If the extent of fraud in the Bush/Cheney coronation is unclear at the time of this writing, what is clear is that the world and people in the U.S. will be liv- ing with an even more destructive and dangerous regime for at least four years. The corporate media and the Democratic Party have already concluded that the election is valid, thus averting a repeat of the legitimacy crisis of 2000. The worst immediate effect of all this may be that the people of the world are tempted to give up on the people of the United States. How can the world and people in the U.S. demonstrate to the world that the 59 million people in the U.S. who voted for the Bush regime are not even a plurality, let alone a mandate?

By Eddie Yuen

The key question is what will the newly poli- tized anti-Bush legions, who number in the millions, do in the wake of this defeat? Many people in the U.S., unlike people in the global South, have the privilege to return to their normal consumption patterns when things do not go their way. However, there are several reasons why this is unlikely to happen (despite the widespread declarations of intended flight to Canada). The U.S. political and military defeat in Iraq and the grim outlook for the U.S. economy have augur a continued politicization on the part of many formerly complacent Americans. If Bush follows through on his threats to implement a domestic social agenda, the mobilization of women, GLBT communities and environmentalists will increase dra- matically in terms quite quickly, then that the total mass mobilization after electoral campaigns (eg. Matt Gonzalez in SF, Jesse Jackson in ’88, etc.) may not take place on the same scale this time around.

So what forms might this potentially vast new opposition take? Undoubtedly, a huge chunk of it will remain in the electoral arena, particularly in the the presidential campaign to reform the Democratic Party. Given that the Republican Party faces a legitimacy crisis of its own (potentially much larger base), each effort is bound to fail. It is likely, however, that thousands of the Anybody But Bush brigades, Move On contribu- tors and Air America listeners will throw themselves into grassroots organizing, alternative media projects, direct action politics, community building and net- working, and be asking themselves some serious questions about how things get to be the way they are. Once the shackles of the election subsides, people will begin to recognize that this society is not only poli- tized, but politicized—a rare moment in U.S. history.

So, as dire as things are, it is impor- tant to put the opposition of the last couple of years in perspective:

More people voted against Bush than against any president in U.S. history, despite widespread voter intimidation, harassment (6 hour wait) and ballot spoilage.

The numbers of people in the streets exceeds that of the 2000 rally in New York City to protest the war demonstrations in 2001 were among the largest in U.S. history and the 500,000 people who protested the Republican National Convention in NYC in August, 2004 was 50 times larger than the historic Chicago Democratic Convention protests in 1968. The pro-choice rally in DC in April 2004 was the largest feminist march in U.S. history. The immigrant labor carava- van of 2001 was an unprecedented mobilization of the working, and will be asking themselves some serious questions about how things get to be the way they are. Once the shackles of the election subsides, people will begin to recognize that this society is not only politi- tized, but politicized—a rare moment in U.S. history.

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A CALL FOR JUSTICE FROM THE ANGOLA 3
FORMER BLACK PANThER HERMAN WALLACE HAS BEEN LOCKED IN SOLITARY FOR 32 YEARS- BUT HE CAN'T BE SILENCED

Dispatch from “The Hole”
By Herman Wallace

My name is Herman Wallace. I am one of three men who have spent and continue to spend more than 32 years in solitary confinement at Angola State Penitentiary. I have witnessed and been a victim of torture all my life. I find it quite amusing how America can be so naive in their thinking that acts carried out by the accused at Guadaula are simply acts of terrorism as opposed to acts of retaliation. The United States built its strength with the use of terrorism. The “Founding Fathers” of this country who were treated with love and respect by the Indians used biological weapons (blankets saturated with smallpox) to weaken and kill off the Indians to weaken and enslave them.

African men, women and children were transported here and forced to do the labor that the founding fathers could not do themselves. African men who tried to escape were flogged, feet decapitated and worked like milks. In some cases African pregnant women were tied to trees, their stomachs cut open, and as their babies fell to the ground, the white slave master would stomp the head of the African baby. These were the rights given to the white property owners by their own government.

Time brought change, revealing itself during the Civil War—and after the Civil war, but what happened on 9/11 is the fault of All Americans. Just because 9/11 took place under the Bush Administration doesn’t mean this is where it started—it’s America itself. Freedom in the eyes of White America is slavery in the minds of others, it is the will of the white majority. The World Trade Commission’s report states, “We have only one political party in the United States, the property party, with two right wings, Republican and Democrat.” In order to be true to the people, the world needs to be less unified than to all countries, America must change its foreign and domestic policy.

What is so hypocritical is how White America could be in so much shock at the news of torture in Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo Bay while knowing all along of its torture practices in America’s own prisons. 32 years of solitary confinement for any human being is an act beyond the scope of torture and what makes it worse is the fact that I’m an innocent man. Not only because I say I’m innocent, but because all evidence in my case points to my innocence and I’m not alone. None of America’s faults can be realized through the eyes of the Republicans and Democrats, but rather through the fairness of all its people—let your losses and get out of Iraq, out of Afghanistan, out of Cuba, and out of Haiti. End all death penalty and free all political prisoners and prisoners of war. When you commit to these goals, only then will you be able to enjoy true prosperity.
Whoever is President of the United States, the basic political dilemmas of the Middle East will be the same in the coming five years. There are three loci of crucial happenings and probable major shifts in the coming period: Iraq, Iran, and Israelis/Palestinians.

by Immanuel Wallerstein

The issue in Iraq that will have most impact on the future of the Middle East, and the world is when and under what circumstances U.S. military forces will quit the country. At this point, the U.S. military presence has come to be a surgical graft that the Iraqi body is rejecting, and rejecting definitely. Sooner or later, U.S. forces will have to leave, entirely, including from the perspectives non-existent bases. These are only three manners in which U.S. withdrawal can take place: as an early and spontaneous decision of the U.S. government; at the later request of the Iraqi authorities; or ultimately chased by Iraqi insurgents.

The first alternative is undoubtedly the one which would serve U.S., Iraq, and would amount best. It is also the least likely to occur. The U.S. President will find this impossible politically to do in 2005 or 2006 because it would be interpreted, first of all in home at the United States, as a major political defeat for the United States. And it would be. Autonomous state in the United States is growing, but it is not yet at the point where members of Congress would willingly endorse such a move. Even those in the military who think the entire Iraqi invasion was a grave error would negate withdrawal now as a day in the face of the U.S. military. And those leaders in other countries who have backed the U.S. fully—Blair, Bush—who would equally dismiss, because it would have very negative political consequences for them in their countries.

The second alternative—being asked to withdraw by the Iraqi government—is more plausible. Of course, it depends on some extent on political developments within Iraq. The election of January may take place, even if participation in many areas will be fitful or even virtually nonexistent. The elections are likely to take place because the U.S. military force is not large enough. But if they don’t, because they face an inability to secure without U.S. military support, then it will be the insurgency that will grow stronger and stronger, and become the de facto government of the country. That happens, it is headed towards a Tet offensive scenario. And the U.S. may have to evacuate its personnel from the Green Zone in helicopters. This will be a far greater defeat than autonomous withdrawal in 2005.

Meanwhile, in Iran, the government will join the nuclear club in this same period. Iran is a major power in the region, heir to a very ancient civilization, a Shia state beside a largely Sunni Arab world, a country surrounded by nuclear powers. It needs nuclear weapons to realize its goals beside a largely Sunni Arab world, a country surrounded by nuclear powers. It needs nuclear weapons to realize its goals.

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In 1939, the Pilgrim colony of Massachusetts, Thanksgiving Day was declared a national holiday by U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The day was chosen specifically for its political advantage. By making Thanksgiving a national holiday, Roosevelt hoped to gain popular support for his New Deal policies. Since then, Thanksgiving has been celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November in the United States.
By Charlie Hinton

Beginning last spring, a U.S.-sponsored incursion into Haiti began 2004 celebrating the 200th anniversary of the defeat of Napoleon's army in the Caribbean island's long suffering people. By Charlie Hinton

Beginning last spring, a U.S.-sponsored incursion into Haiti's long-suffering people. By Charlie Hinton

The U.S. Government: "We Seize, You Can't Complain!"

On November 9, the U.S. government responded to the Electronic Frontier Foundation's (EFF), which asked the White House to unseal or not. Meanwhile, more than 10,000 individuals have signed the Indymedia solidarity statement and at least 17 of the domain names are back up and running.

Drastic Climate Change in Polar Regions

Several recently released studies confirm that the Arctic and Antarctic are experiencing severe climate change. The Arctic ice cap is melting at an unprecedented rate due to human-induced warming, according to a new study conducted by 380 scientists and elders from Native communities in the Arctic. Over the last 30 years the ice cap has shrunk from 15-20 percent in the 2003, the West Wind Heat Ice Shelf, the largest in the Arctic, broke into two pieces. With the build up of greenhouse gases, primarily carbon dioxide, the ice is set to accelerate with forecasts that by the summer of 2070 there may be no ice at all. In Antarctica, while the interior of the continent is cooling, dispersing sea ice and warming, the Antarctic Peninsula is experiencing 50 percent drop in the numbers of Antarctic Kittiwakes. This warming threatens the food chain throughout the food chain that is so vital to these Americas who still live it. The next few years will be catastrophic, yet interesting.

ENDURING DEMOCRACY?: WRESTLING THE POST-ELECTION

The opposition to the way and the regime is not only not being heard but is being attacked. The level of violence against Bush amongst millions of people in the U.S. is at or near apoplexy, and will only increase. The split in the ruling class among the Cheney/Bush regime is even more dramatic than during the Nixon era. Many powerful members of the permanent government (Congress, State Department officials, military leaders) have openly disavowed the disaster in Iraq, and, according to the Wall Street Journal, more Americans oppose Bush than support him. The corporate media is in a legitimacy crisis, and is increasingly possible to talk seriously about how bad things really are. The corporate and so-called progressive establishment direction than it has been in years. It is increasingly possible to talk seriously about how bad things really are.

Several legal observers and nine dock workers and hunger children in his parish, wounding three of the nine union members, all without a warrant. The official for the first time since 1959 to utter the words "democracy Now," radical websites, and countless documents and books. Noam Chomsky and Ahmad Assaad are on the bestseller list. Growing numbers of people are making their own media, and are using the protections of the Bill of Rights; and (3) disclosure would endanger "an ongoing criminal terrorism investigation." EFF intends to oppose these arguments and will file a suit challenging the government's letter. It's then up to the court to decide whether the court order should be unsealed or not. Meanwhile, more than 10,000 individuals have signed the Indymedia solidarity statement and at least 17 of the domain names are back up and running.

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Indians from the reservation to the city and trained them in jobs. Once in the city, over 60 percent grew discouraged and dropped out of the program when no job was forthcoming. The government dropped many others after they had gotten jobs. As soon as that job was over, the Indian was alone in the city. Homeless, lonely, unfinished to the urban ways, away from family and friends, and the natural world, many Indians ended up in the poorest, most dangerous parts of a city, and many eventually found solace in the Indian bars.

Termination was a government program to end all Indian reservations by helping Indian people assimilate into the mainstream. Eventually they would have no more rights to receive any help from the government, but that had been lose their previous self-sufficiency and their land.

Not all of the Native Americans whose home was now the Bay Area had just recently dropped out of life. Many grew up here, raised in the urban world. Many did not admit they were Native American because of the prevailing prejudice. Rather, they said they were Mexican, or Spanish, or Samoan, or any other mixed-race label that masqueraded as being "Mexican" or blended into the suburbs.

After November 20, when the word about the Occupation got out to Indian Country, Indians came from all over—for a visit or to stay on the island. Some moved their families to Alcatraz, often every weekend with their kids.

The Indians who stayed on the island called themselves ‘Indians of All Tribes’. Those from reservations got to know members of other tribes, and the urban Indians learned what it meant to be an Indian. It was the first time one ever smoked the pipe,” a woman from San Francisco said. Much time was spent around the fire, talking, drumming, and singing. The Occupiers cooked together, repaired equipment and taught each other Indian dancing and healing.

They formed a Council which met regularly to arrange their daily life and create a vision for the future Indian use of the island. They planned a spirit center, a university, a restaurant with Native food, and a children's program. A school for young children and a health center were set up quickly. Food, clothing and money was donated by the Bay Area community who broke the blockade the Coast Guard mutually tried to keep around the island.

The first spokesperson to emerge among the Occupiers was Richard Oakes, a Mohawk, who came to live on the island with his wife, Annie, and their three children. He was an eloquent and charismatic leader on the island. Oakes was a student at SF State, and had first become known to the press when, on November 9, he read the deeply moving Proclamation written by the urban Indians community. Unfortunately, when a terrible event took place on the island—Young Oakes, Annie’s and Richard’s daughter, fell down several stories in an apartment building and later died—the family left the island, never to return.

The occupants scrambled ashore, aware of their long journey and the new world that they were determining must usher in. Their determined steps first to the higher land and rocks will the old order and ultimately change their world forever.

**George P. Horse Capture**

**Alcatraz Resources**

More about the occupation of Alcatraz and the Bay Area urban Indian community:

- **ALCATRAZ: ALCATRAZ!** by Adam Fortunate Eagle. Photo essays by Ika Hartmann, Heyday Books, Berkeley, 1992
- **THE INDIAN LAND FOREVER**, edited by Troy Johnson, American Indian Studies Ctr, UC, 1994
- **YOU ARE ON INDIAN LAND!** edited by Troy Johnson, American Indian Studies Ctr, UC, 1994

**Websites**

- [CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH](http://www.csulb.edu/projects/ais/alcatraz/)
- [MONEY ISLAND, MODERN ALCATRAZ, documentary film on the history of Alcatraz Island produced by NOVA and aired frequently since 2002.](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/alcatraz/)
- [J.KA.HARTMANN - PHOTOGRAPHER](http://www.jkahartmann.com)

**URBAN VOICES, The Bay Area Indian Community, edited by Susan Lobo, University of Arizona Press, 2002**
tension, threats, political persecution, physical assault, be recognized,” stated the newly elected mayor. The land was recognized and ratified as indigenous land by 1987. It was only after Rosalino’s murder that Xakriabá Oliveira, was killed during the struggle for land in São João das Missões is part of a history of struggle of leaders in the states of Paraíba and Roraima. The victory of José Nunes de Oliveira as Mayor of São João das Missões is a part of a history of struggle of leaders in the states of Paraíba and Roraima.

In what is today Brazil, the Portuguese crown designated huge tracts of land to court new Portuguese immigrants hoping they could acquire such land and resources as possible before other colonial powers established their own claims in the region. Portuguese landowners were expected to protect “their” land from foreign competition, produce wealth for the crown, and to put down any forms of resistance from local populations. If disease and/or cultural assimilation did not do away with indigenous groups in these areas, guns were the preferred choice for conflict resolution. However, this practice did not disappear with Brazil’s independence in 1822. Violence, wealth accumulation and social exclusion continue to define Brazilian society and continue to be complex and controversial aspects of the ongoing land conflict.

It is estimated that before the arrival of the Portuguese, there were roughly 5.6 million indigenous people in the Amazon basin alone. Today, the entire country includes 145,000 indigenous people living in villages registered by the federal government, anywhere from 100-190,000 who live outside of these communities, and an estimated 53 groups that have yet to be contact by non-indigenous agencies. According to the Brazilian government (funai.gov.br), an estimated 53 groups that have yet to be contact by non-indigenous agencies. According to the Brazilian government (funai.gov.br), an estimated 53 groups that have yet to be contact by non-indigenous agencies. According to the Brazilian government (funai.gov.br), an estimated 53 groups that have yet to be contact by non-indigenous agencies. According to the Brazilian government (funai.gov.br), an estimated 53 groups that have yet to be contact by non-indigenous agencies.

The environmental impact of logging and gold mining greatly threatens the nation’s indigenous communities. Large-scale agricultural and soy export production destroys huge areas of natural reserves, forcing the native people out of their traditional lands, further into the Amazon and other forests.

The indigenous rights movement, through mobilization and political pressure, has forced progressive changes from the State. The Indigenous Statute of 1973, following the logic of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, declared the indigenous as “indigenarily capable” and therefore deserving of government attention until they were integrated into Brazilian society. The constitution of 1988, thanks to an active indigenous movement, better respects the basic rights of indigenous people. Indigenous languages, social organizations, traditions and their original rights to the land they’ve occupied for centuries are all considered permanent rights under the new federal Brazilian law. The procedures set by over 500 years of colonization have been severely attenuated again during the 1964-84 military dictatorship. Again, indigenous people use their survival threatened by expansion projects in the name of “development” and “national security.”

Today, landless and indigenous workers in search of economic relief from capitalisms’ makeends become minatures and hogros. Overcrowded cities with few lonesome jobs and the highly mechanized agricultural production in the countryside are just two factors contribut- ing to economic injustices in Brazil. The wealthiest 20 percent of the population makes 14 times the income of the poorest 20 percent; some 5.5 million Brasilians live on $2.00 per day less than 3 percent of Brasil’s population owns two-thirds of its land and an estimated 40 percent of this land is unproductive.

The need for agrarian reform to democratize Brazil, and the fact that the country’s 1988 constitution demands unproductive land appropriable, influenced the formation of Latin America’s strongest and most organized social movement, the Movement of Landless Rural Workers (MST). By organizing landless workers, occupying unproductive farmland and gaining support from other land conflicts in the northern state of Pará gives insight into the MST struggle. During the 1970s, the military government implemented “development proj- ets” that provided incentives for mining efforts and rural industries. Thousands of workers from all regions of the country headed to the region hoping to make a living wage. Some projects employed people for a period of time, but little by little the industries slowed and required less labor. Newer technologies in conventional agriculture decreased the number of workers necessary on any given farm. Today, thousands of landless workers live in extreme poverty on the peripheries of Paraíba’s large cities. The MST has organized roughly 9,000 families and more than 40,000 people currently occupying unproductive farms in the region. The MST has organized roughly 9,000 families and more than 40,000 people currently occupying unproductive farms in the region. The MST has organized roughly 9,000 families and more than 40,000 people currently occupying unproductive farms in the region.

If agrarian reform fails to take place in Paraíba, the MST has forced the government to redistribute 20 million acres of land to 350,000 families.

By organizing landless workers, occupying unproductive farmland and gaining support from civil society, the MST has forced the government to redistribute 20 million acres of land to 350,000 families. In many cases the government claimed they could not redistribute land, and that these workers should head to the “frontier” areas of Brazil, where they might find land and employment. These frontier areas were not only unsuitable for small-scale agricultural production, but the frontier areas with natural resources are already inhabited by other indigenous groups and the areas cleared of these forests and peoples are occupied by the rural elite.

The MST has organized roughly 9,000 families and more than 40,000 people currently occupying unproductive farmland and gaining support from
Creating the Post Carbon City

By David Room, Post Carbon Institute

A Stressed Biosphere

Energy-subsidized human activity is causing severe biospheric damage that threatens all life on the planet. Headlines regularly highlight rapid species extinctions, fisheries depletions, and other disturbing trends. Most striking, there is now widespread scientific agreement that human-induced global warming, primarily from the burning of fossil fuels, is causing increasingly harmful climate disruption. Atmospheric greenhouse gases are at levels 30 percent higher than Earth has experienced during the last 600,000 years and they continue to rise inexorably. There are already clear signs of what may become uncontrollable and irremediable impacts. Though obvious to many that urgent and drastic action is needed, civilization is clearly heading in the wrong direction.

The imminent peak of global oil and gas production could be the catalyst for positive transformation of industrial society, and perhaps avert catastrophic climate change. It could also be disastrous. Energy systems such as food, electricity, health care, and transportation that form the foundation of industrial civilization depend on uninterrupted access to cheap oil and natural gas. Industrial agriculture relies upon natural gas derived fertilizers, oil-based pesticides, oil-intensive transport, and plastic packaging. In fact, fuel energy crisis—experiments that don’t work now may be considered useful information. If experiments fail in crisis conditions, people are likely to suffer greatly as Cuba and North Korea found out in the 1990s when they suddenly lost their cheap Soviet oil. In fact, these experiments will likely prove instructive as the rest of the world grapples with energy scarcity. To save precious time and resources, communities and cities will need to learn from existing models, share experiments, outcomes, and lessons learned; the term sister city will soon have a whole new meaning.

Thinking post carbon
Urban Age, Post Carbon Institute, and Eco City Builders will regularly share information about experiments that are happening throughout the world. You will find out about local changes that sparked positive changes in culture and quality of life. And, most importantly, you will have access to our experimentation database that will help design and tailor experiments to your local needs. Visit http://urban.postcarbon.org for more information.

Oil and Gas Peak

Oil and gas are not as in underground caverns. They are trapped in gaps in certain types of rocks. The oil is a critical resource, because it means that oil and gas fields will be at finite limits. And generally follow a bell-shape pattern of rising, to a peak of production and then falling away. The US peaked in 1970. We will make some other oil fields, such as those in Brazil’s Campos-Rio de Janeiro basin, but we will not recover much of this oil.

Alarm bells sounded in the 1970s with various oil shocks. The US is now at the height of this bell-shaped pattern, and the peak is likely to come within 10 years. Since energy consumption is closely tied to our exploitative urban population growth, the energy needs to run the economy have exploded. Peak oil means that there will be less work to be done, less manufacturing, less industrial society.

Oil will still be pumping in a hundred and forty years. Peak oil makes nonsense of recent claims by BP that we have enough oil for forty years. Oil peaked in 1970. Peak oil makes nonsense of recent claims by BP that we have enough oil for forty years. One famous example of energy and natural resource collapse occurred on Easter Island, whose civilization unraveled into cannibalism. 

The imminent peaking of global oil and gas production could be the catalyst for positive transformation of industrial society, and perhaps avert catastrophic climate change. It could also be disastrous. Essential systems such as food, electricity, health care, and transportation that form the foundation of industrial civilization depend on uninterrupted access to cheap oil and natural gas. Industrial agriculture relies upon natural gas derived fertilizers, oil-based pesticides, oil-intensive transport, and plastic packaging. In fact, fuel

The burden of cities

Most future urbanites will grow up in cities. Cities are the information hubs and the final destination of most production and resources. The most affluent city dwellers lead relatively energy intensive lives, even those that live in poverty. As a result, cities consume far more energy than rural areas. City dwellers lead relatively energy intensive transport, and plastic packaging. In fact, fuel

Impetus for Change

Oil and gas do not sit in underground caverns. They are trapped in gaps in certain types of rocks. The oil is a critical resource, because it means that oil and gas fields will be at finite limits. And generally follow a bell-shape pattern of rising, to a peak of production and then falling away. The US peaked in 1970. We will make some other oil fields, such as those in Brazil’s Campos-Rio de Janeiro basin, but we will not recover much of this oil.

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Post carbon links

ASPO
http://www.aspo.net

Global Public Media
http://www.globalpublicmedia.com

Post Carbon Institute
http://urban.postcarbon.org

Muselitter
http://www.muselitter.com

Eco City Builders
http://www.ecocitybuilders.org

Blichville
http://www.blichville.com

Community Solution
http://www.communitysolution.org

Key building blocks of the solution

Information about the key building blocks that constitute a Post Carbon City, including urban agriculture, energy solutions, and much more. Identify the building blocks that are most applicable to your city, and begin investigations.

Sound municipal governance for the transition into the Post Carbon Age requires:

Summer governance to keep urban agriculture local, ecologically informed architecture, and natural features like creeks.

The city is radically out of sync with healthy lifestyle systems on earth, and is functioning in a completely disoriented in its long-term sustainability, says Richard Register of Eco City Builders. “We need to move beyond New Urbanism to rebuild cities for people instead of cars and regain a human balance with nature.” To roll back sprawl, Register imagines ecological city design as the framework for rebuilding cities around high density, mixed use centers with pedestrian plazas, solar greenhouses, rooftop gardens, ecological and food-based architecture, and cultural features like creeks. In Register’s “eco-city” concept, centers are interspersed with natural open space, parks, and farming, linking to other city centers and regional centers via appropriate transit.
The refusal of war by the 343rd Quartermaster Company is the first collective resistance to military authority in the United States and was planned in Iraq to be publicly acknowledged. Accounts from independent sources who have visited Iraq and met with soldiers of the U.S. occupation forces report that mutiny among large numbers of U.S. military personnel is well advanced and has been, and is still, for the most part of the period of occupation and the subsequent guerrilla campaign. If resistance of this type is to snowball, the impact against the U.S. war effort could become overwhelming.

A friend who was in the U.S. military during the 1990-91 Persian Gulf War said that before President G.H.W. Bush visited the troops, the situation was "unfriendly. So I saw this dude and yelled 'To hell with you, Hu. Change sides. Touch to hell with Hu. Change sides.' It was, 'To hell with you, Hu. Change sides.' He wouldn't go. But this tension increased." He added, "But it was also clear to people on the scene that Bush and his corporate handlers were already somewhat overwhelmed by the enlisteds in absentia--and when Bush would soon be lying down, his "unfriendly" would become overwhelming.

The suppressed history of the last big U.S. war before Operation Desert Storm shows that the Commander-in-Chief had good reason to fear and distrust the troops. Our rulers want us to forget what happened during the Vietnam War. We must not forget what our economy and people were fighting for--and the importance of the war to the enlisted men and women.

Until 1968 the desertion rate for U.S. troops in Vietnam was lower than in previous wars. But by 1969 the desertion rate had increased fourfold. This was not limited to Southeast Asia; desertion rates among GIs were on the increase worldwide. For soldiers in the combat zone, insubordination became an important part of avoiding hopeless injury or death. Early in 1969, an entire company from the 1960's Light Infantry Brigade sat down on the battlefield. Later that year, a rifle company from the famed 1st Air Cavalry Division fairly ran on CBS-TV to advance down a dangerous trail. In the following 12 months, the 1st Air Cavalry netted 35 combat refusals.

From mild forms of political protest and disobedience of war orders, the resistance among the ground troops grew into a determined "quasi-mutiny" by 1970 and 1971. Soldiers went on "search and avoid" missions, intentionally skirring clashes with the Vietnamese, and often holding three-day-long pot parties instead of fighting.

By 1970, the U.S. Army had 65,643 deserters, roughly the equivalent of four infantry divisions. In an article published in the Armed Forces Journal (June 7, 1971), Marine Colonel Robert D. Heindel, a veteran combat commander with 27 years experience in the Marines wrote: "By every indication, a mutiny among the enlisted men and women who would soon be lying down, his "unfriendly" would become overwhelming.

The rebellion in the ranks didn't emerge simply in response to battlefield violence. The U.S. war movement in the U.S. had emerged on the cusp of the civil right movement, at a time when the position of anti-war peace activism by GIs and the need for their effective participation was being cheered at troop meetings in the White House during the Nixon administration. The last time a major industrialized democracy came close to social revolution was in May of 1968, the last time a major industrialized democracy came close to social revolution. The crisis that racked American society during the Vietnam War was not profounded to create an irreparable rupture between the rulers and the ruled. In the early 1970s, the U.S. was still circling the corona of the post-WWII

According to Newsweek magazine, "in the White House during President Clinton's intervention in the Balkans, the limited war against the Serbs, and the U.S. general strike in France in May of 1968, the last time a major industrialized democracy came close to social revolution."

Social conditions faced by workers and soldiers were not anywhere near as overwhelming and unstable as they are now. U.S. involvement in a prolonged ground war, in Iraq today or in Columbia tomorrow, could have a much more rapid and decisive impact on American society.

A number of years ago, in a detective article in Mother Jones magazine, corporate liberal historian Todd Gitlin claimed that the praiseworthy and legal aspects of the 1960s U.S. anti-war movement had been the most successful opposition to a war in history. The war was dead, Gitlin wrote. But for the Soviets allowed the working class to briefly take power in Russia. It is an ugly fact that war and revolution movements of the 20th century. With the U.S. government's self-appointed role at the global capitalist law and order, it is likely that the crisis that will cause an irreparable break between the rulers and the ruled in the United States will be the result of an unsuccessful war.

That day may soon be upon us. At that point, widespread fragmentation between anti-capitalist radicals and enlisted people will bring an expanding anti-war unrest into a larger opposition to the system of wage labor and commodity production that generates wars, exploitation, poverty, inequality and ecological degradation.

An examination of what happened to the U.S. military during the Vietnam war and how our military prepared to suppress the domestic fallout from their counter-insurgency actions against other working class people. War games several years ago by the U.S. military in London, called "Operation Urban Warrior," highlight the fact that America's rulers want their military to be prepared to suppress the domestic fallout from their actions -- and be ready to do so soon. But as previous waves of global unrest have shown, the forces that give rise to mass rebellion in one area of the world will simultaneously give rise to rebellion in other parts of the world. The armed forces are vulnerable to social forces as well as to the larger society that spawns them. Resist in civil society bends through the fabric of the military into the ranks of the enlisted people. The relationship between officers and enlisted people mirrors the relationship between bosses and employees, and similar dynamics of class conflict emerge to the military and the outposts of the workplace. The military is never a hermetically sealed organization.

Our rulers know all this. Our rulers know that they are vulnerable to social forces. Our rulers know that their wealth and power can be collapsed from within by the working class women and men whom they depend on. We need to know, too.
The last thing I feel like writing about at the moment is, of course, the election. The ending of the whole saga was, like a poorly scripted sitcom, depressingly predictable with a promise of more of the same, week after week. I wish I could simply turn off the T.V. and they would all go away but of course, I can’t.

One of the only positive aspects of this “most important election in our lifetime” is that the stakes were/are so high that a whole slew of artists have been motivated to make films to rouse their attention away from the latest issue of Newsweek, if only for a couple of seconds.

From the Christian fundamentalist blast of films like George W.Bush: Faith in the White House, which was bulk-mailed to churches across the country, to the more mainstream Fahrenheit 911, which generated more than any documentary in history and is probably the first film in American history to be seriously considered to affect a Presidential race, more political movies are being produced and viewed than in any other time in recent memory. However, I do not think it is accurate to say that these movies come from “all parts of the political spectrum” as the mainstream news networks have commented, but rather from two distinct camps.

First, there are films produced by the conservative Right, in this case represented by Fundamentalist Christians and the wackjob veterans who are still pissed off about losing the Vietnam War and saw John Kerry as a convenient punching bag.

Their message? Vote for Bush, plain and simple. Kerry is a wimp because he actually fought in a war so vote for the other Yale.

Whatever their political specific, the films, have only that prosaic message to deliver.

But the bulk of the current movie-missives come from the liberal left, who are finally angry enough at the appalling war reporting of their venal news networks to tear their attention away from the latest issue of Rolling Stone, if only for a couple of seconds.

Their message? Vote for Kerry, plain and simple. Bush is a war criminal because he is an utter absence of reliable media to begin with. So while I’m glad these films are being made and being viewed by so many people, I still think we have a long way to go, and much more profound cinema will need to be crafted, if we are to really understand and change our place in the world and the future.

And now, the films:

Besides the world-famous Fahrenheit 911 by Michael Moore, there are several other anti-Bush films:

- George W. Bush: Faith in the White House
- Fahrenheit 911
- Grizzly Tales: In the Grave
- George Bush: Faith in the White House DVD Sleeve
- Fahrenheit 911

“Nobody spends more time on his knees than George Bush.”

- From George W. Bush: Faith in the White House DVD Sleeve

And adding to the time-honored annals of right-wing cinema:

George W. Bush: Faith in the White House (www.bushvideo.com) is an entertaining piece of shit directed by David balinger, former producer of the influential and groundbreaking 1970s T.V. series The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams. His latest release, fired off to churches around the U.S. and labeled as “non-political”, specifically deals with how fervently Evangelical Christian the president is. It has a brilliant quote on the DVD sleeve: “Nobody spends more time on his knees than George Bush.” I kind of figured that, actually.

Stolen Honor (www.stolenhonor.com) directed by Carlton Shurwood, is about John Kerry’s anti-Vietnam war activism. The film accuses him of betraying American soldiers by admitting that he participated in war-crimes, as opposed to bragging about them as he was to do 30 years later while running for president.

Not surprisingly, two of the most astute political films out at the moment are animated music videos.

Knife Party, whose video is available here (http://www.knife-party.net/flash/harry.html) is a sharp, kinetic work that brilliantly takes on the neo-cons and places their whole project in terms of a “new imperial”. Also excellently animated.

As I mentioned above, one of the only positive aspects of Bush being re-elected is that it may force people in the U.S. to remain politically involved. Take, for example, Eminem. Clearly this man, like most rock stars, can’t watch anything other than his own career. Now he has made what is arguably the best political movie of the year: a grim, angry film of a song he wrote called Mosh. The video, bravely animated by Guerrilla News Network (www.guerrilla-nexx.com), features a young African-American brutalized by the police, a young soldier deployed to Iraq to fight, leaving behind a wife and family and a single mother who gets evicted from her home. The trio, spattered on by repeated images of Eminem jumping around and waving his arms, don black hoods and join an army of kids, including masses of pissed-off looking war veterans, who battle police and ominously march on a building resembling the White House. The end of the piece has them all voting, naturally, but the majority of the film is strongly anti-authoritarian and basically kicks ass.

The message is simple and straightforward, the same sort of thing Mike Moore is trying to say: don’t send our boys over to Iraq, we have plenty of problems back here. The crucial difference is in Eminem’s militant tone, and the fact that because he is the biggest rapper in America, one hopes that his new video will be seen by the most important players in the anti-war movement: the U.S. soldiers in Iraq.
Thousands of music fans convened at Oakland’s Henry J. Kaiser Center on Saturday, November 13th for the second annual We the Planet Festival of music, consciousness and activism, which was organized by Circle of Life. This year’s concert featured The Roots, Mickey Hart, Michelle Shocked, The Coup, and Third Eye Blind.

The event, organized by Julia Butterfly Hill (above), included Pushing the Boundaries for a New World: A Series of Rabble-Rousing Interactions with Today’s Leading Activists and Visionaries, workshops on Music, Arts & Activism, Indy Media, Beyond Voting, and Direct Action & Civil Disobedience.

CRYPTO compiled by Iain Boal #5

1. pasta dumplings (7)
2. open sore (5)
3. Highest grade diamond (5,5)
4. Mecca pilgrim (4)
5. Atwood’s patriarchal dystopia (9,4)
6. ovum (3)
7. boisterous (5)
10. showman who bites the heads off animals(4)
13. Non-professional (3)
15. Definitely Arabic? (2)
16. grim activist? (4)
19. Rimbaud’s lurching vessel (7,4)
20. Behind a beast of burden (3)
23. Rule by clerics (9)
25. Soviet workcamp (5)
26. blessing (4)
27. At ocean’s edge (5,3)
31. District attorney (2)
35. fair-haired (6)
39. Greek opposition? (4)
40. non-fiction (4)
41. French assistant (4)
42. Rich Site Summary (3)
43. goods vehicle (3)
45. sunbeam (3)

Across
1. spiritual guide (4)
5. computer savvy type (6)
8. away to the board game! (2)
9. Archetypal psychologist (4,4)
11. Bush, initially (2)
12. brassica in Anglo-Saxon (4)
14. Lifeless(4)
17. Cold love (7)
18. She’s tautful (6)
20. rough Arabic liquor (4)
21. Elizabeth Regina or in hospital? (2)
22. The latest thing in technology (2)
24. Religious crowd? (4)
25. search for insects (4)
28. wandering holy man (5)
29. negative (2)
30. the aristocrat of pain (2,4)
32. knockback (2)
33. informer (4)
35. Author of Treasury of Sierra Madre (1,6)
36. computer drug? (4)
37. City of Quartz (2)
38. brass instrument inventor (3)
40. Pre-industrial people (4)
41. stomach muscle (2)
42. Trickster bird (5)
44. generic female victim? (4)
45. “language of the silenced” (M.L.King Jr)(4)
46. slight (2)
47. compact disc (2)
48. Father of surrealism? (4)
49. anarchic mafia? (9)
50. mythic snowman (4)

Blackthought - The Roots

We the Planet 2004

The Roots

Mickey Hart

Michelle Shocked

The Coup

Third Eye Blind

Photos: Peter Maiden/indybay.org/arts

WE THE PLANET      FESTIVAL OF MUSIC AND ACTIVISM

Blackthunder - The Roots

Boots - The Coup

First 5 People who send in a decrypted crypto will receive a one year subscription to Fault Lines and a copy of the groundbreaking new documentary The Miami Model!

(www.ftaaimo.org/miamimodel)
San Francisco Gray Panthers present a discussion
650-326-8837
11/20, 2pm: Civil Liberties in the Presbyterian Church, 1140 Cowper St., Palo Alto; “Struggle to Claim Our Humanity.” Benefits “Dissent” and “Citizens of the Empire: The University of Texas and the author of “Writing Robert Jensen is a Professor of Journalism at the
11/20, 7:30pm: Robert Jensen: Square, SF; 415-771-2028
hotel workers, locked out for over 7 weeks; Union
510-654-6346
Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley;
11/20, 11pm: Rally for Locked-out Hotel Workers

11/21, 7pm: Post election detox with Marga Gomez
11/21, 12pm: Protest SF Auto Show: Break
ShUTDOWN PG&E HUNTERS
Point POWER PLANT: 12/8, 12pm

To the Government Won’t?, The PEOPLE Will? Protest to shutdown PG&E plant at Evans and Middlepoint Rd, SF, 4-7:30-10pm

‘If the Government Won’t?, the People Will?’ Protest to shutdown PG&E plant at Evans and Middlepoint Rd, SF, 4-7:30-10pm

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Upcoming Events at The Ecology Center
Bhopal: 30 Years of Survival, with Screening of “Bhopal Express”
Thursday 11/2, 7 pm - 9pm, 705-580 (or credit donation).
Starbucks and The Earth Bookstore: Greeting Your Spirit in the Seasons of Nature
7/10/19, 7 pm - Free, http://www.ecobaby.org
Going Local: The Power of Growing Locally
Thursday 11/7, 7 pm - 9pm
Human Rights Day with Michael Nagler and The Search for a Nonviolent Future
See our full calendar at www.ecobaby.org/calendar.

Calendar
For more information or to submit your event, visit www.indybay.org/calendar.

A vegetarian diet is the acid test of humanitasirianism.
Leo Tolstoy

Philosophy and economy of exploring individuals and animals
Animal Liberation: A New Ethics for Our Treatment of Animals
by Peter Singer

Environmental havoc caused by modern factory farming:
www.earth200.org

Health benefits of a vegetarian diet and related issues: www.pcrm.org

I help with starting to cut cruelty-free:
www.vegetarian starterskit.com

While we may be able to start the diet ourselves, only a real revolution can eliminate all the conditions that lead to animal abuse. So let’s give this diet the strength of a movement and the passion of revolutionaries in society. Today we can offer the same positive change to tomorrow.