

PART's Perspective: White nationalism, Nazism on the rise in southern California and across the US: Anti-Racist Action Needed Now More Than Ever!

by Michael Novick, *Anti-Racist Action Los Angeles/People Against Racist Terror*

In the months since the election of Barack Obama, white nationalist and neo-nazi organizing and violence have increased steadily around the LA basin and across the United States. The most recent open Nazi activity locally was an anti-immigrant action by the National Socialist Movement (NSM) in Riverside CA. Eight boneheads in Nazi regalia with the NSM's modified US flag, complete with a swastika, held a brief anti-immigrant demonstration near a Home Depot, while hundreds of counter protesters drowned out their speakers, obscured them from public view, and tore down several Nazi flags, burning them up. The riot-gear cops protecting the Nazis advised them to leave, and they did so quickly, with Brown Berets and anti-fa's marching them back to their car and proclaiming victory. Dozens of other opponents of the Nazis, including many day laborers, stood across the street in a safety zone, while about 4 miles away downtown, there was another anti-racist, anti-Nazi rally with local religious and labor leaders to proclaim solidarity against the Nazis.

But one or two counter-demonstrations will not solve this problem. The NSM has announced its intention to return publicly in October, and they have set up a PO Box and opened an office in the area. In addition, such open Nazi activity is the tip of the iceberg of more deeply rooted and mainstream white nationalism, institutionalized white supremacy, and internalized racism. These poisonous toadstools spring up because of something rotten in the soil – settler colonialism. Nazis like the NSM are only one easily identifiable manifestation of the problem. But white nationalism and racism are manifest in many sectors of US society, not only in the explicitly fascist right, but within the left and progressive elements as well. If the problem were merely a few Nazi nutcases, it would have been solved long ago. We cannot afford to dismiss or ignore the Nazis – history has

of hatred for Blacks, Mexicans, Native people, Asians, Jews, queers and “race-mixers” or “race-traitors.” They imagine that a lack of compassion or fellow feeling is a strength, that it makes them hard, or tough. Actually, their inability to empathize makes them hollow, and renders their unity with each other brittle, especially because it is a false front papering over their emptiness and lack of self-esteem.

Similarly, the Nazis' hatred and prejudice corrodes their intelligence. Having decided *a priori* that they are the master race, superior to all others, they are incapable of facing reality objectively or of accepting facts that do not correspond with their ideology. Preconceived notions blind them to the truth. They follow their leaders because they can't think independently or critically, let alone self-critically. They are not able to make a concrete analysis of concrete conditions. Nazis' particular hatred of Jews stems from their inability to recognize the independent intelligence and cultural creativity of the supposedly “inferior races” they despise. Therefore they develop elaborate conspiratorial fantasies that someone else is doing the thinking for African or indigenous people.

Finally, like the bullies they are, Nazis are really cowards. Faced with superior or equal, or even stern and unrelenting resistance from someone they expected to be a pushover, Nazis will melt away, as they did in Riverside, scurrying back to their dens and hideouts, crawling back under the rocks. So the chant “No heart! No brains! No guts! No Nazis!” that ARA-LA raised at Riverside, is not just trash talk. It is a strategic formulation of the weaknesses of our enemy, a guide to how we can beat them in a direct confrontation. Act out of love for humanity – activated as solidarity – with intelligence, but unafraid to stand up to their bullying and to call their bluff.

COPS AND THE KLAN WORK HAND IN HAND!

But as we said, direct confrontation is not the sum total of dealing with the Nazi problem. Whenever the Nazis show their face in public organizing, they do so because they know the armed bodies of the state will have their backs. We need to make the agencies of state repression, which enforce some of the same relations of colonial exploitation and oppression as the explicit racists, pay a political price. We can do so by exposing those affinities, and using them to strip away the illusion of fairness that state agencies enjoy with some who do not usually experience their repressive force directly. The same holds for the corporate media, economic interests and political figures that benefit from and promote white nationalism and racist repression.

Here in southern California, the racism and colonialism of the criminal injustice system (the cops, courts, prosecutors and jailers) supported by the political elite of both major parties, has become increasingly evident. The same is true for the public education system, whose

shown us that opposition must be public, unyielding and fierce. Otherwise, Nazis have the capability to infect scenes, to silence or intimidate opposition, and to do serious violence and harm to people's rights, to people of color, labor, LGBTQ people, and to the left. We need to speak to them in language they will understand, in order to expose them as the cowardly bullies they are.

But we need to do more than that. We need to expose their support systems and sympathizers among the elite, the corporate power structure and the state. We need to undermine and counter-organize their base of potential support among middle and working class “white” people. And we need to be self-critical of the debilitating impact of racism, white nationalism and other forms of identification with the oppressor within our own ranks. Let's look at these different necessities in succession, beginning with dealing with the self-identified Nazis themselves.

NO HEART! NO BRAINS! NO GUTS! NO NAZIS!

Unlike Dorothy's comrades in “The Wizard of Oz,” the Nazis really do suffer from a lack of love, intelligence and courage. The Scarecrow, who was quite clever and strategic, didn't trust his native wit. The Tin Man, so sentimental and sympathetic that his own tears would rust him, didn't trust his own feelings. And the Lion, who soldiered on in the face of fear, didn't understand that was exactly the nature of true courage. They needed a humbug to certify what they already possessed. But that's not how it is with the Nazis.

While parading around as proponents of “white pride,” they are actually full of self-loathing. It is their hatred of themselves that spills over into hatred of the “other.” Incapable of loving themselves, they create a persona of heartlessness, as paragons

for autonomous movement-building in communities of resistance.

Only by learning from our defeats and failures of the past – as well as from revolutionary advances gained during past upsurges – will we be able to overcome our weaknesses and build trustworthy solidarity. It is we in the people's movements who are like Dorothy and her friends, not knowing or trusting our own strengths, our capacity to create and to solve problems no matter how daunting, our ability to build liberating alliances with others enslaved by the system. We can only learn to identify and trust our own strengths by testing, probing and acknowledging our weaknesses, and using our strengths to overcome them.

TAKING THE OFFENSIVE THIS FALL

One of the problems with anti-racism and anti-fascism is that it is too often reactive, fighting at moments or venues chosen by the enemy. Without abandoning a commitment to counteract Nazis and deny them the streets, we need to be pro-active, and on the offensive. This fall, ARA is having its international gathering in Pittsburgh on the heels of the G20 protests that were met with state brutality. This is an important opportunity to strategize about how to take the initiative as organizers in a dynamic way. ARA-LA is inviting interested anti-fascists throughout southern California to strategize and organize with us locally as well.

On Saturday October 24, Michael Novick of ARA-LA/PART will be speaking at a liberation festival at the Southern California Library in L.A. on the theme of “from the WUO to ARA – Lessons from four decades of anti-racist struggle.” Earlier that same day, we will be back on the streets against the Nazis, the Minutemen and other white nationalists, as the National Socialist Movement has announced plans to return to Riverside to hold a racist anti-immigrant rally on Oct. 24.

We are also hoping to set up pro-active events in the Inland Empire (Riverside/San Bernardino) area, Orange County, Ventura County, and the San Fernando Valley as well to develop anti-fascist and anti-colonial education, struggle for unity, and build a culture of resistance.

On December 10, International Human Rights Day, we are planning a mobilization against all wars of occupation and against colonialism and repression inside the US itself.

If you are interested in helping build those activities and that campaign, please get in touch right away!

You can reach us at 310-495-0299, by email at antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com, or by writing to us at:

**ARA-LA/PART, PO Box 1055,
Culver City CA 90232.**

We appreciate your feedback, involvement and ideas!

answer to its failure to educate Black and indigenous youth of color, is to give away the store through privatization and charters. Perhaps they are thinking of a division of labor in which the public schools will serve as feeders for the prisons and the military, while the private schools will hook up with the private prisons and the mercenaries! In any event, we need to do anti-racist and anti-fascist work with the clear understanding that police forces acting like a domestic occupying army or internal border patrol, and genocidal educational systems that write kids off as cannon fodder, are as racist as any bonehead or anti-immigrant thug.

Furthermore, we need to keep in mind a political calculus of how opposing Nazis in ways that weaken their ability to act as props of the system of colonial capitalism and simultaneously build up our own fighting capacity, can be used to de-legitimize and de-stabilize the whole edifice of exploitation and oppression they help to enforce. Reciprocally, exposing racist brutality by law enforcement agencies like the LAPD, sheriff's deputies, prison guards and LAUSD police can limit their capacity to act as protectors of open and organized white supremacists.

BONEHEADS AND POINTY HOODS ARE THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG

Too many of the groups and individuals who might come out against the Nazis are content to condemn them as “extremists,” and picture them as threat to polite society and the status quo in a way that actually enhances the Nazis' reputation and street cred with the people they want to organize. This allows the Nazis to portray themselves as some kind of revolutionaries. Some condemn the Nazis yet deny that racism is a problem within the left, or that colonialism is a problem inside the US itself. We need to unite all those who can be united, without compromising our principles. We need to do anti-racist and anti-fascist work in a way that enhances and advances a social revolutionary process of liberation.

This involves a couple of key aspects – solidarity with the anti-colonial struggles of oppressed people, and a self-critical approach to the issues of privilege and identification with the oppressor that undercut the revolutionary potential of anti-racists. In this way, we can develop a credible, appealing revolutionary alternative to the hypocrisy and oppressiveness of the system and the brutality and hatred of the Nazis, so that we can make inroads into the base of people the Nazis are trying to organize with pseudo-revolutionary rhetoric.

We can begin to develop anti-Nazi work as a component of a strategy to strengthen the popular forces so that we can win struggles for liberation and de-colonization. Evidence that we are on a successful, winning path will break the logjam of lethargy and apathy that has been blocking forward progress since the defeats of the '60s and '70s, and the substitution of non-profit careerism

Excerpts from:

EXPOSING "LITTLE GUANTANAMO:" Inside the CMU

by Daniel McGowan #63794-053, USP Marion-CMU, PO Box 1000, Marion, IL 62959

For the full text of *Exposing "Little Guantanamo:" Inside the CMU* published by the New York City Branch of the Anarchist Black Cross Federation and Family and Friends of Daniel McGowan, write to Family and Friends of Daniel McGowan, friendsofdanielmcg@yahoo.com supportdaniel.org; NYC-ABCF, PO Box 110034 Bklyn, NY 11211; nycabc@riseup.net

As of May 2009, I have been at USP Marion's "Communication Management Unit," or CMU, for roughly nine months, and now is a good time to address the misconceptions (and the silence) regarding this unit. I...hope this article will partially fill the void of information that exists concerning the CMU, will help dispel rumors, and will inspire you to support those of us on the inside fighting the existence of these isolation units in the courts and in the realm of public opinion. It's best to start from the beginning or at least where my story and the CMU meet. My transfer here is no different from that of many of the men here, who were living at Federal Correctional Institutions (normal prisons) prior to the genesis of the CMUs. On May 12, 2008, on my way back from lunch, I was told to report to Receiving and Discharge. I was given two boxes and a 1/2-hour to pack my meager possessions. After complying I was placed in the SHU (secure housing unit or "hole") and put on a bus the next day. There was no hearing and no information to me or to my attorneys. Only after a day was I told I was on my way to the Marion, IL CMU.

Let me back up and offer a brief history of the Communication Management Units. The CMU I reside in, at USP Marion, received its first prisoner in May 2008 and when I arrived, it held about 17 men, the majority of whom were Muslim. In April 2009, we received seven new people, all of whom were from the CMU at FCI Terre Haute. The unit is overwhelmingly Muslim with 18 men identifying as such. Most but not all have so-called terrorism cases. (Other CMUs have prison disciplinary violations or allegations related to communication and the misuse of telephones etc.) BOP Director Harley Lappin, in a July 2008 hearing, said: "A lot of serious offenders, terrorists, were housed at ADX Florence. So, we are ramping up two communications management units that are less restrictive but will ensure all mail and phone calls are monitored daily." According to the BOP, "The CMU is established to house inmates who, due to their current offense, conduct or other verified information, require increased monitoring of communication, in order to protect the safety, security, and orderly operations of Bureau facilities and protect the public...The CMU is a self-contained general population housing unit."

There are alternate views including that CMUs are Muslim units, a political prisoner unit, and a punishment unit. The CMUs have an extremely high Muslim population. An overrepresentation of any demographic in a prison raises constitutional as well as safety issues. Nowhere else in the BOP will you find a group in such extreme disproportion. To counter these claims, the BOP

DUE PROCESS

More appropriately, a lack thereof. Due process is: "...the conduct of legal proceedings according to established principles for the protection of private rights, including notice and the right to hearing before a tribunal with the power to decide the case." I was moved from FCI Sandstone, against my will and at a moment's notice, with no hearing and no chance to contest my transfer. Since I got here, I haven't had a hearing to contest the claims made in the "Notice to Inmate of Transfer to CMU," some of which were woefully inaccurate. Instead, I was told to utilize the administrative remedy process (which I have done to no avail) and request a transfer after 18 months of "clean conduct." I'm 10 months from the point at which I can request a transfer. Considering the fact that all my remedies have been denied, I am not hopeful about this.

CMU AS SECRET

In addition to the due process and transfer issues, there is the secretive and illegal way the CMU was created. The CMU was established roughly halfway through the second term of George W. Bush and his AG Alberto Gonzales. In April 2006, the BOP proposed a "Limited Communication for Terrorist Inmates" policy, which suggested new restrictions for "terrorists" and "terrorism related inmates" such as: 1) One 6-page letter per week. 2) One 15-minute phone call a month. 3) One 1-hour visit a month. A coalition of civil rights organizations signed a letter of protest criticizing the proposed rules and raising numerous Constitutional, practical and ethical objections. The outcry appears to have caused the BOP to reconsider it, but just 6 months later, they opened the CMU at FCI Terre Haute quietly. ... The unit is functionally an open secret. The BOP circumvented the public comment process, seeking to get around this by describing the CMU as a "self-contained general population unit," implying the unit is no different than a normal unit at an FCI. There is no mention of the CMU on the BOP's website (ww.bop.gov) or USP Marion's subpage on the same site. Letters are stamped "USP Marion," not CMU, and the unit is called "I Unit." Media queries are met with silence or vague information. Requests by the media to interview me by coming to Marion have been denied as "detrimental to the safety, security and good order of the institution." Because of the refusal of the BOP to hand over relevant documents, it's impossible to determine the specific reasons one is sent here, and thus, how to contest it.

COMMUNICATION MANAGEMENT:

The promotion of isolation and alienation

The most painful aspect of this unit to me is how the CMU restricts my contact with the world beyond these walls. Contact with family and friends is our link to the world. Prison authorities are aware that those with strong family ties and good

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ATTENTION PRISON SUBSCRIBERS! Because of financial constraints, we ask that prisoners who want a free sub contact us every six months. Too many papers are coming back because of address changes or releases. So we ask prisoners who want to continue their subs write us once during the year, and every time your address changes.

brought in a small number of non-Muslims. Does the inclusion of six non-Muslims really negate the claim of segregation? What are the criteria for determining who comes to the CMU? The BOP claims there are 211 international terrorists and 1000 domestic terrorists in their system. Yet, the CMUs have no more than 60 men at present. Where are the rest of these people? How does the BOP determine which of those 1200 are sent to a CMU?

Many here are considered political prisoners in their movements and have been engaged in social justice, religious organizations and humanitarian efforts. So another conception is that it's designed to isolate us from our movements and as a deterrent for others from those movements. The intended effect of long-term housing of this kind is a dislocation and alienation, with your mail, email, phones, and visits monitored and no human touch allowed. There is evidence of the BOP utilizing political prisons. The Lexington High Security Unit (HSU) was one such. Housing a number of female political prisoners, the HSU functioned as an isolation unit, underground, bathed in light, and limited interaction. Dr. Richard Korn, speaking for the ACLU, said the unit's goal was: "...to reduce prisoners to a state of submission essential for their ideological conversion." After an arduous campaign by human rights advocates, the BOP capitulated, stating it would close its facility (when it did not, it was sued). The judge ruled the plaintiffs were illegally designated based on their past political affiliations and beliefs. The unit was closed and the women were transferred (and eventually released). The CMUs ... seem to have some of the same goals as well as methods. Knowing they're dealing with people committed to ideals and movements, they placed us here to weaken connections and harm relationships. CMU puts a strain on family relationships, especially marriage. It was certainly considered by the architects that preventing visits that allow touch would have a disastrous impact.

Finally, the CMU can be viewed as a punitive unit for those who continue to express political beliefs anathema to the BOP or the government. I'm not aware of the BOP criteria for sending people here (due to their refusal to release information), but it's curious who's here. Out of roughly 18 codefendants in my case, I'm the only one at a CMU (the rest are at low and medium security prisons). The same for a member of the SHAC7, Andrew Stepanian, only one of 6 defendants in his case who was sent here for the last 6 months of his sentence. Some men here have codefendants at the Terre Haute CMU while others have codefendants at normal prisons. Despite numerous *Freedom of Information* requests, BOP refuses to grant documents that specify the rules governing transfer to the CMU. Remember, hardly any of the men here have received any disciplinary violations and some have been in general population over 15 years! How can someone be OK in general population for that long and then one day be seen as a communication threat?

with persons in community require heightened control and reviews." Should an increase in monitoring communication mean a decrease in privileges? If the goal is to manage our contact with the outside world, shouldn't the BOP hire enough staff so that we can maintain the same rights and privileges as other prisoners (since the party line is that we are not here for punishment)? The reality is the conditions, segregation, and lack of due process are punishment whether the BOP admits it or not.

Where to from here? Will Obama view the CMU, like Guantanamo Bay, as a horrible legacy of his predecessor and close it? Many people are hopeful for an outcome like that. Or will he marry the policy of Bush and condone a secret illegal set of political units for Muslims and activists? What of the men here? Will he transfer us back to normal prisons and review the outrageous prosecutions of many of the CMU detainees? If it can be done with (former) Senator Ted Steven's case, it can be done here. While lawsuits have been filed in both Illinois and Indiana federal courts, what is needed urgently is for these units to be dragged out into the open. I am asking for your help and advocacy in dealing with this injustice and the mindset that allows a CMU to exist. I hope I gave you a clearer idea of what's going on here. Thank you for all your support and love your letters are a bright candle in a sea of darkness.

In struggle, with love, Daniel

DEMAND CHANGE!

You can contact your elected officials and demand they shut the CMU down: President Barack Obama, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20500. Attorney General Eric Holder, US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20530. Also, www.senate.gov and www.house.gov (type in your address to get your rep's contact)

Daniel McGowan is an environmental and social justice activist from New York City, now a political prisoner held in the Marion Communication Management Unit (CMU). He is serving a seven-year sentence in federal prison for his role in two arsons claimed by the Earth Liberation Front in Oregon, 2001. The judge applied a terrorist enhancement to his sentence, because of the political nature of his case, despite the fact that nobody was harmed as a result of his actions. A proud New Yorker, Daniel has been active in everything from rainforest preservation to indigenous rights to political-prisoner support to military counter-recruitment. At the time of his arrest, December 7th 2005, Daniel was working at WomensLaw.org, an organization that assists survivors of domestic violence, and was also pursuing a degree in acupuncture. Daniel is due to be released from prison on June 5th, 2013.

DANIEL'S NON-COOPERATING CO-DEFENDANTS:

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Major Social Upheaval Taking Place in Puerto Rico

by
“El Tipo Comun” (The Common Guy, Roberto Garcia), from primerahora.com, sept 30, 2009

Puerto Rico is witnessing the kind of social, economic, and political upheaval not witnessed in decades. This week, the government -- the largest employer on the island -- laid off close to 17,000 workers, in its 2nd phase of downsizing that had been initiated in May of this year, with the layoffs of around 5,000 workers. Over 20,000 government employees have lost their jobs in a matter of months. Considering the fact that Puerto Rico's official unemployment rate is around 16%, the island obviously continues to confront a serious economic crisis. Government officials contend that they inherited a bankrupt government along with a huge debt load. They are scrambling to prevent their credit rating to be classified in the lowest of categories: junk. To do so, they passed a law declaring a fiscal emergency, and part of the fiscal restructuring taking place is downsizing the government work force. Government Development Bank President Carlos Garcia, who heads the administration's Fiscal Stabilization & Reconstruction Board, said already implemented belt-tightening measures, including spending cuts and payroll reductions through attrition, voluntary buyouts and a first round of layoffs in late May were “not enough.” Among the agencies slated to lose the most employees are the Education, Police, Transportation & Public Works, Corrections and Justice departments and the Family & Children Administration. Teachers and police officers were exempt from firing. Most dismissals would be staggered over 30-90 days, with the largest number taking effect on Nov. 6.

Labor unions, public workers and college students have continued to stage demonstrations against the Fortunato administration. The Electric Industry Workers Union (UTIER in Spanish acronym) headed a march from the Capitol to La Fortaleza as part of a 12-hour work stoppage that started at 6 a.m. UTIER is the largest union at

Workers, professors and students at the University of Puerto Rico marched on the UPR Board of Trustees to demand that the public university system also be exempt from Law 7, the package of belt-tightening measures to close a \$3.2 billion deficit and pare public spending by \$2 billion annually. Students shut the gates to UPR-Rio Piedras, the third time in about a month that the flagship campus has been shut by protesting students. Meanwhile, a group of students at the School of Plastic Arts blocked access to the Old San Juan campus while demanding that Chancellor Marimar Benitez refuse to sign dismissal letters for government workers laid off there. The protest started as a 24-hour strike but was extended indefinitely, according to student spokeswoman Elizabeth Barreto, who said 18 of the school's 36 staffers were dismissed, all from administrative posts. Myrna Casas, director of the Ferre Center for the Performing Arts in Santurce, had refused to sign dismissal letters and was ousted.

In another incident, four members of the Puerto Rican Workers Syndicate (SPT by its Spanish initials) blocked vehicle access to the governor's mansion along Fortaleza Street in Old San Juan. They were accompanied by about a dozen other union members. The union protest camp set up outside of La Fortaleza was forcefully dismantled by agents from the Police Department's Riot Squad. The AP reported that police beat Workers Federation President Jose Rodriguez Baez and other union leaders with batons. Police Superintendent Jose Figueroa Sancha called for

calm. “What is important is that we have to cool things down a bit. We are at a tense moment in Puerto Rico. Journalists, the police, the union leaders, we all have to cool down,” Figueroa Sancha said in a radio interview. The police chief, however, stressed that the Police Department would do its job. “If they don't understand dialogue, well then we have to protect the governor,” Figueroa Sancha said. “We are as calm as needed, but the Police Department is the agency that establishes order in Puerto Rico, not the union leaders.” General Workers Union President Juan Eliza Colon criticized Fortunato for “unleashing the Riot Squad on workers. The Riot Squad, as always, tramples the working class. They are animals,” Colon said.

Even the outlawed anti-colonial guerrillas Los Macheteros re-appeared and issued a statement on September 23 calling for struggle and for solidarity with the affected working class.

The union movement has now taken center stage and has declared a national strike for October 15, 2009. Union leaders are publicly expressing that if some of the more painful measures -- like layoffs - are not rolled back, they will move ahead with a general strike, bringing the country to a complete halt in order to force the government to change course. The administration is deeply worried. Aside from losing the next election, they know that the seeds of a general insurrection are being sowed: unemployment, discontent, desperation, and fear.

the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority, a public corporation that was shielded from the government layoffs carried out under Law 7. It was the second time in a week that UTIER members have walked off the job.

Meanwhile, cases of police abuse are being denounced at an increasing rate across the island, with a recent incident involving university students who were targeted and attacked with batons and indiscriminate use of tear gas by the police. Squatter communities (also known as developers of rescued lands) have recently been targeted by the conservative administration; these interventions have also been characterized by the use of force against women and children. Part of the fiscal emergency response has been to declare the end of gains won by collective bargaining agreements, drawing a sharp outcry from the union sector. Opposition political parties called for a larger burden to be held by the rich and by large corporations, only to be rebuked by the administration, which went ahead with increases in the cost of basic services and with layoffs which mostly affect the ever-shrinking middle class. The conservative administration also censured several books by renowned authors in the island's schools, a deed met with fierce opposition.

The main political parties continue to squabble publicly about future political roles and future candidates for office, and opposition parties either have no presence or struggle against marginalization by news media. Independence advocates in September commemorated their most sacred anniversaries in remembrance of a historical insurrection in 1868 and of the 2005 FBI murder of revolutionary leader Filiberto Ojeda Rios, with calls of unity, revolution, and struggle with those affected. And to top it off, the governor signed an executive order authorizing the use of the National Guard to quell public disturbances and deal with national emergencies.

The Puerto Rico Independence Solidarity Movement (PRISM) in the U.S. has called for solidarity actions around the US, which holds Puerto Rico as a colonial possession. Ruben Solis of the Southwest Workers Union denounced the attacks on the people of Puerto Rico by the ‘golpista’ Governor of Puerto Rico and the political party in power (*Partido Nuevo Progresista* - PNP). The government is carrying out firings, service cuts, and education fee increases, the privatization of public resources, institutions and jobs, as well as monetary give-aways to private developers and foreign capitalists, destruction of public housing and evictions of poor people from their neighborhoods (Cano Martin Pena, Gladiolas, Villa del Sol to name only a few) for gentrification. To try to stamp out opposition to these measures the government has used massive repression by police of protestors and called out the National Guard. “We call on people and social movements in the US to support the present struggle of the people of Puerto Rico for self-determination and justice. It's time to get informed and to re-build solidarity with the struggle of Puerto Rico! We call on US people and social movements to support the Puerto Rican National Strike called for October 15, 2009!” Solis declared.

Roberto Garcia, 44, was arrested in Fajardo and charged with attempted assault and resisting arrest while using force against public authorities for throwing an egg, which missed, at Fortunato. “Hypocrite, how dare you speak of job creation when you are the one taking jobs?” Garcia is reported to have yelled as he tossed the egg.

False Prophets Looking for Large Profits

by Mohawk Nation News

The Akwesasne Women's Fire website was hijacked by a non-native, Monica Lamb Peters. She is posting flaky cult material and fraudulently soliciting donations on behalf of the genuine people who are involved in the international border issue. They unsuccessfully tried to retrieve the site, but have now had to set up a new one, www.akwpeoplesfire.com, tel: 1-613-937-1813. They need materials for a modest building: windows, insulation, etc. The following is from Native Pride.

Whatever this new group of Meredith Quinn/Lester Howse/Kenny Kapplemer/Larry Thompson/Donny Smoke followers call themselves [at Akwesasne], they should formally renounce themselves as Mohawks. [Some already have formally renounced their community, nation, confederacy and Great Law affiliations, calling themselves universal persons, citizens of the world]. They condemn the Kaianerehkowa. [They claim we Indigenous weren't original people here but came after the Moors of northern Africa and Spain. It could have to do with overthrowing our inherent rights to Great Turtle Island. False history is being created that conforms to their agenda, with the help of far-out handlers].

They play all kinds of semantics and prey on the ignorance of others. Yet they insist on using the people of Akwesasne, the Kanienkehaka, to build a foundation for their new religion/history/cult/scam. They come in and out of [our] Longhouses, that they don't believe in [and practically condemn]. They participate in meetings with “other Mohawk leaders”, [and try to take over the agendas and subject others to their Camel/Donkey Treaty excreta] although they no longer consider themselves [to be] Mohawks. They hijacked the Akwesasne Women's Fire website posting full coverage of the Larry [King Tut] Thompson Show. The buzz is that they plan to use the history of Mohawk resistance to suck money out of Moammar Khaddafi of Libya and others.

What is the end game? I, like many, simply want to just ignore all this nonsense. But opportunists like these use events like the Kawehnoke [Cornwall Island border] issue to confuse and undermine the will of the people. Most of us are just plain embarrassed by their ramblings and antics. The problem is that when the patients take over the asylum, it is hard to tell the mad scientist from the mad men and the mad men from the mindless.

Someone is behind all this with a purpose. No, it isn't enlightenment or eternal life [nor the best interests of Indigenous]. It is something much easier to grasp: money. Most of

us have gotten used to looking the other way while our neighbors figured out the next get-rich quick scheme [while taking advantage of native sovereignty]. This time it is different. It isn't about selling out your own ethics or morality; or jeopardizing your own freedom or security. It is about selling out our identity. There are plenty of non-native [interests] looking for a group of “onkwehonwe” to [use to] deny everything we stand for; sovereignty, freedom, ties to our land, stewards of that land, government by the people, equality, inherent rights, natural law and our connectedness to creation.

These “prophets of the camel's eye” are just what the doctor ordered to harm us. A few corrupt men can take advantage of those weakened by years of alcohol and drug abuse, desperate for something to believe in, abused or abandoned as kids, hooked on easy money and disgruntled. Those no one had ever done anything for. This isn't their first attempt. After making millions [using our sovereignty] and establishing themselves as the envy of others, ruling over them becomes the next brass ring to grab. These guys have worked in and out of every court, political and religious system and movements. They never learned who they were. It is no wonder that they are drawn to the Egyptians. In our way there is no hierarchy. These guys admire the pyramid, the symbol of wealth and power.

Here's an email from one of the camels that went to OPP cop school to jmkane, editor, Native Pride. Tue. 9/29/09: Hey John you are starting to sound like K. Horn. What gets you so upset because people are thinking and questioning history? you like to be quasi sovereign? well I don't. but that is a personal choice. anyway i disagree with your writing and the rant style you chose. maybe if you were here in the mix of what is happening you would be in some know.

BJD, a Kanion'ke:haka, suggested Kaianereh'ko:wa [Great Law] protocol: It is good that the [culprits are] named since you are directly familiar with their antics within our communities. This enables us who have not encountered them to be wary & prepared... I would call upon the Kanienke'ha:ka Nation's traditional authoritative bodies, the Otiyaner [Clan-Mothers] & Rotiya'ner [the Men] [on behalf of the people] to make a public statement denouncing these [counterfeit] Kanienke'ha:ka persons who are engaging in subversive activities. MNN, www.mohawknationnews.com, kahentinetha2@yahoo.com

Boycotts as a Legitimate Means of Resistance As Determined by the Oppressed People

by Kim Petersen **NOTE: TTT subsequently accepted a criticism for printing this piece, which validated a white supremacist, anti-Jewish media source disavowed by anti-imperialist forces in the Palestinian movement, who denounce racist and white supremacist forces that attach themselves to the issue.**

Prejudice does not always come with an ugly face. The same holds for Zionism and racism. It is entirely possible for well-intentioned people to hold a prejudice and, even worse, act on held prejudices.

Uri Avnery opposes the brutality inflicted on Palestinians. He campaigns for peace with Palestinians. But he also has a Zionist past. He is European born and fought for the terrorist Irgun in perpetration of a holocaust (Nakba) against Palestinians. He later renounced Irgun's tactics. He is antiwar, but he is not anti-the fruits of war. He approves of a two-state solution. In other words, Israeli Jews will keep the fruits of their dispossessing others — while continuing to press for the return of what they were dispossessed.

Avnery advocates selective use of tactics against Zionism. This is apparent when it comes to an international boycott of Israel. Avnery states that no one is better qualified than South African archbishop Desmond Tutu to answer this question.

What does Tutu say? He has called on the international community to treat Israel as it treated apartheid South Africa. Tutu supports the divestment campaign against Israel.

Avnery's fellow Israeli, Neve Gordon, agrees that it is time for a boycott. Avnery laments, "I am sorry that I cannot agree with him this time neither about the similarity with South Africa nor about the efficacy of a boycott of Israel."

Indeed, the apartheid — while in many respects similar — are also different. Gary Zatzman pointed to a key difference: "For all its serious and undoubted evils and the numerous crimes against humanity committed in its name, including physical slaughters, South African white-racist apartheid was not premised on committing genocide. Zionism, on the other hand, has been committed to dissolving the social, cultural, political and

Avnery admits, "In South Africa, the world-wide boycott helped in strengthening the majority and steeling [sic] it for the struggle. The impact of a boycott on Israel would be the exact opposite: it would push the large majority into the arms of the extreme right and create a fortress mentality against the 'anti-Semitic world'." (The boycott would, of course, have a different impact on the Palestinians, but that is not the aim of those who advocate it.) Avnery merely states what is the current status quo. Israel is already hunkered down in an extreme right fortress mentality. The boycott is not the cause. Avnery fixates on the population dynamics. What is the relevance of majority and minority in Avnery's reasoning? It would seem that Palestinians being in the minority and the fact that the Palestinians support the boycott to be even greater reason for international support of the boycott. Who and what is Avnery protecting: Palestinians from racism or Israeli Jews from the economic effects and moral stigma of an international boycott?

As for the aim of the boycott campaign: "to deny Israel the financial means to continue to kill Palestinians and occupy the lands." Avnery raises the Holocaust, arguing that Jewish suffering has imprinted itself deeply on the Jewish soul. But what is the lesson of World War II? That suffering imposed on any identifiable group of people is evil and wrong, or that one group can appropriate a holocaust, make it their own, and use past suffering as a shield to inflict a holocaust on another people? Avnery argues that boycotting Jews will remind them of Nazism, but when Jews use Nazi-type techniques what should they be reminded of? Avnery says it is okay to boycott of the product of the "settlements." He draws a distinction between "settlers" (i.e., "colonizers") and other Israeli Jews. How then does Avnery rationalize the fact that the "settlers" are in the West Bank?

Avnery asserts, "Those who call for a boycott act out of despair." But indeed, despair is life for many Palestinians under occupation or in refugee camps. Avnery states that an international boycott would be difficult to achieve, and the US would not be behind it. It was not easy to achieve against the apartheid regimes in South Africa either. Is that a reason not to try? Did not the US oppose a boycott of South Africa? Yes, it might take a long time. But times do change. The recalcitrance of the US (and its western allies) was steam rolled in Venezuela, Cuba, Bolivia, and elsewhere. Empires have risen and fallen throughout

economic integrity of the Palestinian people, i.e., genocide, from the outset, at least as early as Theodor Herzl's injunction in his diaries that the 'transfer' of the Palestinian 'penniless population' elsewhere be conducted 'discreetly and circumspectly.'"

Boycotts as a Tactic against Racism

Avnery says Tutu told him: "The boycott was immensely important, much more than the armed struggle." But it was the revolutionary, Nelson Mandela, who refused to give up the right to armed struggle, who negotiated the dismantling of South African apartheid. Tutu also told Avnery, "The importance of the boycott was not only economic but also moral." Avnery writes, "It seems to me that Tutu's answer emphasizes the huge difference between the South African reality at the time and ours today." So what is Avnery saying? First he states that Tutu is best-qualified to speak to the effectiveness of boycotting as a tool in the fight against racism, then he says Tutu has it wrong. So is Avnery saying, then, that he himself is best qualified to speak on the effectiveness of boycotts against racism?

Avnery fears that Israeli Jews will feel "the whole world is against us." However, isn't that, in a sense, what the purpose is: to show that the whole world is against Jewish racism against Palestinians? It must be emphasized that the world is not against Jews, as Israeli propaganda would choose to portray it. Although he doesn't specifically state it, Avnery is using a version of the anti-Semitism smear: if you are against anything Israel does, then you are against Israelis. Hence, you are anti-Semitic. This grotesque perversion of morality and logic holds that to be against racism toward Palestinians makes one anti-Semitic.

culpability in a subsequent genocide. One suspects that Avnery may well be the victim of a pained conscience and cognitive dissonance. I submit that the two struggles are fundamentally similar. Fundamentally, colonial Israel and colonial South Africa share these hallmarks: a racially, culturally, spiritually, linguistically different group of outsiders, through preponderant violence, dispossessed Indigenous peoples of their homeland, and set up an apartheid system which humiliates the Indigenous peoples and privileges the occupiers.

Avnery focuses on certain "fundamentals"— which I submit are mere nuances — that he considers different. Avnery's solution lies with "a comprehensive and detailed peace plan" from US president Barack Obama and "the full persuasive power of the United States" to lead to "a path of peace with Palestine." Avnery must remember previous US-backed peace plans, Oslo and the Roadmap. Why, then, does he cast his hope on AIPAC appeaser Obama? Avnery hopes that Israeli Jews will realize that peace with Palestinians is the way? Avnery touts a solution that has failed and been rejected many times. He rejects a solution that worked in South African because of the sensibilities of the oppressors.

But let us examine Avnery's logic that fundamentally different "conflicts" demand different struggles. Oppression is overthrown by struggle. Fundamentally different "conflicts" can succeed through similar struggles. As one example, revolutionaries overthrew a US-backed dictatorship in Cuba through armed struggle and Cuban revolutionaries defeated South African forces in Angola through armed struggle.

In his finale, seemingly in assuredness of his own argument over the person he deems the best qualified authority on boycotts as a tool to overcome apartheid, Avnery points to a prayer of Tutu's a prayer that would serve all of us well: "Dear God, when I am wrong, please make me willing to see my mistake. And when I am right please make me tolerable to live with." Hopefully, Avnery abides by such humility when he sees the error of his ways, as well.

Kim Petersen is co-editor of Dissident Voice.

history.

Avnery finds that the tactic of boycotting is "an example of a faulty diagnosis leading to faulty treatment. To be precise: the mistaken assumption that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict resembles the South African experience leads to a mistaken choice of strategy." Avnery continues, "In South Africa there was total agreement between the two sides about the unity of the country. The struggle was about the regime. Both Whites and Blacks considered themselves South Africans and were determined to keep the country intact. The Whites did not want partition, and indeed could not want it, because their economy was based on the labor of the Blacks." How can Avnery state something so factually inaccurate? What were Venda, Lebowa, the Bantustans, if not sections of South Africa partitioned off by the White government for the relocation of Black South African 'outside' South Africa? Furthermore, that Zionism is now no longer dependent on Palestinian labor doesn't mask that it at one time was dependent on such labor; Avnery is cherry picking in his argument. Denying Palestinians the right to work in historical Palestine is a tactic that evolved from Zionism.

Also, how is it that Avnery can argue against an international boycott of Israel when Israel maintains a crushing illegal embargo against Palestinians a war crime? As long as Israel uses such a tactic, then resistance through boycott, certainly, is legitimate.

Avnery says Israeli Jews and Palestinian Arabs have nothing in common. However, this same lack of commonality was distinctly true among White and Black South Africans as well. I take exception with the thrust of such argumentation. It prepares the ground for racism. Israeli Jews, Palestinians, Black and White South Africans are all humans. They all eat, work, sleep, have dreams and families. This should be reason enough to act humanely toward each other: love of humanity. It is entirely possible to embrace our shared humanity and respect diversity.

Avnery concludes, "In short: the two conflicts are fundamentally different. Therefore, the methods of struggle, too, must necessarily be different." This is flawed reasoning, much like the logical and moral flaw that being a victim of a genocide minimizes one's own

ANTI-RACIST ACTION NETWORK FOUR POINTS OF UNITY

1) WE GO WHERE THEY GO: Whenever fascists are organizing or active in public, we're there. We don't believe in ignoring them or staying away from them.

Never let the nazis have the street!

2) WE DON'T RELY ON THE COPS OR THE COURTS TO DO OUR WORK FOR US: This doesn't mean we never go to court.

But we must rely on ourselves to protect ourselves and stop the fascists.

3) NON-SECTARIAN DEFENSE OF OTHER ANTI-FASCISTS: In ARA, we have lots of different groups and individuals. We don't agree about everything and we have a right to differ openly. But in this movement an attack on one is an attack on us all. We stand behind each other.

4) We support abortion rights and reproductive freedom. ARA intends to do the hard work necessary to build a broad, strong movement against racism, sexism, anti-Semitism, homophobia, and discrimination against the disabled, the oldest, the youngest and the most oppressed people.

We want a free classless society. **WE INTEND TO WIN!**

**Anti-Racist Action-Los Angeles/People Against Racist Terror (ARA-LA/PART)*PO Box 1055*CULVER CITY CA 90232*310-495-0299
antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com*www.antiracistaction.us**

Northwest Nazi Campout Draws Small Crowd, Invites Anti-fascist Attention

By Rose City Anti-Fa

On the weekend of September 12-13, 2009, Oregon neo-Nazis Dylan Cale Marchand and Daniel Lee Jones organized a white supremacist gathering at private property near Vancouver, Washington. According to internet promotion, the "racialist BBQ and Camp out" featured a speaker who had been involved with George Lincoln Rockwell's original American Nazi Party, and also included "a bonfire, Jew piñata and other activities."

Among other places, the campout was promoted on:

- the "Northwest Imperative" Facebook page, which promotes the concept of turning the Pacific Northwest into a "whites-only" homeland;
- the Hammerskin Nation forum, the primary communications outlet for the Hammerskins bonehead (racist "skinhead") organization;
- the eNationalist forum, associated with Nordwave: The Voice of National Socialism; and
- the Vanguard News Network forum, another clearinghouse for neo-Nazi news, opinion and gossip.

While the campout itself was small, it represented an attempt to draw together fragmented tendencies within the white supremacist subculture, and to unite them into a stronger regional movement. The event was an attempt to build momentum for neo-Nazi organizing, albeit a meager one. We believe that such efforts have no place in our communities and should be stamped out at an early stage.

About the Campout Organizers:

Dylan Cale Marchand is a Salem, Oregon-based neo-Nazi who is a former associate of Matthew Ramsey's now-defunct Tualatin Valley Skins as well as an ex-member of the National Socialist Movement. Marchand achieved notoriety in 2005 for adopting a highway in Marion County, Oregon, in the name of the "American Nazi Party NSM" and then failing to clean up his stretch after the signs were posted. He was also spotted at the National Socialist Movement rallies in Olympia, Washington during January and April, 2006. Marchand seemingly has decided to step up his white supremacist activism once again. Rose City Antifa has sent a mailing to over one hundred immediate neighbors of Marchand's house (4628 Treeside Drive NE, Salem, OR 97305) in order to warn them of his history and bigoted activities. We also encourage people not to support Marchand's Treeside Landscape Maintenance business.

Daniel Lee Jones, whose last known place of residence is 10370 SW Del Monte Drive, Tigard, OR 97224, is best known for his 2008 campaign of flying Third Reich flags over the Portland metro area by means of helium balloons. Jones is also responsible for hanging banners that promoted the American National Socialist Workers Party (ANSWP) over freeway overpasses the year before. The leader of the neo-Nazi ANSWP, Bill White, is currently facing state charges relating to threats he made against perceived enemies on his overthrow.com website. Dan Jones, who was heavily involved with the ANSWP, is now involved with the "Free Bill White" web site. Jones

was active in promoting the Vancouver campout, and his cell phone number was given as a contact for the event on some announcements. Rose City Antifa encourages Mr. Jones not to draw further attention to himself by Nazi activism.

If you have anything to say to these organizers, just give them a call:

Dylan Marchand: 503-269-5514 Daniel Jones: 503-807-8706

Please remember to block your phone number (*67) before calling.

And in other developments...The David Irving Connection

On Sunday, July 19, British neo-fascist and Holocaust-denier David Irving passed through Portland, Oregon as part of a speaking tour. Rose City Antifa and many other anti-racists protested Irving's appearance at the Embassy Suites Hotel by the airport, but the hotel disgraced itself by allow Irving's speech to go ahead despite having been informed of the event's true nature. Following the Irving event, National Socialist Movement member (and funeral director) Corinna Luray Burt of West Linn wrote an enthusiastic account of her experience, mentioning that she had "met someone there [...] one of the founders of the American Nazi Party. [...] Never have I been so proud to be a White National Socialist."

Dylan Marchand's name also appears on the registration list for the July 19 Irving event. On the Hammerskin Nation forum, Marchand wrote about plans for his upcoming September campout:

"We do got [sic] a speaker from george lincoln rockwells [sic] american nazi party coming. Hes in his 70s and has some real good storys [sic] to tell."

Given the small number of "proud ex-members" of the American Nazi Party, we presume that Burt and Marchand were both referring to the same person in their respective internet posts. This affirms that the Irving talk was, as we have always stated, a fascist networking event, in which links and plans were made. Also note that all of those attending at Embassy Suites were personally screened for approval by Irving and his personal assistant, Jaenelle Antas. Not only was the Irving talk itself a fascist event, but it appears to have energized and encouraged other neo-Nazi activity, such as Marchand's campout, perhaps being the source of its main speaker.

Whenever white supremacists, fascists and anti-Semites organize in our area, Rose City Antifa considers itself invited to respond. This summer has been a busy one for fascist organizers of many stripes, but antifascists are prepared to put Portland on the map for consistently confronting and eliminating their ability to organize.

No compromise and no half-measures!

Rose City Antifa fight_them_back@riseup.net [voicemail: 971-533-7832](mailto:voicemail:971-533-7832)
<http://portland.indymedia.org/en/2009/09/394197.shtml>

LOVE Park 4 Update - Appeal Status and Court Solidarity: Presiding Judge Demands Disclosure of Undercover Police Officers

by The Love Park 4 Defense Committee

Last week, President Judge Marsha Neifeld issued a scathing opinion addressing the Commonwealth's appeal of her original order to reveal the identities of the undercover police officers involved in the LOVE Park 4 case.

After issuing her original order last December, the District Attorney's office appealed and the case ended up before Appeals Court Judge Frank Palumbo. After months of arguments between the Commonwealth and defense attorneys Paul Hetznecker and Lawrence Krasner, Judge Palumbo - claiming he did not have enough information to make an informed decision - sent the case back to Judge Neifeld for further clarification on why she ordered the identity of the undercover officers to be revealed to the defendants and their attorneys.

At <http://docs.google.com/fileview?id=0B0sJ-0VIvVcTNWZjYWEzYzMtODFiZi00OTlmLWJiM2U2tZGVhMDdhYzkxZTZh&hl=en> you can find Judge Neifeld's Finding

of Fact and Conclusions of Law regarding disclosure of undercover police officers. It is a 6-page long laundry list of what she found wrong with the prosecutor's case and why the identity of the undercover officers is essential for the defense. She concludes asserting her opinion that she did not commit an abuse of discretion, as the District Attorney's office is claiming, instead restating that her decision was "reasonable and sound and based on a proper application of the law" and asking Judge Palumbo to affirm her decision; thus denying the Commonwealth's appeal.

Tom, Jared and Jason are scheduled for a hearing on the Commonwealth's appeal on October 16 - back in front of Judge Palumbo. If people can make it, they would love to have the support of their friends and comrades. Court is scheduled to start at 9:00AM at the Criminal Justice Center, 1301 Filbert Street, Philadelphia, Rm 504.

Background on the Love Park 4

On July 23, 2007, four Philadelphia-area anti-racist

activists were arrested on multiple trumped up charges stemming from a counter-demonstration against a Ku Klux Klan rally that had been scheduled to take place in Center City that morning.

Two men wearing neo-Nazi t-shirts were verbally confronted by anti-racists and forced to leave. The men then boarded a waiting SUV, at which time another verbal confrontation ensued, at the end of which one of the SUV's windows was damaged.

Police personnel waited until this point to break their cover and identify themselves - the driver of the SUV was a Philadelphia Police Detective attached to an FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force while the passenger and owner of the vehicle was an FBI special agent.

Questions regarding the LOVE Park 4 case can be directed to Philadelphia Anti-Racist Action at 215-543-3812

www.myspace.com/supportlovepark4

Racism In Kensington, MD

Action report by a member of Baltimore-DC NEFAC:

A controversial flyer distributed on Decatur Street here depicts six Klansmen in their white hoods and asks if neighbors want to see that in their neighborhood. It was prompted by the announcement that a controversial director of the group Council of Concerned Citizens would be addressing a local chapter of the group in the Decatur Street home of Peter Papaheraklis.

Papaheraklis was infuriated by the flyer, which, he says, distorts the views of the Council of himself. "We're maybe to the right of center, but we're not extremists of any kind," says Papaheraklis. "We're not, by far, the KKK." The flyer is unsigned and has no contact information. Papaheraklis says its author is a coward for not identifying himself.

The flyer was created by a man who identified himself only as "Alex" from Alexandria, a representative of a group called the One Peoples Project. Alex told TV news reporters he fears retaliation if he identifies himself. He insists his portrayal is fair. "You can take off the Klan hood and still be a Klansman," said Alex. "Just

because they try to dress it up as something more palatable to the mainstream doesn't change the fact that it's white supremacist garbage," he said of the Council of Concerned Citizens.

The protest was born when demonstrators learned the Decatur Street meeting would be addressed by well-known speaker Paul Fromm, a Canadian citizen who has strong feelings about immigration policy in North America.

"The founding European People will be the minority here in the States by about 2042, if something isn't done about immigration, and in my own country by about 2045. There will be the biggest change in population possible without actually an armed invasion... America is not the country to day that it was 25 years ago and that's not for the good... with a changing population you will have a change in morals, a change in attitude. The civilization that you have that has worked so well was created by European and when the population base is changed, then it will be a different country and, I suspect, not a better country," Fromm told the media.

The leaflet, demo and resulting media exposure pulled the covers off the racists in the CCC.

Call for October 22, 2009:

National Day of Protest to Stop Police Brutality, Repression and the Criminalization of a Generation

We don't want to live like this! We resist! On October 22nd, wear black! Join our protest and fight back! NO MORE STOLEN LIVES!

2009 started off with at least six cases nationally of police killings and brutality on New Year's Day.

Oakland, California erupted in outrage over the killing of Oscar Grant, shot in the back while handcuffed in front of many BART commuter witnesses. That same day, Adolph Grimes from New Orleans was killed by 48 bullets while sitting in his car in front of his grandmother's house. In a suburb of Houston, Robbie Tolan was shot in his own driveway (but survived), after protesting the way the cops roughed up his mother. Deaths at the hands of law enforcement officers were also reported from Los Angeles, Grand Rapids, Sacramento, and Seattle.

During Memorial Day week (May 24–30), law enforcement officers killed at least 23 people nationally in California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, and Washington.

In May, many watched in horror the YouTube video that captured Toledo, Ohio police beating and choking fourteen-year old Trevor Casey. There are numerous videos of police brutality, including the tasing of 37-year-old Audra Harmon while her children watched from the car, after she was stopped by an Onondaga County cop for allegedly talking on her cell-phone. While arguing that tasers are "safe" and "humane", police throughout the country have killed with tasers, and have gone so far as to taser pregnant women, 72-year old grandmothers and six-year olds, and to sodomize a handcuffed man with a taser.

Police brutality is as intense as ever throughout the nation, and resistance is even more important now when too many have bought into the illusions of a "post-racial society." There are some who believe that because we have a black President in office that everything will be okay now, that we no longer need to struggle and protest. The racial profiling arrest of Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and the shooting death of off-duty black police officer Omar Edwards by fellow NYPD should have proven that false. This year, political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal's appeal has been denied, as was probation for Leonard Peltier.

The truth is that we have never achieved anything without a fight. In August 2009, Juanita Young's entire family was brutalized and arrested in a police raid. As Juanita (mother of Malcolm Ferguson, killed by NYPD in 2000) says,

"You can't give in. They will try to make an example out of you, try to break your spirit. If you don't resist and keep on fighting, they will be able to get away with what they're trying to do to us."

Immigrant families across the country are being torn apart. The expansion in July 2009 of 287(g) of the Illegal Immigration Law, empowering local law enforcement agencies to make immigration arrests, has resulted in an increase of racial profiling arrests (DWH, Driving While Hispanic). ICE recently revealed that there were ten deaths of immigrants in their custody that were not previously reported, which makes the total number of detainees who have died under ICE custody up to 104 since 2003. There have also been many reports of physical and sexual abuse of inmates by prison staff in federal prisons and detention centers across the nation.

October 22nd is a powerful day for going up against this repression, because it brings together those directly under the gun of police violence with other sections of society not under the gun. It challenges the "divide and conquer" that keeps us apart, bringing people of different backgrounds to stand together to expose and oppose these outrages. October 22nd is the day when people all over the country demand a STOP to police violence, repression, and the criminalization of a generation. In different cities and through different means of expression, we raise a resounding "NO" to these police raids, attacks on the youth and immigrants, and destroying of lives.

Link up to the nationwide protests through the October 22nd website, <http://october22.org>. Email information on your own plans to info@october22.org. Endorse this call, give financially, spread the word, and step out on October 22nd! In Los Angeles, the demonstration and rally will take place in Leimert Park.

October 22nd Coalition P.O. Box 2627, New York NY 10009
1-888-NO BRUTALITY

Charges Dismissed! Another Victory Against Youth for Western Civilization

In an exciting new development in the ongoing struggle against the racist college group Youth for Western Civilization, protesters achieved a stunning victory in court on Monday, September 14th. Seven different individuals, only one of whom was a University of North Carolina student, had been arrested on various charges of disorderly conduct and "disrupting a University event" this past spring. The arrests occurred during and after two separate speech attempts by speakers invited by Youth for Western Civilization. The first of those two "speeches" ended with ex-congressman and anti-immigrant presidential candidate Tom Tancredo being chased off campus by a mob of angry anti-racist students and community members.

In court, UNC student Haley Koch's case was heard first, and was dismissed by Judge Joseph Buckner after he determined that her behavior did not significantly interfere with academic activity. After one of the protesters plead guilty, and another took deferred prosecution, the four remaining comrades represented themselves with pleas of not guilty. They verbally sparred with the Assistant District Attorney for over an hour, bringing up court cases and poking holes in the testimony of police officers, until finally the Judge dismissed three of their cases. The final protester, who was directly videotaped holding a banner and screaming, "I'm a Southern working man, and I STILL think you're a racist!" at ex-politician Virgil Goode, continued to defend himself, and was ultimately found not guilty.

This day in court is a tremendous victory for those fighting Youth for Western Civilization, and perhaps represents a precedent of sorts for those dealing with chapters of the group in their area. The existence of the organization on UNC's campus has been in question since their faculty advisor quit under pressure over the summer. A new faculty member, Professor Emeritus of Psychology Elliot M. Cramer, has agreed to be the group's new advisor under harsh criticism. The group has had no public events, and their new president Nikhil Patel has gone on record as saying he doesn't agree with the national organization's politics.

Patel's statement appeared in the UNC newspaper on the first day of fall classes, the same day in which 3,000 copies of that paper were wrapped with a radical "special anti-racist issue," demonstrating that resistance has continued to YWC despite the initial arrests. Now, the majority of those charges have been dismissed. Hopefully this successful day in court will inspire students and non-students alike to continue to confront the white supremacist group, towards its eventual abolition.

<http://news.infoshop.org/article.php?story=20090919101824551>

Support David Japenga, friend of ARA denied bail in G20 Protests!

The massive police repression and overkill in Pittsburgh PA for the protests against the G20 summit are a measure of the brittle nature of the state and the economy in the midst of the deepening and ongoing contraction and crisis of the Empire. As the supposed recovery exposes itself as a giveaway to finance capital and insurance company, and jobs continue to evaporate, the rulers cannot allow resistance to take root. That's why the protests against the G20 Summit drew a massively disproportionate level of state repression, particular after the protests surprised the original efforts at suppression with their size, creativity and militance. As a result, the cops resorted to massive sweeps, and to targeting some organizers as scapegoats. One such is David Japenga, a friend of ARA.

Supporters packed the courtroom on Wednesday Sept. 30th at 8am to stand with David Japenga, swept up by cops during the police rioting that happened in Pittsburgh due to the G20 protests. David Japenga was arrested on Thursday and was given trumped up charges blaming him for the bulk of property destruction that happened during night-time demonstrations in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh. The police and media are looking for a scapegoat due to their embarrassing inability to control demonstrations on Thursday and Friday, and their own massively illegal behavior. A judge has revoked bail for David and he was being held in Allegheny County Jail pending his formal arraignment and preliminary hearing.

This is a call for monetary assistance and courtroom solidarity for David. We are raising money to hire a private defense attorney and to pay his bail should be he granted it on Wednesday. If you can give any money towards his defense, email freedavidjapenga@hushmail.com or paypal it to antiracistactionstore@gmail.com.

David Japenga is innocent! Drop the charges! Pack the courtroom at any further hearings or trial to show your support and to let David know he is not alone!



G-20 protesters light up the night in Pittsburgh demonstration against the globalized bailout of capital on the backs of poor and oppressed people.

PayPal all donations for David Japenga's defense to antiracistactionstore@gmail.com

Black is Back!

November 7th anti-war rally to challenge Obama regime's wars on Africans and oppressed peoples around the world

Who: **The Black is Back Coalition for Social Justice, Peace and Reparations**

What: **Rally and March**

When: **Saturday, November 7, 2009, 10am-6pm**

Where: **Malcolm X Park, Washington, D.C.**

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Website: blackisbackcoalition.org

Washington, D.C. – A newly-formed Black coalition has announced a rally and march on the White House to take place November 7, 2009 beginning in Washington, D.C.'s historic Malcolm X Park. The Rally and March are to protest the expanding U.S. wars and other policy initiatives that unfairly target African and other oppressed people around the world. Known as the Black is Back Coalition for Social Justice, Peace and Reparations, the coalition formed on September 12, 2009 during a meeting in Washington, D.C. of more than fifteen activists from various Black organizations, institutions and communities.

The Black is Back Coalition aims to draw upon the support of many of the leading anti-imperialist organizations, journalists, organizers, artists and scholars of the African world. In this age of Obama, the rally and march on November 7, 2009 aim to bring back the tradition of resistance historically associated with Black communities around the world. Comprised of seasoned veterans of Black political struggle, including members of the African People's Socialist Party, the NAACP, MOVE, the Green Party, Black Agenda Report and many other grassroots organizations and efforts, this coalition is perfectly situated to do just that.

As the coalition's Call to Action states, "Many well-meaning people in this country and around the world are afraid to take more progressive political positions for fear of being seen as anti-Black... We need to remind people of the absolute lack of 'progress' since new faces assumed leadership of this nation. Many of the leading concerns of Black people, Latinos and working people in this country remain insufficiently addressed.

Black and Brown people continue to suffer the brunt of un/under-employment and predatory loan scandal crises. Military spending under Obama has increased as have the warfare this nation continues to export to Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Venezuela and Colombia. Mass incarceration, police brutality and political imprisonment remain rampant and the most negatively impacted by the levee breach in post-Katrina New Orleans continue to be without homes, jobs or health care assistance. And to that point, these are precisely the communities who nationally will be the most negatively affected by yet another myth of health care 'reform.'"

The political paralysis now being experienced by anti-war and other progressive movements stems from the lack of a Black-led, anti-imperial movement that would off-set the traps set by Obama's so-called "post-racial" politics that facilitate the same oppressive militarist agenda well known during the Bush regime.

Black is Back is not simply a slogan for the African Diaspora but for all progressive struggles which have historically benefited from Black-led movements. On November 7, 2009 beginning promptly at 10am, all are welcome to participate in the rally and march which will include many speakers and performers of the coalition. They will stand and demonstrate in political solidarity, announcing the return to leadership of the world's most reliably anti-war and pro-social justice communities. As the coalition says, "To free our people's hopes and dreams from oblivion, we need a coalition dedicated to the proposition that Black is Back!"

Black is Back Steering Committee:

Omali Yeshitela, APSP - Chair

Ayesha Fleary, AAPDEP - Secretary

Yaa Asantewq Ohema, NCOBRA – Fundraiser

Jared Ball, Vox Union Media – Media Coordinator

Rosa Clemente, Green Party – Program Coordinator

Efia Nwangaza, Malcolm X Center Self Determination – Recruitment Coordinator

Chioma Oruh, ASI North America–Outreach Coordinator

Ousainou Mbenga – APSP – Logistics Coordinator

Rich Piedrahita – APSP – Graphic Designer/Website Mgr

Riley Hamilton – Uhuru Radio – Website Manager

Prisonhouse of Nations: A Review of Mumia Abu-Jamal's 'Jailhouse Lawyers'

By Richard D. Vogel © 2009 by Richard D. Vogel

Mumia Abu-Jamal, *Jailhouse Lawyers: Prisoners Defending Prisoners v. The U.S.A.*, forward by Angela Y. Davis (San Francisco: City Light Books, 2009), 286 pp, pbk, \$16.95.

More than a book about prisoners defending prisoners in what the author justly calls "the Prisonhouse of Nations," Mumia Abu-Jamal's *Jailhouse Lawyers* has the potential to jump-start the prison reform movement in the US. In addition to telling the individual stories of the best (and worst) jailhouse lawyers defending themselves and their fellow prisoners in the face of official hostility and, in many instances personal danger, and presenting a lively history of jailhouse lawyering in modern America, Abu-Jamal exposes the political and racial bias of the US criminal justice system and explores the role of jailhouse lawyers in the jungle of American law.

Abu-Jamal's book is remarkable because it is totally accessible and informative for newcomers and veteran prison activists alike. The reader of *Jailhouse Lawyers* is treated to a wide array of vital information from Clarence Darrow's sensational "Address to the Prisoners of Cook County Jail" which candidly exposed the truth about "justice" in America, to a masterful evaluation of the landmark legal battles of inmate David Ruiz in Texas that changed the face of incarceration in America.

In chapter 3, "When Jailhouse Lawyers 'Represent'," Abu-Jamal offers stirring accounts of winning legal self-defenses mounted by the accused that have never been told before. The success story of John and Alfonso Africa, both members of MOVE, a revolutionary community organization that was targeted by the Philadelphia police in the early 1980's, is a sterling example. Charged with the illegal procurement of weapons and bomb making materials, the two men faced more than a decade in federal prison. To the chagrin of the judge, the prosecutor, and their own court-appointed backup attorneys, the Africas insisted on representing themselves in their own way -- and won. Their story is an epic of unorthodox courtroom drama. Abu-Jamal's survey of the "best of the best" jailhouse lawyers includes the legendary inmate-litigator Richard Mayberry who once threw a book at the judge presiding over his case (In retaliation Mayberry was sentenced to an additional 10 to 22 years in prison for contempt, another charge that he successfully challenged in court.) and a talented and successful woman prisoner-litigant who insists on remaining anonymous despite significant legal victories for her fellow inmates. Abu-Jamal reserves the title "worst of the worst" for jailhouse-lawyer snitches who betray their clients for personal advantage.

Abu-Jamal's reporting in *Jailhouse Lawyers* is exemplary; however, it is his political analysis of punishment in America that provides the background for challenging the foundation of the Prisonhouse of Nations.

Chapter 2, "What 'the Law' Is", is the political heart of the book. In this succinct history of the legal profession, Abu-Jamal explores how criminal law has been practiced in the US. From the Slave Codes of colonial America to the modern neoconservative initiative to deny prisoners access to the courts, the author traces the interplay of race and social class in criminal law upon which the American Prisonhouse is built. The conclusion of Abu-Jamal's history, based on the insights of keen observers, the blatantly biased decisions of the courts, and his own personal experience, is unequivocal, "The law is a tool of class domination and, as we have seen of racial domination as well." (p. 62). In chapter 2, Abu-Jamal also exposes the misinformation that neoconservative politicians put forth in order to pass the Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA) of 1996 that was specifically designed to silence the voices of jailhouse lawyers. Abu-Jamal's probing analysis of the role played by the mainstream media in promoting the PLRA exposes the way that official propaganda has historically been used to manipulate public opinion on the issues of crime and punishment in America.

Abu-Jamal presents the radical alternative to US prison injustice in chapter 8, which chronicles the career of social prisoner-jailhouse lawyer- revolutionary Ed Mead. Mead, who began his criminal career at age 13, was goaded to resistance by his conviction for a crime that he didn't commit. Out of a sense of outrage and for the primal purpose of self-defense, he became a jailhouse lawyer. Initially apolitical, Mead went about his business of hustling other prisoners but couldn't help noticing the social class difference between the prisoner population and the people who supported the system. His transformation to revolutionary occurred while he was incarcerated at McNeil Island in Washington State. In the heat of the battle to defend a prisoner-initiated work strike in 1971, Mead came to the realization that the bitter conflict inside the walls at McNeil was part of the nascent class struggle that was threatening the status quo across the nation. Though he has experienced considerable success as a prisoner-litigant, Mead recognizes the severe limitations of practicing jailhouse law. The conclusion that he draws from his incarceration and resistance cuts straight to the chase -- "The main thing," he observes, "is to put jailhouse lawyering in the context of class struggle." Out of prison now, Mead sees his role as a radicalizing agent whose job is to deliver ex-prisoners to the cause of social revolution.

That the fight for justice for the men and women behind bars in America must be part of a broader struggle for social justice in the nation at large is an underlying theme of *Jailhouse Lawyers*. It is in this vein that Abu-Jamal concludes his argument for justice behind bars: "The best impetus for successful jailhouse lawyering is successful social movement to move the law and society beyond the barriers of the past. No movement can effectively exist in a vacuum; we are all interconnected. Jailhouse lawyers must look beyond the state's imprisoning bars, brick, and cement to build relationships with others in the so-called 'free' world to further and support social movements that spread liberating and progressive space within society." (p. 248) It's time for us to shake off what Abu-Jamal calls the "Big Chill" of the Reagan era and rejoin the fight. It is becoming increasingly clear in the course of the ongoing political and economic crisis that the Prison-house of Nations is unsustainable and an opportunity for change will soon be at hand. If those of us in the "free" world join forces with jailhouse lawyers and prisoner-activists to meet the challenge, a better outcome could be forthcoming this time around.

Other publications received by TTT: *Blood and Politics: The History of the White Nationalist Movement from the Margins to the Mainstream*, by Leonard Zeskind; Farrar Straus New York, 2009, \$37.50. **Black Rider African Intercommunal New**, Volume 2 #1 Summer 2009. **Northern Aggression: Proj. Boneyard v.2** CD from www.insurgence.net and www.turnitdown.com for the Campaign Against White Power Music. Reviews will appear in the next issue of *Turning the Tide: Journal of Anti-Racist Action, Research & Education*, Volume 23, Number 1, January-March 2010. If you want to make sure that issue appears, please respond to the subscription appeal on page 2 of this issue. *Turning the Tide* can't stay in print with its unique anti-colonialist perspective without your support!

EDITORS ENDORSEMENTS IN THE KPFK-PACIFICA LSB ELECTIONS

The war of words in the Local Station Board (LSB) elections for KPFK and other Pacifica radio stations is heating up. As in any election, decisive, exclusionary choices must be made, no matter how much we hate the in-fighting, name-calling, and finger-pointing that passes for debate when the left forms its circular firing squad.

And in this election, the choice is clear: One side, the side of current KPFK LSB member and acting Executive Director of Pacifica Grace Aaron, of Ian Masters and other staffers and hosts, is committed to purges, bannings and to "rule or ruin" Pacifica as an adjunct of the Democratic Party under the mantle of "fiscal responsibility". The other side, supporting a platform of a few key principles including loyalty to the Pacifica mission, has backed a list of grassroots activists from various communities around the KPFK listening area who have signed on to the following points of unity:

- * Implementing the core values of the Pacifica Mission: votes by and for people not commonly heard in the mainstream media
- * Greater autonomy and local decision-making for our radio station
- * Fiscal transparency and responsibility: people, not corporate underwriters, supporting people's radio
- * Local, diverse, multilingual, and young voices from and for our communities
- * Spanish language programming to bring progressive messages to Spanish language communities
- * Effective, participatory governance accountable to listener-sponsors and responsive to the diverse needs and interests of the So. California listening community

I have endorsed these principles. I have worked -- both in the context of KPFK and in the broader social and political movements of southern California -- with a number of the candidates who have endorsed these principles as the basis of their commitment of accountability to the listeners. At www.takebackkpfk.org, you can see the list with the "official" voting order. I am making personal endorsements here, and giving my personal knowledge and experience of many of these candidates, because I think they will forestall the effort to neuter or desistoy Fachecha as a voice of dissent and community activism against the Empire even headed by a Democrat.

Khalid Al-Alim, a current member of the LSB despite efforts to keep him off, is a parent activist in the Coalition for Educational Justice. Khalid's name is printed on the ballot -- but you must vote for him as a write-in, because his nominating petition was ruled invalid. I urge you to vote for Khalid (as a write-in on the bottom of your ballot) and ranked number one to insure him the strongest possibility of getting elected, since some people may waste a vote by marking the line by his name.

Lawrence Reyes of the Puerto Rican Alliance, a listener-member of many LSB committees, an ally in the Jericho Amnesty Coalition to Free All Political Prisoners, was singled out for vituperation by Ian Masters, probably because Lawrence has been one of the most outspoken and principled internationalist opponents of imperialism, war and colonialism. He is a parent, a social worker and union member, a cultural activist to educate the community about the Puerto Rican people's struggle.

Chuck Anderson is stalwart in the struggle for peace, civil liberties and justice. He retains a connection to younger people coming in to such struggles, and to his Mexican roots. Based in Orange County, he is tireless in outreach and organizing, to connect with the Palestinian and other Arab and Muslim communities.

John Parker is a leader of the International Action Center, and has been involved for many years in struggles for social and economic justice, against racism and US wars of occupation and aggression, in the effort to free Mumia Abu-Jamal and other political prisoners, and in fighting for the interests of working people.

Ruby Medrano has a long history of activism and grassroots community work, particularly in East Los Angeles, going back to work with the United Farm Workers. She has many years experience with the United Food and Commercial Workers Union. An activist in the Democratic Party, she is willing to work in coalition with radicals.

Cuco (Refugio Ceballos) is a dancer with the Danza Azteca Cuautemoc, multi-generational cultural/political/spiritual workers whose commitment to resistance, internationalism, and healing inspires and amazes marchers and on-lookers alike at protests around the southland. Cuco is on the community board of Tia Chucha's.

Tej Grewall is an intellectually-curious young woman of Indian descent who does street level radio journalism as a volunteer, working with the "People Without Borders" collective at KPFK and also serving as a listener-member of the LSB's Outreach Committee helping build the audience among younger listeners like herself.

Luis Garcia is a former member of the Local Advisory Board. He's an advocate for Spanish-language community-based programming, a former probation officer and a "pragmatic prison abolitionist" and member of Families to Amend California's Three Strikes (FACTS) and of CURB, Californians United for a Responsible Budget.

Ian Johnston (e) is a current member of the LSB and participant in LSB and PNB committees who has long roots in the Venice community and has been an activist against CIA criminality and the use of 9-11 to carry out war and repression. He is a former board operator and producer of "Another World View is Possible."

Three other candidates have endorsed the same principles: Fred Klunder, Dutch Merrick, and Sandi Stiassni, but I have no first-hand knowledge or shared political practice with them aside from hearing them speak on-air or in person. I join in endorsing them based on their commitment because this election is so vital to keeping a spark of resistance alive at Pacifica against the forces of corporate liberalism, unprincipled compromise with the Empire, and unexamined privilege.

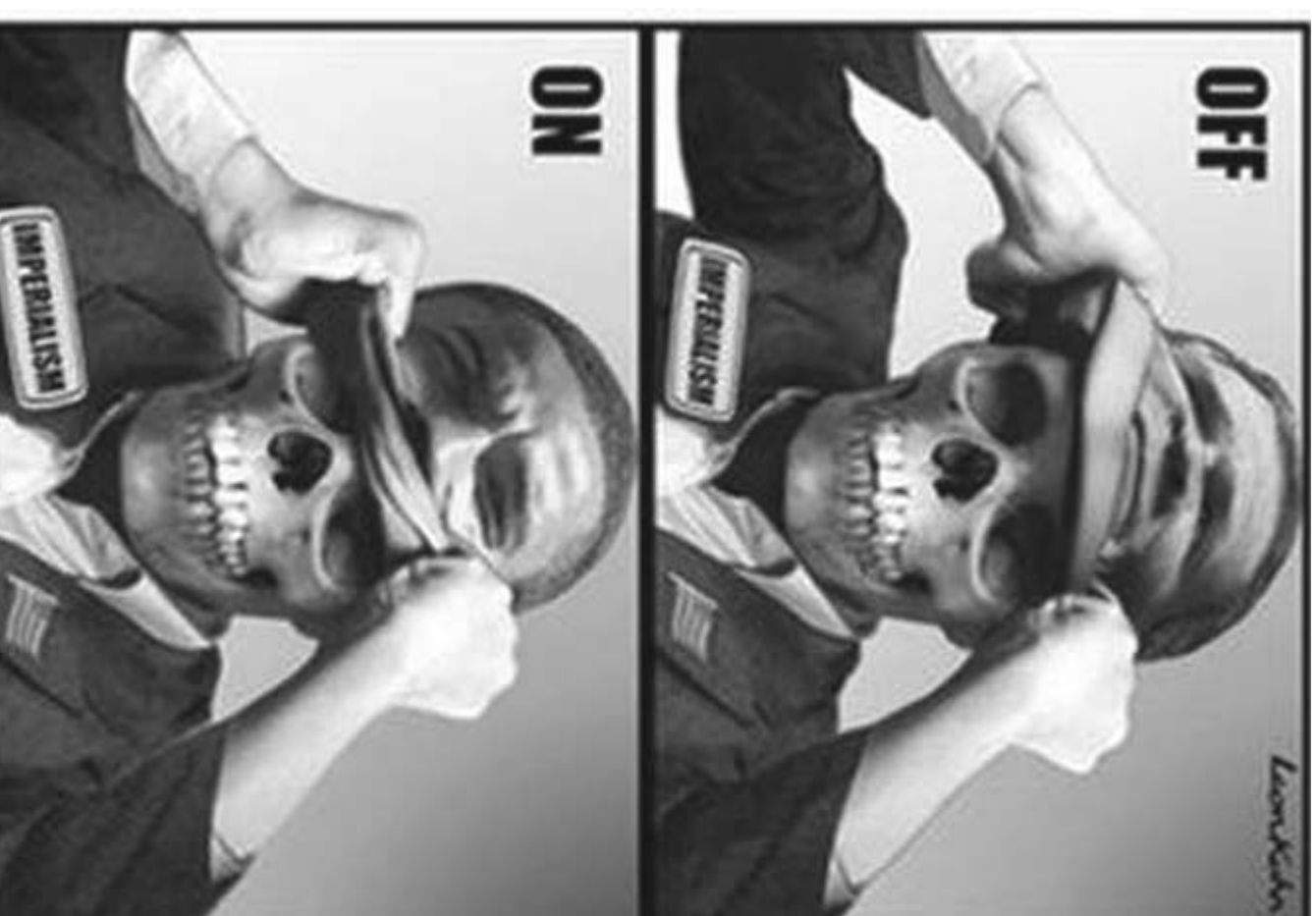
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