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WARS R US

Blueprint for War—From Korea to the Gulf



PHOTO: GREGORY FOX

Ex-CIA agent Philip Agee greets the crowd and answers questions after his April 20 talk on the U-M campus.

On Wednesday, April 20, about 350 people showed up at the Modern Languages Building on the University of Michigan campus to hear author, lecturer and former CIA officer, Philip Agee speak.

Agee left the Central Intelligence Agency in 1969 after serving 12 years in the agency and participating in nearly every type of CIA operation—from recruitment of spies, to tapping telephones and bugging bedrooms, to propaganda, political warfare, and the provocation of military coups.

After he left the CIA, Agee became the first operations officer to reveal the agency's goals and methods with the publication of his first book in the early '70s, "Inside the Company: CIA Diary." As a result Agee was under constant attack from the U.S. government, the "mainstream media," and other allies of the administration for what they viewed as Agee's damage to the "national security." These attacks resulted in the expulsion of Agee from five NATO countries and the revocation of his U.S. passport.

When Agee returned to the U.S. in 1987 to promote his latest book, "On the Run," he was met with strong opposition as well as wide support. In addition to scathing news-

paper editorials, then Vice-President George Bush called Agee "disgraceful and disgusting."

Agee now makes his home in Madrid, Spain and travels with a passport from the World Service Authority, issued under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Charter.

Agee's talk, titled "The CIA, Central America, the Gulf War and American Democracy," was sponsored by the Latin American Solidarity Committee. Due to space limitations, what follows is a transcript of those portions of Agee's talk which relate to the Gulf War.

We all know the reason why the U.S., led by President Bush, intervened in the Persian Gulf, killing between 100,000 and 200,000 Iraqis; it was in order to restore to power the Emir of Kuwait. Bush has restored the legitimate ruling authority in Kuwait, no question about that. And he's re-stored, at the same time, the tried and true All-American political principle of "one man, one vote." In this case, one man—the Emir—and one vote—his.

Truman mustered all the hype and emotion he could and said: "Our homes, our nation, all the things that we believe in, are in great danger..."

But we did hear other reasons very early on. We did hear that our way of life was at stake here. I saw that on television in Madrid, and for days and weeks I kept watching for news of the millions of Americans who would take to the streets here in joy and celebration that their way of life was going to change—that their poverty, their ignorance, their homelessness, their uncared-for illnesses would soon be over. But what we saw instead, of course, was George Bush's way of life—golfing, boating, fishing on the coast of Maine, like any respectable member of the Eastern elite.

We also heard that we were intervening in the Persian Gulf in order to safeguard U.S. and other Western access to the energy resources in the Gulf—the petroleum. We also heard that we were in there to stop naked aggression and that naked aggression would not be rewarded. And at one point, just when all the polls were showing concern with the deepening recession and job security in the United States, Baker made the comment that yes indeed, in the Persian Gulf crisis, jobs here in the States were at stake. None of those seemed to work too well so Bush, as I recall, went back to the version in which we were there to stop naked aggression.

One of the things that we have not seen in the mainstream media in the U.S. is an alternative explanation of where this Gulf crisis came from and where it is likely to lead. I offer this as a suggestion; in my opinion, the Bush administration needed a crisis, a world crisis, to replace the East/West crisis in Europe which had largely disappeared with the collapse of communism. That crisis in Europe—the standoff between the United States and the NATO countries, and the Soviet Union and the Warsaw PACT countries—had served since about 1950 to justify the permanent war economy in the United States.

Do you know that the official figure for the proportion of the national budget that

goes to defense purposes or military purposes is 26%? That was 26% for 1990. But that official figure does not factor in many enormous expenses that are directly related to the military such as interest on the national debt for past military expenditures, the retirement program for tens of thousands of former Department of Defense civilian employees, and on and on. Analysts who have taken into account all of these programs come up with a figure of well over 50% of the national budget going in one way or another for military purposes. Gore Vidal, among others, puts the figure at two-thirds or around 65% of the national budget. Clearly, military spending in this country dominates the economy. And it has been that way ever since 1950.

The Gulf crisis, in my opinion, was simply a crisis that was needed; it was manufactured; it was made in the USA. And it was made so that we would have an international threat or international crisis to continue justifying this kind of war economy in the United States.

It's worth recalling, briefly, where this came from. In 1950, there was extreme concern at the highest echelons of the Truman Administration that the U.S. was on its way back to the conditions of the Great Depression of the 1930s. During those first five years between the end of WWII and 1950, the United States economy had declined by 20%. Unemployment, which was almost nothing at the end of the war (700,000), had risen to 4.7 million. In early 1950, the decision was taken to multiply, by several times, military spending by rearming in the United States and by having the U.S. finance the rearmament of Western Europe.

The problem then was a so-called "dollar gap." There were not sufficient dollars in Western Europe to generate the imports from the United States needed to sustain the U.S. economy. Everyone knows that we cannot consume what we produce in this country.

(see WARS R US, page 10)



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Envision A New Ann Arbor Order

If you are one of the many folks who sent AGENDA money last month, we would like to extend a giant thank-you for your support. As of press time, AGENDA has received about \$2,300 in subscriptions and donations. While it's not the \$9,000 we need, it is enough money to keep the presses rolling while we work on ways to raise the rest.

In addition to generous donations and pledges from many individuals (including a cabdriver who has pledged a day's wages to the cause), AGENDA has received a number of pledges from the organized grassroots.

The Latin American Solidarity Committee (LASC) will be coordinating a fundraising bucket-drive for May 23-24 to benefit AGENDA. The Homeless Action Committee (HAC) is planning a summer Hootenanny and Prism Productions has pledged to help set up a musical event to help AGENDA raise funds—perhaps a day of reggae in West Park.

Crosscurrents, a multi-media performance troupe, the National Lawyers Guild, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and the National Organization for Women are all considering or planning AGENDA fundraisers.

These groups need your help. If you can swing a bucket on May 23 or 24, volunteer for one of the planned fundraisers, or if your organization can spon-

We fear that, because we have received a significant amount of money and pledges, AGENDA's readership will assume the crisis is over. (After all, this is the issue we said might never get printed.)

sor its own AGENDA fundraiser, please call us at 996-8018.

We fear that, because we have received a significant amount of money and pledges to do fundraisers, AGENDA's readership will assume that the crisis is over. (After all, you are reading a May issue—the issue we said might never get printed.) But to say that AGENDA still needs your help is an understatement.

We still need to hear from those of you who read the paper and appreciate its function, yet who, for whatever reason, hesitate to send money to support it. It is not enough just to complain about what a horrible job the commercial press does. Without \$6,700 more from the community, AGENDA will have to cease to exist. We need your subscription or donation.

We've heard that some of you are hesitant to send money because the future of the paper seems so uncertain. AGENDA has bucked the system for five long years under difficult circumstances. We have proved our commitment. The paper de-

serves your support.

Perhaps you have felt that \$20 or \$10 or \$5 couldn't make a difference. We want to assure you that it can—in fact AGENDA started in 1986 by accumulating \$5 trial subscriptions!

Send \$5 this month and we'll send three issues of AGENDA—June, July, and August—to anyone anywhere in the USA. Introduce someone you know, love, or perhaps disagree with often, to the mind-opening viewpoints found in AGENDA. Are you leaving town for the summer? Send \$5 and we'll keep you in touch with Ann Arbor with a summer subscription.

Whether you donate \$5, \$50, \$500, or \$5,000, you can be confident that your hard-earned money will be put to good use building a needed community resource. Though the newspaper is in the survival mode at the moment, we hope that someday AGENDA will grow beyond this stage and become a bi-weekly, a weekly—who knows—maybe even a daily. (Consider a New Ann Arbor Order where AGENDA has "mainstream" status and The Ann Arbor News is "alternative"!)

With just five years under our belt, there is still a long way to go. The potential is limited only by the parameters of public interest and support. There's no time like now to show a little of both.

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Ann Arbor unwelcomed then Vice-President George Bush to the U-M campus in 1985. Will Ann Arbor send the same message to Bush when he returns to the campus to receive an honorary degree from the U-M on May 4?

Woman Prisoner Graduates From U-M

On May 4, 1991 Joyce Dixon becomes the first woman prisoner ever to graduate with a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Michigan. Joyce was convicted over 15 years ago of murder. However, there is evidence in the case that Joyce acted in self-defense—that the man she killed had abused her and threatened her life. Her trial was blatantly unfair in that the lawyer appointed to Joyce was also the lawyer who had represented the man she allegedly killed. Because of shortcomings in the legal system and despite pleas from many influential community members, Joyce was never granted a new trial. She was given the excessively severe sentence of life in prison.

Joyce had no previous criminal record. She has two children, 21 and 23 years of age, one of whom is now a student at Eastern Michigan University. Joyce holds an Associates Degree from Washtenaw Community College. While at Huron Valley Women's Correctional Facility she was assistant to the minister and chaired the Huron Valley Women's Trust Fund. She is presently a coordinator of "Kids Need Moms," a children's visitation program, and for the last three years has single-handedly run the Florence Crane Women's Correctional Facility's Legal Services (which serves over 300 inmates) as a senior paralegal.

Joyce Dixon's case is typical of that of many women who are in prison for finally striking back at their abuser. Her case is atypical in that, against all odds, she fought for her right to an education and completed a university degree. Only Michigan Gov-

ernor John Engler has the power to commute Joyce Dixon's sentence. A commutation is the final stage at which an injustice occurring in our legal system can be corrected. Joyce Dixon needs your support.

Letters calling for a commutation of Joyce Dixon's sentence can be sent to: Governor John Engler, Office of the Governor, Lansing, MI 48933. Also you can send letters of support to: Joyce Dixon #145440, 38 Fourth St., Coldwater MI 49036.

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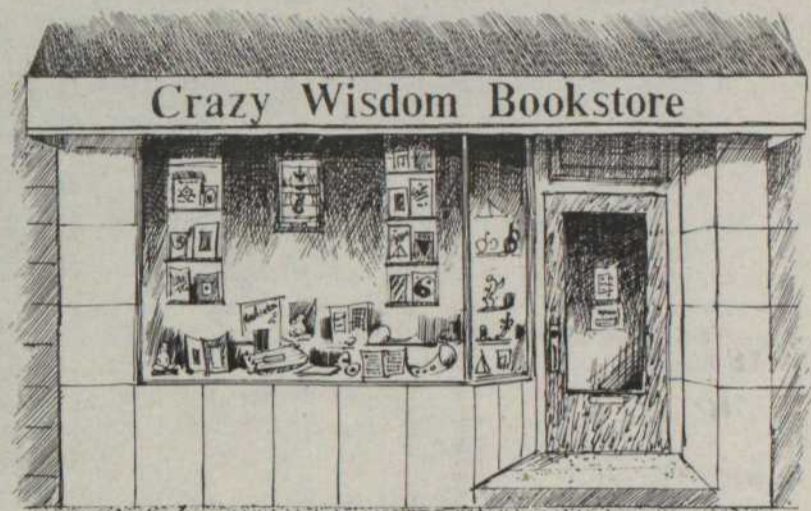
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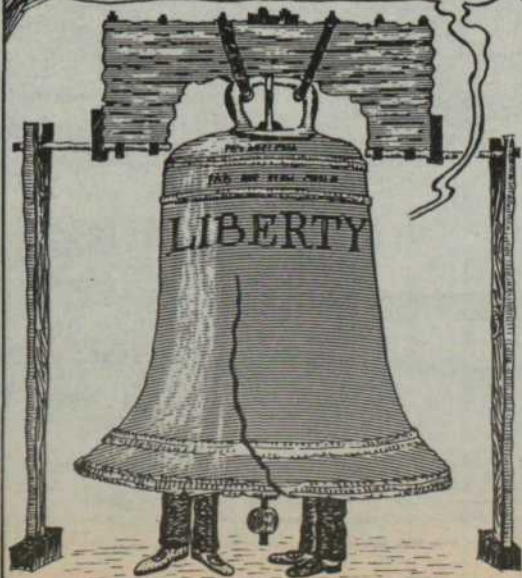
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BERING SADA ALMATAN 1987

Banana Country

by Jon Reed

Shortly after arriving on the Atlantic Coast, I decided to get a close-up view of what is projected to be Costa Rica's number one export in 1992—bananas. According to officials of U.S. Aid for International Development (USAID) and of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Costa Rica can both pay off its multi-billion dollar debt and balance its government checkbook. They say Costa Rica can accomplish this by privatizing the state-controlled sectors of the economy, by increasing its exports of coffee, bananas, beef and sugar, while simultaneously expanding its tourist and light manufacturing industries. While this may sound somewhat reasonable on paper, on the ground here things look rather different.

Along the muddy, potholed road that runs through the Valle de Estrella, among a colony of banana workers' zinc-roofed wooden shacks, the late afternoon air reeked of chemical pesticides. Appalled by the putrid-grey river, murky irrigation ditches and the amputated stumps of thousands of trees which had been clearcut six months earlier, I realized I had just made contact with the rather unpicturesque, pungent New Economic Order of Costa Rica—the Banana, Coffee and Tourism Republic that the glossy government travel brochures like to refer to as the "Switzerland of Central America."

After viewing the eco-handiwork of the banana and lumber barons in several rural scenes like this, it comes as no surprise to learn that Costa Rica is suffering from the fastest rate of deforestation in the world, according to a recent study of the World Resources Institute. Although neo-liberal Christian Unity President Rafael Angel Calderon boasted in his May 1990 inauguration speech that "Costa Rica will be converted into a model of conservation...and the leader in the fight for a New International Ecological Order," the WRI and others have warned that all of the tropical and highland forests outside of the country's national parks and reserves will be destroyed by the year 2000 if current practices persist.

Standing in the middle of this ecological devastation, I was struck by the sight of a Dole promotional billboard saluting the "labor, peace and cooperation" achieved between the banana giant and the local plantation workers' company union, the so-called Solidarista Association. These solidarista groups in Limón province and other agro-export zones have all but displaced the once militant, communist-led banana workers' union. Avidly promoted by foreign multinationals and U.S. AID—which Costa Rican opposition forces call "the parallel government"—solidarista company unions have spread throughout the country, undermining what was once a solid network of leftist and social democratic trade unions.

According to spokespersons for the solidarista movement, at least one-third of all Costa Rican workers now belong to their associations, which adds up to double the size of the country's 16% union membership. According to Millie Thayer, in an April 1991 article in *The Guardian*, there are over 200,000 Costa Rican solidaristas, with associations in more than 90% of all the transnational corporations operating in Costa Rica.

The cheerful "happy talk" on the Dole billboard seemed a bit ironic in light of recent reports of widespread pesticide poisoning and other corporate violations of workers' health and safety in Costa Rica. The most notorious example of Banana Republic criminal negligence and eco-assault in this regard is the unfolding Texas court case in which Dow Chemical and Shell Oil are being sued for knowingly conspiring with Standard Fruit/Dole (Castle & Cooke) to use the toxic, U.S.-banned chemical DBCP on Costa Rican banana plantations. The Use of DBCP certainly enhanced Dole company profits, but unfortunately caused the sterilization (and probable future cancer) of several thousand of the country's 23,000 banana workers. As local Valle de Estrella residents will admit, no one is happy about rampant deforestation, aerial pesticide spraying, and appalling health and safety conditions on the plantations. But when you're desperate for wages, as the banana migrant workers are, or desperate for tax revenues, as the Costa Rican government is, bananero development seems like a blessing.

Jon Reed is a writer and journalist based most of the year in Mexico and Central America.



PHOTO: JOHN VANDERMEER

"Cholera is a disease of poverty..."

Latin America Reels From Cholera Plague

by Eric Jackson

In the next year, cholera will strike six million Latin Americans, 42,000 of whom will die, predicts Dr. Carlos Guerra of the Pan-American Health Organization (National Public Radio, 4/20/91). The first cholera epidemic of the Americas this century appeared on January 23 on the Pacific coast of Peru. It rapidly spread to the capital and to towns in the Andes and the Amazonian jungle. From Peru it went to Ecuador and Colombia, then to Brazil and Chile.

By mid-April, Peruvian health officials reported nearly 150,000 cases and over 1,100 deaths. In mid-April the Ecuadoran Medical Federation reported 5,000 infections and 100 deaths, mostly in Ecuador's largest city, Guayaquil. Colombia reported cases first in Pacific coast towns, then inland at Bogotá, the capital. From its Peruvian headwaters, the disease swept down the Amazon into western Brazil. It was diagnosed in northern Chile in the third week of April.

The culprit is *vibrio cholerae*, a bacterium that looks like a comma when viewed under a microscope. It produces a toxin which attacks the lining of the small intestine, such that the body can't hold water. Vomiting and diarrhea ensue. A cholera victim may lose twice his or her weight in water during the course of the illness. Salt loss creates a chemical imbalance in the body. Untreated, cholera kills about half of those affected by it. With prompt treatment by oral rehydration and replacement of body salts, however, victims usually recover.

Cholera is a disease of poverty. Its germs are carried in human feces, then passed on through tainted water or food. Most people who ingest *vibrio cholerae* do not get sick, because digestive acids kill the bacteria. Malnourished people, however, typically have lower levels of gastric acids, and thus are most vulnerable.

The shanty towns of Lima, Peru's capital, are a perfect breeding ground for the disease. A city of seven million, Lima provides sewer service to less

than half of its people. Residents live in makeshift shacks amid garbage and sewage and most slum dwellers draw water from unsanitary wells.

Guayaquil, a city of 1.5 million, has slums like Lima's. Francisco Plaza, head of the Ecuadoran Medical Federation, denounced government officials in charge of sanitation for "the criminal laziness that they have committed against Guayaquil." The initially-affected area of Colombia not only lacks water and sewer service but has no telephones to alert authorities.

Brazilian health officials expect cholera to spread from the hinterlands to modern cities. Although much of Rio de Janeiro is equipped with running water and flush toilets, the city pours untreated sewage into the ocean. Not far from the gleaming skyscrapers and comfortable neighborhoods where the rich live, Rio has some of the world's most squalid slums.

According to doctors, Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori has aggravated the crisis. Fujimori and other officials, discounting warnings against eating *ceviche*, (uncooked pickled seafood that can carry cholera germs), ate the delicacy on camera in a series of TV commercials produced to promote the fishing industry. The fisheries minister spent a week in the hospital after one such *ceviche* promotion, reportedly stricken with cholera, but officially due to "laryngitis." The health minister resigned to protest Fujimori's *ceviche* videos.

The region's seafood industry has been devastated. Most countries have banned Peruvian seafood imports, causing one million lost jobs. Colombia's fish sales have declined more than 50%. The traditional river-fishing economies of Brazil's indigenous peoples have been destroyed.

The conditions which allow cholera to spread are partly created in the United States. Last summer Fujimori and the U.S.-controlled International Mon-

(see CHOLERA, page 10)

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INTERVIEW

El Salvador: "Mockery of Democracy"

Last month Salvador Sanabria, a spokesperson for the FMLN/FDR, the Salvadoran rebel organization, was in Ann Arbor as part of a Midwest speaking tour. Sanabria is an advisor to the negotiating team of the FMLN, which is currently trying to broker an end to their 11-year civil war with the ARENA-dominated Salvadoran government.

At press time, there are reports which indicate that the peace process is still very much alive and has produced a tentative agreement between the rebels and the government, with another meeting scheduled this month.

The following abridged interview was conducted by members from the Latin American Solidarity Committee.

LASC: What do you see as the role of the United States in the peace process (or lack thereof), and what does the FMLN hope for the future in terms of the U.S. role?

Sanabria: Well, first, I think it is important to review the legacy of the '80s in terms of U.S. policy. What Reagan left this new administration in Washington was an unconditional and deep military commitment to the Salvadoran army, something which is difficult to move away from. Washington has spent more than \$4 billion in both economic and military aid, but has been looking for a military victory—a dream that has fallen apart. It's not possible, with the military stalemate we've had. Washington has not been looking for a negotiated settlement as an exit to this conflict, but has invested economic, political, and military resources for a military solution.

Now, January '89 in Washington brings a new administration—the Bush administration. From the beginning, at least in talk, that administration signalled that they were supportive of a peaceful settlement in El Salvador. But their actions are another story. Their actions have been supportive of the army. As long as you send signals to the army that you are supporting them, that you are not backing away from that support, the army will not understand political settlements and will continue looking for the military effort, and continue looking to prolong the war and the conflict.

So Washington needs to be consistent, words with actions, and not send mixed signals or establish political patterns of double standards. On one hand you demand from that army a good record on human rights, or a good record in the administration of justice, yet on the other hand you give that same army military support even if they don't play by the rules.

Certainly Washington plays the most significant role as an international player in this conflict. Washington, with its political, economic, and military commitment in El Salva-

dor, can make a change. And in order for that to happen, we believe they must start with conditioning their aid, but not with terms imposed on the FMLN. We don't receive a single penny of that aid! Why then does Washington impose conditions on us?

The conditions must be imposed upon the recipient of that aid; they should be imposed on the Salvadoran army. If they don't behave well at the negotiation table and in human rights and the administration of justice and respect for civilians, then they should pay the price. And the price's name is conditioning, cutting-off, retention, and halting of military aid from the United States. And we propose to Washington that instead of continuing to channel aid to the military, the aid for the present fiscal year that ends in October should be channelled for the reconstruction of the country.

Once peace comes to El Salvador, we are not expecting that millions and millions of dollars in economic aid are going to come from international financial institutions, private banks, or governments as seen in the instances of Panama and Nicaragua. They will forget about us. We will be left only with our own resources, and we will have to deal with that reality.

So again, Washington plays an important role. So does the continuation of support that the American people have provided the Salvadoran people. We still need the solidarity work (both humanitarian and political) and accompaniment of the Salvadoran people in their struggle; the "watch" activity in terms of human rights, and hopefully, the continuation of commitments supporting alternative development in El Salvador. That will come not from government institutions, not from the most wealthy economic sectors of the country, but it will come from people's organizations—a new kind of alternative development model—from the base, from the grassroots, through cooperative property, through private initiative but to benefit the community—wealth coming from a free market economy, with different kinds of property, that will benefit social, economic, educational, health and all problems of the people.

What Salvadorans want is what Americans were expecting before the war broke out in the Middle East. Everybody was talking here and in Europe about a peace dividend. That's what we want. A peace dividend in El Salvador means getting rid of the defense budget. Why do you need that? There's no need for that money now that ideological and political borders are falling apart. There's no Cold War. There's no threat of communism. Why do you need this national security? There's no reason for that. We can organize our defense in case of danger; there are models of volunteer defense, in Sweden, in Switzerland. There are models of volunteer armies. You don't need to sustain salaries, weap-

onry and that kind of stuff. You can organize a volunteer army without spending huge amounts of your budget that should be dedicated to other kinds of spending. So that's more or less what we are proposing.

LASC: Could you say a little bit about the role of elections in El Salvador and what happened in the recent elections?

Sanabria: The conditions in which the March elections took place are no different from the conditions in which the last seven elections in the '80s took place in El Salvador. The Supreme Electoral Council is subject to fraud, because it is controlled by the ARENA party, the party in power. It is not an independent body; it's not an impartial body.

Second, the military exercised its impunity in actions, repression, and intimidation. For example, let's say I'm an opposition leader who has come here to this city to propose the formation of a branch of my party here in Detroit to you, and we're here having our dinner in a nice environment. I have convinced you already to go ahead and help me. You've pledged to go out and campaign for my party, but suddenly, seven members of the National Guard walk in, and without touching you, just ask you for your I.D. They take your I.D., take your name, your address, your phone number, and they say "goodbye." That is enough to change your mind immediately. That is called intimidation. That is called psychological repression.

And this is the way the army acts. In extreme cases they have killed people. They just killed two professionals of one party of the Left across the street from the American embassy, one of the most guarded places in the country. What kind of democracy is this? It's a mockery of democracy. It's not democracy.

LASC: In light of the fact that these elections weren't any different from the last seven elections, why didn't the FMLN boycott them?

Sanabria: Because in terms of the political environment of the country, conditions have changed. For the first time in almost 20 years we had a spectrum of the Salvadoran electoral left participating with a good chance of winning seats in the assembly—not the majority—but winning significant places.

That's number one. Second, the peace process, as a result of the struggle, has gained international recognition, legitimacy, and support. The fact is that the United Nations is participating in mediating the talks for peace, so for the FMLN, it was important to show the international community our political will. It was important to show that we were serious about the peace process.

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Portrait of Jacques Karamanoukian

by Jay Pinka

If you are an artist searching for a way to make your art mean something to you, be certain to talk with Jacques Karamanoukian. Don't be taken aback by the fact that Jacques is the owner of Galerie Jacques, has exhibited his work at Galerie Imago, Galerie Pleine Marges, and the 3e Festival International d'Art Moderne et Contemporaine in France. Don't feel at a loss for witty, allusive comebacks about art just because Jacques has collaborated or exhibited with famous artists like Dubuffet, Sendrey and Corneille. Jacques, surrounded by the works of French artists Al Richard, Adjar and himself, bears not a shred of masky pre-pretentiousness about him.

The way Jacques works in the studio is evidence of his sincere, direct approach to people and the world. When he paints, he unleashes and discovers a psychic landscape that resurrects him in enamel and oil. He describes the creative process as "...a struggle...a painting is a problem to be solved...but you want to have a good time too."

As a self-educated artist Karamanoukian creates his own inner art academy. Jacques refuses to conform to typical, meticulous studies in landscapes or still life. In his "Monk 616," Karamanoukian's expressionist tendencies both manifest the mazes of his mind and reveal a reclusive, solitary Jacques, working late into the night. "I distort things according to my will," says

Jacques—a modern St. George, who also has enough insight to tolerate the fire of his own strange, creative dragons. Jacques will gladly point out the hidden shapes in his work, fleshing out meaning from seeming chaos. Jacques' choice of the drip technique, developed by Jackson Pollack, reflects his need to work fast, visually noting the information that arises from within him at high speeds.

"You have to be very agile with your hands and mind at the same time," says Jacques. "You want to give your unconscious as much freedom as you can."

"Struggle," for example, simulates a black, chaotic labyrinth of the imagination. Here Jacques wrestles with his creative angels, while sprinkling black paint, smearing it into a maze, spraying gold paint over it and finally, slapping on a juvenile, fingerpainted look with the graffiti technique. The direct, interactional approach to artmaking integrates his whole being. "It doesn't make a God out of you," he says, "It keeps you humble."

Jacques Karamanoukian clearly works with the flux of inner and outer tides, refusing to gloss his artistic harvest of mazes into a Hallmark-like cast of impressionist gardenscapes.

Jacques gathers inspiration from Picasso's exploration of mythology, freedom and the breaking down of forms. The surreal strain in "The Little Head" reveals influences from automatic drawings by "poet-artist" Andre Masson. In this work an off-symmetrical, expressive figure with a blue triangle for one eye and a red splotch for the other is either crying or laughing. Jacques discovered the portrait of a surreal "friend" in the colorful shapetext only after the painting experience.

"What excites me is the unknown," says Jacques. "I like to be surprised." Jacques' zeal for mystery explains his appreciation for

the magical dynamic and emotional presence of artist Jackson Pollack. We see the influence of Pollock in "Composition," a combination of black, maze-like brush strokes and the drip technique splatters in blue, grey, orange and black. Here the flurry of colors seem to shoot onto the paper, a result of the "dance method." This is a method in which the artist paints by walking around the paper and orchestrating color from various angles. The structure is a moving, breathing creature that casts a spell on the

artist, leading you through the labyrinth to the magical altar of self-discovery.

"Magic is not in the tube or in The New York Times," says Jacques, who acknowledges the true sources of powerful art as channeled from the mythological visions of ancient peoples. "When the white man wants to elevate the magic of art, he goes to the old cultures."

Joseph Campbell showed us that primitive man hailed magic, not meat or money, with art, to express and reflect on self and community. But today in America, Karamanoukian notices a disturbing emphasis on financial gain, rather than personal fulfillment through artistic expression.

"When people talk about art, they talk about money—like how much the Van Gogh's sold for," says Karamanoukian. "...If you don't care as much about fame or money you'll have freedom." His concern with artistic freedom

correlates with the current mood of inhibition, self-doubt and fear of honest expression caused by the favoring of stricter censorship policies in this country.

"Conservative ideas are polluting people's minds so people cannot feel free," he says. "Let's say you're opposed to the invasion of Iraq and the killing of thousands of people...obviously you're in the minority," states Karamanoukian.

But Jacques Karamanoukian, though he has his own artistic values intact, continually allows for disparate beliefs and practices. He repeatedly states, "I'm no judge. People can do what they want," and the flipside of the same concept: "I'm not out to please people. Personally, I'm getting nowhere."

There is one thing that Jacques is getting out of his work, and that is pleasure. Much of his enjoyment comes from his ability to laugh at the world. "The way to overcome it is to see it as a big circus with a lot of clowns. You might take Dan Quayle tragically once or twice, but you just have to laugh at him."

You can discover this saving humor (if you read French) for yourself by reading Karamanoukian's Dadaist poetry. He keeps a stack of it at Galerie Jacques for visitors to laugh or cry at as they walk back into the comparatively drab world.

Though something is lost in the translation of French to English, art to journalism, and the personality of Jacques Karamanoukian in this article, there is one saving grace. You can go to Galerie Jacques and experience Jacques Karamanoukian yourself—after all experience is the best teacher, and probably an even better artist. But of course, Jacques will probably tell you that it is only the artist in yourself that truly knows.

Galerie Jacques is located at 616 Wesley, or call 665-9889.



...He repeatedly states, "I'm no judge. People can do what they want," and the flipside of the same concept: "I'm not out to please people. Personally, I'm getting nowhere."

Variety is the Spice of Metal

by Steev Hise

"Born in the springtime of '65
I was cursed with the vision to see both sides
I was afraid to move or take a stand or make a
vow
I was in the shadow of a doubt but I am much
better now that I say: 'fight team fight!'"

-Mol Triffid, "Deen Neeb's Metal Effort"

Most local music fans are aware that Ann Arbor's Mol Triffid is into more than just jamming some cool rock riffs. This band is intent on communicating innovative and serious ideas, though often in a humorous way.

Their contradictory style is surprising but appropriate. Bassist Dave Sahijdak explains that the band did not form with "one cohesive concept. We approach it song by song." The band's 1989 single, "I Wanna See Pretty People Doing Ugly Things" b/w "Deen Neeb's Metal Effort," displays this penchant for open-minded variety. In the former, singer/performer Kurt Serbus praises the merits of sadomasochism, while on the flipside he argues with himself over conformity and hyperpatriotism. Half of "Deen Neeb's" is sung through a megaphone, producing an insistent alter-ego voice which torments the confused protagonist of the song.

Kurt, amazingly quiet and reserved—compared to his on stage persona—explains how "Deen Neeb's" is the story of "the Reagan era, easy choices... a guy losing to the fascist inside him."

"I don't pass judgement. I just write about a situation," says Kurt. He writes the lyrics after Dave, guitarist Kimo, and drummer Scott Mast create the power-metal structure that will be the song's backbone. Kurt's ingenuity with words combined with the explosive energy of the band gives intense meaning to "William Shatner Sleeps on the Eve of the Harmonic Convergence; He Dreams..." "William Shatner is the epitome of the male machismo image," explains the singer. Kurt, as Shatner, boasts of his exploits, "felling the mighty sequoia and splitting the tiny atom." On stage, he struts around, yelling the refrain, "I'm a man!" while the thunderous, primal music churns around him. However, the harmonic era soon arrives, in which woman takes over. At the song's conclusion, the reign of the archetypal male ends when he looks up at the stars and screams in horror, "they're lining up against... me!"

Dave cites their song "Media Clowns" as a response to the media's treatment of events like the Persian Gulf war. "Did any of this really happen?" he asks. "We don't know. We're spoon-fed facts by the media." The song's rapid fire lyrics and schizophrenically hyperactive music simulate the manner in which the media barrages the public with information.

Rock music, especially Mol Triffid's particular brand of it, seems to provide a catharsis for both its creators and audiences. You can see this clearly at any Triffid gig as Kurt explodes into his wild stage persona and the crowd of fans thrash and slam in appreciation. How effective is this anarchic release, though? Thirty-odd years of rock music has seen it become an industry and an inseparable part of society. As Kimo states, "Rock isn't really a form of rebellion any more. It's just something that's done." However, this trend toward normalcy in the rock scene influences him and the band to create more and more innovative and unusual music. "It is a legitimate art form," says Dave, "Art is people creating, and we've created."

Unfortunately, there may not be much more time to experience Mol Triffid's art in Ann Arbor, for they will soon be moving to the bigger scene of the Berkeley, California area. First, though, they're planning an East Coast tour in May, and recording for a possible album this summer. The reason for it all, they say, is to play live, communicating their musical ideas and energy to other people.

Bi Any Other Name

by Catherine Fischer

"It is difficult to present an accurate account of our roots when we are just becoming visible to ourselves," write bisexual activists Loraine Hutchins and Lani Kaahumanu, the editors of the anthology "Bi Any Other Name: Bisexual People Speak Out." This book is worth celebrating as history in the making, as well as for its content. It gives bisexuals and everyone else an opportunity to glimpse the complexity and range of bisexual experience. Seventy-six contributors write honestly of their experiences as bisexuals or family members of bisexuals.

The editors note that what appears to be a sudden burst of organizing on local, national and international levels by bisexuals is "actually the result of years of isolated grassroots organizing through social support groups and political caucuses within larger coalitions." The politicization of bisexuality as described here may take some people by surprise, as may the existence of the book for those not already aware of the bisexual movement.

In their introduction, Hutchins and Kaahumanu pose the question "Why this book?" In answer, they assert: "Bisexual people—by any other name, by every other name—have lived and loved since the beginning of time. Yet we're told we don't exist, that we're really heterosexual or really gay, that nothing exists between these two extremes... It is time for bisexuals to speak out, in our own voices, no longer filtered by experts' interpretations

of who we are." And they do speak out.

The writers successfully argue against these attitudes and related disparaging views of bisexuality: that it is just a stage on the way to becoming lesbian or gay; that bisexuals are confused or experimenting, and therefore not reliable in relationships; that they are fence sitters who cannot be counted on as allies in the fight for lesbian and gay rights; and that bisexuals have the ability to closet themselves in the straight community, which gives them the privilege of not having to deal with homophobia.

While the contributors all share the label "bisexual," reading only a few pieces demonstrates to the reader that the label applies to a wide range of experience. There are people who primarily choose partners of one sex, those who prefer to be involved with both at the same time. There are married, monogamous, single, closeted, promiscuous, celibate, and lesbian- or gay-identified contribu-

tors. There are cross dressers, and people who identify with the opposite gender.

The very format of the anthology is a strong point. Drawing on the many ways sexual orientation affects our lives, the sections of the book reflect diverse experience rather than just focusing on sex and choice of partners. Four sections form the bulk of the book: "Psychology: Facing Ourselves," "Spirituality: Healing the Splits," "Community: Are we Visible Yet?," and "Politics: A Queer Among Queers."

Each section begins with an overview by the editors, in which they put forth a cohesive and clear analysis of the topic in relation to bisexuality. The book ends with a history of bisexual political activism, a short list of resources, and a glossary of terms.

Many pieces include serious questions and thinking about political strategy, the future of the bisexual movement and the role of bisexuals in lesbian, gay, and heterosexual

communities. Some longer pieces offer refreshing analysis which is put forth within the context of the writer's personal experience, making its relevance unmistakable, and its intellectual style less intimidating.

New language is introduced to more adequately describe bisexual experience, words like "bi-phobia," defined as "the irrational fear of bisexuality in oneself or others and the distrust and discrimination practiced against us because of this fear." Environments, people, etc. which are accepting of bisexuality are referred to as "bi-positive" and "bi-friendly."

The pride the contributors have learned to take in their identity is evident. Karen Hurley writes that in the beginning of her coming out process, "I merely thought I was becoming wierd in every possible way, (but) my joy now in loving women and men convinces me, in a way that no intellectual argument can, that bisexuality is neither sinful nor politically incorrect. I do not need to rely on an authority to tell me what is right or what I want—my knowledge is as solid as my bones."

The diversity among the writers and in the way that they experience their bisexuality can only be hinted at. It is this diversity, and the pride, the power and the honesty of the stories which makes the book required reading for anyone interested specifically in bisexuality, or in sexual politics in general.

BI ANY OTHER NAME:

Bisexual People Speak Out

edited by
Loraine Hutchins and
Lani Kaahumanu

Alyson Publications

BOOK REVIEW

New language is introduced to more adequately describe bisexual experience, words like "bi-phobia,"... "bi-positive" and "bi-friendly."

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Friday - *Radio Caroline*, band from E. Lansing
Saturday - *The King Brothers*
10pm OR SO
Friday and Saturday **DANCE PARTY**
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Tomfoolery
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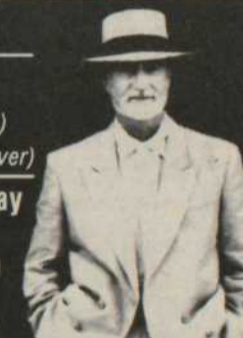
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To publicize June Calendar events, send formatted listings by May 15 to AGENDA, 202 E. Washington #512, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, (996-8018). Listings for more than five events must be sent to AGENDA on Macintosh disc. Send SASE if you want your disc returned.

FORMAT—Date, event, sponsor, time and place. A one or two sentence description, fee, and phone number.

Unless otherwise noted, all events listed are free and open to the public. All locations are in Ann Arbor unless otherwise noted.

1 Wednesday

"Walking the Huron River from Hudson Mills to Belleville": U-M Arts & Programming thru 10 Fri, all day, Mich. Union Art Lounge. The photography of Rodeny Roberts. 764-6498

Weekly Vigil: Coalition for a Just Peace in the Gulf 12:30 pm, Federal Bldg., Liberty at Fifth. 663-1870

"Womyn's Rites & Rhythms" 6 pm, 88.3 FM, WCBN. 763-3501

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$2. 662-8310

2 Thursday

Meeting: Gays and Lesbians, Older and Wisser (GLOW) Turner Geriatric Clinic, 1010 Wall. For gay males and lesbians who are aged 50 and over. For time 764-2556

Meeting: Lesbian and Gay Men's Rights Organizing Com. (LaGROC) 7:15 pm, 3100 Mich. Union. 761-2962

Meeting: Toughlove 7:30 pm, McAuley Education Center, St. Joseph Hospital, Ypsilanti. Self-help group for parents troubled by their teenager's behavior or drug use. 484-1667

Dizzy Gillespie: Attic Theatre 8 pm, 7339 Third, Detroit, \$25. 1-313-875-8284

Butthole Surfers: Prism Productions 7:30 pm, Latin Quarter, 3067 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit. All ages, \$14.50 advance. 665-4755

"Happy Days": Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. A probing, poetic Samuel Beckett play studying the tenuous relationships that bind one person to another, \$9/7 studs. & srs. 663-0681

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$2. 662-8310

Throwing Muses: Prism Prod. 9:30 pm, Blind Pig, 208 S. First St., \$12.50 advance. 668-8397

3 Friday

Disarmament Working Group Meeting: Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice noon, ICPJ office, Memorial Christian Church, Tappan at Hill. 663-1870

Vigil: Women in Black noon, State at N. University. Vigil against Israeli occupation of the Territories and E. Jerusalem. Wear black. 769-5680

Coffeebreak for Lesbian and Bisexual Wimin: U-M Lesbian/Gay Male Programs Office & Common Language Bookstore 4 pm, 214 S. Fourth Ave. Come socialize and network. 763-4186

Taste of New Orleans Dinner: The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation 7 pm, St. Andrew's Church, 306 N. Division. A jambalaya of food for homebound would-be Jazz Heritage Festival attendees! Good

CALENDAR



See the Royal Crescent Mob in action at the Blind Pig. (see 11 Saturday)

cooking and music to benefit the Church, \$15 friend/\$25 sponsor/\$100/patron. 665-4734

First Fridays: Common Vision Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Church (CVC) 7:30 pm, 1917 Washtenaw. The film "The Life and Times of Harvey Milk," refreshments and conversation. CVC addresses the concerns of lesbians and gay males within our church, dons. for refreshments. 665-6158

Jesus Jones: Prism Productions 7:30 pm, Latin Quarter, 3067 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit. All ages, \$14.50 advance. 665-4755

Dizzy Gillespie: Attic Theatre 8 pm, 7339 Third, Detroit, \$25. 1-313-875-8284

"Happy Days": Performance Network 8 pm (see 2 Thur)

Gay Men's Coffee House: "Brothers" 9 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. 763-4186

The Larry Nozero Quartet: The Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$5. 662-8310

Dance Jam: People Dancing 10 pm, People Dancing Studio, 111 Third St. Varied recorded dance music. Okay to bring music and acoustic instruments. Smoke- and alcohol-free. Children welcome, \$2. 665-7911

4 Saturday

Graduation Protest: Coalition of Community Groups 7:30 am leafletting, Hoover at Greene, 10 am meeting/picket at Pioneer High School. Come protest Bush and Engler's "guns over butter" policies. (If you have tickets call Tobi at Interfaith 663-1870 for more information.) 663-3555

"Workers Against the War at Home and Abroad": Coalition to Stop U.S. Intervention in the Middle East noon to 4 pm, Cobo Hall, Detroit. Bush, Engler, big business and the Pentagon will be put on trial for crimes against the people. Childcare provided, \$5/\$1 unemployed and studs. 965-0074

Meeting: Eckankar, Religion of the Light and Sound of God noon, Performance Network, Rm. 32, 410 W. Washington. Discussion about the spiritual teachings of Eckankar. 994-0766

Dizzy Gillespie: Attic Theatre 7:30 & 10 pm, 7339 Third, Detroit, \$25. 1-313-875-8284

"Happy Days": Performance Network 8 pm (see 2 Thur)

Lunar Octet: Polo Club 8 pm, 610 Hilton Blvd. 761-7800

The Larry Nozero Quartet: The Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$5. 662-8310

5 Sunday

Bike-A-Thon: Ecology Center 8 am on, 417 Detroit. Routes of 14, 28, 58 and 100 miles. Prizes for highest pledges. Snacks and music provided. 761-3186

Brunch with Harvey Reed: Bird of Paradise 11 am, 207 S. Ashley. 662-8310

"Gold Card" Party: Ann Arbor Federation of Musicians 2:30 to 9 pm, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley. Honoring 30 members of the Musicians Union. With Skylark, Diana Crum/James Lidgett Vibes/Guitar Duo, The Brass Potatoes Dixieland Band, Patty Richards, Neil Woodward, Pat McCaffrey, The Bird of Paradise Orchestra and The Executive Board Jazz Band—free. 662-8310

"Happy Days": Performance Network 6:30 pm (see 2 Thur)

Meeting: Ypsilanti Gay Male/Lesbian AA 7:30 pm, First Congregational Church, 118 N. Adams, downstairs. 484-0456

Meeting: Ypsilanti Gay Male/Lesbian Alanon 7:30 pm, First Congregational Church, 118 N. Adams, upstairs. 484-0456

Harvey Reed Jazz Jam: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley. 662-8310

6 Monday

Open House for Lesbians & Gay Men: Gay Liberation 8:45 pm, Canterbury House, 218 N. Division. 763-4186

The Feebles: Prism Productions 9:30 pm, Blind Pig, 208 S. First, \$9 advance. 665-4755

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$2. 662-8310

7 Tuesday

Waste Awareness Awards Luncheon: Ecology Center noon, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver. Bring bag lunch. Drinks provided. 761-3186

"Mother's Day Festival for Peace & Justice 1990": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, A2

Comm. Access TV, Cable Channel 9. Annual celebration of the original meaning of Mother's Day given each year in West Park by Women's Action for a New Direction (WAND). 769-7422

"Closets are for Clothes": Lesbian/Gay Radio Collective 6 pm, 88.3 FM, WCBN. News, announcements, interviews and commentary for the lesbian, gay and bi communities. 763-3500

Paul Keller and Friends: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$3. 662-8310

8 Wednesday

"Womyn's Rites & Rhythms" 6 pm, 88.3 FM, WCBN. 763-3501

Recycle Week Benefit Concert: Ecology Center 9:30 pm, Blind Pig, 208 S. First. With Assembly Required, \$5. 761-3186

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$2. 662-8310

9 Thursday

Meeting: LaGROC 7:15 pm (see 2 Thur)

Divine Horsemen: Open Arches and Girlfrenzy 7 & 9 pm, ICC Education Center, 1522 Hill. Maya Deren's classic '40s documentary on Haitian Vodoo. Free tickets available at Dawn Treader Books, 1202 S. University. Donation of \$2 requested for scholarships that will allow economically disadvantaged women to attend a Luisah Teish workshop. 665-2270

Meeting: Toughlove 7:30 pm (see 2 Thur)

Grottesco "Shorts": Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. Outrageous one act works by Theatre Grottesco, \$9/7 studs. & srs. 663-0681

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$2. 662-8310

10 Friday

Mother's Day Festival for Peace & Justice: Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 7 Tue)

Divine Horsemen: Open Arches and Girlfrenzy 7 & 9 pm (see 9 Thur)

Grottesco "Shorts": Performance Network 8 pm (9 Thur)

Gwen Laster Quintet: The Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$5. 662-8310

11 Saturday

Bike-to-Work Week "Bicycle Auction": City of A2 and the Environmental Research Institute of Michigan 8 am, City Hall police garage, Fifth at Huron. 994-2786

12th Annual Dog Walkathon: Humane Society of Huron Valley 9 am to 4 pm, 3100 Cherry Hill Rd (off Plymouth Rd. East of US-23). Celebrate "Be Kind to Animals Week" by trotting (with or without your dog) 6 to 18 miles along rural roads to raise money to feed and house Washtenaw City's homeless animals. Sponsor sheets available at HSHV and Huron Pet Supply. 662-5545

"Council of All Beings" Workshop 11 am to 5 pm, \$15. For location 665-5540

Canoe Auction: Dept. of Parks & Rec. noon, Gallup Park Canoe Livery, 3000 Fuller. Auction of used and damaged canoes and equipment. Plus tips on canoe repair. 662-9319

Meeting: Eckankar, Religion of the Light and Sound of God noon (see 4 Sat)

Bike-to-Work Week "Bike Safety Class": City of A2 and ERIM 1 to 5 pm, Buhr Park, 2751 Packard. Pre-register 994-2780

The Mamas and The Puppets: Ecology Center 1 pm, Mack School Auditorium, 920 Miller. Rafferty the rat and his friends teach kids about recycling and rubbish, \$1/person

or \$5 per family of 5 or more. Tickets available only at the Ecology Center, 417 Detroit. 761-3186

Grottesco "Shorts": Performance Network 2 pm (9 Thur)

Support Group: Common Language Bookstore 7 pm, 214 S. Fourth Ave. Group forming for lesbians 35 and older. We will go to Detroit Women's Coffee House at 8 pm. 482-7661

Henry Gibson/Rayse Biggs Quartet: Polo Club 8 pm, 610 Hilton Blvd. 761-7800

Laurie Anderson: Prism Production 8 pm, Mich. Theater, 608 E. Liberty, \$23.50 reserved. 665-4755

Grottesco "Shorts": Performance Network 8 pm (9 Thur)

Royal Crescent Mob: Prism Productions 9:30 pm, Blind Pig, 208 S. First, \$7.50 advance. 665-4755

Gwen Laster Quintet: The Bird of Paradise 9:30, 207 S. Ashley, \$5. 662-8310

The Rational's Reunion: No Bull Productions 10 pm, Club Heidelberg, 215 N. Main. Tonight is the band's first (announced) public performance in 21 years, \$7.50. 994-3562

12 Sunday

Brunch with Harvey Reed: Bird of Paradise 11 am, 207 S. Ashley. 662-8310

Living History Day: Dept. of Parks & Recreation noon to 4 pm, Cobblestone Farm, 2781 Packard. Demos of butter churning, candle making and rug beating, \$1.50/\$.75 child & srs. 994-2928

Seventh Annual Mother's Day Festival for Peace and Justice: WAND 1 to 4 pm, West Park. Children's activities along with musical and theatrical entertainment for all. Peace and justice themes. Refreshments. 761-1718

Mother's Day Rally for Prisoner's Rights: Freedom Link & The NOW State Task Force on Women and Prison 1 to 3 pm, Huron Valley Women's Facility, park on the south shoulder of Bemis Rd. Protest prison conditions in Michigan, the imprisonment of women who defend themselves against abuse and the continued incarceration of political prisoners. Susan Fair 741-0028

Meeting: Ypsilanti Gay Male/Lesbian AA 7:30 pm (see 5 Sun)

Meeting: Ypsilanti Gay Male/Lesbian Alanon 7:30 pm (see 5 Sun)

Harvey Reed Jazz Jam: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm to 1:30 am, 207 S. Ashley. 662-8310

13 Monday

Happy Birthday Ahmad Abdur-Rahman Send cards to Michigan's longest-held political prisoner, ex-Black Panther and occasional AGENDA contributor: Ahmad Abdur-Rahman #130539, 141 First St., Coldwater, MI 49036. 487-7017

Bike-to-Work Week "Auto Impact Seminar": City of A2 & ERIM 7 pm, Leslie Science Ctr., 1831 Traver. 994-2786

Open House for Lesbians & Gay Men: Gay Liberation 8:45 pm (see 6 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$2. 662-8310

14 Tuesday

Paintings by Sei Shinohara: U-M Arts & Programming thru June 2, all day, Mich. Union Art Lounge. Abstract works of night skies, water and other elements. 764-6498

"Closets are for Clothes": Lesbian/Gay Radio Collective 6 pm (see 7 Tue)

Bike-to-Work Week "Bike Swap": City of A2 and ERIM 7 to 9 pm, Veterans Arena, 2150 Jackson Ave. 994-2786

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"Broadening the Environmental Agenda": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, A2 Comm. Access TV, Cable Channel 9. A forum on war, racism, poverty, and labor issues, and their impact on the environment, with speakers Rev. Barbara Fuller, Bunyan Bryant and Donele Wilkins. 769-7422

Meeting: Washtenaw Citizens for Animal Rights 7:30 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. 665-2480

Religious Coalition on Central America Meeting: Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice 7:30 pm, First Baptist Church, Washington near State. 663-1870

Meeting: Amnesty International Group 61 7:30 pm, Mich. Union, check room # at desk. Activities to protect human rights and free prisoners of conscience around the world. 761-1628

Paul Keller and Friends: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$3. 662-8310

15 Wednesday

June Issue Deadline for Calendar & Community Resource Directory: AGENDA by 5 pm, 202 E. Washington #512, 48104. 996-8018

Weekly Vigil: Coalition for a Just Peace in the Gulf 12:30 pm, Federal Bldg. 663-1870

"Womyn's Rites & Rhythms" 6 pm, 88.3 FM, WCBN. 763-3501

Bike-to-Work Week "Clinic": City of A2 and ERIM 6:30 pm, Ann Arbor Cyclery, 1224 Packard. Basic bike repair skills. Pre-register 761-2749

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$2. 662-8310

16 Thursday

Bike-to-Work Week "Forum": A2 Bicycle Coordinating Comm. 7 to 9 pm, City Council Chambers, 2nd floor, City Hall. Air your gripes and likes to the people who set local bicycle policy. 994-2786

Meeting: Bread for the World 7:30 pm, Memorial Christian Church, 730 Tappan. Discuss domestic and international hunger. Also legislative updates and planning for 1991 events. 487-9058

Meeting: LaGROC 7:15 pm (see 2 Thur)

Meeting: Toughlove 7:30 pm (see 2 Thur)

The Safety and Dangers of the U-M's North Campus Chemical and Radioactive Waste Facility: Family Housing Residents and Students 8 to 11 pm, North Campus Community Center, Multi Purpose Room. With Dr. Marvin Resnikoff, an expert in radioactive waste management. 763-8292

Mose Allison: The Bird of Paradise 8 & 10 pm, 207 S. Ashley. All ages concert at 8 pm, \$7.50 advance. 662-8310

17 Friday

"Bike-to-Work Day": City of A2 & ERIM Leave your polluting ways behind and pedal to work. For those of you worried about being sweaty, shower facility coupons are available from the Dept. of Parks and Rec. 994-2786

Coffeebreak for Lesbians and Bisexual Wimmin: Common Language Bookstore 4 pm (see 3 Fri)

"Broadening the Environmental Agenda": Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 14 Tue)

Spring Benefit: Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. Excerpts from "Soul Stretch," a multi-media play by Michael Carney and the band Radio Caroline. Later a dance party with The Ann Arbor Blues Band, \$9/7 studs. & srs. 663-0681

Gay Men's Coffee House: "Brothers" 9 pm (see 3 Fri)

Mose Allison: Bird of Paradise 9 & 11 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$7.50 advance. 662-8310

Dance Jam: People Dancing 10 pm (see 3 Fri)

Dance Party: Performance Network 10 pm, 408 W. Washington. With the Ann Arbor Blues Band, \$5. 663-0681

Volunteer Training: The Domestic Violence Project/SAFE House People of color and formerly battered women especially encouraged to apply. For time and place: 995-5444

18 Saturday

Tree Clinic: Dept. of Parks and Rec. Forestry Div. 9 am to 1 pm, Allmendinger Park Shelter. Staff will answer questions relating to tree insect disease, diagnosis, and planting. Bring samples for analysis. 994-2789

Bike-to-Work Week "Youth Safety Clinic": City of A2 & ERIM 9:30 am, Gallup Park Meeting room. For youths ages 10 to 14. 994-2786

Canoe Instruction Clinic: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 10 am to noon, Gallup Park Canoe Livery, 3000 Fuller. One hour instruction and an hour leisure and practice, \$7.50. Pre-register 662-9319

Canoe Symposium and Display: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 10 am to 4 pm, Gallup Park Canoe Livery, 3000 Fuller. 662-9319

Meeting: Eckankar, Religion of the Light and Sound of God noon (see 4 Sat)

The Michigan Paralyzed Veterans Association 9-Ball Tournament: Billiards and Games Room noon, 2nd floor, Mich. Union. 766-1422

Spring Benefit: Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. Excerpts from "Soul Stretch," a multi-media play by Michael Carney and the King Brothers. After a dance party with The Ann Arbor Blues Band, \$9/7 studs. & srs. 663-0681

The Hot Club: Polo Club 8 pm, 610 Hilton Blvd. 761-7800

Mose Allison: The Bird of Paradise 9 & 11 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$7.50 advance. 662-8310

Dance Party: Performance Network 10 pm, 408 W. Washington. With the Ann Arbor Blues Band, \$5. 663-0681

19 Sunday

"Living Well, Together in Pride" Conference: Detroit Area Gay/Lesbian Council 8:30 am to 6 pm, Mercy College, Detroit. For information, write: Living Well Conference, 21700 North-western Hwy., Ste. 840, Southfield, MI 48075, \$25 reg./\$7.50 lunch. 1-313-559-5271

Brunch with Harvey Reed: Bird of Paradise 11 am, 207 S. Ashley. 662-8310

Community Involvement Meeting: Wildflower Community Bakery 11:30 am potluck, noon meeting, 208 N. Fourth Ave. All invited. 994-0601

Granite Line Writers Poetry Reading: Freight House Cafe 2 pm, Freight House Cafe, Cross at River, Ypsilanti. With Terry Wooten, the builder and host poet of the Stone Circle, \$3. 663-5034

Puppy and Dog Training and Care Clinic: Humane Society of Huron Valley 2 to 4:30 pm, 1575 E. North Territorial. Breed characteristics, feeding, grooming and obedience, \$2 don/under 12 free. 662-5545

Meeting: Parents-FLAG/Ann Arbor 2 pm, King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2685 Packard. 763-4186

Meeting: Ypsilanti Gay Male/Lesbian AA 7:30 pm (see 5 Sun)

Meeting: Ypsilanti Gay Male/Lesbian Alanon 7:30 pm (see 5 Sun)

Harvey Reed Jazz Jam: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley. 662-8310



Do The Rationals still rock like they did in 1969? See for yourself at their reunion gig (see 11 Saturday)

20 Monday

Parent Support Group: Ozone House 608 N. Main. 8-week support group for parents of adolescents. For time: Gloria 662-2222

Open House for Lesbians & Gay Men: Gay Liberation 8:45 pm (see 6 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$2. 662-8310

21 Tuesday

"Closets are for Clothes": Lesbian/Gay Radio Collective 6 pm (see 7 Tue)

"What Now in the Middle East?": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, A2 Comm. Access TV, Cable Channel 9. Prof. Christina Michelmoro, Head of the Dept. of Middle Eastern History at Chatham College, and 5-year resident of Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan expatiates the issues in the Middle East. 769-7422

Paul Keller and Friends: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$3. 662-8310

22 Wednesday

Weekly Vigil: Coalition for a Just Peace in the Gulf 12:30 pm, Federal Bldg. 663-1870

"Womyn's Rites & Rhythms" 6 pm, 88.3 FM, WCBN. 763-3501

The Neville Brothers: Prism Prod. 8 pm, Clubland, 2115 Woodward, Detroit, \$18.50 advance. 665-4755

Billy Cobham: Prism Prod. 8 & 10 pm, Alvin's, 5756 Cass, Detroit, \$12.50 advance. 665-4755

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$2. 662-8310

23 Thursday

Meeting: LaGROC 7:15 pm (see 2 Thur)

Meeting: Toughlove 7:30 pm (see 2 Thur)

"Floating Worlds": Intersect Dance Co. 8 pm, Trueblood Theater, Frieze Bldg. A 75-minute dance-theater work about the lost continent of Atlantis, \$10/\$7 studs. 487-7563

Dinosaur Jr.: Prism Prod. 9 pm, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages, \$11.50 advance. 665-4755

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$2. 662-8310

24 Friday

"What Now in the Middle East?": Peace InSight 6:05 pm, (see 21 Tue)

Dakota Sid Clifford: Industrial Workers of the World 8 pm, Anderson Rm., Mich. Union. Benefit for the IWW by this Woody Guthrie-style troubadour, \$5. 995-1422

"Floating Worlds": Intersect Dance Co. 8 pm (see 23 Thur)

Dread Zeppelin: Prism Prod. 9 pm, Latin Quarter, 3067 E. Congress, Detroit. With Mojo Nixon, all ages, \$14.50 advance. 665-4755

The Ron Brooks Trio: The Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$5. 662-8310

25 Saturday

"Council of All Beings" Workshop 11 am to 5 pm, \$15. For location 665-5540

City Outdoor Swimming Pools Open: Dept. of Parks & Rec. noon, Buhr Park, 2781 Packard/Fuller Pool, 1519 Fuller/Veterans Pool, 2150 Jackson. 994-2780

Meeting: Eckankar, Religion of the Light and Sound of God noon (see 4 Sat)

Bus Trip to Farm Sanctuary Demonstration: Washtenaw Citizens for Animal Rights 8 pm. Round-trip to S. St. Paul Livestock Market to protest the savage treatment of animals. Arrive back in A2 7 am, 28 Tue, \$50. Reserve 665-2480

"Floating Worlds": Intersect Dance Co. 8 pm (see 23 Thur)

Juanita McCray and Her Motor City Beat: Polo Club 8 pm, 610 Hilton Blvd. 761-7800

The Ron Brooks Trio: The Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$5. 662-8310

26 Sunday

Brunch with Harvy Reed: Bird of Paradise 11 am, 207 S. Ashley. 662-8310

Memorial Day Ceremony: Arborcrest Memorial Park 11 am, 2521 Glacier Way. Speakers include former Mich. Governor John Swainson. Also a flyover by the Yankee Air Museum. Refreshments. 761-4572

"Floating Worlds": Intersect Dance Co. 6:30 pm (see 23 Thur)

Meeting: Ypsilanti Gay Male/Lesbian AA 7:30 pm (see 5 Sun)

Meeting: Ypsilanti Gay Male/Lesbian Alanon 7:30 pm (see 5 Sun)

"On Prayer—An Evening With Kenneth Leech": Canterbury House 8 pm, 218 N. Division. A chance to hear this outstanding Anglican priest, radical social activist and writer on Christian spirituality. 665-0606

Spring Festival: Ann Arbor Farmer's Market 7 am to 3 pm, Detroit at Fifth Ave. Homegrown produce and handmade crafts.

Harvey Reed Jazz Jam: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley. 662-8310

27 Monday

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: The Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$2. 662-8310

28 Tuesday

"Closets are for Clothes": Lesbian/Gay Radio Collective 6 pm (see 7 Tue)

The Gulf War: Arab-American and African-American Views: Peace InSight 7:05 pm, A2 Comm. Access TV, Cable Channel 9. With Karima Bennoune, U-M law student, and Sharon Blackmon J.D. 769-7422

Paul Keller and Friends: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$3. 662-8310

29 Wednesday

Weekly Vigil: Coalition for a Just Peace in the Gulf 12:30 pm, Federal Bldg., Liberty at Fifth. 663-1870

"Womyn's Rites & Rhythms" 6 pm, 88.3 FM, WCBN. 763-3501

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$2. 662-8310

30 Thursday

Meeting: LaGROC 7:15 pm (see 2 Thur)

Meeting: Toughlove 7:30 pm (see 2 Thur)

Benefit Concert: Victims of War (VOW) 8 pm, The Ark 637 S. Main. With Greg Brown, Mr. B. and more. All proceeds will go to the Red Crescent in Jordan to aid the victims of war in Iraq, \$12.50. 995-9066

Ray Brown, Gene Harris & Jeff Hamilton: Bird of Paradise 9 & 11 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$20. 662-8310

31 Friday

The Gulf War: Arab-American and African-American Views: Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 28 Tue)

Gay Men's Coffee House: "Brothers" 9 pm (see 3 Fri)

Ray Brown, Gene Harris & Jeff Hamilton: Bird of Paradise 9 & 11 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$20. 662-8310



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COMMUNITY RESOURCE DIRECTORY

Come to WAND's Seventh Annual Mother's Day Festival

Arise then, women of this day!
Arise all women who have hearts,
Whether your baptism be that of water or of tears!
Say firmly:
"We will not have questions decided by irrelevant agencies,
Our husbands shall not come to us, reeking with carnage,
For caresses and applause.
Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn
All that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy and patience.
We women of one country
Will be too tender to those of another country
To allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs."
From the bosom of the devastated earth a voice goes up with our own,
It says, 'Disarm, disarm!
The sword of murder is not the balance of justice.'
Blood does not wipe out dishonor
Nor violence indicate possession.

—Julia Ward Howe, "Mother's Day Proclamation," 1870

Once again, Washtenaw County WAND will sponsor the Mother's Day Festival for Peace and Justice at West Park in Ann Arbor from 1 pm to 4 pm on Sunday, May 12th. As our group spent time rethinking its mission, and dealing with feelings about the massacre called the Persian Gulf War, we thought it was especially important to have the peace festival this year. To some of us it seems a hard time to be a peace activist, and we hope the festival can rekindle our hope. This year's festival will be a multicultural celebration of life and peace, and an encouragement for all of us to act on our beliefs. We hope to recapture the meaning of Mother's Day as expressed by Julia Ward Howe—Mother's Peace Day.

Join us for wonderful entertainment—by Elise Bryant & Common Ground Theatre, Leticia Diaz, Jessica Fogel, Mike Kerwin, Stephanie Ozer &

Hassan Newash, Dwight Peterson & Mosaic Theatre, Rhythm Womyn, Blane Shaw, and Louie Thunderhawk—as well as exciting children's activities, including face painting, origami, peaceful games, juggling, and more. Refreshments will be available to buy. Admission to the festival is free.

We are inviting all peace and justice groups to have tables at the park. Please let Sarah Cooleybeck, 662-2475, know if your group would like to participate. It will be an opportunity to meet with members of the community and to network with other organizations. For more information, call the WAND message line, 761-1718.

WAND (Women's Action for a New Direction), P.O. Box 1815, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1815, 761-1718.

Mark Your Calendars for Conference, Pridefest & March

The "Living Well, Together in Pride" Conference is scheduled for Sunday, May 19, from 8:30 am to 6 pm at Mercy College Conference Center, West Outer Drive near the Southfield Freeway, Detroit. The Conference will feature nationally recognized speakers and guests in a series of workshops and panels. Keynote speakers are Paul Ettelbrick, Director of the Lambda Legal Defense Fund, and Terry Tafoya, a well-known educational psychologist and storyteller. Over 30 workshops are planned, addressing timely concerns such as coming out, freedom of expression and the threat of censorship, Safer Sex, spirituality, issues confronting lesbian and gay male teachers, personal safety, civil rights and sodomy laws, the media, African American leadership and creative self-expression through art. For information, call (313) 559-5271 or (313) 541-6640. The Conference is sponsored by the Detroit Area Gay/Lesbian Council and the Motor City Business Forum.

The 1991 PrideFest will be held Sunday, June 2 from noon to 6 pm at Oakland Community College, 739 S. Washington, Royal Oak. Art exhibits, business trade booths, group and agency information booths, food, refreshments and a stage show will be offered. For information call (313) 646-3709. The Detroit Area Gay/Lesbian Council is sponsoring the PrideFest.

We are looking forward to the Sixth Annual March and Festival for Gay and Lesbian Rights, to be held in Lansing on Sunday, June 23. Mark your calendars now! Marchers will convene at noon, with the parade beginning at 1 pm, followed by a Rally at the steps of the State Capitol building. A Festival with art, music, food and dancing will take place after the Rally at the East Side location of Riverfront Park. An AIDS Memorial will be held on the morning of the parade. "Respect, Recognition and Resolve" is the theme of the day. For information call (517) 887-2605.

Gay Liberation's Purpose is to provide information, counseling, and related social services for people concerned about sexual orientation. We maintain a hotline for crisis intervention, peer counseling and referral. We help provide factual information to offset prejudice and misinformation about lesbians and gay men. We work to obtain human and civil rights for all, regardless of sexual orientation. We help lesbian and gay men's groups organize, and we are a link to other community groups.

Community Services include: a Hotline for crisis intervention, peer counseling, referral. **Education:** workshops and conferences on lesbian and gay male concerns, with an emphasis on how people in the "helping professions" and "teaching professions" can work positively with lesbian

WARS R US

(from page 1)

And so the United States, for 100 years, has been dependent on its ability to export goods to sustain its economy.

Paul Nitze is the man who drew up the analysis and the conclusions to create a permanent war economy in the United States. You may remember the name because he was one of the chief arms negotiators during the Reagan period. But in January 1950, he was chief of the policy planning staff of the Department of State. And he wrote a document known as NSC-68—NSC standing for National Security Council. This document, in the version that I have, is about 50 pages. It was from the Naval War College Review of 1975. For 25 years the document was top-secret. And in 1975, only by mistake, by error, was it released and then published.

That document gave a very detailed and lengthy analysis of the world situation and of the domestic situation in the United States. It provided the rationale for the decision to rearm in the United States, and to finance the rearming of Western Europe. Despite the subsidy program known as the Marshall Plan, which in a sense had failed, there were not enough dollars. In the NSC-68 scenario, billions of dollars would be sent to Europe in the form of Defense Support Grants. These were not loans, they were grants introduced into Europe for the purpose of rearmament which, it was hoped, would generate sufficient imports from the United States that would in turn sustain the U.S. economy.

As NSC-68 describes the situation in early 1950, (this is the operative quote from the document), "The United States and other free nations will, within a period of a few years at most, experience a decline in economic activity of serious proportions unless more positive gov-

ernmental programs are adopted." The solution adopted—the more positive governmental program—was expansion of the military.

The problem for Truman though, and his administration, was that the Congress opposed this doubling, tripling, quadrupling of the military budget. And it wasn't popular with the public at large either, because of the additional taxes that would be required—Truman could not get that money from Congress. Then what happened? In June 1950, the Korean War broke out.

Korea had been divided between North and South at the 38th parallel by the Soviet Union and the United States. The U.S. had set up a regime in the South (in effect a dictatorship), and the Soviets had established a government in the North. During the five years from 1945 to the time of partition in 1950, there had been continuing clashes between North Korean and South Korean forces along the border and fighting was common.

In June 1950, the South Koreans made incursions into the North and the North struck back, going into South Korea en masse. For several weeks the South Korean forces retreated, in effect inviting the North Koreans to follow them south.

Meanwhile the United States immediately got resolutions through the United Nations Security Council very similar to those put through in the recent Persian Gulf crisis, setting up an international military force to send to Korea and an alliance of nations similar to the one established for the Gulf crisis. But the United States provided about 95% of the military forces (the South Koreans had been badly defeated).

By September, the United States and its allied forces had pushed the North Koreans back to the 38th parallel, the boundary. That would have ended the matter, at least the mili-

(SEE NEXT PAGE)

CHOLERA

(from page 4)

etary Fund (IMF) reached an accord by which taxes were tripled, spending on water and sewer systems was cut, and food prices rose five-fold or more. Even before these measures, 2.2 million percent inflation over the previous five years had left over 80% of Lima's slum dwellers eating less than the minimum calories prescribed by the World Health Organization (WHO) for a subsistence diet.

The health crisis hits hardest in countries

like Peru and Colombia, which are torn by civil wars. Dr. José Nájera, head of the WHO's tropical disease program, says that wars which disrupt health care and sanitation make the problem worse.

Public health experts fear that cholera will affect the entire Third World, adding to an already severe health crisis. WHO reports paint a grim picture: one person in ten in the world suffers from a tropical disease, most people in underdeveloped countries lack clean drinking water. The WHO estimates that it would cost \$50 billion to provide proper water and sanitation systems for Latin America.

and gay male clients, patients, & students. **Speakers Bureau:** phone for information. **Human & Civil Rights:** information and referral to help people who are being discriminated against because of their actual or presumed sexual orientation or because of their presumed "cross-gender" characteristics; lobbying for human and civil rights. **Community Organization and Liaison:** information and assistance in organizing groups, setting goals, addressing conflict, linking with other groups and resources. **Gay Liberation Meetings** vary according to

purpose; we do most of our work in subcommittees (counseling, groupwork, education, civil rights). Call for time and place. Gay Liberation includes U-M students, staff, faculty and people from the larger community. We have a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. We're a registered non-profit organization.

Gay Liberation, c/o 4117 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor, MI 48109; 763-4186.

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WARS R US

(from page 10)

tary side, at that point, had the United States accepted a Soviet proposal in the United Nations for a cease-fire and for nationwide elections to reunify the country.

But Truman was opposed; he had other plans. He needed to prolong this crisis in Korea in order to overcome congressional and public opposition to his plans for rearmament under NSC-68. So he invaded North Korea, exceeding the UN resolutions which had only called for authorized expulsion of the North Koreans from the South. The United States forces advanced rapidly toward the North in the direction of the Yalu river, which forms the boundary between North Korea and China, and which had been taken over by the communists the year before. China threatened to intervene in this war unless the United States forces stopped. But they didn't stop. China then intervened as predicted by everyone. Hundreds of thousands of Chinese troops began crossing the Yalu river where they confronted the United States forces, forcing them to retreat.

By November, the U.S. media was filled with pictures and stories of U.S. troops retreating through ice and snow before hordes of advancing Chinese communist troops. This was what Truman needed. In early December he went on national radio, declared a state of national emergency, and spoke the words I was immediately reminded of by Bush's remarks about our way of life being at stake. Truman mustered all the hype and emotion he could and he said: "Our homes, our nation, all the things that we believe in, are in great danger. This danger has been created by the rulers of the Soviet Union." He also called again for massive increases in military spending for U.S. and European forces quite apart from the needs in Korea.

While of course there was no threat from the Soviet Union at all. They were still rebuilding from the rubble of WWII, in which their country lost 20 million people. Truman attributed the Korean situation to the Russians in order to create emotional hysteria, a false threat, and to get the leverage over Congress needed to gain approval for the huge arms expenditures that Congress had refused. As we know, Truman's deceit worked. The U.S. military budget more than tripled—from \$13 billion in 1950 to \$44 billion—in 1952. In just two years the military budget more than tripled. And U.S. military forces for those same two years doubled to 3.6 million people under arms.

The Korean War went on for three more years after it could have ended resulting in about 34,000 U.S. troops dead, more than 100,000 wounded, and an overall casualty figure in the millions. The permanent war economy became a reality and we've lived with it now for a little more than 40 years. All through these 40-odd years the Cold War justified the huge military expenditures—the so-called "Soviet threat," which if you go back and study the history of the period, was a manufactured threat. It had to be sold to the people of the United States in order to justify these enormous military expenditures. This process is known in some circles as military Keynesianism.

Getting back to Iraq. The Persian Gulf, with 65% of the world's petroleum reserves, is a perfect place for the substitute crisis and Saddam Hussein and Iraq the perfect foils. The Bush administration, of course, knew the historical claims Iraq held over Kuwait. And these were significant. Kuwait had belonged for hundreds of years to the southern province of Iraq, the Basra province, under the occupation of the Turks, the Ottoman Empire.

With the collapse of the Turkish Empire in the wake of WWI, however, the British decided to lop off Kuwait from that southern province. In 1922 Sir Percy Cox, the British high commissioner in Baghdad drew the lines in the sand—for the first time in history—delineating borders between what are now Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. In so doing, he deliberately deprived the Iraqis of a viable seaport. The British wanted no competition from Baghdad (which at that time was the commercial and cultural capital of the region) for dominance over the Persian Gulf where they converted no less than 10 Sheikdoms, including Kuwait, into colonies. Iraq, as a result, never formally recognized the independence of Kuwait and they from time to time claimed that the territory should be given back.

When the British did give independence to Kuwait in 1961, the Iraqis massed troops on the Kuwaiti border, threatening to take the territory back by force. But the British sent an emergency military force to Kuwait and the Iraqis backed down. The Iraqis did the very same thing in 1972 and again in 1976. So there were these historic claims.

There were more immediate claims as well. For some years now the Iraqis have been insisting that the Kuwaitis release to them two uninhabited islands in the North, just at the top of Persian Gulf, so that Iraq could use these two islands to develop a proper seaport. Currently, their only seaport is Basra, 60 miles up the estuary of the Tigris and Euphrates. It is not a proper seaport. The Kuwaitis refused these demands.

The Kuwaitis had also been, in recent years, overproducing oil. In 1986, the OPEC countries established a price of \$18 per barrel and agreed upon quotas to maintain that price around the world. The Kuwaitis chose to far exceed their quota, however, as did the United Arab Emirates. As a direct result of this overproduction, by July of last year when the OPEC oil ministers met in Geneva, the price had fallen to something like \$13 or \$14 a barrel.

There were two results. One was that industrial importing countries like the United States were getting their best price on oil in constant dollars in more than 40 years. But it was killing the Iraqi economy. It was especially squeezed having been saddled with a \$70-\$80 billion debt from their eight-year war with Iran during the 1980s.

Secondly, the Iraqis, at the time of the OPEC meeting in Geneva had massed 30,000 or so troops on the Kuwaiti border to pressure that country into accepting a new price, and into accepting quotas and sticking with them. The Kuwaitis then accepted, in Geneva, a new price of \$21/barrel and the new quotas to maintain that new price.

What was the United States doing during this time? The signs are that the United States—the Bush administration—wanted Hussein to think that he could take over Kuwait with impunity. In April of last year, Assistant Secretary of State for Middle Eastern Affairs, John Kelly, testified before Congress that "the United States had no commitment to defend Kuwait."

On July 25th, one week before the invasion, the U.S. ambassador to Baghdad, April Glaspie, met with Saddam Hussein. The Iraqis apparently recorded this meeting secretly, and later made public a transcript of the meeting. At this meeting—and I should point out that the Department of State has not disputed the accuracy of this transcript—the U.S. ambassador said to Hussein, "Mr. President, I have a direct instruction from Secretary of State Baker to emphasize to you that the United States has no opinion in your border dispute with Kuwait." She also said "President Bush has instructed me to seek better relations with Iraq."

Saddam Hussein replied to her at various points throughout the transcript that Kuwait was waging economic warfare against Iraq by overproducing and that he was going to take drastic action.

On the very same day that the Ambassador's meeting with Saddam Hussein, the same Assistant Secretary of State for Middle Eastern Affairs, John Kelly, cancelled a Voice of America broadcast that would have warned that the U.S. would come to the aid of its friends in the Gulf, including Kuwait. At the same time, there was a prohibition issued on any warning to any of the thousands of people who might become hostages in the event that war broke out.

Hussein, following the OPEC meeting, did not withdraw his 30,000 troops from the border. On the contrary, he more than tripled the troops on the border to 100,000. This was quite well known from the satellite photography—no secret at all. Two days before the invasion, this same Assistant Secretary of State for Middle Eastern Affairs, again testifies to Congress that the U.S. has no commitment to defend Kuwait.

The CIA, according to Senator Boren, chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee and according to press reports as well, had been predicting the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait five or six days before it actually happened, and had reported its information to the Bush Administration. So Bush had one week, really, between the time of Ambassador Glaspie's meeting with Saddam Hussein and the invasion to take some action knowing the invasion was coming.

What happened? Nothing. In the transcript of the meeting between Glaspie and Hussein not one word of warning was given by the ambassador to Hussein not to invade. There were 100,000 Iraqi troops poised on the Kuwaiti border. There was plenty of time, for example, for Bush to call for an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council as he did after the invasion. But he could have done it before to prevent the invasion. He could also have organized and rushed a multinational military force to Kuwait to show that the world was going to defend that country, that it would not tolerate an invasion. But he did nothing, absolutely nothing at all.

With all these indications, it seems to me not unreasonable to conclude that the Bush administration, while it could have prevented the Gulf Crisis from ever happening, needed a crisis, wanted a crisis, and in fact encouraged Saddam Hussein to believe that he could get away with it. I mention all of this because it fits a pattern. It fits a pattern based on this country's need for a continuing international crisis, a continuing new threat to justify the war economy.



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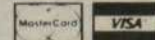


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