The Bush administration has incited violence in the Middle East and West Asia with bitter results – the high costs of the Iraq occupation in men and money, unending conflict in Palestine-Israel with no prospect of a negotiated settlement, and spreading Taliban attacks on various security forces in Afghanistan.

The administration’s policy of intervention is a humiliating failure, which has put the White House on the defensive.

Events are moving swiftly, however, and President George W. Bush is acting to retrieve the initiative. In the meantime, the world seems to have been united, not by the principles and provisions of the United Nations charter, but by a commitment to violence, death by car or truck bomb, missile attack, grenade launcher and sniper fire.

Bush is scheduled to address the opening of the annual session of the U.N. General Assembly on Tuesday morning, Sept. 23. It will be an important speech, a follow-up to last year’s challenge to the United Nations will be an important speech, a follow-up to last year’s challenge to the United Nations General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council.

The charter might be amended. The annual U.N. regular budget could be increased; the allotment of $1.2 billion has been maintained for the past 30 years.

Finally, rather than permitting the collapse of the United Nations, article 6 of the charter might be invoked in regard to the United States.

Should the resolution be adopted it would be a significant comeback for the administration. Bush would be able to address the Assembly triumphantly.

It would also be a hazardous moment. Critics would attack the United Nations for succumbing to U.S. power. Those opposed to U.S. aggression would find themselves boxed in by the administration.

The extreme right-wing fanatics who are running the country now have previously pronounced the United Nations dead. It is not dead yet. It is suffering, but still viable.

U.N. supporters here contend that the organization has never been more needed in the tasks it carries out – for example, peacekeeping missions in Liberia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cote D’Ivoire, Western Sahara, limited though they may be, assistance to vast numbers of refugees worldwide; the provision of food to tens of millions of hungry and malnourished populations; the programs of the World Health Organization to treat and eradicate disease.

**ARTICLE 6 OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER:**

“A member of the United Nations which has persistently violated the Principles contained in the present charter may be expelled from the Organization by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council.”

Most particularly, the United Nations represents the furthest point, historically and institutionally, that humankind has reached in its search for peace, cooperation and solidarity, for a solution to man’s cutthroat instinct.

To dispense with it would be an error, despite its domination over the years by the United States, its failures and inadequacies and pretensions. Annan, again speaking to correspondents on July 30, warned of a “global crisis.”

It may be that eventually the nations of the world will have to draw the line and stop the United States.

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Donald Paneth has covered the U.N. since 1945.
WHAT IS INDYMEDIA?
With autonomous chapters in more than 100 cities throughout the world, the Independent Media Center is an international network of volunteer media activists. The center seeks to create a new media ethic by providing progressive, in-depth and accurate coverage of issues. We are a community-based organization using media to facilitate political and cultural self-representation. We seek to illuminate and analyze issues impacting individuals, communities and ecosystems by providing media tools and space to those seeking to communicate. We facilitate open dialogue and placing the means of communication and creativity back in the hands of the people, away from the drive of profit.

THE INDIPENDENT
has open meetings every Tuesday, 7pm at 34 E. 29 St., 2nd floor.

TUES SEPT 9
8 pm • FREE
Film - Speakeasy 16mm
Screening Series
This month’s installation will be an examination of the United States’ history as a world power. 
Bluestockings Bookstore
172 Allen Street
7:30 pm • FREE
Theaters Against War Present
Freedom Folk
Chashama Theater
125 West 42nd Street
www.theattackin.org

WED SEPT 10
6:45 pm
Circle of Light Candlelight Vigil
Gather at Union Square to form a silent candlelight procession down Broadway to encircle the WTO. www.peacefultomorrow.org

7 pm
The City Media and Communication Workshops
Learn and help develop local media in Queens – 5 week session. Sunnyside Community Services
43-31 39th Street 2nd Floor
sunnysidecenter@arteculture.org
6:30 pm • 9:30 pm • FREE
Film - Urban Warrior
Documentary tracing the history of police militarization and its impact on civil liberties.
Judson Memorial Church
55 Washington Square South
Contact: malifeeling@yahoo.com

THURS SEPT 11
8:30 – 10:30 am
New Yorkers Say No to War, 2nd Annual Mourning
Union Square South
www.nycsaynotowar.org

5:30 pm • $5/$8/$10
Exhibit Opening & Book Forum
The other September 11th – Postcard for Child’s Popular Unity Government & the Pinchot File. The Brecht Forum
122 West 27th Street
www.brechtforum.org
6 – 10:30 pm
Film and panel discussion
An Evening of Short Documentary Films Surrounding the Unanswered Questions of 9/11. 
Riverside Church, South Hall
590 Riverside Drive
(between 120-122nd Street)
www.911truthswatch.org
6 – 8 pm
Prison Families Community Forum – New Members Meeting
Center for Constitutional Rights
666 Broadway. 6th Floor
www.ccr.org

FRI SEPT 12
1 pm
Food Not Bombs
Prepare and serves vegan food to the homeless of Tompkins Square Park. Meet every Friday and Sunday ABC No Rio, 156 Rivington (between Suffolk & Clinton)
9 pm • $6
Rooftop Shorts
Screening of short films shot from a roof, live performances to boot. 
Rooftop Films
57 Thames Street, Bushwick
www.rooftopfilms.com

6:30 pm • FREE
Panel Discussion - The Trials of Mala, practiced in India to mark transition and positive change.
Center for Constitutional Rights
666 Broadway, 6th Floor
www.ccr.org

SAT SEPT 13
9:30 am
Conference - Labor and the Struggle for Global Justice 
Cornell IILR Extension Center 16
East 134th st. and 6th Ave
2 day conference co-sponsored by Cornell Labor Studies and NY Jobs with Justice
Contact Rachel, Rachel@ej.org, or (646) 452-0540
12 am
Labor Rights Feather March
Park Ave, Central Park, 27th & Park
Protest restaurant withholding $45,000 in back wages from 6 immigrant workers.

A three-day conference with Vandana Shiva, Greg Palast, Amy Goodman and more. Riverside Church, 590 Riverside Drive (between 120-122nd Street)
Contact WBAI 212-209-2800

SAT SEPT 14
7:30 pm • $10/$6/$4.50
Film & Discussion - The Trials of Mala
(9/11)
The Brecht Forum
122 West 27th Street
www.brechtforum.org
7:30  • $6/$8/$10 suggested
Film and Panel Discussion
The Trials of Mala, practiced in India to mark transition and positive change.
Center for Constitutional Rights
666 Broadway, 6th Floor
www.ccr.org

7 pm • FREE
Clamor Magazine Release Party
Bluestockings Bookstore
172 Allen Street
www.bluestocks.org

1 pm
No WTO: Parade and Festival of Resistance to War & Corporate Rule
Tour of shame parade to highlight the links between globalization, war, and immigrant rights in solidarity with protests against the WTO protests in Cancun, Mexico. Meet at Union Square South
Organized by United for Peace and Justice www.upj.org
1:30 pm
No WTO Bike Bloc
Ride for cyclists and skaters in support of the UFPJ Parade of Tomkins Square Park, near big tree.
2 pm – 5 pm
Mobilization meeting for the 8th National Day of Protest to Stop Police Repression
Oct. 22nd Coalition, meeting at Project Reach
1 Orchard Street (between Canal & Division)

2:30 pm • $20
Yoga for Peace
Battery Park – South end of central lawn. For approx 3 hours, 2,000 participants will join to complete a Mala, practiced in India to mark transition and positive change.
Contact Jennifer Skoda 212 289-3086, jennifer@skoda.com
6 pm • FREE
Slide Show & Discussion - Direct Democracy on the Lower East Side, 1974-1986
Riverside Church, 590 Riverside Drive (between 120-122nd Street)
Contact: mullerin@nycga.com

8 pm • FREE
Polyfilm
Rooftop Films
57 Thames Street, Bushwick
www.rooftopfilms.com

SAT SEPT 15
6:30 pm
Immigrant Town Hall Meeting
Immigrant community members and all residents are invited to express their concerns about city policies and services.
Emhusnt Jackson Heights Senior Center, 75-01 Broadway (at 75th Street), 3rd floor
www.nycpride.org

WED SEPT 17
7 – 9:30 pm
Queer Anti-War Group meeting
Organizing meeting for demonstrations coming up in September and October
590 Riverside Drive
(between 120-122nd Street)
Contact WBAI 212-209-2800

THURS SEPT 17
7:30 – 17:15:10 suggested
Film & Discussion - The Trials of Henry Kissinger
Discussion with La Lutta
The Brecht Forum, 122 West 27th Street, 10th floor
www.brechtforum.org
FRI SEPT 19
9 pm • $16
Polyfilm
Short films, animated film, a night of some of the best that shorts have to offer.
Rooftop Films
57 Thames Street, Bushwick
www.rooftopfilms.com

SAT SEPT 20
1 pm
Union Square South
Protest against the Patriot Act http://theloyalnine.shacknet.nu
1 – 3 pm • $5 per child with adult
Peace Quit Family Workshop
Focused on the Middle East Peace Quest exhibition, exploration of art as a mode of communication.
Children make their own squares to take home.
Cathedral St. John the Divine

SUN SEP 21
10 am – 5:30 pm
Downtown Bronx Peoples Environmental Bike Tour
Brook Park Nature Preserve
East 141st & Brook Ave. http://theothernine.shacknet.nu
1 – 5 pm • FREE
Day of Music sponsored by the Duke Ellington Quartet Neighborhood Association Performances by professional & amateur neighborhood musicians.
West 106th street, between CPW & Manhattan Avenue.

6 pm • FREE
Curative, Anti-Imperialist Black Spine
Bronx, New York
Contact Rachel, Rachel@ej.org, or (646) 452-0540

8 pm • FREE
17th Annual Action Discussion - Direct Democracy on the Lower East Side, 1974-1986
Bluestockings Bookstore

MON SEPT 15
8 am
Mexican Day Parade
Third Avenue between 86th - 122nd Street
Contact WBAI 212-209-2800
10 am – 7 pm
Mexican Historic Festival
116th Street between Lexington
www.nycpride.org

6:30 pm
Day of Music sponsored by the Duke Ellington Quartet Neighborhood Association Performances by professional & amateur neighborhood musicians.
West 106th street, between CPW & Manhattan Avenue.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR
The housing rights group Tenants and Neighbors called it a "sneak attack," referring to the bill renewing rent regulation that was passed by the New York State Legislature on June 20.

In 1997, rent laws were renewed for six years for 2 million rent-regulated apartments throughout the state. That bill extended "vacancy decontrol," whereby apartments that rent for more than $2,000 are deregulated, thus enabling landlords to charge whatever they wish. Since then, tenants and landlords have been organizing in preparation for when the laws would expire this past June.

The goal of tenants' rights activists was to end vacancy decontrol. Instead, with a public distracted by war and the state's budget battle, activists struggled to publicize their message. During the past four years, meanwhile, wealthy landlords dumped $2.7 million on politicians in Albany to gut regulation.

The new bill jumps rent for thousands of tenants, strengthens the Urstadt Law, which prevents the city from enacting pro-tenant legislation, and most damaging, continues vacancy decontrol. The result, explains Tenants and Neighbors, will be "the deregulation of hundreds of thousands of apartments and the drastic shrinking of the tenant political base." The group explains if nothing changes before the rent laws expire in 2011, it's likely "everyone will be deregulated.

The question on the minds of millions of New Yorkers who depend on rent regulation for affordable housing is: how did such a flawed bill pass into law when it was known for six years that there would be a showdown in the legislature?

To get answers, I talked to a long-time observer of the tenants' rights movement, David, not his real name, says "First, it's important to understand that rent stabilization is not just about money. It means the right to renew your lease automatically and that you can only be evicted for cause." I asked him what happened in the legislature. He explained that the Democrat-controlled Assembly passed a bill that would have eliminated the $2,000 decontrol and lowered vacancy increases passed in 1997 from 20 percent to 10 percent. "But this bill was never voted on in the Republican-majority Senate. They blocked efforts to bring it to the floor. At 3 a.m. on literally the last night of the session Senate Majority leader Joe Bruno pushed through the pro-landlord legislation."

He says, "New York State has one of the most dysfunctional lawmaking processes in the country. Nothing gets done until the last minute when Bruno, Gov. Pataki and Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver sit in a back room to work things out." Consequently, David continues, "whether or not people in the city can afford to have homes is in the hands of upstate Republicans whose only connection to the city is the money they take from landlords.

Once the Senate passed the bill and adjourned for the summer, "The Assembly could have rejected the Senate's bill, but that would have meant the laws would have expired. Letting the laws expire would have crystallized the issue but many people would have gotten hurt." Tenants and Neighbors contends "the Assembly could have called the Senate's bluff and worked with tenants to bring the Senate back into negotiations, and no tenant could have been harmed for several weeks."

But David says "It's ironic that Tenants and Neighbors is saying the Assembly should have rejected the bill because they have got ten of a lot of criticism for compromising." He explained that the groups favored less favor pro-suing lawmakers over movement building.

Many people put their trust in Sheldon Silver, but the only way to strengthen rent laws "was to use the budget as leverage and Silver didn't do that." He suggests, "The Assembly should have said that Bruno's district wouldn't get a penny for anything, schools, firemen or cops, until rent laws were passed."

The media, too, shares blame. "The mainstream media is largely ignoring that there is a housing crisis in the city and dismisses rent regulation as an outdated socialist relic."


He says that "Another tenants' rights group, Metropolitan Council on Housing, is going to campaign for repealing Urstadt because if the city had control over rent regulation it would be much stronger." However, "To overturn Urstadt would require the approval of the Republican Senate. It's not impossible, but the amount of real-estate money that comes into the Republican Party and the control Bruno has over the Senate means that's unlikely to happen." (Since 1999, Bruno and his committees have received at least $836,000 from landlords.)

What's needed is "strong grassroots organizing. But the tenant rights movement does not have 5,000 people to go door-to-door getting people involved. And in 1997, you had this demonstration five days before the laws expire, it was at five o'clock in midtown so people coming out of work could come, and you only had 1,200 people." He criticizes the focus on electing pro-tenant legislators, who he estimates at 20 percent of the legislature, because the "system is rigged" so Republicans control the Senate.

David opines "tenants may have to start doing extra-legal and militant tactics, like large-scale rent strikes simply for cheaper rent. Obviously that's very risky because you don't want all your possessions thrown into a dumpster."
When Mayor Michael Bloomberg opted to suspend recycling last summer, city environmentalists were distraught. After years of using public education to combat apathy, they were sent back to square one.

But those activists were celebrating last week, as the city unveiled plans for an unprecedented 20-year contract for glass, plastic and metal recycling.

“This is a dramatic and very exciting change,” said Jane Ganley, general counsel for Environmental Defense, a national nonprofit group. “The city is now looking at a more holistic plan from a business investment point of view than a waste-handling perspective.”

The Department of Sanitation’s request for recycling proposals, announced Aug. 19, comes on the heels of a scathing May report by City Comptroller Bill Thompson, questioning the department’s assessment of recycling as a money pit. Earlier, Bloomberg had suspended recycling of glass and plastic on the premise that it would cut millions of dollars out of that agency’s budget.

Serbian Parliament Claims Kosovo in Defiance of the United Nations

The Serbian Parliament on Aug. 27 unanimously adopted the controversial Kosovo Declaration, which proclaims the breakaway province to be under Serbian sovereignty. The document also suggests that any dialogue about the province’s status should begin only after the declaration’s acceptance, Serbian media quoted Kosovo Prime Minister Bajram Rexhepi as saying, “[the declaration] is the only start toward recognizing Kosovo in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 which was unanimously adopted the controversial 20-year contract for glass, plastic and metal recycling.

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SAFIYA BUKHARI
LIVES ON
FROM M STUDENT TO BLACK PANther, FROM M W RITER AND TEACHER TO JAILBREAKER, SAFIYA BUKHARI LIVED UFE TO THE EN D.

BY KAZEMBE BULAGONI

Safiya Bukhari, political-prisoner-rights act-
ivist and radio journalist, passed away due to illness on Aug. 24. She was 53 years old. Bukhari, a former member of the Black Panther Party and the Black Libera-
tion Army, was a major force in the emer-
gence of the movement to free American political prisoners. She served as co-chair of the Free Mumia Abu-Jamal Coalition in New York City, and was a founding member of the Jericho Movement, an organization that does support work for political prisoners and prisoners of war.

“The loss of Safiya is irreplaceable,” read a statement released by the Free Mumia Abu-
Jamal Coalition “A deep-thinking and bril-
liant sister, a grassroots organizer, a political strategist and a unifier around principled positions, Safiya was and is irreplaceable, particularly in the movement to free our political prisoners.”

Activism & Repression in the 1960s

Bukhari’s activism began when she pledged the sorority Eta Alpha Mu at New York City Community College (now New York Technical College.) As part of her community service the sorority investigated hungry children in New York City. This investigation introduced her (to members of the Black Panther Party in Harlem, and she began working with the Panthers’ breakfast program as well as their liberation school.

“It was nothing the Black Panther Party did or said that made me become a Panther. It was the actions of the police department in New York City that made me join the Black Panther Party,” Bukhari said in a 1996 interview with The Shield magazine. In addition to working with children, Bukhari also edited Panther literature.

In 1969, FBI director J. Edgar Hoover declared the Black Panther Party to be “the greatest threat to the internal security of the country.”

Under the auspices of local police depart-
ments, the federal government launched the Counter-intelligence program or COIN-
TELPRO aimed at destabilizing radical groups, mostly around the country. In this period, more than two dozen Panthers were killed by the police, including 21-year-old Fred Hampton, who was shot in his bed by Chicago police.

The Black Liberation Army

In New York, the entire Panther leadership was arrested on charges of conspiracy. The “Panther 21” as they were known, were held on $100,000 bail each. The conspiracy trial and subsequent effort to raise bail strained the Panthers’ organizational infrastructure.

Facing internal strife and continued harassment by law enforcement, many Pan-
thers, including Bukhari, later created an armed wing called the Black Liberation Army.

Bukhari, still in New York at the time, became secretary of the East Coast Com-
munications Branch of the Panthers and edited the BLA newspaper Right On. She was involved in several attempts to free BLA prisoners, which led to her going underground.

In 1998 she co-chaired the historic Jericho march for Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War in Washington, D.C. Ten thousand demonstrators attended, making it the largest support rally for political prisoners in this era. The event attracted great atten-
tion to many political prisoners.

In recent years, many political prisoners have been released including Geronimo Pratt, Laura Whitehorn, Kathy Boudin and members of the Armed Forces for National Liberation (a pro-independence Puerto Rican group, known by their Spanish ini-
tials PALN) received presidential pardons. Bukhari also worked as a radio journalist, co-hosting the program “Where We Live” on WBAI. With co-host Sally O’Brien, she sang as a member of the group Love and Struggle, performing benefits for prisoners and their families. In recent years she embraced Islam.

Bukhari is survived by children, grand,
children, and a host of political prisoners and comrades who cherished her work.

ANARCHIST WEBMASTER BEGINS YEAR IN JAIL FOR INFLAMMATORY WEBSITE

BY AMY GOODMAN & THE STAFF OF DEMOCRACY NOW

On Sept. 3 Sherman Austin, the 20-
year-old webmaster of RaiseThe-
Fist.com, began a one-year-long jail term for distributing material on the website by official officials for illegally distributing material on his website on how to build primitive bombs.

Bukhari was captured in 1973 along with 10 other political prisoners of war. In a press conference held by the Free Mumia Abu-Jamal Coalition.

Austin pleaded guilty in December 2002 and was sentenced to six months in prison. The judge “wanted to give me at least a year in prison.” Austin said just before the sentencing.

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Earlier this year Austin pleaded guilty and was sentenced to a year in jail and three years probation, despite recommendations from the Justice Department that Austin receive four months in jail. If he had not pleaded guilty he could have faced 20 years in prison.

In late 2002, federal prosecutors charged Austin under a 1997 law with distributing information on explosives with the intent that readers commit “a federal crime of violence.”

According to the tech news site CNet, Austin is the first person charged under this law. Supporters of Austin say that similar information has long appeared on other websites and in libraries. There is even a mirror of RaiseTheFist.com run by a computer science professor at the Carnegie Mellon University.

“The government is going after someone who is basically standing up and effectively making a voice for himself and other people over the internet and using the internet as a resource and a tool to get a message out.”

The material in question was part of a tract called the “Reclaim Guide” that Austin didn’t even author – but for which he had offered free hosting on his site. The guide included information on how to build primitive bombs.

SHERMAN AUSTIN: The judge “wanted to set an example out of me.”

But the FBI knew that someone else had authored this material... they actually inter-
viewed the person who authored the material.

Earlier this year Austin pleaded guilty and was sentenced to a year in jail and three years probation, despite recommendations from the Justice Department that Austin receive four months in jail. If he had not pleaded guilty he could have faced 20 years in prison under anti-terrorism provisions of the USA Patriot Act.

“We went back to court,” said Austin. “And the judge said, you know, ‘what kind of a message would four months in jail send to other revolutionaries?’ And he pretty much made it clear that he wanted to set an example out of me and again stated that he wanted to give me at least a year in prison.”

For more info, check DemocracyNow.org

NEPAL ON EDGE

CEASEFIRE OFF, REDS RETURN TO ‘PEOPLE’S WAR’ VS. ‘KING’

BY JED BRANDT

Sporadic clashes throughout Nepal have died down recently. Several months of ceasefire and fruitless talks between Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) negotiators and King Gyanendra’s royalist government troops-ambushed rebels, killing 17. Rebels formally called off the ceasefire and their members returned underground.

Government negotiators had agreed to some Communist demands such as not labeling the rebels “terrorists” and had, in principle, agreed to discuss any policy. But the government refused to discuss the monarchy itself and attend-
ant social system of “Peace and Prosperity.” It is now a disgrace,” said CPN spokesperson Dr. Babu Ram Bhatti denouncing the government’s pro-
posed return to a large-scale civil war.

The rebels had insisted on a con-
stituent assembly to debate and rebuild the Republic of People’s Democratic Society, including a referendum on abolishing the monarchy. The rebels say they are not a violence, but seek a social and political revolution based on the lower classes taking political power through a “People’s War.”

THE INDYPENDENT

Gyanendra dissolved the parliament within a year of his ascension to the throne in the aftermath of a palace massacre where the entire royal household was killed. Nepalese press reports blamed the episode on a launched massacre by then-King Birendra’s heir, who was then alleged to have turned the gun on himself. The Nepalese public was largely skeptical of this account and Gyanendra has been extremely unpopular.

On Sept. 4, non-Maoist opposition parties rallied demanding Gyanendra re-instate the dis-
solved parliament and form an all-party government including them. Gyanendra is supporting the event with hundreds of arrests over two days.

The opposition parties are pushing for a nationally-organized protest march in late October. Lacking any popular mandate, participation in the King’s government or armed forces, they have been effectively sidelined.

Gyanendra has been a large-scale first ever by a ranking American. The U.S. Con-
gran has allotted $12 million to train off-
cers and supply $5,000 assault rifles to the monarchy.
"The British Army was forced from Iraq twice in the last century. Clearly, America isn't doing much better. Understanding why and what's likely to happen is a different matter."

The Pentagon is reviving the notorious Interior Ministry that Saddam Hussein used to control. The new Interior Ministry will be run by a group of Iraqis who are closely tied to the previous regime. The new ministry will be responsible for crime, law enforcement, and intelligence. The goal is to create a sense of control in the country and to prevent the growth of criminal organizations.

It's official. It's war again. Following the 4th of July festivities, Saddam's statues, and the New York Times labeling its latest Iraq coverage "After the War," after the wake-up call billowing in Baghdad, the Times has changed its title: "The Struggle for Iraq." The bras and suits are muttering that the war is being lost despite Bush and the Democrats' efforts. There's no way to pretend that the cost of this isn't rising, in human terms, in military terms, and in economic terms. The cost is being felt by the Philadelphia inquirer. In Iraq, attacks are becoming more sophisticated. The number of wounded has risen much more in recent years. Understanding why and what's likely to happen in different is a different matter."

**COLLABORATORS**

A frequent complaint among troops is poor quality equipment. The Army has been criticized for not providing adequate gear because basic issues don't meet our expectations." The Army Times reported an email it received from one soldier who said, "They kicked us and hit us." He was released after nine days in a prison cell. The Pentagon is reviving the notorious Interior Ministry that Saddam Hussein used to control. The new Interior Ministry will be run by a group of Iraqis who are closely tied to the previous regime. The new ministry will be responsible for crime, law enforcement, and intelligence. The goal is to create a sense of control in the country and to prevent the growth of criminal organizations.

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**CRADLE OF CIVILIZATION, GRAVESTY OF EMPIRES**

**TURKEY**

- 24/7: US soldiers killed
- 17/17: in Iraq 2004 with car bombs
- 13/15: in roadside blast killed
- 12/15: in Iraq killed 2004

**IRAN**

- 24/3: US military killed 2004
- 13/15: in roadside blast killed
- 12/15: in Iraq killed 2004

**IRAQ**

- 24/4: British military killed 2004
- 13/15: in roadside blast killed
- 12/15: in Iraq killed 2004

**KUWAIT**

- 24/4: US military killed 2004
- 13/15: in roadside blast killed
- 12/15: in Iraq killed 2004

**U.S. MILITARY CASUALTIES**

If the Pentagon could hide deaths, a.) a bodybagging, b.) a body count, c.) a press conference, d.) a body count, e.) a body count, f.) a body count, g.) a body count, h.) a body count, i.) a body count, j.) a body count, k.) a body count, l.) a body count, m.) a body count, n.) a body count, o.) a body count, p.) a body count, q.) a body count, r.) a body count, s.) a body count, t.) a body count, u.) a body count, v.) a body count, w.) a body count, x.) a body count, y.) a body count, z.) a body count

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Oil pipelines are being repaired by smugglers who had the crack our perfumed savers, when it's refined and then moved on the Iraq black market at up to 90 times the official price—a price that is more than six times the cost of the oil itself. The oil is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it. The oil is then sold on the black market, where it is sold for as much as $200 per barrel. The smugglers then sell the oil to buyers who are waiting in line to buy it.
THE SLOW, HOT WAR

wouldn't wish today on anyone. I am glad I could make you see, but then again, I shooting and bombing my friends. I wish I could get to Ramallah at 3 p.m., but before we could get to the center of the city, we were met by the sight of retreating Palestinian buses, ages ranging from twenty-five. There was the sound of gunfire down the block from us. The army had entered downtown Ramallah with two armored jeeps and an armored personnel carrier, about the size of a tank. We jumped out of the cab and dispersed. Some ran up the block, fumbling to take out their camcorder batteries and cameras. There were all destroyed by Israeli bulldozers in the West Bank. It is not a joke, but don't worry, he's okay.

QALQILYA: TURNING CITIES INTO GHETTOS

by Eric Morse

For the people of Qalqilya, the world is flat. Go to the center of the city and pick any direction, north, south, east or west, and begin walking. Eventually you will come to a wall, eight meters high. Qalqilya (pronounced call-keel-ya) is a Palestinian city of approximately 50,000 people and is entirely surrounded by a ‘security fence’ that is 16 meters high. The security fence, a giant black cement wall with guard towers every half mile, does not run along the border between Israel and Palestine. It is entirely located within the West Bank and specifically mapped out to accommodate Israeli settlements in the West Bank. Some settlements remain within the rest of the winding wall and some to the east, but Qalqilya is entirely fenced in, a giant prison, with one checkpoint and one farmer’s gate. The farmers that use the gate have been cut off from the 1,600 acres of agricultural fields that surround the city.

Osama, a farmer in Qalqilya, is hoping to take action against the wall. “We try to go through the farmers’ gate and the soldiers ask where we are going, I say ‘to my land.’”

"Israel used the same scenario in 1948 to emigrate Palestinians. But now we will not do the same thing. We will die on our land." Osama is referring to the creation of the state of Israel in 1948 when 418 villages were ethnically cleansed and more than 750,000 Palestinian people, were expelled. The West Bank and Gaza now comprise 22 percent of what was considered Palestine at the turn of the century.

"People in Qalqilya say Mohamad Saleem, a local organizer. "Education, industrial, trade, just getting outside of Qalqilya is a problem for us. A one-hour drive to Nablus takes a day. It’s a problem for farmers to irrigate their fields." Increasingly isolated, Qalqilya is becoming a world of its own. As the sun sets and the hours grow late you will not see children running through the streets. As the last gate is closed at whatever hour the soldiers choose, Qalqilya closes its eyes and prays that the gates will open another day.

The Morality of Resistance

Emma Refajh, Gaza

Last night there was rapid machinegun fire, small explosions, and sniper shooting along the border, throughout the night. Many of the shots were aimed at the sky, and some at the sides of buildings. No one was injured.

The other day my father called me to check in. He asked if I had heard about the recent suicide bombings in Israel. I said yes, and asked if he had heard about Israel’s continued violations of the ceasefire. He hadn’t. I thought about the media in the United States, and how it’s hard for people to believe all of the heinous things that the Israeli military is doing to Palestinians, while the media spoonfeeds the world an entirely different story.

It is important to look at Israel’s actions during the ceasefire in order to understand the acceleration of violence. We cannot ignore the walls that are still being built entirely outside of the West Bank. In Gaza, and the prisoners Israel refuses to release, many of whom have never been tried even after years in jail.

We must not ignore the assassinations and incursions that Israel was carrying out in the West Bank before Palestinians took any action outside of the agreements of the ceasefire. Two days ago, at our regular Capital Eye: International Solidarity Activists Report from Occupied Palestine

IN THE FIRST PERSON: INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY ACTIVISTS REPORT FROM OCCUPIED PALESTINE:

Occupation Eyes

Kate Nablus, West Bank

Yesterday, I had to get into Nablus while it was under curfew. I was with three Palestinians. I had never been there before. It was scary. In the city, I had to walk up to a tank and another armored vehicle and negotiate with them to let us through. They didn’t let the one male in our group past, so he walked around. We eventually got through.

Last night Israeli soldiers invaded a hospital and shot it up, injuring two and killing one. Today, I went to the Union of Palestinian Medical Relief Committees, a medical agency that has ambitions, to help. I was surprised to find that Israeli and Palestinian medical workers split into groups. I was with three Palestinians and one other international, delivering food to the Old City because we are the only ones who can get to the people. We walked by many tanks, jeeps and armored vehicles.

We almost got to our destination when a jeep stopped us and soldiers took me and the other international into custody, arresting us. We were forced to sit with the soldiers at their makeshift base in the Old City with their two tanks (there are many more spread throughout the city) and numerous jeeps and armored vehicles.

The soldiers were all around me. Rocks and glass, sound bombs, tear gas, tanks firing, machine guns, automatic weapons, the whole nine yards. They were shooting at the Palestinians. They shot someone in the head. Everyone I go to see her posters and hear her stories. I hear how the people love her and how she loved the people. I am told how she always played with the children and how they will never forget her.

Mostly though I feel her spirit in the homes of Palestinians we stayed with along the border. Homes threatened with demolition, homes Rachel stayed in and fought to protect. I feel her in Abu Jameel’s house where her picture hangs on the wall above where the children play, in the room least likely to have bullets flying. She always played with the children. Jameel three years old, Nancy two years old and Basant still a baby less than a year old, all these children have grown up with the intifada watching the homes be destroyed around them, listening to the nightly gunfire and explosions outside their home. They have known nothing else. Would it seem strange for them to live a life without these things?

Nura, their mother, is a true heroine. I’ve watched her lay on the floor of the “safe room” protecting her children with her body during exceptionally heavy gunfire. Five minutes later she’ll be in the kitchen preparing the evening meal surrounded by the bullet holes caused by indiscriminate firing from the Israeli tower.

Abu Jameel, the father, spends long days in his fields on the outskirts of town. He leaves early in the morning hitching up his donkey to his cart and making a 20-minute commute. By the time he returns at his donkey to his cart and making a 20-minute commute. By the time he returns at

QALQILYA: TURNING CITIES INTO GHETTOS BY ERIC MONSE

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Growing Up Put Down

Mike Rafajh, Gaza

I am sitting in an internet cafe in Rafah. Martyr posters of Rachel Corrie hang above my head, a reminder that she used to be a frequent visitor to this cafe in the last part of her life. Her spirit fills Rafah. Everywhere I go I see her posters and hear her stories. I feel her spirit in the homes of Palestinians we stayed with along the border. Homes threatened with demolition, homes Rachel stayed in and fought to protect. I feel her in Abu Jameel’s house where her picture hangs on the wall above where the children play, in the room least likely to have bullets flying. She always played with the children. Jameel three years old, Nancy two years old and Basant still a baby less than a year old, all these children have grown up with the intifada watching the homes be destroyed around them, listening to the nightly gunfire and explosions outside their home. They have known nothing else. Would it seem strange for them to live a life without these things?

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The man who was leaving his carpentry job to pick up some small gifts for his children on his way home had his leg blown apart by the first missile. He tried to move out of the way and then the second missile came from another direction and so his arm is in a sling as well. Another man who was walking down the stairs to leave work. Another man who was trying to help the injured. F-16s interfere with phone signals for 10 minutes after they leave an area so no one can call the ambulances.

The first bomb three days ago came at night and no one could figure out where it had hit. One person said he was right next door and heard the blast but still didn’t know where it was. He started to walk out of the area and tripped on a body part and that’s how he knew where the Apache had hit.

A man who was going to buy gifts for his kids says it’s not enough for us just to visit, to talk. Well I don’t know what is enough or how there can be enough and I suppose when this ends we will know how much is enough.

The activists they were targeting escaped, so the argument against the Apartheid Wall. “It is very difficult to hold our breath for the road map for peace.”

By BROOKE ASHERTON

On April 15, 2002, Ariel Sharon announced that he will “isolate” Palestinians from Israelis by erecting “walls and buffer zones” in a plan of “unilateral separation.” That June, the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) began confiscating Palestinian farmland and uprooting thousands of olive and other fruit trees to make way for the Apartheid Wall. Along some sections of the Wall, the IOF has built a 25-foot tall concrete wall lined with sniper towers and buffer zones of 80-300 feet for electric fences, trench cameras, sensors and security patrols. In other areas Israel is building a massive, electrified fence with deep trenches and additional barbed wire fencing on either side.

The first phase of the Wall has been completed this summer, stretching 65 miles from the Qalqilya region north past Jenin at the cost of $250 million. Another 150 miles of the Wall is slated for completion by the end of the year, stretching south from Qalqilya through Jerusalem and Bethlehem and southwest to the Hebron area.

According to plans released by Sharon last March, the Wall will eventually enclose all Palestinian population centers in the West Bank into isolated enclaves by extending the barrier along the Jordan Valley in the eastern West Bank. The cost of the Wall is over $1 billion with a total length that could exceed 450 miles. As Qalqilya Mayor Mazen Zahrani explained, “They don’t want the Palestinians to have sovereignty over the land. They break us up into isolated pieces. This is political, they do not want a Palestinian state joined.”

The Israeli government is not building the Wall along the “green line” which demarcates the border between what is now Israel and the West Bank. Rather, the Wall snakes throughout the West Bank, cutting deeply into occupied Palestinian territory in order to confiscate key land and water resources and to bring illegal Israeli settlements into the Israeli side of the Wall. Israel will confiscate 10 percent of the West Bank with just the construction of the western portion of the Wall.

The Israeli government’s controversial plan is to isolate Palestinian communities.

Massive Israeli Land Grab Under Cover of ‘Security’

The Apartheid Wall

By BROOKE ASHERTON

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Taking on the Dean Machine

To the Right of Bush? Get a Grip!
by Check yourself
Like many have noted, Dean is not the least left candidate, and neither is he progressive on all issues. However, he is fairly liberal and he does have a plan to deal with all of this.

Leaving Behind the Complacent Lifestyle is the True Victory
by brando
My version of social change involves an infinite number of little battles being fought on every front. With Dean I see a lot of people I know engaging in the political process for the first time. It started with their first few steps at the anti-war rallies over the last year and now they are beginning to feel more empowered to change things.

Think Before you Bash Dean
by drando
Do you throw support behind someone who has a good chance of winning and might effect some positive changes or do you resist and support a third party candidate with little chance of getting elected?

Like Burningman Says... 
by TheVidiot
I am tired of being divided by race in this country. I am tired of being divided by gender in this country. I am tired of being divided by sexual orientation in this country. I want my country back again!

Dean also discussed healthcare. He said that in his home state of Vermont, everyone under 18 had access to free medical treatment. After citing dozens of other countries that offer free healthcare, he concluded, “It is amazing how willing some people don’t believe another world is possible. They are arguing that we support a candidate who mixes the spirit of direct action with the latest in corporate accountability and globalization.”

Dean Wants to Increase Iraq Troop Strength by 40,000 by cme
This is shades of 1968 democratic convention. Humphrey waffles and they vote down the anti-war plank, while the young people outside get their skulls cracked by the Chicago police. It’s going to happen again.

Why Are We Debating Democrats?
by thevidiot
You have a third party candidate with little chance of getting elected. That argument that he has a chance of beating Bush is cynical and superficial. The way to go is to look at what he will actually replace Bush with and not to be satisfied.

Pragmatism Pragmatism
by Alex
So, support Dean if you will. He is better than Bush. But have no illusions about who you are voting for.

The Dean Centrist
by Alex
While I originally was fairly enthusiastic about an overtly anti-war Democrat who seemed to actually have a chance to become the next president, my view of Howard Dean has changed substantially since then. Dean is a skilled politician who has managed to portray himself as a left-leaning progressive Democrat because that is what will win him support.

So, support Dean if you will. He is better than Bush. But have no illusions about who you are voting for.

Too Early to Give In
by morgan
I love all the so called progressive leftists websites have arguments about Dean vs. Kucinich. Seems odd there are no Kucinich vs. Sharpton or Braun arguments. Both are further to the left of Dean, but seem to be ignored by the internet crowd. Dean is getting attention because he is the front runner. It might make sense if he wins the primary. Now is too early to give in.

Pragmatism Pragmatism
by TheVidiot
I am not wholly concerned about Dean, but I’ve got to give him credit; he’s bringing people into the process that had never been a part of it before. Yes, he’s to the right of Bill Clinton on some issues Clinton was already to the right on. Yes, I agree strongly with just about everything Kucinich has to say. But will Kucinich get elected? Not on your life. And frankly, I don’t think he should. He’d govern from the far left, Bush governs from the far right.

Dean I see a lot of people I know being fought on every front. With Dean I see a lot of people I know engaging in the political process for the first time. It started with their first few steps at the anti-war rallies over the last year and now they are beginning to feel more empowered to change things.

Think Before you Bash Dean
by drando
Deal with what Dean is actually for and against. And what his record actually shows.

The argument that he has a chance of beating Bush is cynical and superficial. So in as far as it doesn’t go about by Brando

By Pandi Hopkins

A free CUNY? Sheer lunacy? Perhaps not, says City Councilman Charles Barron. Amid the strenuous objections of students, last June, the City University of New York Board of Trustees voted to raise tuition for the first time since 1995.

“If free tuition makes fiscal sense, what is standing in the way?” he asks before providing his own answer, “Institutional racism!”

Councilman Barron is using his position as Education Committee Chair to announce two public hearings: the first, on Sept. 24, will cover the effects of the new tuition hike; the second, on Oct. 21, will consider the reinstatement of a free CUNY.

CUNY was a free educational institution for 129 years, from its founding in 1847 to 1976 when it ascended to political pressure. Open admissions were instituted at CUNY in 1969 in response to a student demonstration against the alleged racism admissions policy.

In 1975, President Ford threatened to withhold federal funding to New York City unless free tuition and open admissions were eliminated from CUNY, complaining that one of the largest universities in the world was offering free tuition to “any high-school graduate, rich or poor, who wants to attend.”

But open admissions lasted until the Board of Trustees voted in 1998 to eliminate remedial instruction from the senior colleges and sharply curtailed it in the community colleges.

That decision was greeted by a chorus of protests, 24 of whom were arrested after public hearings at CUNY’s administrative headquarters had drawn outraged faculty, students and alumni to speak out. Two of the most prominent were Arthur Miller and Wendy Wasserstein, who said they would not have been able to graduate from CUNY without remedial instruction.

Most CUNY trustees were and are intimately involved with such right-wing think-tanks as the Empire Foundation, the Scaife Family Funds, the Olin Foundation and the American Enterprise Institute.

As pointed out by H. Bruce Franklin, professor of English at Rutgers University, CUNY served for over a century as “a boulevard for success” until left-wing activists, the Black Power movement and multi-cultural ideals invigorated the campuses and infuriated the power structure. In March 1998, an Empire Foundation report was released that demanded a return to a CUNY-wide curriculum focused on Western Civilization and the elimination of such “fluff courses” as Sociology of Women, African Literature and the Third World in the Modern Era.

“Tom Carroll, an officer of Change-New York (part of the Empire Foundation) explained, “Loony professors shouldn’t be able to force grievance courses like those based on racism and feminism on students.”

This past March, New York Gov. George Pataki appointed Benno Schmidt as Chair of the CUNY Board of Trustees. Schmidt has spent the last 10 years as CEO of Edison Schools, a corporation devoted to the privatization of the public school system. The greatest obstacle to college entrance, and graduation for immigrant, Hispanic, and African-American students are two CUNY-wide English tests, graded for structural correctness only, thus eliminating the need to acquire skills of intellectual inquiry.

Councilman Barron points out that linguists know there is no “bad language,” only different ones. He attributes failure of many African-American students to pass standardized English tests to disrespect for their mode of speech.

A teacher should not “correct” an African-American construction, but advise the student to translate it into standard English.

“No one advocates teaching Ebonics, but those who teach black students should be taught the history of black language and culture.”

Unfortunately, little has changed since Vice President Spiro Agnew complained three decades ago about too many black college students, and President Richard Nixon’s educational adviser, Roger Free, warned about “producing an educated proletariat.”

Today, President Bush opposes permitting college work to fulfill welfare requirements because it would cost “a bunch more money and some people could spend their entire five years on welfare going to college.”
**ME MATAN SI NO TRABAJO**

Por Pablo Bodo

“Me matan si no trabajo, y si trabajo me matan...”

E

ste estribillo acompaña el último coro del documentalista Raymundo Glayzer, desaparecido en la última dictadura militar. El cortometraje, realizado en 1974 registra la lucha de los trabajadores de la fábrica INSUD. La última escena muestra a los trabajadores marchando al Congreso donde se encuentran con Rodolfo Ortega Peña, diputado peronista y abogado de presos políticos y trabajadores. Peña fue asesinado por la AAA (Alianza Anticomunista Argentina), si a la misma que ayó a implantar el modelo económico que él denunciaba desde su lugar en el Congreso Nacional.

La última dictadura militar comenzó formalmente en 1976, aunque las Fuerzas Militares en 1975 ya tenían el control de una parte del aparato estatal. Cuando comienza el gobierno militar la deuda externa es de 9,700 millones, y para cuando ésta finaliza la deuda es de 45,000 millones. La mayoría del dinero que fue prestado fue utilizado para que las grandes empresas se deshagan de sus deudas. Es decir que no fue para la inversión pública sino para el sector privado. Luego de las pueblos de Mosconi y Tartagal en el norte del país, y Cutral Co en el sur del país comienzan a crecer lentamente los cortes de ruta como medida para pedir trabajo. Hoy las fábricas se encuentran vacías. Pero esperan los que ven el hambre en sus barrios y en los amigos.

En el partido de La Matanza (Gran Buenos Aires) una de las organizaciones que ha crecido junto a la crisis y el desempleo es el Polo Obrero, vinculado al Partido Obrero. Participó y organizó la 5a Asamblea Nacional de Trabajadores desocupados y ocupados. A la Asamblea se ha sumado el MIJD (Movimiento Independiente de Jubilados y Desocupados), trabajadores del campo, además de movimientos estudiantiles y GLTB (gays, travestis, transexuales y bisexuales). Esta Asamblea funciona como una plataforma política que organiza diferentes planes de lucha y coordinación entre los movimientos sociales que participan.

La cantidad de personas que más ha crecido en estos últimos dos años es Barrios de Pie, que coordina sus planes de lucha con la mayoría de las organizaciones de desocupados.

El ministro de economía espera con optimismo un acuerdo con el Fondo Monetario Internacional que permita la atracción de nuevas inversiones y mayor crédito para consolidar lentamente la producción local. Estas negociaciones incluyen la posibilidad de una quita y renegociación de pagos, aunque el presupuesto del 2003 incluye un monto de 14 millones de dólares para pagos a los organismos de créditos multilaterales. El presidente, Néstor Kirchner, sigue gozando de una imagen positiva del 80%, pero poco esperan los que ven el hambre en sus barrios y la esperanza no alcanza.

En el suroeste del conurbano bonaerense se encuentran nucleados la mayoría de los MTJ (Movimientos de Trabajadores Desocupados) que forman parte del MTD (Movimiento de Trabajadores Desocupados) que participaron en el corte de las calles. En el país, el trabajo territorial. Sus últimos cortes de ruta y marchas los mostró nuevamente en las calles confluyendo en nuevas protestas, sumándose a otras labores de trabajadores de fábricas recuperadas.

En el proceso de “desamor” que permite la atracción de nuevas inversiones y mayor crédito para consolidar lentamente la producción local. Estas negociaciones incluyen la posibilidad de una quita y renegociación de pagos, aunque el presupuesto del 2003 incluye un monto de 14 millones de dólares para pagos a los organismos de créditos multilaterales. El ministro de economía espera con optimismo un acuerdo con el Fondo Monetario Internacional que permita la atracción de nuevas inversiones y mayor crédito para consolidar lentamente la producción local. Estas negociaciones incluyen la posibilidad de una quita y renegociación de pagos, aunque el presupuesto del 2003 incluye un monto de 14 millones de dólares para pagos a los organismos de créditos multilaterales. El presidente, Néstor Kirchner, sigue gozando de una imagen positiva del 80%, pero poco esperan los que ven el hambre en sus barrios y la esperanza no alcanza.