

# Fault Lines

Newspaper of the SF Bay Area Independent Media Center

WWW.INDYBAY.ORG

FREE

## DHS SWEEPS: BUSH'S WAR ON LATINO WORKERS



photo: David Bacon

Department of Homeland Security sweeps, violence, and mass deportations have provoked fear and protest in immigrant communities

BY JOEL WENDLAND

Last October, federal agents under the auspices of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) raided 60 Wal-Mart stores in different parts of the country, rounding up about 250 people who worked the night shift cleaning crew. Human rights organizations' descriptions of the round-ups as both a political event to justify enormous spending in the DHS as well as a measure to keep citizens frightened about terrorism were confirmed when a DHS spokesperson admitted to Roberta Wood of the *People's Weekly World* (November 1, 2003) that the

raids had nothing to do with homeland security. Although all of the workers were immigrants, none could be linked to terrorism. None could even be linked to countries that we have been told are the origins of terrorism. Most of the detainees await deportation hearings for lacking proper work documentation.

There have been reports from across the country of increased immigration sweeps over the last two years. Various reports from local media and human rights activists show that immigration sweeps have occurred in Latino communities everywhere from Maine to Southern California.

The upsurge in sweeps in Latino communities comes in the larger context of raids and surveillance aimed at immigrant Asian and African communities suspected of harboring terrorists. Under the cover of homeland security, the Bush administration seems to have ordered these sweeps to please his ultra right, anti-immigration, racist base with the effect of spreading panic and fear in the Latino community. In response, Latino communities have organized numerous protests demanding an end to secret sweeps and immigration raids. Ultimately, they argue, systematic targeting of immigrant working class communities have harmful consequences on non-citizens and citizens alike.

The DHS has been using terrorism to justify increased immigrant raids since its inception following 9/11. In early December of 2002, a highly coordinated series of raids, which were part of a long term Justice Department effort known as "Operation Tarmac," were conducted at Chicago's O'Hare and Midway Airports and at the homes of dozens of airport workers. Several hundred workers were caught up in this dragnet, and over 500 of them have since lost their security clearances and jobs at airports.

According to one report [January 11, 2003], the U.S. Attorney for Northern Illinois, Patrick Fitzgerald, boasted that these people were arrested "as a lesson to others" who might try to find work in the US without required documentation. According to Justice Department documents, "Operation Tarmac" was implemented nationally after September 11th "to

... See DHS Raids: page 6



Salvador Allende

## U.S.-BACKED TERROR

BY ROGER BURBACH

The World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks occurred exactly 28 years after Gen. Augusto Pinochet toppled the elected Chilean government of President Salvador Allende, an event I watched in Santiago, the Chilean capital. The bloody US-backed coup on September 11, 1973, marked the advent of a regime that systematically employed terror at home and abroad to remain in power for almost 17 years.

Before the attack on the Pentagon, the most sensational foreign-led terrorist action in the US capital came at the hands of Pinochet operatives. On September 21, 1976, agents of the Chilean secret police agency, the National Intelligence Directorate (DINA), detonated a car bomb just blocks from the White House, killing a leading opponent of Pinochet's, Orlando Letelier, and his assistant Ronni Moffitt. I met Letelier, who had served as Allende's foreign minister, at the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C. He was deeply committed to democracy and a humane world.

These assassinations were linked to the hemisphere's first international terrorist network, known as Operation Condor. Begun in

... See Chile: page 6

# LANDLORDS GOUGING SECTION 8 PROGRAM

## OAKLAND NON-PROFITS REVEALED TO CHARGE INFLATED RENTS



photo: Lydia Greas

BY LYNDIA CARSON

That's Darlene Maney standing with her "Save Affordable Housing" sign next to the mural at the Hugh Taylor House. Maney used to work for the East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation (EBALDC), but became disillusioned by the shady dealings of the non-profit landlord. Among other questionable practices, EBALDC has recently been revealed to charge Section 8 tenants up \$500 per month more for identical units. These figures refer to records from as recently as June 2004. "My message to the

non-profits is that they have a commitment to the applicants to get them into their housing in a timely manner," Maney said. "It shouldn't take six months to a year to get into low-income housing, especially if the units are prepared and sitting there vacant."

Section 8 vouchers and Section 8 project-based vouchers have been under attack by the Bush Administration, as can be seen recently in Alameda and in Marin County. Among many cuts, the US Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) recently terminated the project-based vouchers at 30 different affordable housing developments in Marin County. Residents in Alameda beat back an attempt to cut Section 8 funding last month (see *Fault Lines* #3), but the Bay Area's poor still face increasingly difficult prospects for finding truly affordable housing.

There is no doubt that affordable housing sounds great, and that the term "non-profit" takes the edge off of raw capitalism. But what do those terms really mean? In this day and age, the need for low-income and affordable housing seems imperative, and may explain why non-profit housing organizations are such big business.

To the multitude of poor and homeless people that never seem able to meet the criteria that would ever allow

them to move into low-income or so-called affordable housing, the terms known as low-income housing or affordable housing seem to be quite meaningless or hollow, and if anything they seem to be a bitter reminder of what has been placed beyond their reach.

### A Break Down Of The Hugh Taylor House During June 2004

The Hugh Taylor House located on Seminary Avenue in East Oakland is owned and operated by EBALDC and has 43 rental units, with 25 of them set aside for Section 8 project-based tenants, and the rest goes to regular renters who can qualify to move in.

There are five Section 8 renters in one bedroom units with each being charged \$928 per month, and there are seven non-Section 8 renters in one bedroom units being charged \$392.00 per month. *The Section 8 tenants are being charged \$536 more a per month than the regular tenants are in identical units.*

It's common for non-profit developers to charge more to Section 8 renters, because it allows them to charge less to their regular customers while being able to pay the bills. If everything goes according to plan, both Section 8 tenants and non-Section 8 tenants end up paying around 30 percent of their income towards rent.

Of course, if the vacancy rates are high in the building and vacant for long periods of time, it forces the rents up

... See Section 8: page 11



published by:  
**The SF Bay Area  
 Independent  
 Media Center**  
[www.indybay.org](http://www.indybay.org)

**Office and Mail**  
 2940 16th Street - Suite 216  
 San Francisco, CA 94103  
 (415) 864-1006  
 Office Hours: MWF 12-5pm

**General Inquiries**  
[info@faultlines.org](mailto:info@faultlines.org)  
**Advertising**  
[advertise@faultlines.org](mailto:advertise@faultlines.org)

**Web**

Fault Lines: [www.indybay.org/FaultLines](http://www.indybay.org/FaultLines)  
 SF Bay Area: [www.indybay.org](http://www.indybay.org)  
 Global: [www.indymedia.org](http://www.indymedia.org)

**About Indybay**

The San Francisco Bay Area Independent Media Center is a non-commercial, democratic collective of Bay Area independent media makers and media outlets, and serves as the local organizing unit of the global Indymedia network.

**Fault Lines  
 Mission Statement**

Fault Lines, the newspaper of the San Francisco Bay Area Independent Media Center, aims to give all communities the opportunity to actively participate in a collective process of media production and distribution. By operating with transparency, this newspaper hopes to achieve the goal of allowing the public, not corporate conglomerations, to set the agenda for news coverage. Our mission is to train and empower marginalized voices. This publication was created to be used as a tool for radical change in our communities by exposing the stories and raising the issues that the media plutocracy seeks to suppress. We are the people, we are the media and we are dissenting from the ground up.

**Get Involved**

The IMC has an open door. You can write for Fault Lines, film events and rallies, self-publish articles to the web, take photos or just help us run the office. As an organization relying entirely on volunteer support, we encourage all forms of participation.

The print working group reserves the right to edit articles for length, content and clarity. We welcome your participation in the entire editorial process.

**Fault Lines Volunteers**

Lani Riccobuono, Liam O'Donoghue, Ali Tonak, Kelah Bott, jankyHellface, Jamie Hurlbut, David Morse, upton sinclair, Mark B., Matt Fitt, Kimber Hall, Francisco McGee, Gabriella Reardon, Carwil James, Carolyn Kraus

**Fault Lines Thanks**

Media Alliance, The Independent (NYC IMC), Street Level TV, Enemy Combatant Radio, Resource Center of the Americas, SF Zinefest, Station 40, Jesse Swanhuysen of the California Coalition for Fair Trade and Human Rights, FTAA-IMC & Howard Quinn Press, Mike Ernst

We'd also like to thank everyone who has donated to Fault Lines, those who have subscribed, and the organizations and small businesses that have advertised within these pages. Your support helps make this happen.

Union Bug

# MEDIA MONEY

## Corporations give millions, receive billions

By SAKURA SAUNDERS AND BEN CLARKE

Opening with a challenge by Democratic Vice Presidential candidate John Edwards to spend three minutes with the men who served with his running mate John Kerry, the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth (SBVT) denounce Kerry's war record, with war-time pictures and man by man testimonials. This ad blitz, priced at \$550,000, hit the airwaves in early August 2004.

It was quickly met with a counterattack funded by Moveon.org. "Swift response" aired in the same markets as the SBVT spot, plus nationally on CNN and Fox. It features a jab at President Bush's war record and an admonishment by Republican war vet Senator John McCain for allowing the ad to run. The counter-spot cost \$200,000 to place. Since August 19, John Kerry has launched two of his own rebuttal ads featuring the fellow soldier whose life Kerry

lion. At roughly the same pace that advertising revenue has grown, broadcast TV coverage of substantive electoral issues has dwindled. Network convention coverage, for example, has fallen from around 100 hours in 1980 to approximately 18 hours this year. Another study shows that in the two weeks leading up to the Super Tuesday primaries, ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox devoted an average of just eight percent of their news coverage to election coverage.

Industry spokespeople defend their record citing surveys that show the public is satisfied with the amount of election coverage they are getting. The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), the largest trade association of TV stations in the U.S., argues that politicians are happy with the system as well.

But critics of the broadcast industry say that the reliance on political advertisement to communicate with the public amplifies

**Politicians prefer advertising to independent news coverage because, "They can control the message when they buy advertising. They have less control when it's live news."**

—National Association of Broadcasters spokesperson Jeff York

had saved. Placement price: \$190,000. Total price tag for this commercial exchange—almost \$1 million dollars.

Continuing a twenty-year trend that has seen advertising expenses skyrocket as traditional political party organizing has fallen by the wayside, the total for political ads this election year is estimated by most industry analysts at over \$1.5 billion, \$400 million of which will be spent by the presidential campaigns. Over the last 24 years, broadcast TV advertising alone has increased from \$90 million to over \$1 bil-

lion. At roughly the same pace that advertising revenue has grown, broadcast TV coverage of substantive electoral issues has dwindled. The solution to the spiraling cost of political advertising is surprisingly simple, make it free. After all, the broadcast networks receive their licenses free from the federal government in exchange for meeting the needs of the public interest.

Since 1987, when the Reagan appointed Federal Communications Commission (FCC) repealed the last effective elements of the Fairness Doctrine requiring broadcasters to cover contrasting views of impor-



**SPECIAL REPORT**

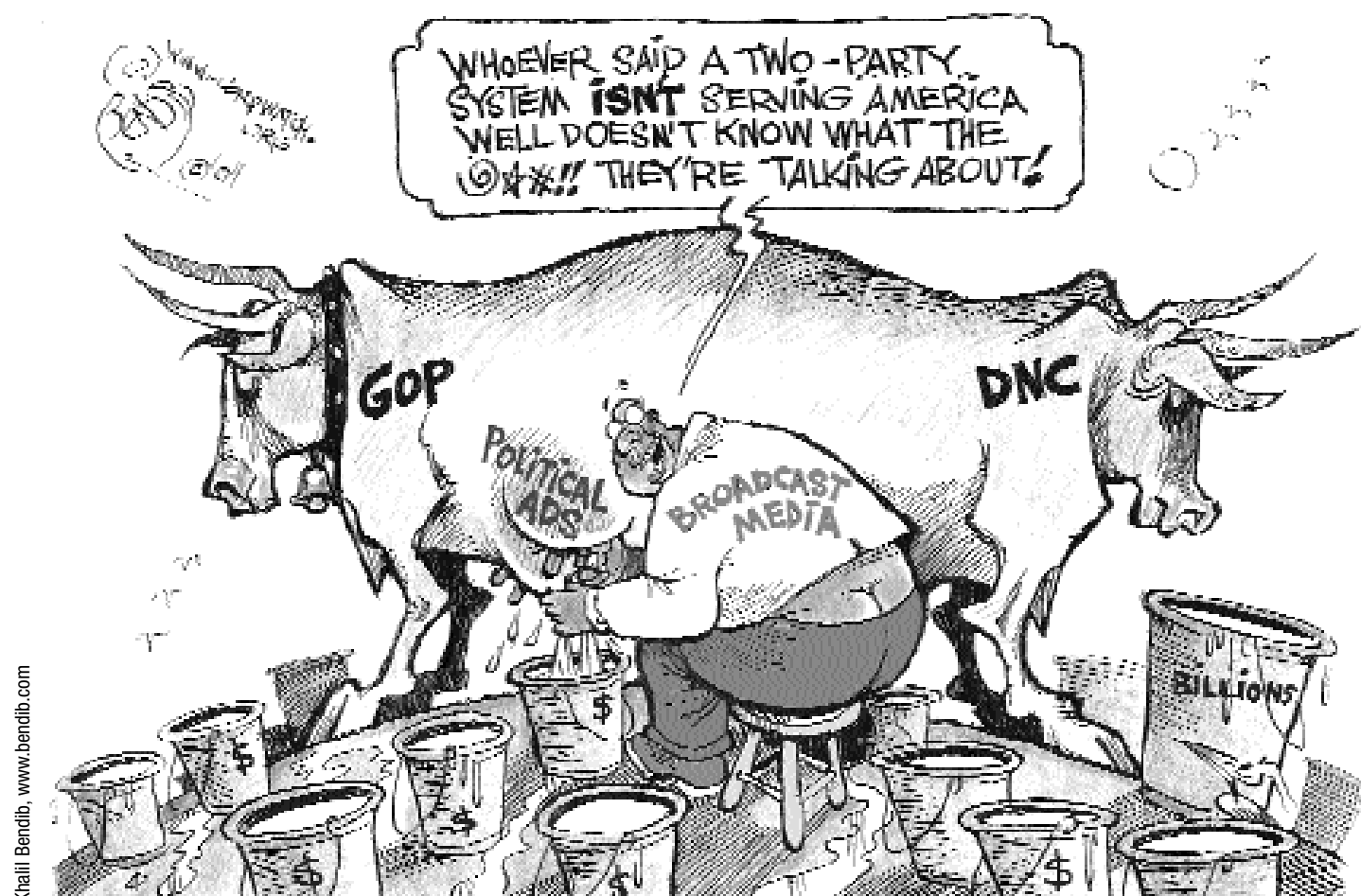
|               | "Hard" Money<br>2004 | Lobbying<br>2001-2003 |
|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Disney        | \$251,500            | \$12,380,000          |
| News Corp     | 163,000              | 7,700,000             |
| GE            | 707,426              | 45,650,000            |
| Viacom        | 228,000              | 3,250,000             |
| TimeWarner    | 347,281              | 10,760,000            |
| NAB           | 332,150              | 20,480,000            |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>\$2,029,357</b>   | <b>\$100,220,000</b>  |

tant issues, there have been no serious public interest requirements regarding electoral coverage. After Clinton pushed through the incumbent-friendly Telecommunications Act of 1996, again with no public interest requirements, broadcasters have happily consolidated ownership and raked in the advertising profits at an ever accelerating pace.

In January 1998, Clinton briefly toyed with a proposal for free or reduced rate television time for electoral candidates, going so far as to order then-FCC chairman Bill Kennard to develop new rules for political ads. But Kennard quickly backed down when, within days, the FCC received a letter from 17 Republican members of the House, including Tom Delay (R-Texas), proclaiming that "only Congress has the authority to write the laws of this nation." In the Senate, John McCain (R-Arizona) and Conrad Burns (R-Montana) announced that they would block the FCC free airtime initiative.

In the late 1990s, Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (D-New York) introduced the Fairness in Political Advertising Act in three successive sessions of

... See Media: page 12



## Contribute to Fault Lines

*Fault Lines* encourages our readers and members of the community to get involved in making media. Our goal is to train and empower marginalized voices to reclaim our lines of communication and speak truth to power. If you want to write an article, review, or news blurb for Fault Lines, please contact the editors at [editorial@faultlines.org](mailto:editorial@faultlines.org) to begin a collaboration and get our submission guidelines. Submissions of relevant and timely photos and artwork are encouraged as well. Your feedback about what we are (or are not) covering is necessary in creating a news source that truly is a voice of the people. Suggestions regarding our design and readability are also greatly appreciated. In an age when information and news are so tightly managed and con-

trolled by the corporate media, industry and government, a free, independent and alternative press is essential for any hope of creating a just world.

You can reach us at: [info@faultlines.org](mailto:info@faultlines.org)  
 or  
 Fault Lines, 2940 16th St Ste 216,  
 San Francisco, CA 94103.

Keep the articles in Fault Lines alive by posting your comments at [www.indybay.org/FaultLines](http://www.indybay.org/FaultLines)

# Victory

## for Venezuela's Poor

### HUGO CHAVEZ RATIFIED AS PRESIDENT

BY GABRIELA REARDON

In the first ever presidential recall referendum in Latin American history, a majority of Venezuelans voted to allow President Hugo Chavez to complete his term after pouring into polling stations in massive numbers on August 15, many waking up as early as 3:00 a.m. and, in some cases, waiting up to 10 hours in long lines that wrapped around blocks of the nation's streets.

The National Electoral Council (CNE) of Venezuela, an independent entity responsible for organizing and monitoring the election of public offices, reports that 58.25 percent of voters decided against ending President Hugo Chavez' presidency three years early. Recognized international observers, such as the Carter Center and the Organization of American States, sanctioned the election results after a second audit of the process, conducted upon the insistence of the anti-Chavez opposition.

In the weeks leading up to the referendum, anti-Chavez groups announced they would not recognize the judgment of the CNE. However, prior to the election moderate groups in the opposition movement agreed to recognize the outcome of international observers, while ardent anti-Chavistas

made no such concessions. In contrast, President Hugo Chavez agreed to step down if the CNE election conclusions did not favor him. This victory should allow Chavez to complete his six-year term, which expires in February 2007, when it is expected that he will run for a second term.

Chavez critics accuse him of being fascist and anti-democratic, but *Indymedia* reporter Jessica Pupovac, who served as an election observer in Venezuela for the referendum, said that is far from the truth. "Since he took office, eight popular referendums have taken place on his proposed policies and initiatives, and in every single one of them, the people have sided with their president," she said.

Since his election in 1998, and re-election in 2000, the contentious Chavez administration has transformed Venezuela's political structure to favor broader participation and prioritize a more even distribution of the benefits from petroleum and mineral resources. Chavez owes his popularity to the fact that since coming to power he has delivered on his promises to improve the lives of the 80 percent of the often forgotten, poor Venezuelans.

Among the programs implemented to improve the standard of living of the most impoverished populations is "Barrio

Adentro," a national campaign to improve healthcare access for the majority of Venezuelans who cannot afford costly medical care. The program is based on the model of local neighborhood clinics that provide vaccinations, free medicine for common illnesses and infections, and which address epidemic control. Because few Venezuelan doctors agreed to participate in this endeavor, the Chavez government recruited 10,000 Cuban doctors for the project. The effort has been praised by public health interest groups and international institutions like the World Health Organization.

Another program helping the nation's poorest citizens is "Mission Robinson," a massive literacy campaign through which over 100,000 youth volunteers teach the nation's poorest people how to read, write, and do arithmetic. Some 1.3 million Venezuelans have learned to read and write since the program was unveiled less than one year ago.

Chavez's policy which has galvanized the most concentrated opposition is the November 2001 Law on Land and Agricultural Development, which gives the government the power to confiscate uncultivated private sector estates or public lands

with the purpose of distributing them to peasants through the formation of cooperatives. In addition to distributing land, the policy aims at making organic farming practices the foundation of a new social and economic model of self-sufficient and sustainable farming.

Chavez critics have since tried to spark several revolts in order to bring down this progressive regime. Most notably, on April 11, 2002, the opposition staged a coup, but a fierce, popular rejection and a loyal military guard brought President Chavez back to power after the brief upheaval.

Many of Venezuela's industrial leaders continued their efforts to overthrow Chavez in the managerial strike of December 2002 – January 2003 in which managers of the petroleum industry provoked an economic shut down. Alejandro Urdaneta, a Venezuelan native living in the Bay Area was visiting his country at the time of the shutdown. He told *Fault Lines* that the "opposition and the commercial media in Venezuela provoked the so-called strike and caused the crisis, yet they blamed Chavez for the subsequent economic and unemployment problems."

Most recently it was revealed that many signatures supporting the recall referendum were attributed to the names of underage Venezuelans and some who have been confirmed dead for years. Nevertheless, the CNE allowed the election to continue.

The campaign leading up to August 15 was vicious: polling companies released contradictory reports; large rallies were held simultaneously by both sides; and reports of arms caches destined for paramilitary training camps that were intercepted by authorities circulated throughout the population. The United States refrained from making statements until several days after the referendum, when it finally recognized the international observers' conclusion.

Given US financial support of the opposition, along with its immediate recognition of the self-proclaimed anti-Chavez government in the hours following the April 2002 coup, Chavez boldly warned that if the US interfered in Venezuela's democratic referendum, petroleum exports to the US would be suspended.

However, American taxpayer dollars have been fueling Venezuela's opposition through the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), a private organization which receives government grants. State Department spokesman Richard Boucher has confirmed that the NED has aided various Chavez opposition groups.



Death squads on the line: Kissinger at work

Chile: continued from front page . . .

1974 at the instigation of the Chilean secret police, the network consisted of the intelligence services of at least six South American countries. They collaborated in tracking, kidnapping and assassinating political opponents. Documents divulged by President Bill Clinton's administration show that the CIA knew about these international terrorist activities and may have even abetted them.

The Chilean secret police, often with the help of Condor partners, carried out a num-

ber of international terrorist operations. In 1974, a car bomb killed retired Gen. Carlos Pratts in Buenos Aires, where he had sought refuge after Pinochet replaced him as head of the military shortly before the coup. In 1975, DINA operatives attacked and maimed Chilean Christian Democratic politician Bernardo Leighton and his wife in Rome.

Papers found in Paraguayan archives in the 1990s reveal that Operation Condor also played a role in the assassination of a Brazilian general, two Uruguayan parliamentarians and scores of lesser-known political activists. After the murders of Letelier and Moffitt, the CIA appears to have distanced itself from Condor. But the network continued to operate throughout Latin America until at least the early 1980s. Chilean and Argentine military units assisted Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza and helped set up death squads in El Salvador. Argentine units also aided and supervised Honduran military death squads that began operating in the early 1980s with CIA collaboration.

The day before the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks, ironically, the family of assassinated Chilean Gen. René Schneider announced that it intended to sue former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in Chilean courts. Their charges are based on declassified U.S. government documents provided by the National Security Archive, an independent research

center based in Washington D.C. These documents indicate that after Allende's 1970 election, Kissinger approved a CIA plot to prevent him from being inaugurated. This conspiracy led to Schneider's assassination a month later. Schneider, as the Chilean army's commander in chief, had insisted on upholding the will of Chilean voters and the country's constitution.

There are many parallels between the emergence of the terrorist network in Latin America and events in the Middle East and southwestern Asia. Osama bin Laden, the Saudi Arabian believed to be directing the attacks on the United States, became involved in militant Islamic activities when he went to Afghanistan in the 1980s to join U.S.-backed guerrillas known as the Mujahadeen. Even in the 1980s it was widely recognized that many of those fighting the pro-Soviet Afghan government were religious fanatics who had no allegiance to their U.S. sponsors, let alone democracy, religious tolerance and gender equality. The most fundamentalist faction of the Mujahadeen, the Taliban, gained control of most of the country by the late 1990s. Some Taliban leaders openly acknowledge that they have allowed bin Laden to operate in their country because they owe him for propelling their rise to power.

Yet many former US officials and their media supporters are arguing that bin

Laden's international terrorist network flourished because earlier U.S. collaboration with terrorists was constrained. Henry Kissinger, visiting Germany on September 11, alluded to 1975 hearings of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, headed by Sen. Frank Church, that criticized covert operations approved by Kissinger when he headed the National Security Council; the hearings led to the first legal restrictions on CIA activities, including a ban on US assassinations of foreign leaders. Former President George H.W. Bush, who directed the CIA from 1975 to 1977, is blasting Clinton's 1995 order barring the CIA from retaining foreign agents involved in torture and death squads.

Kissinger, Bush and their ilk are standing history on its head. Unless we acknowledge that the U.S. government has helped create international terrorist networks and unless the United States abandons the practice, the cycle of violence will only intensify, and we'll have even more bloody anniversaries to celebrate on September 11.

Roger Burbach is director of the Center for the Study of the Americas in Berkeley, California. He is co-editor, with Ben Clarke, of *September 11 and the US War* (City Lights, 2002) and *Imperial Overstretch: George W. Bush & the Hubris of Empire* (London: Zed Books, 2004, with Jim Tarbell).

#### Please Take Note

The correct address for information on the Sherman Austin Case is [jmi46@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jmi46@sbcglobal.net).

Condor contributed the Haiti Cartoon which accompanied the Mumia Abu-Jamal article last issue. He can be reached at [jfd3vet@netscape.net](mailto:jfd3vet@netscape.net).



# DHS SWEEPS: BUSH'S WAR ON LATINO WORKERS



Three thousand miles away in central Washington's Yakima Valley, an agricultural-rich region dependent on migrant farm workers — many of whom are Latin American immigrants and often undocumented — the Latino community protested immigration sweeps this past July. While federal officials denied increased anti-immigrant activities, Washington Growers' League Executive Director Mike Gempler was reported by the Bremerton Sun as expressing "surprise over the more concentrated effort [to detain undocumented workers] that has occurred the past couple of weeks."

The largest scale of anti-immigrant sweeps by federal agencies took place throughout the spring into early June in Southern and Central California. In the Northern San Joaquin Valley area of California near Modesto, California, Latino community members reported a series of raids on workplaces and neighborhoods. According to *The Modesto Bee*, Federal immigration officials denied the raids as "rumors," but then contradictorily stated that anyone caught up in the raids would be deported as a result of felony charges related to drug smuggling. As reported in the North County Times a Border Patrol operation called "Trans Check" began as early as April in the San Diego area and saw federal officials randomly demanding identity and immigration papers on the area's public transportation system on a wide scale.

Immigrant workers in Central California were undoubtedly concerned not only by the activities of federal officials in the San Joaquin Valley, but also by widespread immigration sweeps in several cities in Southern California earlier in the month. In the first week of June between 400 and 500 immigrant workers were rounded up by immigration officials in or near several cities in Southern California, including Los Angeles, Ontario, Coronado, Temecula, San Juan Capistrano and other cities. According to a story posted to Pacific News Service, Spanish-language newspapers reported testimony by local activists in San Diego of as many as 45 raids where "federal immigration agents were combing residential

neighborhoods for undocumented migrants and also were boarding public transportation to ask people for their papers." According to Gabriel Lerner, editor of *La Opinion*, despite denials from authorities, "[F]ear is the source of rumors that the detentions have expanded to Norwalk, Long Beach, Pasadena, San Fernando, San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Huntington Park, [and] Santa Barbara."

Immigration sweeps have created a widespread panic in other immigrant communities as well. Commenting on more recent sweeps in Southern California, Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC) Director Stewart Kwoh said, "The sweeps have created a climate of fear and distrust that affect not just the undocumented, but virtually everyone, including employees and employers. We're concerned that employers may respond by unfairly discriminating against immigrants and others."

Sweeps, however, are only part of the conflict between immigrant communities and the federal government. Latino communities along the Southwestern border with Mexico also report growing violence. *Derechos Humanos*, a Tucson, Arizona-based immigrant rights group stated last February that in "the last few months, there have been events reported regarding Border Patrol agents' involvement in incidents of alleged corruption, physical abuse, sexual assault, and fatal shootings." Further, since DHS has taken oversight of immigration enforcement, its "policies and plans has created fear, xenophobia, and division in communities."

While sweeps, violence, and mass deportations have provoked fear and protest in immigrant communities, the consequences of Bush anti-immigrant policies have more far-reaching effects. Workers threatened with federal action may be less likely to demand rights they are owed in the workplace: fair wages, the right to join unions, freedom from discrimination and harassment, safe and healthy conditions. In the last three years, the organized sector of the worker class has taken a proactive stand against the mistreatment of

immigrants and support legislative action that will protect their right to unionize and to become legal citizens if they choose, and remain free of discrimination if they don't.

The United Food and Commercial Workers union, a union that organizes retail workers many of whom are from immigrant communities, adopted a position that challenges the role of the federal authorities in using the immigration issue to try to break organizing campaigns. "Too often, it appears to workers," says the union's position statement, "that INS [now the Immigration and Customs Enforcement] is a partner, intentionally or not, with employers in the exploitation of immigrant labor and the suppression of worker rights. INS seems to show up more often during an organizing campaign or a strike situation."

More broadly, the union movement has come to recognize that the rights of citizen workers for a decent standard of living and good job conditions is closely linked to the rights of immigrant workers. John Sweeney, president of the AFL-CIO, remarked last May that "We know that our workplace rights, our economic security, our future are linked to that of immigrant workers. If unscrupulous employers can exploit immigrant workers' status, violate their rights, and crush their freedom to choose to join a union, then it will be harder for non-immigrant workers to exercise their rights and build a better future."

Bush's attacks on immigrant communities, with particular focus on Latinos, has nothing to do with homeland security. It is all about hurting working people and enhancing the bottom lines of employers. An administration that supports worker rights and comprehensive, humanistic immigration reform and fair trade business practices is the best replacement for the Bush team.

*Joel Wendland is managing editor of Political Affairs and can be reached at [jwendland@politicalaffairs.net](mailto:jwendland@politicalaffairs.net).*

Workplace raids have soared under Bush DHS Raids, continued from front page . . . promote heightened security" at airports." But, as social policy analyst Paul Street writes, of the 800 workers caught in Ashcroft's airport raids, almost all have been Latino immigrants, and of the 600 people charged since early 2002, none has ever been linked to terrorism.

Another major immigration operation accompanied by anti-immigrant newspaper stories shook Portland, Maine just weeks after George W. Bush announced his plan for immigration reform in January of 2004. US Border Patrol agents raided the city's low-income, minority community searching for undocumented residents. In the process they ransacked the homes of citizens and non-citizens in their search. Human rights activists reported that Portland's immigrant community emerged from the experience afraid to send their children to school, to go to the market, work, or to seek medical aid. Immigrant rights activists linked the sweeps to an upswing in anti-immigrant sentiment and legislation being pushed by congressional Republicans.

## CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS ADVOCATE MORE HUMANE IMMIGRATION POLICY PROPOSAL SEEKS TO GIVE LONG-TERM WORKERS RESIDENCY

If you listen to President George Bush, the only way Mexicans can avoid the deadly and illegal trip across the US border is to come as guest workers — temporary contract laborers for US industry and agriculture. The 14 million immigrants already living in the US without visas, he says, must become guest workers themselves if they want to get legal documents.

BY DAVID BACON

While the president's most recent proposal is the most extreme of those before Congress (and his hasn't yet been formally introduced), all the other bills that would reform US immigration law have some temporary contract worker proposal attached to them. All except one.

In March, Congress member Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Texas) introduced the most far-reaching proposal of all, cosponsored by nine members of the Congressional Black Caucus, including Barbara Lee (D-California) and John Conyers (D-Michigan). It has no provision for temporary workers, and she has publicly scorned Bush's approach as a "flat earth program."

Jackson Lee instead proposes to legalize undocumented people who have lived five years in the US, have a minimal understanding of English and US culture, and have no criminal record. "These are hardworking, taxpaying individuals," she says. "My system would give them permanent legal residency."

Bush proposes that immigrants come for three or six years and then leave. "But people are human," Jackson Lee said. "They might have married, invested, or tried to buy a house. They might have children and roots here. It's very difficult to imagine that a person with a three-year pass would voluntarily leave, particularly if they faced an oppressive situation where they came from."

"Our immigration policy is racist," said Bill Fletcher, the president of the TransAfrica Forum, and former education

director of the AFL-CIO. He and Jackson Lee point to the huge backlog of applicants waiting for visas in Third World countries, from Mexico to Africa, while many European countries can't even fill their quotas for visas. "But the system's also driven by politics," Fletcher said. Cubans become legal residents as soon as they step onto US soil. Desperate refugees from Haiti, fleeing repression in tiny boats, are picked up by the Coast Guard before they get to the Florida beach. If they somehow reach it, they're held behind barbed wire as illegal refugees.

The Jackson Lee bill takes on some of these iniquities, winning it the support of other Congressional Black Caucus members, who she calls "the conscience of America, the conscience of the Congress." Fletcher called that sponsorship a new step for African-American legislators. In the era of the Vietnam War, criticism by Black political leaders of US foreign policy was met with an attitude that said, in effect, mind your own business. "Today, as African Americans, we're saying that we have something to contribute to this debate," Fletcher emphasized. "We won't just react to demographic changes."

Jackson Lee and Fletcher have stepped off into a political mine field, because of a widely held perception that Blacks and immigrants, especially Latinos, compete for jobs. "Certainly you're made to believe that the number of immigrants or undocumented people has an impact on others," she said. "We're made to believe that one group hinders the other. That's absolutely wrong, and I believe in fighting against it."

Fletcher, while criticizing President George Bush and

Florida Governor Jeb Bush for playing on that fear for political advantage, cautions that some job competition is real. Black janitors and hotel workers in Los Angeles saw their percentage in the workforce plummet in the 1980s, as employers replaced them with immigrant workers who they hoped would accept lower wages. This new immigrant workforce eventually became the backbone of new unionizing efforts, but the change in demographics was already a fact.

"But it's like an urban legend," Fletcher said, "which sees competition taking place everywhere. If African Americans were moving from lower to higher level jobs, there would be no reason for fear, but that's not the case." And Black workers are not the only ones trapped in temporary, low-paying, no-benefit jobs. Just look at the Wal-Mart workforce.

Employers argue they need workers to fill the labor shortages to come, and see immigrants as the answer. Jackson Lee's bill tries to balance these interests. For US citizens and residents, she proposes retraining and jobs programs funded by fees paid by undocumented immigrants applying for legalization. For the immigrants, besides legalization, she proposes new legislation to ban discrimination based on immigration status, and threats of deportation intended to stop worker protests. Jackson Lee compares this to the civil rights legislation needed to stop discrimination against African Americans, other minorities and women.

Employers, she says, should press for legalization instead of guest worker programs. "That would give industry a pool of legal permanent residents or those seeking that status," she declares. "Most work is not cyclical — restaurants don't close in the fall. They stay open. They need people in permanent jobs, not temporary workers."

The country should welcome the immigrants who continue to arrive, while attacking the poverty and oppression that forces people to migrate, she concludes. "We would do better to build the economies of countries like Mexico, so people can live their own dream in their own nation. For immigrants here, we need an orderly system that allows them to do their jobs and build the American economy, and US workers to have jobs and do likewise."



# WHO'S THE BOSS?

## WORKERS COLLECTIVES IN THE BAY AREA

In the spirit of the Network of Bay Area Worker Collectives conference in San Francisco (happening as we go to press), we talked with Kamil Dawson from Arizmendi Bakery in Oakland to learn more about worker collectives.

BY LYGIA NAVARRO

### What kind of businesses are part of NoBAWC? (pronounced “No Boss”)?

There's everything: Inkworks is a print shop, Missing Link is a bicycle store, Rainbow Grocery is an amazing grocery store. And I'm still learning! Good Vibrations is another.

### What are the resources offered by NoBAWC??

We get a card that gives a 10% discount at any member cooperative. You meet people from other collectives, and it leads to a closer relationship than with most customers, because we all understand what it's about. You want to support that principle of business.

Meetings are in different cooperatives, so you see the space, meet other workers, and get to know each other. It's a community event, really to share what you have with everyone else.

### How long have you been at Arizmendi?

Two and a half years. I'm also a painter and had worked for other artists. Before this, I had a horrible food service job. It was a cheap place—they treated people like crap, paid them low wages with no benefits, just to make money. The manager was cruel to the Hispanic employees, and he'd often mouth off at them. That business has now closed.

### Tell us about your coworkers' backgrounds before coming here.

We've got people who were programmers in the dotcom boom, people who've worked in coffee shops, were merchant marines, and artists and musicians. It's a good mix of people. We try to keep it as

mixed as we can, with different age groups, races, and sexes, because that is the reality we see from our customers.

### How are workers paid at Arizmendi?

The starting wage is between \$15 and \$16 an hour. On top of that we have profit sharing. We save a certain amount of our extra funds at the end of the fiscal year, and have a percentage that we can share with everyone, and then that's dispersed based on how many hours you've worked. Last year it was about an extra \$4 an hour added on to your hourly wage.

### What have you learned from being part of a collective?

A different view of respect. Because of your involvement, you value what you do. In a lot of jobs, you have a manager and they won't give you the pat on the back that you need. Here, if you put the effort in, people are going to notice. If you come in with a lot of fresh ideas and energy, people are thankful because it's really draining, physical work.

### What do members of collectives find to be most rewarding?

You lose your voice so often, but here your voice is really heard. People are able to express themselves. One of the amazing things is that you can learn how to do everything. There may be one day where I'm at the register serving pizza, another that I'm sitting in the back making deposits for the bank, or another where I'm baking bread in the morning. You're never bored because you're constantly doing something different. You feel like you're part of everything that's happening, you don't feel limited, and you feel a sense of security by being able to know everything. It's a different sense of power.

It's fantastic not having a boss. You can be yourself and not feel threatened. After a while you get to know everyone that's working with you, and it becomes more of a family unit.

### Do people have better relationships with their coworkers because there's no boss?

It's an interesting concept, cooperatives have a lot of flexibility. If you have an emergency and you're out on disability, we're not going to fire you. We're willing to adapt to whatever people's special needs are. We have one member who was hit by a bike and broke her back. We've adapted something for her to do within the bakery that won't put any more stress on her back, and we're grateful for everything she does.

### What has been the consumer response to collectives?

People love us. Most of our customers don't know we're a cooperative, they just come in because our pizza's so good. They love the energy, the camaraderie, the wacky music. I think being a cooperative with happy people makes customers comfortable when they visit us. And I'm sure it makes the food taste better.

### What are the frustrating aspects?

The time before change happens, because

we need the whole group together to make a good sized change happen. Oftentimes that process takes a while, but if you rally for it enough, generally it can happen.

### What is it like to start a collective?

It is difficult. A lot of banks don't want to fund you, so it's hard to get loans. For opening Arizmendi, we had to get a lot of private investors to come in and take the risk. Then there's a train of questions: What are you're going to sell? How are you going to get goods at cost? How are you going to pay rent? There are a lot of challenges. You also have to create a set of bylaws, basically most of the same issues of regular businesses. We are a worker owned collective, which means we make all decisions by consensus, and so everybody is part of the process.

### Do you know about any experiences that people have had after leaving a collective and going back to a regular work environment?

People seek out cooperatives once they're part of a cooperative. You see and understand the difference. If not, you may go into business for yourself, that's the other alternative, or to a smaller business. But to go straight into a corporate job is probably a big step.

More information on NoBAWC? and its members: call (510) 549-1514 or visit [www.nobawc.org/members.html](http://www.nobawc.org/members.html)

## Kate Sharpley Library

The Kate Sharpley Library is dedicated to researching and restoring the history of the anarchist movement and regularly publishes information on lost areas of anarchist history. It was named in honour of Kate Sharpley, a First World War anarchist and anti-war activist — one of the countless 'unknown' members of the movement so often ignored by 'official historians' of anarchism. For more information about our publications or to inquire about our extensive collection of anarchist publications and documents, please write to us at the address below or visit our website.

PMB 820, 2425 Channing Way, Berkeley CA 94704  
<http://www.katesharpleylibrary.net>

# JUSTICE FOR TRINITY PLAZA TENANTS

## Hotel Workers Vote to Authorize Strike

On September 14, a spokeswoman for a union representing over 4000 San Francisco hotel workers announced that an overwhelming majority of members voted in favor of authorizing a strike if negotiations for a new contract fail. With labor contracts beginning to expire for more than 7,000 hotel workers in San Francisco, hotel and union representatives are trying to hash out differences over health care and pension costs, wages and employee workloads. This vote follows the Labor Day protest, in which 150 individuals were arrested for blocking Powell Street during a demonstration of over 500 San Francisco hotel employees and supporters in Union Square. In response to reports that management is trying to stall negotiations, hundreds of workers and labor activists marched from Market Street to Union Square where they sat down in the streets stopping the cable cars, blocking traffic and paralyzing the shopping district.

## Modesto Man Liable in Death of Archbishop Romero

On September 3, Judge Oliver Wanger issued a historic decision holding Modesto resident Alvaro Saravia responsible for his role in the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador as he was saying mass on March 24, 1980.

Saravia, a former Captain in the Salvadoran military, was the right-hand man to reputed Salvadoran death squad leader Roberto D'Aubuisson. Judge Wanger ordered Saravia to pay \$10 million to the plaintiff, a relative of the Archbishop, who has still not been identified for security reasons. Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador was one of the most revered advocates for human rights in the Americas.

## State of California Sues Diebold for Fraud

After some bad news for e-voting activists — a judge in Maryland threw out a request for a preliminary injunction against Diebold's machines, and the State of California dropped a criminal investigation into the firm—California Attorney General Bill Lockyer announced on Sept. 7 that he is suing diebold Diebold for fraudulent claims he alleges the company made with regards to its electronic voting machines.

E-voting activists hope the state lawsuit will pave the way for some progress towards a verifiable voting system, after the state and Diebold rushed headlong into a voting scenario with untested technology and no paper trail. Last year, state officials blasted Diebold for installing uncertified software installed on machines used in primary elections and banned Diebold's easily hackable and glitch-ridden AcuVote-TSx voting machines from the November elections.

## Ban on Force Feeding of Ducks

On August 24, SB 1520, a bill to *continued on next page...*

## The History of Our Struggle

BY KEN WERNER, TRINITY PLAZA TENANTS ASSOCIATION (TPTA)

[Note: On Thursday, September 2, Judge James Warren granted a landlord petition to throw Prop M off the November ballot due to a minor technicality. Proponents have already begun to re-collect the necessary signatures to place it on the Spring ballot.]

Angelo Sangiacomo, a powerful landlord known as the "Father of Rent Control" in San Francisco, has a long history of unscrupulous actions, such as doubling, tripling, even quadrupling tenants' rents. In April 2003, he informed the tenants of Trinity Plaza, a Market Street apartment building that he owns, that he intended to demolish the building in June 2004. Trinity Plaza consists of almost 400 affordable, rent-controlled apartments, a restaurant, a nonprofit organization, and a convenience store which Sangiacomo forced out of business in April 2004 to reduce services to tenants.

Our struggle almost collapsed in May 2003 when we met the first two "activists" (who will remain unnamed) who told us we could delay the demolition several years with hard work and countless meetings: we would have paid the two people \$300,000 to represent our interests. We were told some of us would become leaders, media spokespeople, and miss work days to attend impromptu meetings (we have already stalled Sangiacomo's plans for two years without the expense).

That first meeting disheartened many tenants who have never attended another meeting. However, those who remained steadfast and determined to save Trinity Plaza from the wrecking ball persevered. Over a year ago, our original concept was to get legislation enacted ensuring any San Francisco tenant evicted for demolition would receive \$4,500 in moving expenses instead of the current, paltry \$1,000. We asked Supervisor Chris Daly to coordinate with the City Attorney to draft a revision of the Rent Ordinance section pertinent to demolitions.

After several months, with weekly Wednesday-night meetings including questions concerning the progress of the legislation, we decided that we needed to do more, and with the guidance and training of our first true supporters/organizers -- that we were capable of doing more, that we were not

defeatists. We decided to fight the demolition of Trinity Plaza.

More weekly meetings and our self-confidence growing, we came to the conclusion that, indeed, we had to learn leadership skills, that the proposed demolition of Trinity Plaza was just a symptom of a larger disease—*gentrification*—and we thought we were just the first potential victims.

We decided that not only were we going to save our own homes, but we had an obligation and an opportunity to save the homes of our fellow San Franciscans and that we were capable of leaving a legacy for fellow tenants. So we embarked on a campaign; we knew what we wanted to achieve and we were going to learn how to achieve that result as we progressed.

Witness the birth of the Anti Demolition Ordinance, now known as the Housing Preservation Initiative (HPI): see below; it will protect about 22 percent of our affordable, rent controlled housing: about 80,000 apartments. It will prohibit greedy landlords like Sangiacomo from devastating communities and trashing rent control. The Initiative will prohibit the demolition of buildings containing 20 or more units unless a building inspector declares a building uninhabitable.

## Sangiacomo's "Offers"

Two offers are currently open to Trinity Plaza tenants. One consists of a "promise" of subsidized rent with base rent as of the issuance of the proposed demolition notice; the other is the "promise" of a lifetime lease.

If you don't know who Sangiacomo is, these offers most likely sound appealing. However, Sangiacomo is not known as the "Father of Rent Control" for performance of good deeds toward tenants. His litigation history: at least 95 San Francisco Superior Court cases, almost one third of which are for breach of contract -- a frightening example of what could happen to any tenant who would trust Sangiacomo with either offer.

The members of the Trinity Plaza Tenants Association (TPTA) reject both offers for one simple reason: we know exactly what these "offers" really mean. It is Sangiacomo's intent to destroy affordable, rent controlled apartments. Indeed, I venture to say that Sangiacomo's underlying intent is to destroy rent control itself. He wants to replace rent-controlled apartments with "market rate" housing for those earning

\$100,000+ a year: gentrification!

Armed with a massive fortune estimated at \$500 million (gained at the expense of tenants), Sangiacomo contributes heavily to political candidates who attempt to enforce Sangiacomo's desire.

Tracking contributions to Gavin Newsom through the Ethics Commission website reveals the Sangiacomo \$10,000 total gift to Newsom's Care Not Cash campaign, approximately another \$10,000+ total for Newsom's bids for supervisor and mayor, and the media-reported wedding gift to the Newsoms valued at about \$10,000.

So were the members of TPTA surprised when Newsom vetoed the Anti Demolition Ordinance in early March? No. We had hoped that Newsom would rediscover the word "ethics" and not act on the legislation thereby allowing the Ordinance to become law. However, Newsom's voting record on rent control/tenants issues is public record, and his veto of the Anti Demolition Ordinance was no surprise and proves his intent, backed by Sangiacomo cash, to follow and carry out the dictates of Sangiacomo. Incidentally, it was Newsom who suggested offering lifetime leases to Trinity Plaza tenants.

San Francisco has been under rent control since the summer of 1979. Unfortunately, there is no vacancy control which means landlords can raise the rent when a tenant moves: up to "market rate." The Rent Board -- appointees controlled by Newsom -- sets that rate. Under the Costa Hawkins law, new buildings constructed after June 1979 cannot be placed under rent control.

## Housing Preservation Initiative

In May 2004, we commenced our quest to place the HPI on the ballot. Originally we strived to collect 10,486 valid signatures needed to qualify. Two months later, we submitted almost 20,000 signatures!

On August 6, the elections department certified our efforts and gave us Proposition M, which Sangiacomo has effectively removed from the November ballot by Judge James Warren on September 2 using a technicality.

We will continue to talk with fellow San Franciscans about the HPI's benefits as we begin anew to collect signatures for a special election next spring.

# PEPPERSPRAY TORTURE CASE BACK IN COURT



BY BYRNE WASHINGTON

The lengthy saga of *Headwaters Forest Defense v. County of Humboldt et al* finally came to the San Francisco Federal Courthouse on September 7. Since the first civil trial in 1998, and throughout the appeals process, the question at the center of this suit has been whether direct application of liquid pepper spray into the eyes of passive protesters is an appropriate police tactic. Describing the incident which sparked this legal battle, Spring Lundberg, one of the eight plaintiffs, said, "The Humboldt County Sheriff's deputies arrived at our peaceful sit-in and swabbed pepper spray drenched Q-tips on my eyes, while I was fastened to fellow activists with my arms inside of metal lockboxes. I quickly felt like burning acid was eating at my eyes, and went into respiratory panic. Some activists in our case were also sprayed directly in the eyes from inches away."

The lawsuit stems from three Headwaters Forest protests in 1997, during an intense campaign to save ancient redwoods in which activists were locking themselves to each other in circle sit-in protests in rural northern California. Sheriff's deputies began using the unprecedented tactic of application of pepper spray by Q-tip in their efforts to try to break up the protests. When police footage aired on national TV, the horrified public saw officers force activists' heads back, pry open their eyes and precisely smear the burning chemical into their eyes. According to Headwaters sources, most of the activists were young, some even first time protesters. The activists subsequently filed suit against the Humboldt County Sheriff's Dept. and Eureka Police.

S.F. Federal District Judge Vaughn Walker threw the case out in 1998 after a jury deadlock, issuing a "directed verdict", claiming "no reasonable juror" would decide the activists' rights had been violated by the tactic Amnesty International called "tantamount to torture". However, the 1998 jury forewoman said at the time, "If you can't sit down in a nonviolent way and protest on behalf of your beliefs without being subjected to the police swabbing your eyes with pepper spray or some other chemical agents ... I think that's sort of going back to the days of the cattle prod and the fire hose."

The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals scuttled Walker's finding, ruling in May 2000 that the plaintiffs had a right to trial by jury. That

court also removed Walker from the case for bias following his attempt to move the case to the polarized community of Eureka. In ordering the new trial, the Court of Appeals issued the following statement: "It would have been clear to any reasonable officer that the manner in which the officers used the pepper spray was unreasonable. (Defendants) Lewis and Philip authorized full spray blasts..., not just Q-tip applications, despite the fact that the manufacturer's label on the canisters 'expressly discouraged' spraying from distances of less than three feet."

In the seven years since the first trial, appeals court decisions have all favored the plaintiffs, who attempted to settle the case with Humboldt County, if law enforcement would alter their policy of using chemical agents on non-violent protesters. Generally, pepper spray is recognized as a tool of last resort when suspects in custody are violent or out of control. According to Spring Lundberg, "Pepper spray has been linked to numerous deaths across the country, causing severe respiratory distress and heart failure. Pepper spray's inclusion in the police arsenal was based on a bogus study conducted by former FBI agent Thomas Ward, who has since been convicted for taking kickbacks from a major pepper spray manufacturer."

*Karen Picket contributed to this story. For more information, visit <http://www.nopepperspray.org>*



# DEA RAIDS LARGEST MEDICAL MARIJUANA FARM

## Federal Government Breaks California Law to Bust Eddy Lepp

By Liam O'Donoghue

At 7 a.m. on August 18, a squad of DEA agents and local police raided Charles "Eddy" Lepp's marijuana farm in Lake County, CA, seizing over 30,000 plants with an estimated street value of \$130,000,000 and arresting 14 individuals. This is the second time in the past three years that the DEA has seized a massive amount of marijuana from Lepp's farm, but while last time charges were never brought against him, this time Lepp is facing a possible life sentence. Surrounded by his supporters and dressed head-to-toe in marijuana leaf clothing and jewelry, Lepp appeared confident leaving a pretrial hearing on August 26. Standing outside of San Francisco's Federal building, Lepp, a disabled Vietnam vet said, "What I was doing was perfectly legal under Prop. 215. If the Federal Government has a problem with California State Law, they ought to be taking California to court. We notified everyone from the Governor to the Lake County Sheriff that we were growing medicine for sick people."

Since 1996, when California passed Proposition 215, the nation's first law legalizing medical marijuana, eight other states have passed similar legislation and recent polls show growing support for decriminalization outside of the West Coast, with recent laws being passed in Michigan and Vermont. Although the DEA is unwavering in its position that "there is no such thing as medical marijuana," the American Public Health Association, the American Nurses' Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, and former-US Surgeon General Jocelyn Elders have all expressed support for the medical benefits of marijuana. On the same day as the Lepp raid, California Attorney General Bill Lockyer released a study by the California Student Survey finding that marijuana use among high school students has dropped by as much as 50 percent since Prop. 215 passed, a factual contradiction to the DEA's claim that medical marijuana would open a floodgate of teenage drug abuse.

"The DEA is incredibly backward in its attitude on dealing with this," said Americans for Safe Access spokesman William Dolphin. "The Drug Czar's office continues to say that marijuana is the most dangerous drug in America. They're completely out of step with science, the will of the voters, and the rulings of the courts. The Ninth Circuit (Federal) Court of Appeals ruled in a case involving a Santa Cruz cooperative garden in December that there's legitimate medical marijuana use and that licensed users are exempt from federal prosecution. I'm at a loss to understand why they're wasting resources at a time when we have a 'heightened terror alert' - pursuing sick people who are treating themselves with a safe, effective medicine."

Although DEA spokesman Richard Meyers told *Fault Lines* that the most recent raid of Lepp's 20-acre farm was simply a matter of the DEA enforcing federal drug policy, Lepp and his wife, Linda Senti, argue that this raid is part of the systematic harassment that Lepp has had to endure as one of the medical marijuana movement's most outspoken proponents. The charges of "public intoxication" brought against 12 of the patients living on Lepp's farm who were dragged out of bed on the morning of the raid have been dropped, but Lepp is facing pos-



session, distribution, and conspiracy charges for the plants growing on his property, although each plot of plants is technically leased to one of his 3000 shareholder-patients. According to Lepp, who was the first cannabis patient in California to be fully acquitted at a jury trial following the passing of Prop. 215, agents slapped him across the face and threw him to the ground, despite the fact that he surrendered peacefully, pointed guns at his small grandchildren, threatened to kill his puppy (for barking), destroyed his irrigation system, and confiscated his tractors-without ever showing him a warrant.

Linda Senti said, "They (the police) said that they were going after us, because Eddy made them look stupid, since they couldn't bring charges last time. They said if we would've been growing up in the woods, they would've left us alone" (Lepp's farm is located off Highway 20, for easy access of the many cancer patients and other people with health problems who volunteer and/or travel to "Eddy's Medicinal Gardens" and also for security reasons).

Lepp is also outraged at the recklessness of the DEA in disposing of the 32,500 confiscated plants, many of which ended up scattered throughout the streets of Upper Lake. He said, "What we find very ironic is that in the 10 years that we've been doing this, we've taken great pains to ensure that everybody that we help is legally entitled to our help. But the police and DEA loaded hundreds of thousands of pounds of marijuana on these huge 18-wheelers and while they were making trips back and forth to the landfill we got over 20 calls from people, and from what we can ascertain, they dropped 200-300 pounds of marijuana on the road. I'm terrified to think that people's children were exposed to the possibility of getting my marijuana because the DEA was providing it for them."

Although the DEA refuses to acknowledge any "conspiracy theory," the fact remains that this raid occurred only one week before Lepp's civil suit against the DEA seeking \$167 million (for previously confiscated marijuana and damages) was scheduled to go to court, and all his legal documents related to this civil case were confiscated in the August 18 raid. After bonding out on a \$200,000 bail, Lepp learned that his preliminary arraignment was set for August 26, the exact same day that his civil trial was to begin. Despite being overburdened with legal matters and the stark possibility of life behind bars, Lepp smiled as he proudly announced, stepping out of the Federal Building, "The sick people who depend on the medicine that I provide will not suffer because of this. Right now, as we speak, there are people up at my farm planting a new crop."

**Update:** The US Supreme Court has agreed to review a landmark decision by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals that protects Proposition 215 patients from federal prosecution. The decision, Raich and Monson et al. v. Ashcroft holds that the federal

Controlled Substances Act is unconstitutional as applied to personal possession or cultivation of medical marijuana by patients or their caregivers, since their activities do not constitute interstate commerce. For updates on this case, the upcoming Oakland and Berkeley initiatives on marijuana and any other issues related to medical marijuana check out the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws at [www.norml.org](http://www.norml.org).



Eddy Lepp outside the Federal Building following pretrial hearing

ban the production and sale of foie gras, passed the California Assembly floor. Foie gras (French for "fatty liver") is a pate favored among gourmets which is made from the livers of ducks and geese.

In order to produce this product, ducks and geese are forcibly fed excessive amounts of food over a period of several weeks until their livers swell to up to 12 times their normal size. Long metal tubes are shoved down their throats several times a day in order to pump food directly into their stomachs.

SB 1520, which was introduced by Senate President Pro-Tem John Burton, now only awaits the signature of Governor Schwarzenegger before becoming law. If signed by the Governor, California would be the first state in the U.S. to ban the production and sale of foie gras. It is already banned in several European countries.

### Canadian Wal-Mart Union Accredited

Workers at a Canadian Wal-Mart have been granted permission to form a union, which would be the first in North America for the world's largest retailer. In a decision dated Aug. 2, the Quebec Labour Relations Board accredited Local 503 of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union to represent roughly 170 workers at the Wal-Mart store in Jonquiere, which is about 137 miles north of Quebec City.

The ruling was made by the board after the union signed up a majority of the 170 floor employees at the outlet. The store, which is accustomed to intimidating employees whenever union votes are held, immediately complained about the automatic certification. An appeal is likely, since Wal-Mart has a long history of spending whatever it takes in legal resources, appeals and court action to crush any attempt to unionize its staff. For example, a Wal-Mart in Windsor, Ontario, was certified in 1997 but the company managed to overturn the certification before a first contract could be negotiated.

### 200,000 Flood the Streets to Protest Social Cuts in Germany

Protesting Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder's planned program of social cuts called "Hartz IV", 200,000 students and workers took to the streets in spontaneous actions all across Germany on August 23. The protests are an ongoing movement based on weekly "Monday-protests" - revisiting tactics similar to the East German mass mobilization in 1989, which led to the toppling of Communism in East Germany.

The Hartz IV law will cut benefits to unemployed workers, who, in some regions of Eastern Germany comprise up to 18 percent of the population. Currently, unemployed workers in Germany receive up to 32 months of benefits equalling 60 percent of their previous wages, after which they can receive up to 57 percent of their wages indefinitely. Cuts will include the capping of benefits to only a 12 month period, with extensions only for those who "seriously" look for work.

# RIGHT WINGERS DO MANHATTAN, FORGET TO USE CONDOM

photo: Emmanuel Goldstein

**Detainees await release from Pier 57 holding cells**

BY ALI TONAK & BEN TERREL

The recent Republican National Convention in New York City inspired fear, loathing, and hope from all parts of the political spectrum. With the all-consuming polarization of U.S. election year politics and the specter of another four years of George W. Bush haunting even the bravest liberal, the city felt like a set for a politically sharp dystopian science fiction epic. That feeling was reinforced by wall-to-wall gigantic video images blasting corporate advertising around Times Square and Madison Square Garden, making the area look like a freshly-scrubbed remake of Blade Runner.

United for Peace and Justice, (UFPJ) the lead organizer of the main march on Sunday August 29, went through long months of embarrassing negotiations with Republican Mayor Bloomberg, trying to get permission to hold a public rally in Central Park. Many progressives and radicals felt UFPJ did not push hard enough. The group had earned respect from grassroots activists by funding direct action organizing from WTO protests in Cancun to FTAA actions in Miami. But after the organization applied for a Central Park permit more than a year ago, they initially caved into the city's final take-it-or-leave-it offer of the West Side Highway. Immediately criticized for doing so by everyone from direct action radicals to columnist Jimmy Breslin, they then changed their minds, citing potential health hazards of hundreds of thousands stuck on a sun-baked stretch of macadam. The unsaid reason was a need to preserve credibility within the anti-war movement.

Of course there needs to be a venue for safe and inclusive marches where families can bring their nine-month-old baby and 90-year-old granny, but UFPJ had a golden opportunity to exercise popular leadership. With hundreds of thousands overwhelmingly supportive of marching to Central Park, many feel UFPJ should have facilitated such a militant course of action rather than settling on a looping march that wound up at Union Square on 14th Street, 40 blocks south of the park.

Whatever one's take on this question, unlike the Democratic Party and its partisans, UFPJ at least remains committed to maintaining a strong anti-war campaign no matter who wins the presidential election.

While the corporate media engaged in ridiculous hyperbole demonizing anti-war radicals and went undercover to infiltrate "hardcore anarchists", the Indymedia movement equipped 14,000 square feet of office space with hundreds of computers and a detailed plan for week-long coverage.

Debate raged among progressive pundits about the

appropriateness of street protests, with Todd Gitlin and John Passacantando setting a new low for *The Nation* by writing that any mass confrontation would play into the GOP's hands and help re-elect Bush. *Alternet's* Tom Hayden and *Counterpunch's* Dave Lindorff, among others, argued vociferously and eloquently for the necessity of mass action, as did Naomi Klein on *Democracy Now!* While most, if not all, of the dissidents we encountered in New York agreed that getting Bush out of office was important, almost none identified with the Democratic Party's "Republican Lite" platform.

RNC in NYC week included more than 130 demonstrations, ranging from the final Manhattan stretch of a 256 mile march from the Democratic National Convention in Boston to a FOX News "Shut-upathon". The more adventurous and rabid had listings of hundreds of Republican parties and schmooze-fests at which to confront Bush-backers in person.

While GOP delegates rushed to see free Broadway shows, thousands were ready to yell and harass them with

**While GOP delegates rushed to see free Broadway shows, thousands were ready to yell and harass them with cheery greetings like "Republican Scum! Your Time Has Come!" Republican profiling was easier than expected, thanks to patriotic paraphernalia encrusted with diamonds and gold, and various showy freebies from corporate sponsors.**

cheery greetings like "Republican Scum! Your Time Has Come!" Republican profiling was easier than expected, thanks to patriotic paraphernalia encrusted with diamonds and gold, and various showy freebies from corporate sponsors, including the allegedly liberal *New York Times*. Delegates were continually met by enraged people denouncing BushCorp for everything from the war on Iraq to this country's pathetic healthcare and out of control corporate welfare. Many delegates fled in panic, but once in a while situations degenerated to something closer to a fistfight.

Not all police were hostile to demonstrators. One cop near George W's firehouse photo-op in Queens expressed his loathing for W by telling a member of the Bay Area guerrilla theater troupe the Ronald Reagan Home for the Criminally Insane, "I think he's a dick too." (Ironically, the NYPD also used harassment to advance their cause in mid-August, as they paid an enraged 1a.m. house visit to Mayor Bloomberg to demand a fair contract).

By the evening of August 31st, the declared day of direct action, over 1,000 people had been arrested, the

majority housed overnight at Pier 57 off Manhattan's lower west side (by the end of the week the total arrested was close to 2,000). Pier 57 provided dissidents some of the more lasting memories from the RNC protests. Thousands were forced to sleep in a hangar covered with oil, as asbestos rained on their heads; respiratory problems and skin rashes were widely reported. With about 700 protesters subjected to close to two days of detention, these round-ups will likely be a major legal and PR headache for Bloomberg in the months ahead, especially since the Mayor added insult to injury by blabbing, "It's not Club Med, don't make any mistake about it, and it's not supposed to be Club Med... Which I used to go to all the time and I always found great!"

The judicial system is claiming that demonstrators were detained for such a long time because the numbers were overwhelming. But anyone taken to Pier 57 can testify to security preparations including chain-link fences and razor-wire, and the city did in fact announce it was expecting to arrest 1,000 people per day. Authorities even had astroturf ready to roll out over the oil when the press came for a walk-through. In fact, the NYPD was well-prepared to keep the most militant dissidents cuffed in filth for as long as they could get away with it.

While outside of Madison Square Garden thousands expressed their contempt for the GOP, the ceremonies inside were infiltrated almost every day. Numerous individuals and groups, including Act-Up and Code Pink, were amazed at how easily they got in and interrupted the proceedings.

But what was clearest at week's end was the effectiveness of the New York City police officers and the Secret Service and White House operatives who ran the show. Repression doesn't have to be bloody and in New York physical violence was relatively minimal. Instead, police met activists with overwhelming force and fierce psychological warfare. It worked and the crowd was mostly obedient. Meanwhile, FOX news set the tone for media coverage as dissidents were as usual generally locked out of the "play by play".

It's probably time to consider whether exhausting, labor-intensive direct actions confronting the biggest military-industrial complex the world has ever known are strategically the wisest use of limited movement resources. Serious organizing on many fronts would seem to be in the cards if the U.S. war machine is going to be slowed down. Direct action is one of the tools the movement can use, but it's not the only tool. If the anti-war movement is to compete with FOX news and decades of pro-war indoctrination, it also has a lot of less glamorous day to day organizing to slog through.



**NYC fuzz play "wishbone" with a protester**



**Gulf War I Veteran, Denis Kyne, flashing the peace signs moments before being arrested.**



# MARCH FOR OUR LIVES

Reportback from The Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign



When the Republican National Convention descended upon New York City, we marched to demand an end to the war at home that has left many of us homeless, hungry, unemployed and without healthcare. As poor and working people of this country, we cannot afford to suffer silently as our lives are threatened by political and economic policies that deny us our basic human rights. Both parties—Republicans and Democrats—have abandoned the poor and working families of this nation, and so it is up to us to take our country in a new direction.

In order to accommodate marchers and to be a visible presence during the Republican National Convention, we began a mobile "Bushville" Tent City on July 19, which served as the base for our "March For Our Lives" organizing and also accommodated daily teach-ins, panels, workshops, spoken word and hip hop performances. We took our mobile "Bushville" tent city through the poorest areas of New Jersey and New York to focus attention on the

impact Republican economic policies have on the poor.

After finally arriving in New York City, we attempted to set up our permanent "Bushville" encampment in Central Park. At around 8:30 that night four of our members were arrested while practicing their first amendment rights in a public park, they then went to jail and were handcuffed to a metal pole until 1a.m. Our final "Bushville" encampment began on August 23 in Brooklyn and by the end of the

week over one hundred families from 27 states were "Bushville" residents.

For over a year, the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign publicly stated that we would march with or without a permit on August 30, refusing to give up the freedoms that people had fought and died for throughout history. On opening day of the Republican National Convention, we stepped forward to continue Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's legacy to build a multiracial, intergenerational movement of the poor.

After a rally at the United Nations, where the poor from across the country along with members of the clergy, artists and representatives of the poor from around the world made their voices heard, we began our unpermitted "March for Our Lives" under the banner of the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign.

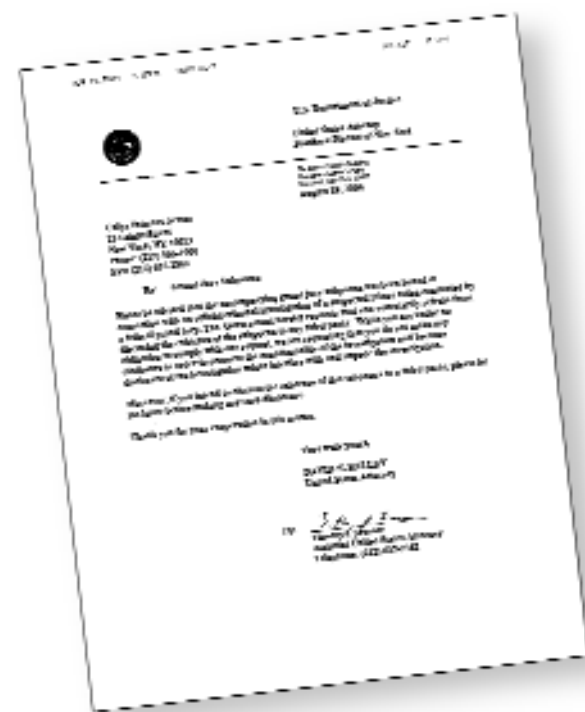
The "March for Our Lives" was led by people in wheelchairs and on crutches, children and the elderly, followed by veterans, immigrants, and poor and homeless people from around the nation. United together and talking about the issues that face poor people, we set off to march from the United Nations to Madison Square Garden.

Despite not having a permit, thousands of marchers stepped into the streets of downtown Manhattan in a peaceful, nonviolent march that stretched for blocks as it made its way to Madison Square Garden, the site of the Republican National Convention. The Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign's "March for Our Lives" was nothing short of a tremendous success, as we were able to ensure that poor people in this country have a voice and bring their message of the economic human rights to housing, healthcare, living wage jobs and education all the way to Madison Square Garden.

*The Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign is an organization committed to uniting the poor across color lines as the leadership base for a broad movement to abolish poverty. We work to accomplish this through advancing economic human rights as named in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, such as the rights to food, housing, health, education, communication and a living wage job.*

## INDYMEDIA INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER SUBPEONAED

### JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SEEKS RECORDS OF 'OPEN-PUBLISHING' POSTINGS



BY CHRIS ANDERSON

Days before the Republican National Convention opened in New York City, the U.S. Department of Justice opened a criminal investigation into a posting on the New York Independent Media Center's "open publishing newswire." The department said the investigation was into possible online "voter intimidation" of RNC delegates. But lawyers with the American Civil Liberties Union and members of the New York Indymedia collective say the probe, conducted by the Secret Service, is more about intimidating political dissent than about enforcing the law.

On Aug. 19, Calyx Internet Access, the Internet Service Provider (ISP) for New York Indymedia, was issued a subpoena as part of a federal grand jury investigation into a list of 2,200 Republican delegate names that appeared on the Indymedia web site. An anonymous person had posted the delegate information and written that RNC delegates

"should know not only what people think of the platform that they will ratify, but that they are not welcome in New York City." The subpoena demanded Indymedia's subscriber and registration information, billing records, and contact information. It said that information was needed for an investigation into possible voter harassment.

Why would the Department of Justice subpoena Indymedia's Internet provider and not the Indymedia website itself?

"The way the Internet works is that there is no central point of access, it's a network of networks," explains Mike Castleman of the NYC-IMC tech collective. "If you want to connect to the Internet, you probably need to go through someone called an Internet service provider to get hooked in."

Various provisions in the 2000 Digital Millennium Copyright Act and other laws regulating digital content make ISPs especially vulnerable to government harassment.

"Government intimidation of ISPs happens all the time," says Castleman. "The government may not want the actual party of interest to know that they're being subpoenaed, or it may be easier to intimidate the ISP. While Calyx has really stood by Indymedia, a lot of times an ISP will just say, 'uh-oh, my customer is in legal trouble, I better drop this person right away.'"

#### Indymedia and the ACLU call the federal allegations "baseless"

"We think it's ironic that the Secret Service inquiry would refer to voter intimidation of RNC delegates," argues Ann Beeson of the ACLU, which is representing Calyx and Indymedia system administrators in the case.

"It's the Secret Service who is intimidating people who are exercising their right to protest."

Castleman also notes that the Justice Department request would be impossible to fulfill even if Indymedia wanted to. "We have two defenses against having your personal information subpoenaed. First, we wouldn't hand it over, and second, we don't even have it." The New York Indymedia web site allows anonymous posting to its newswire and does not log the IP addresses of its users, making it almost impossible to definitively pinpoint the identity of anonymous posters.

On Monday, Aug. 30, New York Indymedia and the ACLU gave the Department of Justice the names and contact information for four IMC computer system administrators. "The administrators in question felt it was OK to provide their contact information to the Department of Justice, since they had nothing to hide," says Beeson.

**We can't see any legitimate purpose behind this investigation, and it looks to us like another attempt to repress legitimate political dissent**

**-Ann Beeson, associate legal director for the ACLU to *The NY Times***

Indymedia also decided to publicize the case, hoping that the government would be shamed into dropping it. "At the moment, our strategy seems to have worked," she says. Calyx representatives had been scheduled to appear before a grand jury on Aug. 31, but the hearing was canceled after the story broke, although the criminal probe remains open.

Castleman remains fairly sanguine. "Although this case demonstrates the state's desire to suppress dissent, practically, in this case, the information they asked for does not exist. So politically it's a huge deal, but in practical terms it is fairly irrelevant."

Castleman remains fairly sanguine. "Although this case demonstrates the state's desire to suppress dissent, practically, in this case, the information they asked for does not exist. So politically it's a huge deal, but in practical terms it is fairly irrelevant."

*This article was contributed by The Independent, the newspaper of NYC-IMC (nyc.indymedia.org)*

# Are You Rehabilitated?

## California's No Parole Policy

voices behind bars

BY TITO D. VALDEZ JR.

For nearly ten years, Tito Valdez Junior and Senior, father and son, have lived parallel lives behind the iron bars of Soledad and Vacaville prisons respectively, after being sentenced to 25 years of prison on contested rape and murder conspiracy charges.



Firm on their innocence, they have chosen to learn, write, mold and express themselves.

Far from giving up hope, Tito Valdez Junior uses his website, [socialmovements.net](http://socialmovements.net), to encourage outsiders to learn of the stark and distant reality of prison populations and the California State Prison system. Through his impassioned documentation of life behind bars, his poignant commentaries and humane thoughts conjure up ideals of human potential.

Using his skills and wisdom gained as a disc-jockey, college student, and poet, Tito David Valdez Junior is now an outspoken critic of the injustice of our prison system, the disproportionate rates of prisoners of color in our jails, and the continuous growth of the prisons.

Coming to you via prison telephone from the California Correctional Facility in Soledad, California, my name is David Valdez.

With California's deficit surpassing \$40 billion, schools are feeling a pinch, forcing closures and layoffs of schoolteachers. Yet, prisons are hardly feeling any pinch. With hundreds, if not thousands of prisoners serving life terms, while being eligible for parole, one has to wonder why California taxpayers are continuing to pay yearly to keep them locked up.

### Does California want to keep convicts incarcerated forever?

In the famous prison life movie *The Shawshank Redemption*, actor Morgan Freeman portrays an African-American convict serving a life sentence. At each of his parole hearings, the parole board asks the same question: "Are you rehabilitated?" He answers the question with great enthusiasm, trying his best to win favor from the parole board, but is denied time after time.

In prisons across America, prisoners serving life sentences live each day with

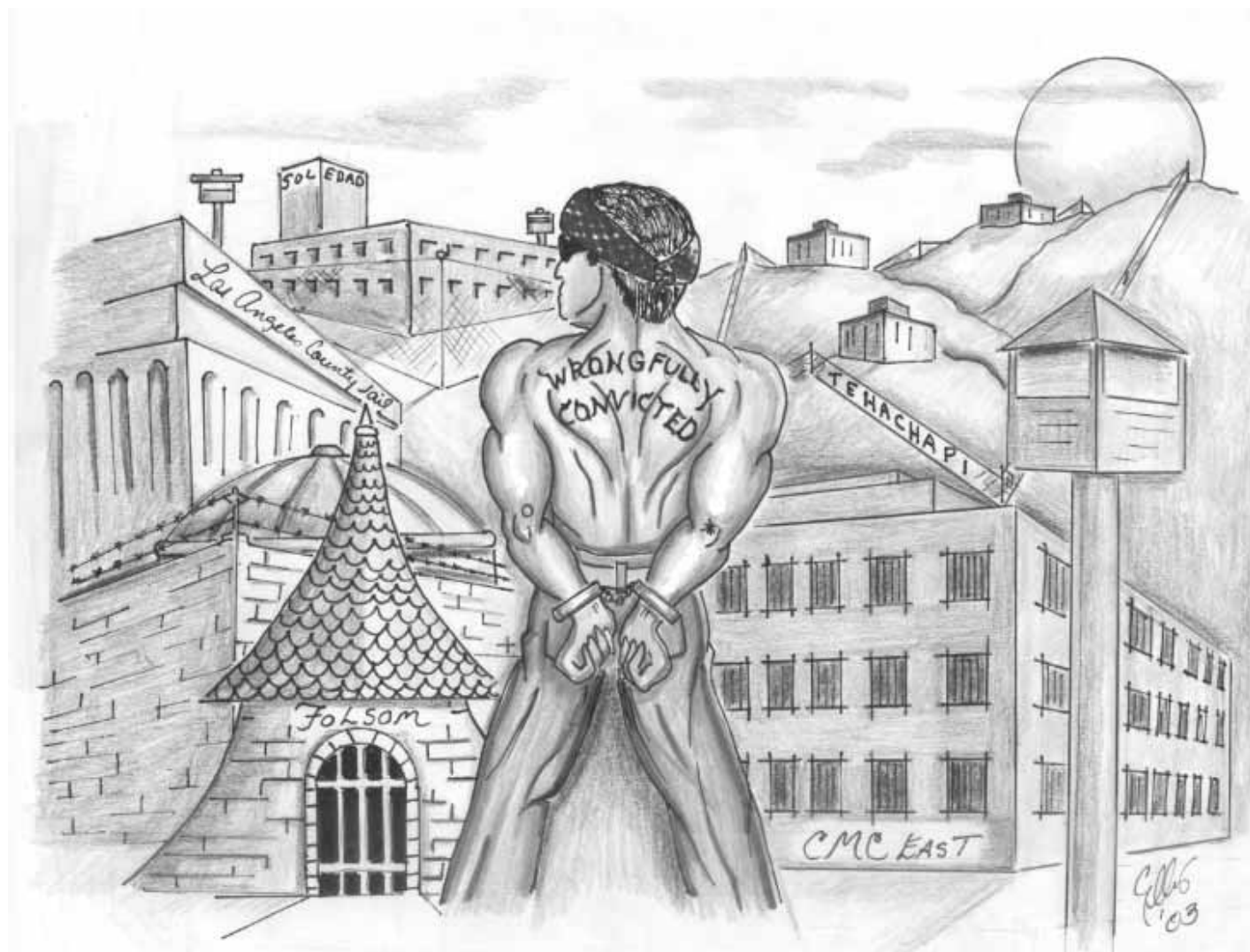


Illustration: Gene Ellis

hope that one day a parole board will release them back into society. But that hope is fading. Unless a prisoner is sentenced to life without parole, a lifer under the law is eligible for a release date, so long as the parole board finds him/her rehabilitated.

For the last three years, prisoners' hope rested on the case of Robert Rosenkrantz, an inmate at the California Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo. His case has drawn a lot of media coverage, due to his father's influence and ability to hire the best team of lawyers. Rosenkrantz is serving a 15 years-to-life sentence for second-degree murder.

Despite a parole board decision to grant him parole, despite several successful court rulings, despite several Court orders granting him an immediate release from prison, Governor Davis blocked each and every victory, using his ultimate authority to deny Rosenkrantz a release date.

Superior Court Judge Paul Gutman ruled in 2001 that Governor Davis was

enforcing a "no parole" policy. With only four life term inmates being released since he took office, despite hundreds of parole dates being granted by the Board of Prison Terms, perhaps the "no parole" policy is a matter of fact.

There are over 22,000 lifer inmates incarcerated in California. The majority are represented at Parole hearings by state appointed attorneys who are overworked, underpaid, and have heavy caseloads. Thus, getting a parole board to grant a parole date with such poor representation is nearly impossible. When money and political influence can't buy freedom, such as in the Rosenkrantz case, it leaves one to wonder if there is any hope left.

Lifers hold the best prison jobs statewide, have the ability to organize and protest, strike, and can spearhead a successful letter campaign to key government representatives. Yet, lifers are afraid to suffer the consequences of a disciplinary write up, for fear that just one write up could delay a parole date for years.

Thus, the majority of lifers, unwilling to actively protest, maintain their prison programming, think they can't make a difference, and overall, have accepted their existence, waiting for a new court ruling to open doors. Lifers completely lost hope under the leadership of Governor Davis.

During Governor Davis' term, lifers have died of old age, disease, some suicides. Even this never created a spirit of motivation to protest and organize. Fortunately now, with Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger facing a massive budget crisis, lifers are becoming hopeful, since Arnold has been granting release dates at a fast-paced rate. Also, significant Court rulings have surfaced, which allow prisoners to receive fair parole board hearings, which will most likely result in more parole dates.

Lifers overall are an unpopular class of

people. They have received life sentences for crimes ranging from kidnapping to murder. Society doesn't care about these people. The law is in place to protect everyone's right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We have federal and state Constitutions as well as the California Penal Code, to assure everyone's equal protection rights will not be violated.

The public needs to realize that if a lifer has served out the minimum term of their life sentence, has obtained an education, stayed out of trouble, then he/she is entitled to a release date under the law. It makes no sense for taxpayers to continue to spend \$25,000 a year or more to keep prisoners incarcerated when a parole board finds them suitable for release, rehabilitated. This money could be used to keep schools open, keep schoolteachers employed. Shouldn't lifers be given a second chance at freedom, if they have proven themselves to be rehabilitated?

In the movie *The Shawshank Redemption*, after Morgan Freeman's character is finally paroled from his life sentence after serving 40 years, he poses this question to the parole board:

### "What is rehabilitation?"

The parole board in the movie couldn't answer that question. In real life, Governor Davis was unable to answer that question as well. Will our new Governor keep his promise and allow the "Parole Board to do its job" and not block lifers' release dates?

Does Governor Schwarzenegger know what "rehabilitation" is?

*This is David Valdez, coming to you from the Correctional Training Facility in Soledad, California. I am a California State prisoner currently serving 25 years to life for conspiracy/solicitation to commit murder. You can read my entire case profile at: [www.socialmovements.net](http://www.socialmovements.net) or [www.inmate.com](http://www.inmate.com)*

California Prison Moratorium Project presents...  
**BOWL-A-THON!!**  
The 6th Annual  
Saturday, 1pm, September 25  
@ Albany Bowl, 540 San Pablo Ave, Albany CA  
We ask each bowler to raise at least \$50. That gets you shoes, two games and loads of fun (not to mention prizes!).  
Help our campaigns to stop new prison construction from Stockton to Mendota! Call 510-595-4674 or email: [califmp@ipc.org](mailto:califmp@ipc.org) for pledge sheets and more information. Can't make the Bowl-A-Thon? You can still donate by sending a check to California Prison Focus/PMP, P.O. Box 339, Berkeley, CA 94701.

# OAKLAND NON-PROFITS REVEALED TO CHARGE INFLATED RENTS

Section 8, continued from front page . . .

on every one, no matter what kind of financing that may have taken place to fund that kind of development in the first place. There were five vacancies during the month of June at the Hugh Taylor House, and on average the rental units have remained vacant there for at least six months or more before the vacancy is filled.

In researching this article, I assumed that EBALDC was charging the average minimum rents of \$928 per month in that area of town on Seminary Avenue, but it still seemed a bit high (the locals call it Cemetery Avenue because of the frequency of shootings). I checked the average rent statistics for that area. According to available stats from Home Finders for that area located below MacArthur Boulevard, the average minimal rents being charged for one bedroom units are only \$650 a month. EBALDC a non-profit, is charging an astounding \$278 more per month at Hugh Taylor House for one bedroom units than the regular for-profit landlords are charging in that same area for the average minimum rents being charged for one bedroom units.

The Hugh Taylor House also has thirty SRO's (single room occupancy), that are without a kitchen and the shower is located down the hall. On average, Section 8 renters in the SRO's are being charged \$687 per month, and non-Section 8 renters in identical rooms on average are being charged \$365 per month. Section 8 renters are charged \$322 more a month than regular non-Section 8 tenants in the identical SRO's!

Checking the going rate for SRO's located in the local for-profit Hotels, I found the following: The Sutter Hotel charges \$560 per month for an SRO, Ridge Hotel charges \$475, and the Old Oakland Hotel charges from \$480 to

\$520. As it turned out, at \$687 charge for Section 8 tenants at the Hugh Taylor House for an SRO, is more than all of the above mentioned for-profit.

June records for another one of EBALDC's other buildings called Effies House show that Section 8 renters are being charged hundreds of dollars more a month than many of the other regular tenants that reside there.

## Some recently leaked documents from an Oakland non-profit housing organization revealed that rents being charged in identical units at some of their properties are higher by as much as \$300 per month

On August 18, I contacted Lynette Lee, EBALDC's Executive Director, and asked for an interview. Ms. Lee agreed to the interview, and wanted to schedule a time for it to take place until she realized that the story was about EBALDC and the affordable housing crisis and the Section 8 crisis that was going on. Ms. Lee suddenly claimed that it was a conflict of interest for me to cover the story because I am one of the renters in her empire of more than 600 rental units which she controls.

### Comparing Non-Profit Housing Organizations

After doing some research to compare EBALDC with other local non-profit housing organizations to see what they may have in common, I discovered a local one called Resources for Community Development (RCD). Comparing finances seemed to reveal that through the years, RCD has used capital funds to develop more housing units and emergency shelter beds, while EBALDC used their funds to pay off their properties and shifted into developing retail and office

space rather than focusing on affordable housing projects.

Founded in 1984, RCD had a portfolio of 970 affordable housing units and emergency shelter beds located throughout Alameda, Contra Costa, and Solano Counties as of 2002. RCD had another 12 projects, totaling 613 units, in predevelopment and/or construction.

Founded in 1975, EBALDC developed over 600 rental units of affordable housing as well as 190,000 square feet of retail and office space in Oakland and Emeryville.

In fiscal year 2002, RCD, a non-profit

than their counterpart non-Section 8 neighbors are, and it's all perfectly legal.

"I think it's immoral for the non-profits to set up so-called affordable housing in low-income areas to fleece the government," said Oakland resident Vivian Hain. "My family tried to rent housing from the John Stewart Company and Affordable Housing Associates, and because we were on the Cal-Works program that only offered us a subsidy of \$679 per month, we could never keep up with what the non-profits could get from the Section 8 program, and we remained homeless."

In a call to Oakland Community Housing, Inc. (OCHI), a non-profit housing developer of Oakland, I reached the Executive Director Dwight Dickerson, who was very blunt about his position. He said, "For project-based Section 8 housing, I think that you have to charge market rate rents to be able to pay off the mortgage for any given location."

Jeanne Cooke lives in downtown Oakland in a beautiful one bedroom unit with hard wood floors, which includes a dining room. She pays \$935 per month, and said, "I could never imagine living on Seminary Avenue, in East Oakland, and paying more for a one bedroom unit by a non-profit than what I am being charged here."

According to John Stewart of the John Stewart Company which owns or operates more than 22,000 rental units in California, "It's a systemic problem. The cost of building and operating rental housing in California has become so costly, that even the non-profits have not managed to offer housing that is available to the homeless and very low-income families. For many, the cost of housing is beyond their reach no matter what we do."

*Lynda Carson May be reached at tenantsrule@yahoo.com or (510) 763-1085*

# ALONG THE RAILROAD

## African descent houseless elder Dalrus Joseph Brown beaten to death in West Oakland

BY CLIVE WHISTLE AND TINY



The black steel felt soft beneath my feet. Almost like velvet. And if I closed my eyes I could imagine the solid steel of the West Oakland railroad tracks to be the plush, velvet lining of a proper coffin for my murdered brother, African descent houseless elder Dalrus

Joseph Brown.

Dalrus, or "DJ," as some of us called him, was 55 years old and kept to himself. We only spoke a few times, when I, too, not so many months ago was staying "on the tracks" in West "O". He was a decent man who really bothered no one. Some people said he was a vet and I wouldn't be surprised, he had a silent courage which could have faced any situation. Inside that silent countenance was also loss, perhaps the loss of a man who somewhere along the railroad of homelessness and racism in Amerikkka lost his soul...

When my editors at PNN asked me to write about the brutal beating and murder of Dalrus Brown on Saturday July 17 at the very place that he lived, the railroad tracks of West Oakland, I winced back tears of shame. I already knew about DJ's murder, but something inside me just couldn't touch it. It was common knowledge that there was a "gang" of young folks, roving the areas in West Oakland populated by houseless folks and beating them mercilessly.

In that story, there are so many troubling things to examine. First of all, how could these "youths," as the police and corporate media referred to them, become so hateful and disconnected

from humanity to do such things? Perhaps, in a capitalist society that actively encourages the separation of youth from elders, black from white, and most importantly rich from poor, these "youths" could act with no supervision from adults and have absolutely no respect for these poor elders. Or perhaps they believed the constant lies and myths promoted by mainstream media, policy makers, and pop culture that "homeless" people are a tribe of worthless people who were born that

**. . . there are so many troubling things to examine. First of all, how could these "youths," as the police and corporate media referred to them, become so hateful and disconnected from humanity to do such things?**

way, rather than the kind of root-cause explanations that PNN tries to examine when they break down the connections between homelessness and eviction, the links between gentrification and red-lining of poor folks and communities of color. Or perhaps they were influenced by the extreme violence promoted in Army-sponsored video games, the most recent being one that I saw set up at the UA Theatre in Oakland, that points a "gun" at street people and animals and allows the game player to shoot them. Most likely, it is all these things, with some random childish tendencies thrown in.

And lest readers think that his murder was racially motivated, you're wrong. Houseless people of all colors in the West Oakland area have been violently attacked for the last several months with no regard for race, age or gender. The only thread that binds the attacks are that the houseless folks dwell in encampments near the railroad tracks. In fact, these attacks follow a national and international trend of attacks on houseless people. In June, a white, 54-year-old man in Louisville, Kentucky was brutally beaten, sodomized and murdered. In July, two houseless men (one Native American, one white) were beaten and stabbed in Grandview, Missouri, and in Japan (another highly competitive consumer economy well-known for its contempt of "homeless" people), four teenagers were arrested for beating a houseless man, dousing him with paint thinner, and setting him on fire.

Perhaps the saddest part of attacks on folks like Dalrus is that if these kinds of attacks happened in other neighborhoods populated by homeful residents, folks might get bars on their windows or locks on their doors. But in Dalrus' neighborhood, we all still dwell, unprotected and helplessly ready for the next attack.

In the end, very few people will miss Dalrus, but I will; forever seeing him sitting quietly, gracefully, by the strong steel rods embedded in the earth in West Oakland.

*To read more journalism on issues of poverty and racism written by the youth and adults who experience it first-hand, visit [www.poormagazine.org](http://www.poormagazine.org).*

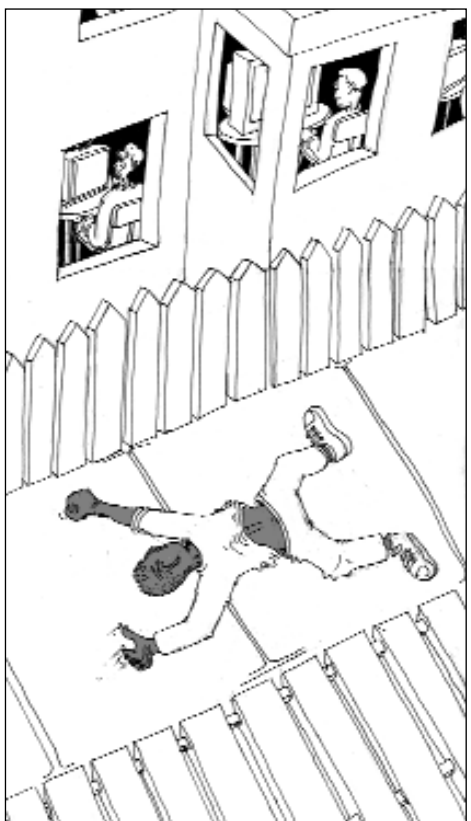


Illustration: Jamie Huribout





An angel of the public interest (far left) and Executive Director of Media Alliance Jeff Perlstein (next left) watch President of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists John Connelly speak out against corporate influence on the media outside of the FCC Hearing in Monterey last July.

that Fox New's parent, NewsCorp? had a large stake in the deregulation rules because they both already owned more stations than the previous rules had allowed. Fox provided vehemently pro-war news coverage and editorials in the period before the Iraq invasion. Solomon comments, "This is the typical Karl Rove strategy of helping out those who further the agenda of the administration."

It can be hard to determine which partner is leading the dance at any given moment. General Electric, which owns NBC, spent over \$45 million dollars on lobbying in 2003 alone. GE is also a defense department contractor with annual revenue of \$134.2 billion, profiting handsomely from its government contracts in Iraq.

GE's has also been caught up in some controversy involving the coverage of the 2000 presidential election. Congressman Henry Waxman (D-California) has repeatedly accused Jack Welch, then CEO of GE, of interfering with the election coverage by ordering the premature announcement of Bush's victory on NBC. Welch, a long time Bush supporter, has denied the charges. But according to Neil Gordon, investigator for the Center for Public Integrity, Welch did admit that he was cheering for Bush at NBC headquarters. He reports that after initially promising to turn over an internal videotape of Welch at NBC headquarters on election night, NBC withdrew the offer.

On the democratic presidential side, John Kerry has in the past been an outspoken critic of special interest money in politics, co-sponsoring the joint resolution against media consolidation and supporting multiple bills restricting campaign financing. He also recently gave an interview to John Nichols of *The Nation* magazine, where he used the media democracy rhetoric of the left to express his views. But media remains missing from his campaign platform, and not one of the 400+ press releases on the website has anything to do with media issues.

Kerry's relative reticence on media reform might be related to the fact that his top financial supporters are media companies and the law firms that represent them. Two of Kerry's top four career patrons are the law firms Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glosky and Popeo, who represent telecom and cable interests, and Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, who represent Time Warner and News Corp.. Time Warner also ranks in the top four category of Kerry supporters.

### Grassroots Campaign

The failure of politicians to produce meaningful media reforms has provoked a nationwide effort to open the public airwaves serve for political debate, especially among candidates. This year a coalition of 60 non-profits, unions and churches have joined the a campaign called "Our Democracy, Our Airwaves." The coalition includes the AFL-CIO, Common Cause, the Communications Workers of America, the Consumers Union, the League of Women Voters, the Sierra Club, and the United Church of Christ, amongst others.

Their aim is to require that broadcasters to air a minimum of two hours of candidate or issue-focused programming a week as part of their public interest requirement. They also want to create a voucher system for political advertisements, funded by a spectrum user fee applied to broadcasters. This campaign already has a bill of the same title in the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee of the Senate, and is sponsored by John McCain (R-Arizona), Richard Durbin (D-Illinois), Russ Feingold, (D-Wisconsin) and Jon Corzine (D-New Jersey). This campaign obviously goes against the interests of the broadcasting industry's bottom line, but with a strong grassroots constituency, they hope to counter the broadcaster's political weight, making it so that politicians might have more to lose than their campaign contributions.

*This article is available online at [www.corp-watch.org](http://www.corp-watch.org). CorpWatch counters corporate-led globalization through education, network-building and activism.*

Media: continued from page 2...

Congress. While she found 14 other brave souls to co-sponsor the bill, she never received a Congressional hearing on the subject. Later, Slaughter learned that the broadcasting industry had spent \$11 million to defeat her bill.

In 2002, during the debate on the Campaign Finance Reform Act banning unlimited soft money contributions to the political parties, Slaughter again pushed to decrease the cost of political advertising. "I find it extremely ironic that this body would consider an amendment to protect this special interest group [the broadcasters] as we work to limit the influence of special interest money in our political process," she remarked.

According to a the Center for Responsive Politics, the NAB spent thousands in campaign contributions prior to the vote to approve the Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform Law, including \$15,000 to the National Republican Congressional Committee and \$17,000 to the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. In addition to these soft money contributions, the NAB doled out more than \$60,000 to House and Senate members during that time, including large contributions to Lindsay Graham (R-South Carolina), Richard Burr (R-North Carolina), and John Dingell (D-Michigan), all of whom later went on to sponsor pro-industry amendments.

Slaughter's position on cheaper commercials lost in the house 321-101. A provision to reduce the cost of airtime did clear the Senate with a 60-40 vote but according to Meredith McGehee of the Alliance for Better Campaigns, it turns out that incumbent Senators face a slightly different equation when it comes to advertising costs. McGehee explains that "Because of redis-

show's host is quoted stating that the Senate candidates would "prefer to hide behind 30-second ads."

NAB's York claims that "it would be hard to imagine a broadcaster refusing to get both candidates on the air, who wouldn't want to have that explosive debate?" But in fact broadcasters do regularly refuse

### Contributions, lobbying, all expenses paid junkets, and above all favorable spin during the ever smaller news hole in which news issues are framed are the payback provided by the broadcasters to the politicians.

tricting, races for house seats are usually more secure, incumbent Congressmen are hesitant to support a policy that might upset that security. The Senate is more open to granting political ad subsidies, because their campaigns already rely more heavily on advertising to communicate their message."

NAB spokesperson Jeff York downplays NAB's role in killing cheaper commercial time in Congress. He argues that politicians currently refuse the free airtime that they are offered because they are afraid to confront their challengers. To support his claim he points to a Washington Post article that exposed eleven Senators who refused to debate their opponents on NBC's Meet the Press. Tim Russert, the

to broadcast debates. In a study released just last week by the Committee for the Study of the American Electorate shows that 73 percent of the 174 debates (gubernatorial and congressional) researched by the committee were not aired by any of the networks (NBC, ABC, CBS, UPN, Fox, and WB). Furthermore, 82% of stations with one or more debates in their area refused to air them.

#### Political payoffs

*So far this election season broadcasters have donated \$ 3,592,069 in hard money contributions to candidates. Over the past three years the big five Media companies, Disney (ABC), News Corp (Fox) GE (NBC & Telemundo), Viacom (ABC), Time Warner (CNN & WB) plus the NAB have spent over \$ 79,740,000 on lobbying.*

[PoliticalMoneyline/FECinfo.com](http://PoliticalMoneyline/FECinfo.com)

Killing free or reduced air time for political ads is only one of the lobbying goals of the NAB and the big media companies. NAB's legislative agenda ranges from promoting protectionist policies against the Satellite Television industry and Low Power radio, to limiting their public interest requirements by fighting spectrum user fees and political advertisement subsidies. Beyond protecting the broadcasting industry, media company lobbying efforts have ranged from supporting provisions in international free trade agreements to the elimination of the estate tax.

Contributions, lobbying, all expenses paid junkets, and above all favorable spin during the ever smaller news hole in which news issues are framed are the payback provided by the broadcasters to the politicians. Norman Solomon, media analyst for the media watchdog group FAIR, points out

**ecology center**  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

**The Ecology Center  
Bookstore**

Your Source for Environmental  
and Political Books

Open 11-6 Tuesday-Saturday

2350 San Pablo Avenue  
Berkeley, California 94702  
(510) 548-3402

[www.ecologycenter.org](http://www.ecologycenter.org)

One block south of Dwight Way on San Pablo Ave.

**CAFE**  
**Gaudi**

**Café Gaudi**

2944 16th Street  
one block south of  
Mission in San Francisco

**Iñiqui Martinez**  
Owner

(415) 255-9722

[cafegaudi5@hotmail.com](mailto:cafegaudi5@hotmail.com)

# THE CONTRA CASHIER COMES TO BAGHDAD



1984 as counter-insurgency campaigns intensified in neighboring Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua.

Despite the 1983 Boland Amendment declaring any support of Nicaragua's Contras illegal (due to their well-documented acts of torture and mass murder), Negroponte helped set up the delivery of arms to the group to assist them in the illegal overthrow of their government. He also helped funnel funding, training and intelligence to his Contra friends and offered them a safe haven just inside of Honduras.

## Democratic Principles

Meanwhile, in Guatemala and El Salvador, brutal military dictators supported by the US were escalating campaigns to squash armed guerilla rebellions, their suspected civilian sympathizers, and the indigenous population, in general. Although Honduras never had a guerilla movement to speak of to "justify" such acts, great lengths were taken to obstruct the work of any left-leaning activist, academic or journalist. Decree 33, passed in 1983, declared a "terrorist" anyone who distributed political literature, associated with foreigners or joined groups deemed subversive by the government. "They followed, arrested and executed people who just thought differently," recalled Honduran MP Edmundo Orellana.

The Battalion 316, a clandestine, paramilitary death squad, led this Campaign and used "shock and suffocation devices," among other methods of torture. COFADEH, the Committee of Family Members of the Disappeared, registers at least 300 people murdered at the hand of the state during this era, and 184 disappeared.

## Information Management

Negroponte, although he knew full well of these abuses, omitted them from his obligatory Human Rights Report, submitted annually to help guide foreign policy. The 1982 report asserted that "there are no political prisoners in Honduras," that "no incident of official interference with the media has been recorded for years," and that "student, worker and peasant and other interest groups have full freedom to organize and hold frequent public demonstrations without interference." These statements were all bold-faced lies, claims Rick Chidester, a junior Embassy Official under Negroponte. He claims the documents were significantly altered before being submitted to Congress.

## Kissinger's Apprentice

Negroponte's career, however, did not begin or end in Central America. As a young, aspiring diplomat, Negroponte learned from the best. Prior to Honduras, he worked in the US embassy in Saigon under Henry Kissinger, where he is rumored to have played a role in implementing the Phoenix Program, a secret campaign of torture and murder that claimed the lives of some 20,000 suspected Vietcong sympathizers (according to the CIA; other sources have put the number at twice that).

After Honduras, Negroponte was appointed to a number of strategic diplomatic posts and worked at advancing US business interests abroad, particularly in the energy industry. He also directed the State Department's response to the Chernobyl disaster, tried in vain to keep US troops in the Philippines and Panama, and was "intimately involved" in the creation of the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) while US Ambassador to Mexico.

## Hello, Iraq

In January 2004, *The Guardian (UK)* reported that the Pentagon had approved a secret

police force in Baghdad and budgeted \$3 billion for its establishment. The secret force will draw from Iraqi exiles and former mukhabarat agents (the notorious secret police forces under Saddam). Vincent Cannistraro, former chief of CIA counter-terrorism said that "They're clearly cooking up joint teams to do Phoenix-like things, like they did in Vietnam."

The aim, as in the Phoenix program, the Contra project, and the Battalion 316, is to scare the civilian population out of supporting the opposition -- without trial, without due process, without proof of any wrongdoing -- but with torture, extra-judicial killings and other acts of intimidation. What that amounts to is the criminalization of all forms of dissent, the absolute prevention of the "democracy" we are ostensibly there to secure and the creation of an abusive state apparatus that mirrors that of Saddam Hussein.

Enter John Negroponte. Sure, he does not speak Arabic or have any experience in the Middle East. But, he does have vast experience in subverting other countries' democratic institutions, overseeing clandestine military operations on multiple fronts, covering up human rights violations, laughing in the face of US and international law and establishing open season for US business interests and corrupt military dictatorships willing to sell out their country for personal gain. And, he has gotten away with all of it unscathed. He is just the man for the job.

His placement is an insult to all of those in Central America who suffered during his time there, it is a clear sign of the US' goal of geopolitical dominance, and it is a warning to all in Iraq who dare oppose the occupation in their words, thoughts or deeds. "It is difficult for me to accept that he is a free man," lamented Chicago-based Honduran Alexy Lanza, "But naming such a man Ambassador to Iraq is simply perverse."

## Negropontes' "Dirty" History May Be Iraq's Future

BY JESSICA PUPOVAC

When Paul Bremer resigned as Iraqi ambassador last spring, George W. Bush's nomination for his replacement could not have been more brazen in its utter disregard for diplomatic tact, nor in its naked ambition to squash any foreign dissent. The peace and justice movement watched in stunned disbelief as the Senate quickly approved John Negroponte, a man whose political trail is littered with lies and death squads, in less than three weeks. The credentials that they failed to review speak volumes about what is in store for Iraq.

Negroponte is most famous for his integral role in the dirty wars of Central America. During his term as US Ambassador to Honduras, military aid to Honduras skyrocketed from \$4 million in fiscal 1980 to \$77.5 million in

# A vegetarian diet is the acid test of humanitarianism.

Leo Tolstoy

Philosophical implications of exploiting animals must include:  
**Animal Liberation: A New Ethics for Our Treatment of Animals**  
 by Peter Singer

Environmental havoc caused by modern factory farming:  
[www.earthsave.org](http://www.earthsave.org)

Health benefits of a vegetarian diet and related issues:  
[www.perm.org](http://www.perm.org)

Help with starting to eat cruelty-free:  
[www.vegetarianstarterkit.com](http://www.vegetarianstarterkit.com)

While no one can fully prevent the pain, you can do a lot to reduce the  
 ramifications of what you put in your body every day.  
 The human life, environmental situations identified the most harmful diet on one of the most  
 most beneficial things, individuals can do for our environment  
 By going vegetarian (or vegan) today, you can effect positive change right now.

# Subscribe!

Get Fault Lines delivered fresh to your door each month. For a mere \$20 you will receive 12 issues filled with unique coverage and in-depth features available only in Fault Lines. We are committed to disrupting business as usual by researching the stories that are blacked out by the media plutocracy and creating a space for these stories to be utilized as a tool for radical change in our communities. And each subscription helps us cover the expenses of publishing this paper. Subscribe online now at [www.indybay.org/faultlines/](http://www.indybay.org/faultlines/) or send this form with a check or money order payable to: SF Bay Area IMC.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Fault Lines

Support independent media by donating to your local IMC. Your contributions help maintain our community media lab, website, and projects including Enemy Combatant Radio, Street Level TV, and Fault Lines newspaper. Every donation over \$40 also gets you a subscription to Fault Lines newspaper. Donate online at [www.indybay.org/donate](http://www.indybay.org/donate) or send a check or money order payable to:

SF Bay Area IMC, 2940 16th St Ste 216, San Francisco, CA 94103-3682.

# PEACE in the PARK...



Large photo: Jeff Paterson, smaller photos: Matt Fitt

Inset photos: (L) Michael Franti sings the truth- "You can bomb the world into pieces, but you can't bomb the world into peace." (R) Youth Speaks poet and Brave New Voices (Inter) National Teen Poetry Slam champion Jose Vadi spits knowledge between sets.

9/11/2004: At the end of the week in which the number of American soldiers killed during hostilities in Iraq surpassed 1000, the Power to the Peaceful Festival provided a welcome day of rest and celebration for the anti-war movement. About 30,000 people jammed Speedway Meadows in Golden Gate Park on the anniversary of September 11 for the 6th annual "911 Power to the Peaceful Festival" presented by Michael Franti of Spearhead. Live performances by Spearhead, String Cheese Incident, Gift of Gab, Butler Trio, and Xavier Rudd had folks dancing between alternating sunshine and fog. Amy Goodman, Medea Benjamin, Mario Africa, Barbara Lubin, Dennis Kucinich, and a host of Youth Speaks! poets kept things flowing between sets.



Photo: Matt Fitt

No circle pits here; Love ruled the day



Photo: Jeff Paterson

Memorial wall to those killed by police

If you thought F-911 was hot,  
The End of Suburbia will  
have you boiling

Join **Fault Lines**  
for a screening  
with Director  
Gregory Greene

Sept. 27, 2004  
7:30 pm; \$5-15  
(no one turned away)

AK Press Warehouse  
674 23rd St., Oakland

The  
**END** of  
**SUBURBIA**

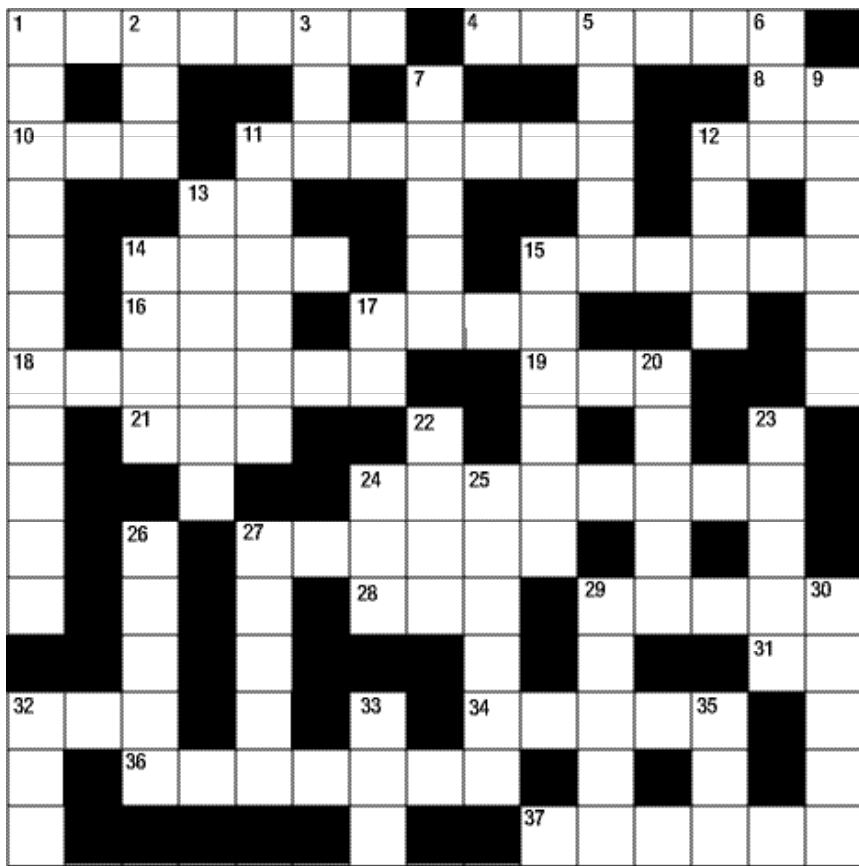
Oil Depletion and The Collapse  
of The American Dream



or Join Amalgamated Transit Union 1555 (BART) for  
a screening at the Parkway Theater in Oakland on  
Sept. 26, 2004 at 3pm and followed by a conversation  
with Richard Heinberg, author of *Powerdown:*  
*Options and Alternatives for a Post Carbon World*

Both screenings are co-sponsored  
by Post Carbon Institute [www.postcarbon.org](http://www.postcarbon.org)





**Down:**

1. Blackbeard's medium? (6,5)
2. Cloth scrap (3)
3. Solid water (3)
5. Cattle round-up (5)
6. Old instrument of execution (3)
7. Lightning attack (5)
9. Attorney (6)
11. Drink of the gods (6)
12. Given the facts (4)
13. Unwritten arithmetic (6)
15. Masoch's complement (4)
16. Chronicler of lost time (6)
17. This one in French (2)
20. Discount for birds (5)
22. Dutch lesbian? (4)
23. Athletic freak? (5)
24. Sounds chilly (3)
25. Grade below nobility (6)
26. Sheeplike (5)
27. Half Italian? (5)
29. More secure (5)
30. Hypermasculine (5)
32. HAL's real counterpart (3)
33. Reverse deity makes a companion (3)
35. Hit song? (3)

**Across:**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Ancient Egyptian scam? (7)          | 15. "Not the thing said but a way of saying it" (Dylan Thomas) (6) | 27. God of free trade (6)                 |
| 4. Found at last (6)                   | 16. Am not an insect (3)   | 28. Forgotten Member of NWA: MC ____ (3)  |
| 8. Forty very large Romans (2)         | 17. Ceasar in Russian (4)  | 29. Male seed (5)                         |
| 10. Floormat (3)                       | 18. Communist bureaucracy? (3,4)                                   | 31. Atomic number 73; Informal thanks (2) |
| 11. Mythic loom breaker (3,4)          | 19. Killer whale (3)   | 32. Charged particle (3)                  |
| 12. Narco cops (3)                     | 21. Acoustic corn? (3)   | 34. Cite authority (5)                    |
| 13. Personal objective? (2)            | 24. The last of Raymond Chandler? (3,5)                            | 36. Science of natural systems (7)        |
| 14. Religious or political faction (4) |  | 37. Secret sympathizer (6)                |

**ANSWERS TO CRYPTO #3:**

**Across:** 5. Cold War 6. Lacan 8. Red Emma 13. Big Brother 14. Crusoe 16. Bove 17. Ulysses 20. Proudhon 21. State 23. Blood of the Beasts 25. Laudanum 28. Nod 29. 30. Kropotkin 31. Zoo 32. Briefs 35. Nazi 36. Firkin 37. Lions 39. Mean 40. Hayek  
**Down:** 1. Orwell 2. Dogma 3. Magritte 4. Noam 7. At dusk 9. Ambrosia 10. Berserk 11. Que viva Mexico 12. De Sade 15. Black box 16. Blow Up 18. Down and Out 19. Kronstadt 22. Homeopathy 24. Sardonic 26. Man Ray 27. Big bang 33. Ion 34. Fanon 36. Fringe 38. Slurp

"Our strategy should be not only to confront Empire, but to lay siege to it. To deprive it of oxygen. To shame it. To mock it. With our art, our music, our literature, our stubbornness, our joy, our brilliance, our sheer relentlessness -- and our ability to tell our own stories. Stories that are different from the ones we're being brainwashed to believe. The corporate revolution will collapse if we refuse to buy what they are selling -- their ideas, their version of history, their wars, their weapons, their notion of inevitability. Remember this: We be many and they be few. They need us more than we need them."  
 -from "Confronting Empire" in *War Talk* (South End Press, 2003)



Photo: Matt Pitt

On August 18 Arundhati Roy, author of *The God of Small Things and Power Politics*, spoke at a KPFA benefit at Berkeley Community Theatre. She was joined by Democracy Now's Amy Goodman, Boots Riley of *The Coup*, and David Barsamian. To see more Indymedia photos of this event, visit <http://www.indymedia.org/news/2004/08/1692535.php>



Cartoon by Condar

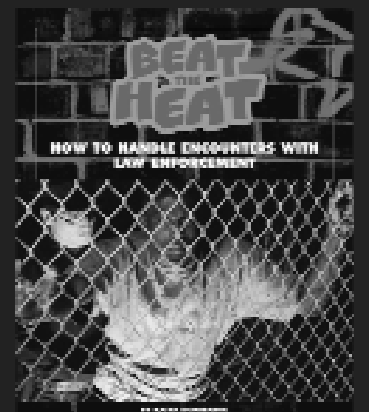


WWW.AKPRESS.ORG



**IYA BASTA!**  
 TEN YEARS OF THE ZAPATISTA UPRISING  
 WRITINGS OF SUBCOMANDANTE MARCOS  
 Forewords by Noam Chomsky & Naomi Klein

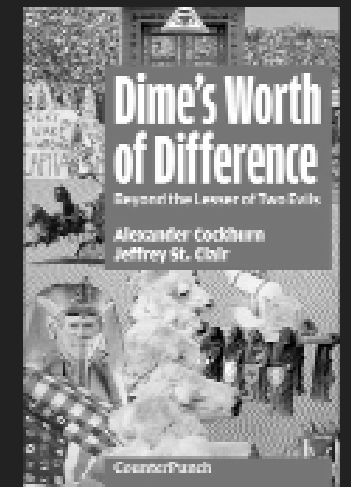
\$26.95 | 188 p. | ISBN: 1-55480-13-5  
 The most comprehensive collection of essays and communiqués of Marcos, *Iya Basta!* chronicles the written voice of the Zapatista movement and its struggle to open a space within the neoliberal, globalized landscape for the oppressed people of the world.



**BEAT THE HEAT**  
 HOW TO HANDLE ENCOUNTERS WITH  
 LAW ENFORCEMENT

by Katya Komisaruk  
 \$14 | 102 p. | ISBN: 1-55480-26-1

*Beat the Heat*, written by a Harvard-trained criminal defense lawyer, teaches you exactly what to say if you're stopped by the police or confronted with a search warrant. Cartoon sequences show how police officers and FBI agents manipulate their suspects, and how you can protect yourself. It includes sample warrants and subpoenas, explaining what you need to know before trouble's at your door.



**DIME'S WORTH OF DIFFERENCE**  
 BEYOND THE LESSER OF TWO EVILS  
 EDITED BY ALEXANDER COCKBURN & JEFFREY ST. CLAIR  
 \$15.95 | 204 p. | ISBN: 1-55480-25-8

After 12 years of Clinton/Rush, the differences between Republicans & Democrats are harder than ever to detect. This double-barrel collection exposes the political establishment by showing that choosing the lesser of two evils still leaves you with evil.



**BOOKS TO CHANGE THE WORLD**

**TO ORDER**  
 INDIVIDUALS CALL: 510.208.1700 OR VISIT WWW.AKPRESS.ORG  
 BOOKSELLERS CALL: 1.800.283.3572  
 DISTRIBUTED BY CONSORTIUM  
 REVIEW COPIES FAX: 510.208.1701

# Calendar **Sept.'s Events**

For more information or to submit your event, visit [www.indybay.org/calendar](http://www.indybay.org/calendar).

**9/7-12/14, 7pm: Introduction to Anarchist Organizations**  
Facilitated discussion with members of AK Press and Emma Goldman Papers, this class takes a critical look at the ways anarchists have organized past and present. CCSF; anarchistlibrary.org

**9/9-11/18: Patterns in Anarchist History**  
Is there anything to learn from past experiences and actions of anarchists that can inform today's activities? With Barry Pateman, Ph.D. (Asst. Director Emma Goldman Papers, Head Archivist Kate Sharply Library). CCSF; anarchistlibrary.org

**9/16: Ramsey Kanaan: When Fucking the System Isn't Enough**  
Ramsey discusses his experiences as an anarchist organizer in Scotland with the Edinburgh anarchist org., Community Resistance, including their five year anti-poll tax organization campaign - and the conclusions that can be drawn in terms of anarchist organizations, groups and vanguards. CCSF; anarchistlibrary.org

**9/16, 7pm: The Right Wing and U.S. Prosperity**  
A talk by Michael Perelman, professor of economics at CSU Chico. Green Room, Sierra 2 Center, 2791 24th St., Sacramento; 916-446-1758

**9/17, 4:30pm: Peace Fresno Antiwar Protest**  
Peace Fresno takes to the street to oppose war and the Bush administration's foreign and domestic agenda. Air National Guard Facility, McKinley Ave, Fresno; [www.PeaceFresno.org](http://www.PeaceFresno.org)

**9/17, 8pm: RNC Reportback by Street Level TV**  
Come check out some of the first footage to screen in the Bay Area from the Republican National Convention in NY! Dolores Park, SF; [www.indybay.org](http://www.indybay.org)

**9/18, 10am: Stop Reading, Start Doing**  
Join SF politicos at a free training session (and lunch) for those working on a fall political campaign. California State Building, 455 Golden Gate, SF; 415-225-7097.

**9/18 & 19, 3:30pm: San Francisco Mime Troupe**  
Free performance in Fresno's Roeding Park.

**9/18 Miss Trans Globe**  
Benefit for the Filipino Task Force on AIDS to crown the FTFA's ambassador of good will and safe sex. \$25-40; Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon St, SF; 415-920-2630

**9/18, 6pm: East Bay Anarchist Cafe**  
Workshops, music, reportback from RNC, free food, and more. West Berkeley; 800-GUN-NUMB

**9/18, 7pm: Sex Art & Politics Opening**  
Radical sex photography by Barbara Nitke, photos and sculpture by Michael Blue and Midori, and bondage performance. 1229 Folsom St, SF; 415-621-6294

**9/18, 10pm: RNC Video Reportback at the Noodle Factory**  
Video activists returning from the RNC in NYC present short segments, and local DJs spin hip-hop into the early morning hours. \$5-10; 1255 26th St @ Union, Oakland; [www.indybay.org](http://www.indybay.org)

**9/19, 11am: Upper Grant Avenue Fall Art Fair**  
Art, poetry and entertainment celebrating the cultural vitality of North Beach; between Vallejo and Filbert Sts, SF; [www.uppergrantartfair.com](http://www.uppergrantartfair.com)

**9/19: How Berkeley Can You Be**  
Annual parade in Berkeley

**9/19, 3pm: Book Launch Party for Doug Dowd's "Broken Promises of America"**  
Scholar and activist Doug Dowd's new encyclopedia is the "ultimate primer on what has gone wrong with our country." First Presbyterian Church, 1140 Cowper St., Palo Alto; 650-326-8837

**9/19, 7pm: RNC Reportback**  
A reportback on direct action in the streets of New York City during the Republican National Convention, at Cellspace, 2050 Bryant Street, SF; 415-648-7562 or 510-520-4991

**9/20, 7pm: Killing for Profit: Making Money from the War on Iraq**  
Antonia Juhasz talks about the billions of dollars that certain companies are making from U.S. invasions and occupations. Newman Center, 5900 Newman Ct, Sacramento; 916-448-7157

**9/21, 1pm: Gray Panthers: Uncle Sam Wants YOU**  
Join SF Veterans for Peace and others to talk about the draft, military recruiting in the schools, and how to resist growing militarism. Unitarian Universalist Center, 1187 Franklin at Geary, SF; 415-552-8800

**9/21, 7pm: School Board Candidate Forum**  
Central Valley Progressive PAC will hold a candidate forum at the Fresno High school library,

Fresno; 559-226-1416

**9/22, 11am: Listening for a Change**  
Every week since October 2001, "Listening for a Change" has nurtured space for public dialogue on vital issues. Sponsored by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Lytton Plaza, University and Emerson, Palo Alto; 650-857-0927

**9/22: Autumnal Equinox**  
The sun crosses the celestial equator from north to south, and day and night are of equal length. The equinoxes pass through all constellations of the zodiac every 26,000 years.

**9/22, 6pm: That's Revolting! Queer Strategies for Resisting Assimilation**  
With editor Mattilda, a.k.a. Matt Bernstein Sycamore and contributors Carol Queen, Charlie Anders, Tommi Avicelli Mecca, Ralowe T. Ampu, Elise Mbessakvini, Mattie Udora Richardson, Cleo Woelfle-Erskine, Blake Nemeck, Reginald Lamar and more. SF Main Library, 100 Larkin St, and 9/23 at City Lights, SF; 415-362-8193

**9/22, 7pm: Sowing for Need or Sowing for Greed**  
This film reveals the connections between multinational chemical companies and the foods they want us to eat. Humanist Hall, 390 27th St, Oakland; 510-393-5685

**9/23, 11am: Downtown Oakland CarFree? Day**  
Transportation fair at Frank Ogawa Plaza, 14th and Broadway; 510-849-4412 or 510-273-2070

**9/23: Lawrence Jarach on Post-Left Anarchism**  
According to Jarach, radicals "need to emulate and improve upon successful (however temporary) revolutionary projects for liberation" and "free ourselves from the historical baggage and the ideological and strategic constraints of all varieties of leftism." CCSF; anarchistlibrary.org

**9/24, 5:30pm: Critical Mass**  
Monthly SF bike ride starts at Justin Herman Plaza. [www.critical-mass.org](http://www.critical-mass.org)

**9/25: Love Parade SF**  
Massive street party debuts in San Francisco.

**9/25: Vegetarianism: How & Why**  
East Bay Animal Advocates presents a free workshop in Concord. 925-487-4419

**9/25, 2pm: The USA Patriot Act and Racial Profiling**  
Samina Faheem Sundas, Executive Director of American Muslim Voice, speaks on the US Patriot Act and other legislation affecting civil liberties.

Presidio Branch Library, 3150 Sacramento, SF; 415-552-8800

**9/25, 6pm: War Tax Resistance International Report Back**  
A potluck supper and international reportback by two traveling war tax resisters. 2220 Sacramento St, Berkeley; 510-843-9877

**9/25, 9am: GI Rights Hotline Training**  
A crucial element to slowing the military machine is helping individual GIs get out of the military. Sponsored by the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors. 510-465-1617

**9/26, 10am: Folsom Street Fair**  
Annual street festival between 7th and 12th Sts, SF

**9/26, 12pm: Independent Unions, Democracy & the AFL-CIO**  
Local labor activists take a look at the growing crisis as thousands of trade unionists vote to leave the AFL-CIO. Fellowship of Humanity, 390 27th St, Oakland; 415-786-7530

**9/27, Fault Lines benefit screening of "The End of Suburbia"**  
With brutal honesty and a touch of irony, The End of Suburbia: Oil Depletion and the Collapse of the American Dream explores the American way of life as the planet approaches a critical era. Director Gregory Greene will be present. Co-sponsored by Post Carbon Oakland and Fault Lines newspaper. \$5-\$15, no one turned away; 674 23rd Street, Oakland; [www.postcarbon.org](http://www.postcarbon.org)

**9/28, 6pm: Meet the Author: "The War for Muslim Minds"**  
Gilles Kepel traces the recent history of conflict between the Islamic and Western worlds. But is it worth the admission charge? World Affairs Council, 312 Sutter St, SF; 415-293-4600

**9/28, 8pm: Beathustler Political Radio**  
Beathustler Radio broadcasts live from San Francisco monthly. This month, discussion of the film "Hearts and Minds," the documentary about the epic film "Apocalypse Now." 415-336-2680

**9/29, 6:30pm: "Against Leviathan: Government Power and a Free Society"**  
Another pricey intellectual affair at the Independent Institute as one Dr. Higgs presents an "unflinching" critical analysis of the extensive range of government powers. 100 Swan Way, Oakland; 510-632-1366

**9/29-10/2: Engineers for a Sustainable World National Conference**  
Engineers, corporates, bureaucrats and NGOs gather at Stanford University to "address the challenges" of global poverty and sustainability.

**9/30: Noam Chomsky: Reflections on Anarchism**  
Premier screening of video interview conducted at Noam's house earlier this year. CCSF; anarchistlibrary.org

**9/30, 7:30pm: "Battle of Chile: The Power of the People"**  
ANSWER presents "an exultant depiction of people becoming politicized and taking charge of their own destinies, responding ingeniously to further acts of oppression and attempting to reorganize every aspect of their lives along communal lines" (LA Times). ATA, 992 Valencia St, SF; 415-821-6545

**10/1, 8pm: Shakespeare in the Yard**  
Ever evolving grassroots theater in its fourth season doing Shakespeare and Hip-Hop interpretations of Shakespeare with an Afrocentric point of view (dress warm). 9th & Peralta, Oakland; 510-208-5651

**10/2, 1pm: Youth and Power: A Gathering of Art, Revolution, and Resistance**  
A day of music, live bands, open mike, workshops, spoken word, guest speakers, Danza Azteca, arts & crafts vendors, native spiritual drummers, information tables, free food, y mucho mas. Cabrillo College Theater, Aptos.

**10/2: World Nonviolence & Peace Day**  
Cubberley Auditorium, 4000 Middlefield, Palo Alto; [www.nonviolencepeaceaday.org](http://www.nonviolencepeaceaday.org)

**10/2, 12pm: Cinemayaat - 8th Annual Arab Film Festival**  
25 independently produced feature films, documentaries and shorts. Opens at the Castro Theatre, SF, followed by shows at the Roxie, in San Jose, and in Berkeley; 415-564-1100

**10/4: International Museum of Women Celebrating Women**  
This new world-class woman-affirming museum is set to open in 2008 at SF's Pier 26; meanwhile check out a sneak preview at 1 Market St, SF; 415-543-4669 x14

**10/4, 6pm: The Emergence of Grassroots Journalism**  
Dan Gillmor, Mercury News columnist, discusses the "emerging grassroots journalism" of blogs, chat groups, and cellphones. MLK Library, 150 E. San Fernando St, San Jose; 800-847-7730

Thank goodness for liberation...

## GOT DEMOCRACY?

...no more death and torture.



**LUDICRA**  
Another Great Love Song

What better way to "celebrate" another absurd election season than for A.T. to release its first black metal album? Ludicra's style is raw, primal, dissonant and ugly and see itself apart by incorporating traditional songwriting and elements of avant-rock, crust and death metal.

LP | CD (Price 37)



**ZOLAR X**  
Timeless

After a 20 year hunt for planet Zolar, we bring you the strangest known land from the pre-punk days of glory. A sound like no other and a story as rare as The Monks. At the time, "Rock Scene" called them "The Floyd crossed with Black Sabbath." Integrated yet!

LP | CD (Price 37)



**THE SERMON**  
Volume

Full-length debut captures the spirit and critical elements of rock'n'roll's finest art, redefining those sounds within today's musical context. Hard-hitting, savage rock fury, complete with scorching dual guitar attack, thumping, complex beats, and a fierce rhythm section.

LP | CD (Std. ed. CD in - BY MAILORDER ONLY) (Price 31)



**SLIM CESSNA'S AUTO CLUB**  
The Bloody Tenent Truth And Peace

SCAC's (1992) revival-like shows have left a trail of converts all across the nation! Energized by a raw lyrics, the record sits up the country and westward in the most urban city folk, telling us influences ranging from Johnny Cash, Hank Williams, Sr., and Nick Cave.

LP | CD (Price 37)

We are a grassroots, non-violent, non-hierarchical organization engaged in direct service and direct action.

## Food Not Bombs Needs Your Help

**San Francisco:**  
We now serve dinner 7 days a week in UJI Plaza from 6:00-7:00.

**We need help with transportation, cooking, serving, or cleaning any day of the week. To get involved or learn more about what you can do, call (415)-675-9928 or introduce yourself at a serving.**

**East Bay FNB: [www.ebfnb.org](http://www.ebfnb.org)**  
510-644-4187  
Long Haul: 510-540-0751

**Food Not Bombs**

**While our government spends billions of dollars on nuclear weapons, millions of Americans go without food, shelter or health-care. Help us build community free from hunger, fear, and oppression- where weapons are not valued over human life.**

## Advertise With

# ((i)) Fault Lines

Newspaper of the SF Bay Area Independent Media Center

**Your advertising dollar will go far with us.** With little overhead as an all-volunteer organization, we can offer unheard-of rates. Our ad rates are purposely affordable so that even the smallest groups or individuals of modest means can afford space.

We do not accept ads from large chain stores or big-box retailers because we support community organizations and independent businesses. **Your ad will stand out.**

**Why?** Because we believe in a culture that that values diversity and is rooted in the communities we share. **Fault Lines is not a business, it's grass roots media.**

When you advertise with Fault Lines, you reach a dedicated and informed base of subscribers and readers throughout the SF Bay Area and Northern California, with hundreds more mailed nationally and downloaded for home printing.

**Contact our helpful sales staff Monday through Friday for any assistance you require:**  
[advertise@faultlines.org](mailto:advertise@faultlines.org)

**ALTERNATIVE TENTACLES RECORDS**  
PO Box 419000 | San Francisco | CA 94141-0000  
[www.alternativetentacles.com](http://www.alternativetentacles.com)  
Write For a FREE mailorder catalog.

Check out Alternative Tentacles' other new 2001 releases:  
40-GR, THE FURBERGERS, GITE PAJIST,  
THE MUCKLY ILL and BURNING IMAGE Coming Soon.  
BURNING IMAGE THE MUCKLY "Never Ends What You Can't See"