the USA PATRIOT Act.

SUPPORT THE DEFENESTRATOR

Buy our back issues! available for \$2 each.

#13 July 2000 - Special Anti-RNC issue. Radical Democracy Zapatista Style, Getting Arrested IN Philadelphia, A History of Civil Affairs, Phila Mask Ordinance, Report form Windsor anti-FTAA protest, Renaming of the SOA, General Strike in Nigeria, Arrests at Corporate Death Penalty Party. Also includes the PDAG Philadelphia Direct Action Handbook.

October 2000 - Face Off in Philly Courts after GOP Convention. Special 4 pager to raise support and funds for the 420 activists arrested during the Republican National Convention in Philadelphia with articles on the arrests, how to help, the felony cases, Direct Action and the Prison Industrial Complex which were the focus of the direct actions.

#15 February 2001 - RNC 420 legal update, Hail to the Thief, Environmental Racism in Eastwick, Strike at ACORN, Anarquist, Critical Resistance East, Free and Critter update, Earth Liberation Front burns the suburbs, McDonalds bulldozes neighborhood resistance.

#16 May 2001 - Uprising in Cincinnati, Tear Gas Holiday, anti capitalist riots and spontaneous celebrations in Quebec City, Daniel Faulkner's killer makes confession, Lynn Abraham, America's Deadliest DA, 3 Days of Clashes With Hate, Wayne County Citizens organize against new prison, ACORN strike, Mumia fires counsel, MOVE custody case turns into confrontation with cops, Police attack on party in Oakland, prisoner Karen Horning still denied treatment, Zapatista march on Mexico City, Plan Colombia, AWOL magazine, Victory for Fred Hampton, White Punk dominate at Solidarity Conference, R2k Legal update.

#17 July 2001 - Gentrifying the Black Bottom, Farms Not Jails, Real Feminists Don't Get Raped (and other fairy tales) West Philly Neighbors dump back at McDonalds HQ, RNC update, Penntrification update, 30 Years after the Attica Rebellion, MOVE shootout, Mumia update, Summer of Resistance, Brazilian Homeless Squatters Take Back the Land, the Dismantling of Philly's Skid Row ...

October 2001 - War is Not the Answer - 4 pager on the war against terrorism. Healing the world's wounds, 5 arguments against the war, The people of Afghanistan have nothing to do with Osama, Violence against Arab Americans, Analysis of Media Coverage, America's Unlimited War.

#21 November 2002 - What the World Needs Now is some fucking creative antagonism, INS detainees, Gentrification Watch, Prison Health Services replaced by Prison Health Services, Peace is Patriotic .. and that's the problem, Philadelphia Student Union update, Surveillance of Foreign Students, Marines ordered into Columbia, Uprising in Atenco, interview with Campaign to End the Sanctions, ILWU Against the Bosses again, Anti-war actions, 650 Arrested at anti-World Bank Protest

Send well concealed cash, a check or Money Order made out to **the defenestrator**, PO Box 30922, Philadelphia, PA 19104

mumia continued from page 6

refused a defense request for a continuance in order to locate the officer.

Pate's declaration now fully explodes the "confession" story as a complete fabrication. With the presentation of Pate's testimony, Jamal's attorneys have now provided the courts with sufficient proof to refute every piece of alleged evidence used to convict Jamal at his 1982 trial: Witness statements by Yvette Williams and private investigator Mike Newman prove that the prosecution's purported "eyewitnesses," prostitute Cynthia White and cab driver Robert Chobert, did not even see the shooting. Arnold Beverly's dramatic declaration, corroborated by a lie detector test and a wealth of other evidence, establishes that he, not Jamal, shot Officer Faulkner in a "mob hit" procured by corrupt police and organized crime because Faulkner was an obstacle to the "pay-offs" racket that corrupt police were running in center city Philadelphia in the 1980's.

Despite the fact that no jury today could possibly convict Mumia Abu-Jamal after hearing all the evidence now available, he remains in prison and the Philadelphia District Attorney, egged on by the Fraternal Order of Police, remains committed to seeing him executed despite the evidence which proves his innocence.

For information on how persons or organizations can join in the amicus ("friend of the court") brief filed in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in support of Mumia's innocence by noted criminal defense attorney Michael Yamamoto, please e-mail icffmaj@aol.com or howardkeylor@attbi.org

Ramona

continued from page 6

respectable and righteous. They will say that what they do is in defense of freedom, justice, or national security.

Meanwhile, the right of self-defense is lost when cops attack an individual like they did to Amadou Diallo or Abner Louima in New York, or that brother Thomas Jones here in Philadelphia. We're just supposed to accept whatever this government and the kill-crazy, blood-thirsty cops do. You're supposed to accept that as necessary and righteous. In other words, it's acceptable for the government to turn guns on people, but its never acceptable to turn guns on this government. MOVE is saying that the instinct of self-defense is just that: it's instinctive. It's god-given and comes from mother nature. There is not a species alive walking this earth that doesn't defend itself when attacked. Humans are no different.

What the hell do they say this country was founded on? Every 4th of July these motherfuckers celebrate the so-called "American Revolution." They say that these founding fathers were courageous and brave men who defied legality and went to war against cops called "red coats" and the government of King George. They said "give me liberty or give me death" and went to war. Every day these people are celebrated and applauded in 2nd and 3rd grade history classes and beyond. What makes Nathan Hale a "freedom fighter" for defying legality in favor of what is right but makes Mumia Abu-Jamal, Leonard Peltier, or Delbert Africa and other MOVE prisoners a "criminal?"

Police Commissioner Sambor made an announcement before the May 13 assault saying "Attention MOVE! This is America!" If this was 1776 and he was a British soldier saying to Nathan Hale or Patrick Henry "Attention! This is an English colony and you have to abide by the laws of England," what do you think would have happened to him? He'd be a dead man right about now and the person who killed him would be celebrated as a hero for over 200 years. But he's going to stand in front of our house and say that.

Hans: Is there anything else you'd like to add?

Ramona: People had better wake up for their own protection, because where this government is heading and what its involving itself in is very dangerous and a threat to all of us. People need to wake up and start taking charge of their own lives and make their own decisions because that's the only way all of this insanity can be stopped. Those running this country are completely out of control. Taking control isn't easy. It takes a lot of commitment and hard work, but when you look at the alternative there is no choice and that's the bottom line.

Hans Bennett is an anarchist and independent photojournalist currently working with Philadelphia's INSUBORDINATION and AWOL magazines. He can be contacted via email: destroycapitalism@hotmail.com or at po box 30770 Philadelphia, PA 19104.

embedded corporations continued



him. He seems somewhat confused by our failure to mindlessly do what we're told. But soon there are more cops and we do shove off, taking our banner across the street.

At this point, Mike, who had gone to Kinkos to copy some handouts, comes back and gives us the low-down: Lockheed IMS, yes, a subsidiary of Lockheed Martin, owns traffic court. Or something like that. The subsidiary not only handles traffic enforcement for the state and local governments (including photo-enforcement at red lights) but is involved in child support enforcement and welfare. We thought they just built weapons systems.

Next stop Dyncorp, and where do we find them. They're in the f*%\$ing Federal Building! So let's get this straight, are they the government, or are they 'corporations'? I can't seem to tell the difference, except that Dyncorp or Lockheed Martin probably never appeared on any ballot.

As it turns out, Dyncorp is a subsidiary of some other mega-mega and Lockheed IMS was sold a couple years ago to a company called ACS,. This is what Democracy looks like.

what's going on in iraq? continued

These parallel paths of occupation have now both entered a new phase, where the dividing lines are clearly drawn. Collaborators will now appear clearly as collaborators, as the space for fence-sitting disappears. If one supports the Zionist project, one can still pay their taxes and vote for a Congress that makes US aid for Israel an entitlement, alongside military support for the illegal occupation of Palestine. If one support US invasion of Iraq, despite its clearly criminal character, then one can look favorably upon the project of "rebuilding" Iraq in an imagine that will be acceptable to the US. If one considered weapons inspections in Iraq a "disarmament" project, while the US amassed and used its weapons of mass destruction against the defenseless people of Iraq, then one can feel happy that Iraq no longer poses a threat, and move on to disarming North Korea and Iran, onward to the golden age where only US officials like Donald Rumsfeld and Colin Powell and Bill Clinton will be able to order the bombing of whatever pharmaceutical plant or city market they identify as a threat to US interests.

REBEL CALENDAR

Friday, May 2, - Saturday, May 24, 2003

Falastine: Artists Against the Occupation:
Art Exhibit

Tuesday-Friday 5-8pm 201 South Camac
Street, Philly (parallel and between 12th and
13th, south of Walnut)

Saturday May 17th

Benefit for WAVE: 4 Bands: hands up you're
free; fighting dogs; sashimi; otesanek; and a
short demonstration by WAVE!
3pm at Fort Awesome (1506 Morris) South
Philadelphia. \$3 dollar donations going to
WAVE.

Saturday May 17

3rd Annual Education Not Incarceration!
Conference
sponsored by Black Radical Congress and
American Friends Service Committee
9am-5pm free admission
at the Friends Center, 1501 Cherry St.
info: BRC 215.849.5099 or philly-
brc@yahoo.com

Monday May 19

Hearings on SEPTA fare increases at the

Philadelphia Convention Center, 1101 Arch
Street, Room 201 starts at 11am goes all day.

Thursday, May 22

Womens' Video Series benefit event for
Anarcho Communist Union of Philadelphia
featuring the film *the Nun*
7:30pm A-Space

Tuesday May 27

Town Meeting on Prison Health Care
6:30pm at Calvary Church, 48th and
Baltimore Ave.

May 31, 2003

Words for WAVE, Night of
Poetry/Performance and benefit for WAVE,
including a silent auction (with affordable, fun
items) and a light buffet dinner., 7 - 10pm.
With Malika Levy, DavidKoppisch, Nijmie
Dzurinko, Janet Mason and Cassandre Xavier.
Cost \$20; \$15- \$10 sliding scale for low-
income folks, students, etc. Location
TBA(check www.waveselfdefense.org or
call215-241-5720).

Saturday June 7

Afternoon Self-Defense for Women class
taught by women 1-4pm at the Friends Center,
1501 Cherry St., \$60 full fee but pay what you
can, no one turned away.

JUNE 7-8

Resist the Free Trade Area of the Americas
Anti-capitalist consulta: Louisville, Kentucky

Anti-capitalist coordinating/planning meeting
to begin preparations for actions against the
FTAA ministerial meeting being held in
Miami, Florida on November 20-22, 2003
info: ftaaconsulta@yahoo.com

Saturday, June 14, 2003

First Annual Delaware County Peace Festival
@ The Peace Center of Delaware County
including a children's concert for peace and
justice. Also children's games, story telling,
peace education, art for peace, poetry
workshops, healing arts, dramatic presenta-
tions, local musicians, families, friends, and
fellowship with delicious food and drinks.

info: (610) 328-2424 or greenseed2@aol.com

June 27-29

Stopping War Where It Begins: Organizing
Against Militarism in Our
Schools
For students, parents, teachers, community
organizers and all those who believe that
schools should be about education, opportuni-
ty, building social justice and teaching peace.

Workshops and panels include: Youth/peer
organizing and ally support work, Countering
JROTC proliferation, No Child Left

Unrecruited (Behind) Act, The poverty draft,
Presenting alternatives to military enlistment,
Strategies/approaches to counter-recruitment
work, Recruitment and ROTC on college cam-
puses, Legal issues, Military recruiting and
race, gender and ethnicity, Conscientious
objection and draft registration.
info: AFSC Youth & Militarism Program, 215-
241-7176; youthmil@afsc.org.

July 1st

SEPTA fares go up and so does the city in
flames.

July 4

Protests against Opening of New Constitution
Center

August 8-10, 2003,

**BREAK THE CHAINS ANTI-PRISON
CONFERENCE**
University of Oregon, Eugene, OR.
Brought to you by Anarchist Black Cross,
Native American Prison Support, Trannies In
Prison, San Francisco, CA., Women
Embracing Freedom Together, Portland, OR.,
and many, many more!
info: Break The Chains PO Box 11331,
Eugene, OR 97440 USA.
breakthechains02@yahoo.com anarchistblack-
cross.org

ONGOING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Food Not Bombs

In a country hungry for war, that bombs countries
hungry for food...join Food Not Bombs Every
Sunday at 3:00 PM; 20th St. and The Ben. Franklin
Parkway For more information: foodnotbomb-
sphilly@yahoo.com

Vigil to Support Israeli Voices of Peace

Every Friday from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Israeli
Consulate; 15th & Locust Streets Sponsored by
Jewish Mobilization for a Just Peace. Email:
jmjp_philly@yahoo.com for more info.

Honk for Mumia - small demonstrations to distrib-
ute information and show support

2nd and 4th Saturday of every month 2pm at 52nd
and Market

SE Chapter PA Abolitionists Monthly Vigil

First Thursday of every month from 12:00 pm - 1:00
pm Outside Governor Rendell's Office 200S. Broad
St. Calling for an end to executions in PA. info:
waxie55@hotmail.com for more info.

Women's Anti-Violence Education (WAVE)

Monday drop-in classes every Monday night from
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Friend.s Center; 1501 Cherry
Street Phone: 215-241- 5720 for more information
WAVE offers a drop-in, self-defense, class every
Monday night. There is a sliding scale fee of \$5-
\$20(pay what you can). Women of any age, size, or
physical ability will benefit. Can't make it Monday?
call about our full length self-defense courses
offered regularly.

Saturday Afternoon **Self-Defense for Women** class
taught by women 1-4pm at the Friends Center,
1501 Cherry St., \$60 full fee but pay what you can,
no one turned

Philadelphia Social Forum

First Sunday of each month at 3PM Robin.s Book
Store, 108 S. 13th Street

Philadelphia Gender Changers Academy

Female to Female Trans Technology
Womens' computer classes on Wednesdays
6:30pm-9pm (\$10-\$25 cost for materials)

info@phillygca.org

Philadelphians United to Support Public Schools

Every Monday from 5:15 pm - 7:45 pm United Way
. 1st floor; 21st & Ben Franklin Pkwy. E-mail: jor-
danpccy@hotmail.com for more info

Philadelphia Regional Anti War Network

Meetings Thursday nights at 7pm
2200 N. Broad, 2nd Floor
Susquehanna and Broad
phillyprawn.org

ACT UP

Weekly Meeting Every Monday from 6:00 pm - 9:00
pm St. Lukes Church; 330 S. 13th St. (between
Pine & Spruce) Email: actupphilly@ critpath.org for
more info.

Neighbors Against McPenetration

Weekly Meeting every Tuesday from 7:00 pm - 9:00
pm Toviah Thrift Shop; Chestnut betw. 42nd & 43rd
Phone: 215-382-7251 for more info.

**Weekly Meeting of Phila. County Coalition on
Prison Health Care**

Every Tuesday from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Philadelphia
FIGHT office, 1233 Locust St., 2nd floor, For info,
contact Laura McTigh: 215-380-5556

Books Through Bars

Packing Café Every Tuesday from 7:30 pm - 9:30
pm The A Space; 4722 Baltimore Ave. E-mail:
info@booksthroughbars.org for more info

**International Concerned Family & Friends of
Mumia**

Every Thursday from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm 4601
Market St., 5th floor Phone: 215-476- 5416 for
more info.

Philadelphia Anti-War Forum

Meeting Third Sunday of every month from 1:00 pm
- 3:00 pm ASPACE; 4722 Baltimore Ave. E-mail: cla-
narchy@prodigy.net

LIBERATED SPACES ★

4134 Lancaster Ave - A conspiracy from the fanatics
at the defenestrator, the Philly Independent Media
Centre, Radio Volta, the derailleur collective, the
Unconvention and others comes this new project: a
radical community centre in the pancreas of West
Philly. We bought a building, now we need your
involvement! info: 215.387.6155 or space@philly-
imc.org * defenestrator.org/space

A-Space - a collectively run anarchist gallery and
meeting/community space. Events are free and
generally start at 7:30pm unless otherwise noted.
Accessible by the 34 trolley. Plenty of parking for
cars and bikes. They pass the hat to cover rent.
4722 Baltimore Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19143
215.727.0882 a-space@defenestrator.org

WOODEN SHOE BOOKS and RECORDS -

Anarchist bookstore owned and run by an unpaid
collective of geniuses with nothing better to do than
sit around talking philosophy and riots. Carries a
wide range of anarchist and radical books, periodi-
cals, pamphlets, T-shirts, patches, CD's records
etc.
508 S. Fifth Street Philadelphia, PA
215.413.0999 woodenshoe@rocketmail.com

Fiume - a worker owned bar and reading room

Upstairs at Abasynnia Ethiopian Restaurant
45th and Locust, West Philadelphia

Firehouse Bikes - A worker owned collective bike

shop. 50th and Baltimore

The Divine Bicycle Church - West Philly bike co-
op. Tools and recycled parts available for use.

Every Tuesday and Thursday 6:30-9pm
40th and Locust Walk behind St. Marx Church

Crossroads Women's Center - open Tuesdays

and Thursdays 10am-2pm or by appointment
33 Maplewood Mall, Germantown 215-848-1120

The Friends Center - American Friends Service

Committee HQ. Contains meeting spaces and
offices for a gazillion different entities.
1501 Cherry Street

Wise Women's Center

Open Wed 10am-2pm, Thu 4-8pm, Sat 10am-3pm

735 S. 50th St.
215-729-WISE

The Spiral Q Puppet Theater

3114 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA
19104

spiralq@spiralq.org
215-222-6979 Fax: 215-222-7002

Women's Anti Violence Education

1501 Cherry St., Phila, PA 19102
(215) 241-5720 aware1@afsc.org

