DHS SWEEPS: BUSH’S WAR ON LATINO WORKERS

BY JOEL WENDLAND

Last October, federal agents under the auspices of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) raided 60 Wal-Mart stores in different parts of the country, rounding up about 250 people who worked the night shift cleaning crews. Human rights organizations’ descriptions of the round-ups as both a political event to justify enormous spending in the DHS as well as a measure to keep citizens frightened about terrorism were confirmed when a DHS spokesperson admitted to Roberta Wood of the People’s Weekly World (November 1, 2003) that the raids had nothing to do with homeland security. Although all of the workers were immigrants, none could be linked to terrorism. None could even be linked to countries that we have been told are the origins of terrorism. Most of the detainees await deportation hearings for lacking proper work documentation.

There have been reports from across the country of increased immigration sweeps over the last two years. Various reports from local media and human rights activists show that immigration sweeps have occurred in Latino communities everywhere from Maine to Southern California. The upsurge in sweeps in Latino communities comes in the larger context of raids and surveillance aimed at immigrant Asian and African communities suspected of harboring terrorists. Under the cover of homeland security, the Bush administration seems to have ordered these sweeps to please his ultra-right, anti-immigration, racist base with the effect of spreading panic and fear in the Latino community. In response, Latino communities have organized numerous protests demanding an end to secret sweeps and immigration raids.

Ultimately, they argue, systematic targeting of immigrant working class communities have harmful consequences on non-citizens and citizens alike.

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

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MEDI A MONEY

Corporations give millions, receive billions

BY SAKURA SANDERS AND BEN CLARKE

Opening with a challenge by Democratic Vice Presidential candidate John Edwards to spend three minutes with the men who served with his running mate, John Kerry, the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth (SBVT) denounced Kerry’s war record, with war-time pictures and man by man testimonial ads. This ad blitz, priced at $550,000, hit the airwaves in early August 2004. It was quickly met with a counterattack funded by Moveon.org. “Swiftone response” aired in the same markets as the SBVT spot, plus nationally on CNN and Fox. It features a jab at President Bush’s war record and an admonishment by Revolutionary war veteran Senator John Kerry to do what they said send the ad to run. The counter-spot cost $200,000 to place. Since August 19, John Kerry has launched two of his own rebuttal ads featuring the fellow soldier whose life Kerry had saved. Placement price: $190,000. Total price tag for this commercial exchange—almost $1 million. Continuing a twenty-year trend that has seen advertising expenses skyrocket as traditional political party organizing has fallen by the wayside, the total for political ads this election year is estimated by industry analysts at over $1.5 billion, $400 million of which will be spent by the presidential campaigns. Over the last 24 years, broadcast TV advertising alone has increased from $90 million to over $1 billion.

The need for big money funders and empowers special interests. They claim that the solution to the spiraling cost of political advertising is surprisingly simple, make it free. After all, the broadcast networks receive their licenses free from the federal government in exchange for meeting the needs of the public interest.

Since 1987, when the Reagan appointed Federal Communications Commission (FCC) repealed the last effective elements of the Fairness in Political Advertising (FPPA) act in three successive sessions of Congress, legislators have failed in their attempt to create a just world. The independent and alternative press is essential for any hope of creating a just world. The Internet provides a unique, safe haven for voices of the marginalized voices to reclaim our lines of communication and speak truth to power. If you want to write an article, review, or news blurb for Fault Lines, please contact the editors at editorial@faultlines.org to begin a collaboration and get our submission guidelines. Submissions of relevant and timely photos and artwork are encouraged as well. Your feedback about what we are (or are not) covering is necessary in creating a news source that truly is a voice of the people. Suggestions regarding our design and readability are also greatly appreciated.

In the age when information and news are so tightly managed and controlled by the corporate media, industry and government, a free, independent and alternative press is essential for any hope of creating a just world.

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made no such concessions. In contrast, President Hugo Chavez agreed to step down after CNE election fraud was found to favor him. This victory should allow Chavez to complete his six-year term, which expires in 2005. The opposition called for a second election in 2002. Chavez, referring to the opposition’s call for a second election, said, “In the face of this situation, the government will not resort to violence, nor will we allow violence.”

Supporters of Chavez accused the United States of attempting to destabilize the government. The United States has been funding opposition candidates, and the United States government has also been considering plans to block Chavez’s re-election. Some of the opposition candidates have been accused of corruption and financial mismanagement.

In conclusion, Hugo Chavez has been re-elected as President of Venezuela. The United States government has been funding opposition candidates, but the result seems to have been a victory for Chavez. The opposition candidates have been accused of corruption and financial mismanagement, and the United States government has been considered to be attempting to destabilize the government. However, the result seems to have been a victory for Chavez.
Three thousand miles away in central Washington’s Yakima Valley, an agricultural- labor union has been battling for years to get workers — many of whom are Latin American immigrants and often undocumented — the Latino community protested immigration sweeps this past July. While federal officials denied increased anti-immigrant activities, Washington Growers’ League Executive Director Mike Gregory was reported in Bremerton Sun as expressing “surprise over the more concentrated effort [to detain undocumented workers] that has occurred as the pace of work.

The largest scale of anti-immigrant sweeps by federal agencies took place throughout the spring into early June in Southern and Central California. In the Northern San Joaquin Valley area of California near Modesto, California, Latino community members reported a series of raids on workplaces and neighborhoods. According to The Modesto Bee, federal immigration officials denied the raids as “rumors,” but then contradictory statements that anyone caught up in the raids would be deported as a result of felony charges related to drug smuggling. As reported in the North County Times a Border Patrol operation called “Tactical Strike” began in mid-April in the San Diego area and saw federal officials randomly demanding identity and employment papers from local residents. In San Diego of as many as 45 raids where “federal immigration agents were moving from lower to higher level jobs, there would be no protection for the undocumented people has an impact on others,” she said. "It's like an urban legend," Fletcher said, "which sees workers union, a union that organizes retail

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Workers union, a union that organizes retail

immigrants and support legislative action that linkage to that of immigrant workers. If the communities, adopted a position that challenges the role of the federal authorities in using the immigration issue to try to break organizing campaigns. "Too often it appears," she says, "the union’s position statement, "that INS [now the Immigration and Customs Enforcement] is a partner, intentionally or not, with employers in the exploitation of immigrant labor and the suppression of worker rights. INS seems to show up more often during an organizing campaign or a strike situation.

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

Bush’s attacks on immigrant communities, with particular focus on Latinos, has nothing to do with homeland security. It is all about hurting working people and enhancing the bottom lines of employers. An administration that supports worker rights and comprehensive immigration reform over anti-immigrant policies has already achieved results.

"It's like an urban legend," Fletcher said, "which sees employers argue they need workers to fill the labor shortage to come, and see immigrants as the answer. Jackson Lee’s bill to try to balance these interests. For US citizens and residents, she proposes retrenching and jobs programs funded by fees paid by undocumented immigrants applying for legalization. For the immigrants, besides legalization, she proposes new immigration enforcement that is based on immigration status, and threats of deportation intended to stop worker protests. Jackson Lee compares this to the civil rights legislation needed to stop discrimination against African Americans, other minorities and women.

Employers, she says, should press for legalization instead of guest worker programs. "That would give industry a pool of legal permanent residents or those seeking that status," she says. "They don’t have the same cycle. And blacks workers are not the only ones trapped in temporary, low-paying, no-benefit jobs. Just look at the Wal-Mart workforce.

By DAVID BACON

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

In March, Congress member Sheila Jackson Lee(D-Texas) introduced the most far-reaching proposal of the three that have been floated in the past couple of weeks. A second congresswoman, Barbara Lee (D-California) and John Conyers (D-Michigan) has no provision for temporary workers, and she writes, of the 800 workers caught in round up by federal immigration agents in or near several cities in Southern California, including Los Angeles, Ontario, Corona, Temecula, San Juan Capistrano, and other cities.

According to a story posted to Pacific News Service, Spanish-language newspapers have reported testimony by local residents in San Diego of a immigration papers from local residents. In San Diego of as many as 45 raids where "federal immigration officials were moving from lower to higher level jobs, there would be no protection for the undocumented people has an impact on others,” she said. "It's like an urban legend," Fletcher said, "which sees employers argue they need workers to fill the labor shortage to come, and see immigrants as the answer. Jackson Lee’s bill to try to balance these interests. For US citizens and residents, she proposes retrenching and jobs programs funded by fees paid by undocumented immigrants applying for legalization. For the immigrants, besides legalization, she proposes new immigration enforcement that is based on immigration status, and threats of deportation intended to stop worker protests. Jackson Lee compares this to the civil rights legislation needed to stop discrimination against African Americans, other minorities and women.

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

BY LYDIA NAVARRO

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

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

What are the resources offered by NoBAWC? (pronounced “No Boss”)?

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

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

How long have you been at Arizmendi?

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

Tell us about your coworkers’ backgrounds before coming here.

We’ve got people who were programmers in the dotcom boom, people who’ve worked in coffee shops, were merchant marines, and artists and musicians. It’s a good mix of people. We try to keep it as mixed as we can, with different age groups, races, and sexes, because that’s the reality we see from our customers.

How are workers paid at Arizmendi?

The starting wage is between $15 and $16 an hour. On top of that we have profit sharing. We save a certain amount of our extra funds at the end of the fiscal year, and have a percentage that we can share with everyone, and then that’s dispersed based on how many hours you’ve worked. Last year it was about an extra $4-$6 an hour added on to your hourly wage.

What have you learned from being part of a collective?

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

What do members of collectives find to be most rewarding?

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

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

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

What has been the consumer response to collectives?

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

What are the frustrating aspects?

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

What is it like to start a collective?

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

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

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

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

Kate Sharpley Library

The Kate Sharpley Library is dedicated to researching and disseminating the history of the socialist movement and regularly publishes information on local groups. May 2012 marked the 100th birth anniversary of Kate Sharpley, a British communist who worked in the USA. As a result, a special ‘Kate Sharpley’ issue of the several monthly newsletter was published. The event featured talks by historians and activists, and a week of free publications - exhibitions, lectures, and debates. The library is open Monday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm. It is located at 820 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA 94704. For more information about our regular publications or how to order our extensive collection of socialist publications and documents please write or call us at the address below. 

PMB 820, 2425 Channing Way, Berkeley CA 94704

http://www.katesharpleylibrary.net

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The History of Our Struggle

by Ken Werner, Trinity Plaza Tenants Association (TPTA)

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

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

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

That first meeting disheartened many tenants who have never attended another meeting. However, those who remained steadfast and determined to save Trinity Plaza from the wrecking-ball persevered. Over a year ago, our original concept was to get legislation enacted ensuring any San Francisco tenant evicted for "good cause" could spend $550 (or whatever expenses including the current, paltry $1,000. We asked Supervisor Chris Daly to coordinate with the City Attorney to draft a revision to the Rent Ordinance section pertinent to demolitions.

After several weeks, with much Wednesday-night meetings including questions concerning the progress of the legislation, we decided that we needed to do more, and with the guidance and training of our first true supporter/organizers -- that we were capable of doing more, that we were not defeated. We decided to fight the demolition of Trinity Plaza.

More weekly meetings and our self-conducted voting, we decided to make this a true grassroots effort that, indeed, we had to learn leadership skills, that the proposed demolition of Trinity Plaza was symptomatic of a deeper disease -- and we thought we were just the first potential victims.

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

Witness the birth of the Anti Demolition Ordinance (ADO) now known as the Headwaters Preservation Initiative (HPI): see below; it will protect about 22 percent of our affordable, rent-controlled apartments. It will prohibit greedy landlords like Sangiacomo from devastating communities by renting cheap, rent-controlled apartments. It will prohibit the demolition of buildings containing 20 or more units unless a building inspector declares a building uninhabitable.

Sangiacomo's "Offers"

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

If you don't know who Sangiacomo is, these offers most likely belong to you. However, Sangiacomo is not known as the "Father of Rent Control" for performance of good deeds toward tenants. His litigation history: at least 95 San Francisco Superior Court cases, almost three-quarters of which are for breach of contract -- a fraction of $4,500 in actual damages -- that we could happen to any tenant who would trust Sangiacomo with either offer.

The members of the Trinity Plaza Tenants Association (TPTA) reject both offers for one simple reason: we do not accept exactly what these "offers" really mean. It is Sangiacomo's intent to destroy affordable, rent-controlled apartments, period. We do not want to say that Sangiacomo's underhanded intent is to destroy rent control itself. He wants to destroy rent-control apartment buildings like Trinity Plaza. If you're willing to endorse the "market rate" housing for those earning $100,000+ a year: gentrification!

Armed with a massive fortune estimated at $800 million (gained at the expense of ten-ants who have still not been identified for Saravia to pay $10 million to the D'Aubuisson. Judge Wanger ordered death squad leader Roberto Saravia to pay $10 million to the family of Archbishop Romero who has still not been identified for his role in the Americas.

The lengthy saga of Headwaters Forest Defense v. County of Humboldt et al finally came to the San Francisco Federal Courthouse on September 7. Since the first civil trial in 1999, and throughout the appeals process, the question at the center of this suit has been whether direct application of liquid pepper spray on non-violent protesters would constitute unreasonable force under appropriate police tactics. Describing the inci-dent which sparked this legal battle, Spring Lundberg, one of the eight plaintiffs, said, "The squad's leader, Sheriff Philip authorized full spray blasts…, not just Q-tip applications, despite the fact that the deputies were..." (Harold's public use) "...they are deac-ting to destroy rent control itself. He wants to destroy rent-control apartment buildings like Trinity Plaza. If you're willing to endorse the "market rate" housing for those earning $100,000+ a year: gentrification!

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DEA RAIDS LARGEST MEDICAL MARIJUANA FARM Federal Government Breaks California Law to Bust Eddy Lepp

By Liam O'Donoghue

At 7 a.m. on August 18, a squad of DEA agents and local police raided Charles “Eddy” Lepp’s medical marijuana farm in Lake County, CA, seizing over 30,000 plants with an estimated street value of $130,000,000 and arresting 14 individuals. This is the second time in the past three years that the DEA has made a large-scale raid on a marijuana farm. On August 18, 2010, 200-300 pounds of marijuana on the road were confiscated in the August 18 raid. After bonding out on a security deposit for August 26, the exact same day that his civil trial was to go to court, and all his legal documents related to this civil case previously confiscated marijuana and damages) was scheduled to be overturned the certification before a jury trial following the certified in 2011.

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

Although the DEA refuses to acknowledge any “conspiracy theory,” the fact remains that this raid occurred only one week before Lepp’s civil suit against the DEA seeking $167 million (for previously confiscated marijuana and damages) was scheduled to go to court, and all his legal documents related to this civil case were confiscated in the August 18 raid. A judge in the Ninth Circuit (Federal) Court of Appeals ruled in a case involving a Santa Cruz cooperative garden in December that the DEA’s theory, “The Drug Czar’s office continues to say that marijuana is the most dangerous drug in America. They’re completely out of step with the will of the voters, and the rulings of the courts.” The Ninth Circuit (Federal) Court of Appeals ruled in a case involving a Santa Cruz cooperative garden in December that there’s legitimate medical marijuana use and that licensed users are exempt from federal prosecution. I’m at a loss to understand why they’re wasting resources at a time when we have a heightened terror alert” pursuing sick people who are treating themselves with a safe, effective medicine.

Although DEA spokesman Richard Meyers told Fault Lines that the most recent raid of Lepp’s 20-acre farm was simply a matter of the DEA enforcing federal drug policy, Lepp and his wife, Linda Senti, say that this raid was part of the systematic harassment that Lepp has had to endure as one of the medical marijuana movement’s most outspoken proponents. The charges of “public intoxication” brought against 12 of the patients living on Lepp’s farm who were dragged out of bed on the morning of the raid have been dropped, but Lepp is facing pos-
The recent Republican National Convention in New York City inspired fear, loathing, and hope from all parts of the political spectrum. With the all-consuming polarization of U.S. election year politics and the specter of another four years of George W. Bush haunting even the bravest liberal, the city felt like a set for a politically sharp drama. While most, if not all, of the dissenters we encountered in New York agreed that getting Bush out of office was important, almost none identified with the Democratic Party’s “Republican Lite” platform.

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

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

Of course there needs to be a venue for safe and inclusive marches where families can bring their nine-month-old baby and 90-year-old granny, but UFPJ had a month-old baby and 90-year-old granny, but UFPJ had a hazy reason to be arrested for doing so by everyone from direct action radicals to columnist Jimmy Breslin, who then changed their minds, citing potential legal hazards of hundreds of thousands stuck on a sun-baked stretch of macadam. The unsaid reason was a need to preserve credibility within the anti-war movement.

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

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

Debate raged among progressive pundits about the appropriateness of street protests, with Todd Gitlin and John Passacantando setting a new low for The Nation by writing that any mass confrontation would play into the GOP’s hands and help re-elect Bush. Alternet’s Tom Hayden and Counterpunch’s Dave Lindorff, among others, argued vociferously and eloquently for the necessity of mass action, as did Naomi Klein on Democracy Now!”

While most, if not all, of the dissenters we encountered were ready to yell and harass them with cheeky greetings like “Republican Scum! Your Time Has Come!” Republican profiling was easier than expected, thanks to patriotic paraphernalia encrusted with diamonds and gold, and various shows freebies from corporate sponsors.

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

It’s probably time to consider whether exhausting, labor-intensive direct actions confronting the biggest military-industrial complex the world has ever known are strategically the wisest use of limited movement resources. Serious organizing on many fronts would seem to be in the cards if the U.S. war machine is going to be slowed down. Direct action is one of the tools the movement can use, but it’s not the only tool. If the anti-war movement is to compete with FOX news and decades of pro-war indoctrination, it also has a lot of less glamorous day to day organizing to slog through.
When the Republican National Convention descended upon New York City, we marched to demand an end to the war at home that has left many of us homeless, hungry, unemployed and without healthcare. As poor and working people of this country, we cannot afford to suffer silently as our lives are threatened by political and economic policies that deny us our basic human rights. Both parties—Republicans and Democrats—have abandoned the poor and working families of this nation, and so it is up to us to take our country in a new direction.

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

After finally arriving in New York City, we attempted to set up our permanent “Bushville” encampment in Central Park. At around 8:30 that night four of our members were arrested while practicing their first amendment rights in a public park, they then went to jail and were handcuffed to a metal pole until 1 a.m. Our final “Bushville” encampment began on August 23 in Brooklyn and by the end of the week over one hundred families from 27 states were “Bushville” residents.

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

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

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

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

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

Days before the Republican National Convention opened in New York City, the U.S. Department of Justice opened a criminal investigation into a posting on the New York City Internet Access, the Internet Service Provider in the case. The subpoena demanded Indymedia’s subscriber and registration information, billing records, and contact information. It said that information was needed for an investigation into possible voter harassment.

Why would the Department of Justice subpoena Indymedia’s Internet provider and not the Indymedia website itself? “The way the Internet works is that there is no central point of access, it’s a network of networks,” explains Mike Castleman of the NYC-IMC tech collective. “If you want to connect to the Internet, you probably need to go through someone called an Internet service provider to get hooked up.”

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

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

Indymedia and the ACLU call the federal allegations “baseless.”

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

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

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

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

On Monday, Aug. 30, New York Indymedia and the ACLU gave the Department of Justice the names and contact information for four IMC computer system administrators. “The administrators in question felt it was OK to provide their contact information to the Department of Justice, since they had nothing to hide,” says Beeson. Indymedia also decided to publicize the case, hoping that the government would ashamed into dropping it. “At the moment, our strategy seems to have worked,” she says. Calyx representatives had been scheduled to appear before a grand jury on Aug. 31, but the hearing was canceled after the story broke.

Castleman remains fairly sanguine. “Although this case demonstrates the state’s desire to suppress dissent, practically, in this case, the information they asked for does not exist. So politically it’s a huge deal, but in practical terms it’s fairly irrelevant.”
Are You Rehabilitated?
California’s No Parole Policy

by Tito D. Valdez Jr.

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

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

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

The Shawshank Redemption, actor Morgan Freeman portrays an African-American convict serving a life sentence. At each of Freeman's parole board hearings, which will most likely result in more parole dates.

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

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

Superior Court Judge Paul Gutman ruled in 2001 that Governor Davis was enforcing a "no parole" policy. With only four-life term inmates being released since he took office, despite hundreds of parole dates being granted by the Board of Prison Terms, perhaps the "no parole" policy is a matter of fact.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

“What is rehabilitation?”

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

Does Governor Schwarzenegger know what “rehabilitation” is?

This is David Valdez, coming to you from the Correctional Training Facility in Soledad, California. I am a California State prisoner currently serving 25 years to life for conspiracy/elicitation to commit murder. You can read my entire case profile at: www.socialmovements.net or www.inmate.com
OAKLAND NON-PROFITS REVEALED TO CHARGE INFLATED RENTS

Section 8, continued from front page...

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

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

The Hugh Taylor House also has thirty SRO's (single room occupancy), that are without a kitchen or a bathroom, and they even sold the hall down the row. On average, Section 8 renters in the SRO's are being charged $687 per month, and non-Section 8 renters in identical SRO's are being charged $332 more a month than regular non-Section 8 tenants in the identical SRO's.

Checking the going rate for SRO's located in the local for-profit Hotels, I found the following: The Sutter Hotel charges $560 per month for an SRO, Ridge Hotel charges $475, and the Old Oakland Hotel charges from $480 to $520. As it turned out, at $687 charge for Section 8 tenants at the Hugh Taylor House for an SRO, is more than all of the above mentioned non-profit.

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

Some recently leaked documents from an Oakland non-profit housing organization revealed that rents being charged in identical units at some of their properties are higher by as much as $300 per month in Oakland, that points a "gun" at street-level homelessness.

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

### Comparing Non-Profit Housing Organizations

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

Founded in 1984, RCD had a portfolio of over 400 affordable housing units and emergency shelter beds, and has been placed on the Section 8 programs as a for-profit. EBALDC which is also a non-profit housing developer, has had assets of $25,876,277.

After subtracting the liabilities from their assets, RCD had a fund balance of $2,965,312. In that same fiscal year, EBALDC had a fund balance of $17,749,264 that accrued after subtracting their liabilities from their assets.

### Affordable Housing, or Not.

Fair Market Rents (FMR) are a cap that has been placed on the Section 8 programs designed so that no one can add as much as they want so long as it does not go beyond the established Fair Market Rents estimates in any given area.

In Oakland, there are many areas of low-income housing that exist in which the FMR is actually set higher than what the for-profit landlords are charging in many areas. The result is that the Section 8 tenants are often being charged way more than many of the other regular tenants.

In a call to Oakland Community Housing, Inc. (OCHI), a non-profit housing developer of Oakland, I reached the Executive Director Dwight Dickerson, who was very blunt about his position. He said, "I have no problem with Section 8 people taking advantage of the low rents and paying more for a one bedroom unit by a non-profit than what I am being charged here."

According to John Stewart of the John Stewart Company in Oakland, that points a "gun" at street-level homelessness.

And lest readers think that his murder was racially motivated, you're wrong. Houseless people of all colors in the West Oakland area have been violently attacked for the last several months with no regard for race, age or gender. The only thread that binds the attacks are that the houseless folks act in groups. In the past few weeks, Oakland in June, a white, 54-year-old man in Louisville, Kentucky was brutally beaten, sodomized and murdered. In July, in a two-household operation in the West Oakland area, a white man was beaten and stabbed in Grandview, Missouri, and in Japan (another highly competitive consumer economy well-known for its contempt of "homeless" people), four teenagers were arrested for beating a homeless man with a baseball bat and then spray painting his face with white paint, and setting him on fire.

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

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

To read more journalism on issues of poverty and racism written by the youth of color, check out Fault Lines, visit www.failedfauji.org.
Slaughter's position on cheaper commercial lost in the house 321-101. A pro-
vision to reduce the cost of airtime did clear the Senate with a 60-40 vote but according to Meredith McGehee of the Alliance for Better Campaigns, it turns out that incum-

...
Negroponte’s “Dirty” History May Be Iraq’s Future

By Jessica Putyoc

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

Negroponte is most famous for his integral role in the dirty wars of Central America. During his term as US Ambassador to Honduras, military dictators supported by the US were escalating campaigns to squash armed guerrilla rebellions, their suspected civilian sympathizers, and the indigenous population, in general. Although Honduras never had a guerilla movement to speak of to “justify” such acts, great lengths were taken to obstruct the work of any left-leaning activist, academic or journalist. Decree 33, passed in 1983, declared a “terrorist” anyone who distributed political literature, associated with foreigners or joined groups deemed subversive by the government. “They followed, arrested and executed who just thought differently,” recalled Honduran MP Edmundo Osewalla.

The Battalion 316, a clandestine, paramilitary death squad, led this Campaign and used “shock and suffocation devices,” among other methods of torture. COFADEH, the Committee of Family Members of the Disappeared, registers at least 300 people murdered by this group. The Batallion 316, a clandestine, paramilitary death squad, led this Campaign and used “shock and suffocation devices,” among other methods of torture. COFADEH, the Committee of Family Members of the Disappeared, registers at least 300 people murdered by this group.

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

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

Hello, Iraq

In January 2004, The Guardian (UK) reported that the Pentagon had approved a secret police force in Baghdad and budgeted $3 billion for its establishment. The secret force will draw from Iraqi exiles and formermidiaburgab agents (the notorious secret police forces under Saddam). Vincent Cannistraro, former chief of CIA counter-terrorism said that “They’re clearly cooking up joint teams to do Phoenix-like things, like they did in Vietnam.”

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

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

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

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A vegetarian diet is the acid test of humanitarianism.

Leo Tolstoy

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Fault Lines | September | 13
PEACE in the PARK...

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

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

If you thought 9/11 was hot, The End of Suburbia will have you boiling

Join Fault Lines for a screening with Director Gregory Greene

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

AK Press Warehouse 674 23rd St., Oakland

or Join Amalgamated Transit Union 1555 (BART) for a screening at the Parkway Theater in Oakland on Sept 25, 2004 at 3pm and followed by a conversation with Richard Heinberg, author of Powerdown: Options and Alternatives for a Post Carbon World

Both screenings are co-sponsored by Post Carbon Institute www.postcarbon.org

No circle pits here; Love ruled the day

Memorial wall to those killed by police
CRYPTO compiled by Iain Boal

#4

Down:
1. Blackbeard’s medium? (6,5)
2. Cloth scrap (3)
3. Solid water (3)
4. Cattle round-up (5)
5. Old instrument of execution (3)
6. Lightning attack (5)
7. Attorney (6)
8. Drink of the gods (6)
9. Given the facts (4)
10. Unwritten arithmetic (6)
11. Mao’s complement (4)
12. Chronicle of lost time (6)
13. This one in French (2)
14. Discount for birds (5)
15. “Not the thing said but a way of saying it”
16. Am not an insect (3)
17. Caesar in Russian (4)
18. Communist bureaucracy? (3,4)
19. Killer whale (3)
20. Atomic number 73; Informal thanks (2)
21. Acoustic corn? (3)
22. The last of Raymond Chandler? (3,5)
23. God of free trade (6)
24. Forgotten Member of NWA: MC ___ (3)
25. Male seed (5)
26. Charged particle (3)
27. Secret sympathizer (6)
28. Science of natural systems (7)
29. Sheeplike (5)
30. Hypermasculine (5)
31. Animal number 73; Informal thanks (2)
32. Given the facts (4)
33. Unwritten arithmetic (6)
34. Cite authority (5)
35. Science of natural systems (7)
36. God of free trade (6)
37. Secret sympathizer (6)
38. Science of natural systems (7)
39. Secret sympathizer (6)
40. Science of natural systems (7)

Across:
1. Ancient Egyptian scam? (7)
2. Found at last (6)
3. Forty very large Romans (2)
4. Floor mat (3)
5. Mythic toom breaker (3,4)
6. Narc cops (3)
7. Personal objective? (3)
8. Religious or political faction (4)
9. “Not the thing said but a way of saying it”
10. Ancient Egyptian scam? (7)
11. Found at last (6)
12. Forty very large Romans (2)
13. Mythic toom breaker (3,4)
14. Narc cops (3)
15. Personal objective? (3)
16. Religious or political faction (4)
17. “Not the thing said but a way of saying it”
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27. Found at last (6)
28. Forty very large Romans (2)
29. Mythic toom breaker (3,4)
30. Narc cops (3)
31. Personal objective? (3)
32. Religious or political faction (4)
33. “Not the thing said but a way of saying it”
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35. Found at last (6)
36. Forty very large Romans (2)
37. Mythic toom breaker (3,4)
38. Narc cops (3)
39. Personal objective? (3)
40. Religious or political faction (4)

ANSWERS TO CRYPTO #3:

Across:

Down:

"Our strategy should be not only to confront Empire, but to lay siege to it. To deprive it of oxygen. To shame it. To mock it. With our art, our music, our literature, our stubbornness, our joy, our brilliance, our sheer relentlessmessness — and our ability to tell our own stories. Stories that are different from the ones we’re being brainwashed to believe.

The corporate revolution will collapse if we refuse to buy what they are selling — their ideas, their version of history, their wars, their weapons, their notion of inevitability. Remember this: We be many and they be few. They need us more than we need them."

— from "Confronting Empire" in War Talk (South End Press, 2003)

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

Fault Lines | September | 15
**September's Events**

**Free performance in Fresno's Roeding Park.**
Gate, SF; 415-225-7097.

**Free grocery & food coop in Sacramento.**
Sierra 2 Center, 2791 24th St., Sacramento; 916-448-7157.

**Free lunch & dinner in SF.**
415-920-2630.

**Free performance in the Bay Area from the Republican National Convention in NY!**
Dolores Park, SF; www.indybay.org.

**Free lunch for those working on a fall political campaign.**
California State Building, 455 Golden Ave, SF; anarchistlibrary.org.

**Free lunch & dinner in NY.**
Convention in NY; Dolores Park, SF; www.indybay.org.

**Free performance in Sacramento.**
Oakland; 510-632-1366.

**Free lunch & dinner in LA.**
Another pricey intellectual affair at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, poetry and entertainment celebrating the cultural reality of North Beach, between Valpara and 8th St.

**Free lunch & dinner in SF.**
Bryant Street, SF; 415-648-7562 or 510-650-8570.

**Free lunch & dinner in LA.**
Oakland; 510-632-1366.

**Free lunch & dinner in NY.**
Convention in NY; www.indybay.org.

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