by Peter Huides

The relative ease with which George W. Bush browbeat world leaders and the UN into accepting his plans for an invasion of Iraq threatens not just the gains of the post-war regimes of Saddam Hussein in Baghdad. It also risks setting into motion one of the most dangerous schemes ever to be projected by a world leader, namely that it will have the "right" to launch preemptive wars wherever and whenever it likes, even if that should involve suicide bombers and nuclear weapons. The green light for a U.S. invasion of Iraq was provided by Bush's speech to the UN on Sept. 12. The anniv-
erary of the Sept. 11 war was barely over when Bush moved to shift the focus from Al Qaeda to Saddam Hussein.

In the face of mounting criticism of his "unilateralism," Bush is determined to invadc Iraq, even if Iraq allows him to launch a "coalition" of wills, a term often used to describe war plans while maintaining the illusion of engaging in "multi-lateral consultation." The speech expanded his critics in the Republican and Democratic parties who had expressed concern about the lack of international support for the war.

The green light for a U.S. invasion of Iraq is not just a threat to Iraq but to the rest of the world, if Washington feels threatened. The green light for a war is part of a new military doctrine that involves nothing short of the propagation of permanent, preemptive war against any real or imagined adversary. In many respects the war against Iraq has already destroyed an Iraqi air command and control center at a time when world leaders are gathering in South Africa to discuss problems they themselves have created. The war still continues as if nothing had happened. The formation of the African Union (AU) is not surprisingly at this stage of both the political and economic development of the continent. The war in the continuous, the poverty, and the hunger has been used as a pretext for the formation of the AU, but the very day this union was born, it refused to recognise the struggle and vic-
tory of the people of Madagascar. We might better see such dictatorial behaviour as one of the cen-
tral reasons for the formation of the AU.

But in the struggles of the African continent there have been small victories that are very important in moving the struggle to new levels. They must con-
tinue to be defended. There are still nations fighting for their independence. The struggles of these nations and peoples must not be dismissed as mere power struggles or having the desire to split Africa into small entities. Perhaps this dismissiveness is why the struggle of the people of the Western Sahara is not recognised and supported by many of the African Left. We have the Black Sudanese Muslim people fighting against their Arab racist leaders. They are humiliated, oppressed and denied the most basic of human rights. No one is demanding sanctions against these regimes. It is perhaps among the issues that makes many Africans see the reaction of the West against Mugabe to be nothing other than hypocrisy. It is the duty of the Left to defend the struggles of these peoples.
After 9/11: what kind of future for women?

by Maya Jhansi

Business thrives in the ruins. Cities become piled up with wrecks and rubble. Schools, hospitals, homes, and other public buildings are being destroyed. Whole populations are beggared; churches, horse stalls. Inter­ nation­ al law, treaties and alliances, the most sacred word of the world, is now an empty promise. The ruins lie out of their houses, and still face serious obstacles to obtaining even the most basic levels of education and health care. The Sept. 11 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association reports that Afghan women are 50% more likely than American women to die in childbirth. A survey conducted in Herat province to get an idea of the situation of women in places like Kabul since the fall of the Taliban, found that while there has been some freedom of movement for Afghan women in places like Kabul since the fall of the Taliban, the most recent statistics show that about 2,300 women have been killed by terrorist or state violence at the hands of fundamentalist terrorists or states than they were before Bush launched the war on terror. The continuing struggles of Afghan women in the face of warlordism is evidence of this.

While there has been some freedom of movement for Afghan women in places like Kabul since the fall of the Taliban, the most recent statistics show that about 2,300 women have been killed by terrorist or states violence at the hands of fundamentalist terrorists or states than they were before Bush launched the war on terror. The continuing struggles of Afghan women in the face of warlordism is evidence of this. In addition, the United Nations Health and Population Program reports that women in Afghanistan and Pakistan, poised for months on the brink of war, China’s potential nuclear buildup, and the U.S. refusal to route out the use of nuclear weapons against Iraq — all reasons that we have not left behind the legacies of the bipolar world relations that consolidates unprecedented hegemony over the globe.

For women this ominous militarization goes hand-in-hand with unjust laws expanding women’s right to abortion. The new legislation would: 1) ensure that abortion would continue to be legal and provide it free if they ask for it, as well as allow a 1975 international women’s conference, and since then by an extensive movement of the people in the United States, a public opposition to the destruction of the United States and the world. The militarization of our reality, over the past year and a half, has brought to light the necessity of imagining a deeper, broader, and more profound alternative to the destruction, war and have that the rulers promise for us as our future. The militarization of our reality, over the past year and a half, has brought to light the necessity of imagining a deeper, broader, and more profound alternative to the destruction, war and have that the rulers promise for us as our future.

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**Workshop Talks**

(Continued from page 1)

want a national identity card for everybody. This intru­
sive policy has drawn much criticism.

When I started my job at a hospital, I didn't have computers. We did everything on typewriters. Our orig­
inal instructions were to keep the patient the medical treatment he needed as soon as possible. We were told whenever each year so patients wouldn't forget their annual phys­
ical exam. Now that we do everything on computers, we have to basically monitor the computer every 5 months.

Even when patients show up in a crisis, we are told by the nurses to get the patient the medical treatment he needed as soon as possible. We even sent handwritten reminders to home visits. It's illegal. Fred's breaks a lot, of laws. The order people, we're on constant lookout for "suspicious activity" like unemployed people who have no insurance trying to use our clinics by using someone else's identity. We're told to demand a

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**Memphis, Tenn.** — We workers at Fred's distribu­
tion center here wanted a union because of things like being charged for lost dollars. We voted in May to join UNITE!, but Fred's refuses to bargain. Since we voted in their contract, we have been harassed. There is no air conditioning at the bathroom. Fred's told us, "It's about respect and being treated right, and fair work. All of a sudden, we've had work piled on us. We understand it's peak season, but it's getting ridicu­
larous. We've been there since early May and Fred's is the worst place I've worked.

**Children Come Last**

They expect your children to come last in your life. Their attendance policy is "you will be paid for the hours you're here, but you will go to the bathroom. They'll tell you the maj­ority of people that never know what time they're getting off. The drivers are the majority Black and Latina workers. They have people working 40 hours a week and sure as shit aren't get­
ing benefits—they're considered part-time.

They promote some Black people to management but it's by favoritism. If they promoted by seniority or experience it would be a better workplace, because a lot of the Black people they promote don't know their job.

They have fired people for asking for the union or being in the union orga­nizing drive. They fired a young lady because she asked them why they changed her job. They told her the ques­tion was, "Who's the main union organizers?"

They gave the office people a raise, but said we did not deserve a raise because we don't have a union. We're not allowed to come into the main employee gate anymore, but have to come off the alley at an industrial gate.

I would like to see people being treated fair and given respect. I would like Fred's to listen to people. I want them to believe in management. I want them to stand up and fight until the end, regardless of what the outcome is. I believe, if you know that you're right, you need rep­resentation.

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**HMO Cop's**

The computer profiles us to alert all sorts of things, from riding too fast to the patient owes to whether the patient has "drug-seeking behavior." They have turned us health workers into HMO cops. We're on con­stant lookout for "suspicious activity" like unemployed people who have no insurance trying to use our clinics by using someone else's identity. We're told to demand a

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**Immokalee Worker Speaks**

**Memphis, Tenn.** — I came here to the U.S. because Guatamala is a country where the people live in extreme poverty. People did not have a way out. We worked in small farms and the employers have only offered a 4% raise and an "inde­pendent enquiry." A national fire fighters' strike seems likely during the next few months, the first in 25 years. In 1978, when the Callaghan Labour Government began to review the wages of fire fighters, there was a threat of nationalization, but this was not realized. They have been rejected for many years.

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**Fire Brigades**

The Fire Brigades Union is ballotting members on strike action over pay. The wages of fire fighters have been legislated by the government. The employers have only offered a 4% raise and an "inde­pendent enquiry." A national fire fighters' strike seems likely during the next few months, the first in 25 years. In 1978, when the Callaghan Labour Government began to review the wages of fire fighters, there was a threat of nationalization, but this was not realized. They have been rejected for many years.

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The revolt of the workers and the plan of the intellectuals

Marx, on the other hand, found, with less than two decades of development separating the writing of the Communist Manifesto from the writing of the Rules of the First International, that it was necessary to emphasize the word, "nonopositor" then the word, "productive.

Thus the Rules proclaimed "the economic subjection of the man of labor to the monopolizer of the means of labor, that is, that life, line at the bottom of servitude in all its forms, of all social misery, mental degradation, and political dependence" (MECW 22, p. 311). A few years later the Paris Commune came out of the revolutionary activity of the proletariat, Marx far from shrugging at private property, foresaw, private property, warned against even "cooperative production" becoming a mere "shame and snare" (MECW 22, p. 311).

The only way to prevent that, wrote Marx, in The Civil War In France, is to see that all control remains in the hands of "free and associated labor" [MECW 331. All the emphasis now shifts to "free and associated labor" which Marx reiterates and exalts and that staves up and in its stead to be a Commune. And, on the eve of October, Lenin put his stress on the fact that the "meaning of the word free" was for a state all. Is it standing Russia with its ubiquitous army, with its ever-expanding prisons, forced laborers "not a state at all? Or in transition to that? Does its property form really contain the "productive relations of the association transitional to the social isolation?

Even when

Comrade Novack and Wright state a simple Marxist truth, that "productive forces have been smashed up and in its stead to be a Commune. And, on the eve of October, Lenin put his stress on the fact that the "meaning of the word free"

This was because Marx had this generality of the concept of the worker that he could have the more concrete concept of the socialized worker without free.

Marx's whole point is that the commodity-form only became general where the political economists began their analysis of capitalism with labor as the source of value, "remained more or less prisoners of the form of the commodity." It was because Marx had this generality of the concept of the worker that he could have the more concrete concept of the socialized worker without free.

The commodity-form appears in the market level where the CV relationship expresses at the level of product—that the human being does not control the thing, but the thing controls the human being.

The "peculiar characteristic is not that the commodity is saleable, but that the commodity appears in the shape of a commodity" [MECW 331. Now read that again: The system is first of all a commodity system. Man as an opposite of the assembly line, while everyone from the "principal" to the "worker", who writes that the abolition of class antagonisms is to see that all control remains in the hands of "free and associated labor" [MECW 331. All the emphasis now shifts to "free and associated labor" which Marx reiterates and exalts and that staves up and in its stead to be a Commune. And, on the eve of October, Lenin put his stress on the fact that the "meaning of the word free"

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**The theory and politics of regression**

**by Tom More**

In the worlds colliding today, to which the Bush administration seeks to add another, this is our far more immediate war, the thought is motion in a new crusade, a "holy cause." The President's rhetoric of a nearly cosmic clash of "civilizations" is, in fact, an extension of an "axis of evil," discloses the essentially religious character of the idea of history, evident from his "born again" Christianity.

Islamic fundamentalist terrorists are thus not alone in their desire to set their world on fire. Whatever we think of the brink of this new war, it is imperative for the anti-war movement to understand what a new fundamentalism really is—fundamentalism. My proposal, at this stage only a conjecture, to which I welcome your critical response, is that Hegel can help us understand what we are up against with his discussion of the "third attitude of thought toward objectivity" in his Smaller Logic (pp. 61-78).

**Hegel & Fundamentalism**

Raya Dunayevskaya placed much emphasis on Hegel's "Third Attitude of Thought Toward Objectivity" (see [The Power of Negativity](https://example.com)), pp. 82-94), and from it the standard-bearer of the attitude that intimidation—the immediacy of feeling—maternalized.

For Hegel, the first attitude toward objectivity is eminently premodern—faith and scholasticism. The second attitude is modern, i.e., Empiricism and Kantian rationalism. The third attitude presupposes that the second attitude and movement in relation to it, inasmuch as it "rejects all methods" and "abandons itself to the control of a wild, capricious and fantastic dogmatism—which is lowest against philosophy" (para. 77).

Hegel characterized this third attitude as a "backward look at the head and feet" hoping that "the Hegelian dialectic let retrogression appear as transparent as progress and indeed makes it very nearly inevitable if one ever tries to escape regression by mere faith." (p. 332). The cult of immediate feeling for Hegel turns on the question of what attitudes we adopt, theoretically and practically, to the objective world in which we find ourselves situated. And since we are always facing the situation that we are necessarily fated to an attitude that happens to prevail at some particular moment, which is why the "backward look at the head and feet," as well as the "theoretical and practical political significance" that it implies.

Hegel believed that the Hegelian "cunning of Reason" does not belong to a philosophy of guarantues. Hegelianism is not a grand narrative of the inner history of consciousness, but is within the world of Hegelianism the serious, suffering, patience, and labor of the new freedom (Phenomenology of Spirit).

In short, Hegelian dialectics make no claims about the inevitability of historical progress; it is quite possible to go quite different, as well as forward. Which direction we actually go is inevitably subject to what we adopt, theoretically and practically, to the objective world in which we find ourselves situated. And since we are always facing the situation that we are necessarily fated to an attitude that happens to prevail at some particular moment, which is why we could not do without a Hegelianism that is laid against philosophy (para. 77).

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**NEW CHALLENGES FACING THE LEFT**

Let's begin by considering just what world circumstances we find ourselves in. If not precisely a friend, then there is a shared leftist consensus that the momentum of the world-historical stage presently belongs to a movement of "globalization" from above. Second, the counter-movement from below and from within the globalizing centers of the U.S. and Europe has begun to gather such enormous momentum with the Seattle protests in the fall of 1999.

Third, however, came September 11, 2001, and the subsequent U.S.-led drive to permanent war, and the occupation of many of U.S. cities have for the moment visibly diminished.

What *News & Letters* has consistently observed is the tremendous outpouring of energy that has come to the world-historical thrust of the Islamic fundamentalism that has been raising its head ever since the first negation of the U.S.-led attack, bin Laden and Al Qaeda, the Taliban, and so forth, clearly showing us that the third attitude toward objectivity is once again in the making.

This logical category of Hegelian dialectics has enormous explanatory power in directing everyone's attention to how interrelations of two forces, which may be too many on the Left have been equivocal. This reticence is easy enough to explain by a binary logic that takes U.S.-led imperialism to be the enemy, and which therefore concludes that any force opposed to U.S.-led imperialism is automatically friend, a tendency that at least merits sympathy and understanding.

To the dumbed-down question, "Why do they hate us?", there has come from some quarters the dumbed-down answer, "They hate us because of our freedoms and way of life." There are plenty of problems with this Manichean thinking, but at least it is immediately relevant here: first, it imagines that "Enlightenment" or "progress" were the secret, inadequate killing of Palestinian and Israeli citizens, or the Taliban's reign of terror inflicted on Afghan women, or the "collateral damage" that will continue to mount from the drive toward permanent war.

**BUSH'S FUNDAMENTALISM**

One of the most serious problems with this Manichean thinking, but at least it is immediately relevant here: first, it imagines that "Enlightenment" or "progress" were the secret, inadequate killing of Palestinian and Israeli citizens, or the Taliban's reign of terror inflicted on Afghan women, or the "collateral damage" that will continue to mount from the drive toward permanent war.

Since both Christian and Islamic fundamentalism are thoroughly patriarchal and racist (remember Bob Jones University?), since Christian fundamentalists now occupy the U.S. administration's ideology, and since the Left in the U.S. has at least been knocked off balance by September 11, the Bush administration has the power to wield a policy of repression that at least merits sympathy and understanding. This reticence is easy enough to explain by a binary logic that takes U.S.-led imperialism to be the enemy, and which therefore concludes that any force opposed to U.S.-led imperialism is automatically friend, a tendency that at least merits sympathy and understanding.

"We always speak of how, under the impact of the French Revolution, Hegel put to the People's use in the West in the 18th and 19th centuries, and then in the 20th century, we had the Exxon that was bombing the Middle East." (p. 194)

**Selected Writings on the Dialectic in Hegel and Marx**

by Raya Dunayevskaya

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**The Power of Negativity**

To order, see page 7
AFRICAN REVOLUTIONS 50 YEARS AFTER

The front page article by Bakary Tan­dia and Pauli Paulin, which struggles to overcome slavery, AIDS, neo­colonialism, (August-September N&L) was amazing to read. I have followed the African revolutions since they began, as has every progressive since the African revolutions, yet condi­tions seem worse today. It is scary to read about the endemic poverty and French withdrew from Africa but that was only a first step. In her writings on the Afro­Asian revolutions as they were ongoing, Raya Dunayevskaya spoke of the “terrible thing to waste.”

The donors who provide access to these medicines are in seeing and being with our loved ones. I can tell you they hear you too. We need to give youth room so they can make the decisions that are right for them. Marquita Bradshaw Memphis

I am the condos with which I share a room and I think it is great, but here are a few suggestions. 1) We have a hard time getting some of our food and places. Could you break down a pro­nunciation in brackets next to those words? 2) In the article, I think Raya Dunayevskaya learns more about the great minds of Raya Dunayevskaya and the other thinkers discussed through­out your paper. Could you add a one sheet flyer or their writings or an insert from books directly from their minds.

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In a recent issue you ran an article called “AIDS and the apartheid in South Africa prison” who described the poor medical care they received. From what I can see, this is an article on the political and medical help for inmates. In the last dozen years of prison life, I have seen the difference between apartheid and an incarcerated town. I have had arthritis for 40 years. You are now making a distinction between all of the other doctors who discussed through­out your paper. Could you add a one sheet flyer or their writings or an insert from books directly from their minds.

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In a recent issue you ran an article called “AIDS and the apartheid in South Africa prison” who described the poor medical care they received. From what I can see, this is an article on the political and medical help for inmates. In the last dozen years of prison life, I have seen the difference between apartheid and an incarcerated town. I have had arthritis for 40 years. You are now making a distinction between all of the other doctors who discussed through­out your paper. Could you add a one sheet flyer or their writings or an insert from books directly from their minds.

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the end of September, but there is so little media that few are aware of what is happening. It is only now that more than half of those denied access were 16 members of the Tamil nationalist group, the LTTE, among those denied access were 16 members of a Congolese study group, and 34 women managed to get inside Fort Benning, Georgia have served a total of 90 women and men have served a total of 30 years in federal prison for this issue. At last year's action, two women managed to get inside Fort Benning's enclosure and were arrested. At Fort Benning they were sentenced to six months. We gave them a prison send-off on Sept. 30. With Fort Benning, you are to be sent to them during their imprisonment to show support for their courageous stand on this issue. Here are the following link, you can sign your name in opposition to this sentence.

http://www.mertinai.org/amina/OpenLetter.htm

Darrell Gordon Chicago

HELP SAVE AMINA LAWAL!

A Nigerian court has convicted Amina Lawal to death because she had a child fathered by a man to whom she was not married. As soon as the child is weaned, she will be burned to death. Amnesty International has started a world wide campaign to reverse this decision. If you click on the following link, you can sign your name in opposition to this sentence.

http://www.mertinai.org/amina/OpenLetter.htm

LaRuby May Washington, D.C.
**OCTOBER 2002**

**NEWS & LETTERS**

**Page 8**

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**Nationwide movement against police brutality continues**

New York — Police brutality did not die on September 11. It is still spreading across the city and the nation. The latest wave was kicked off by the Oct. 22 Coalition to Stop Police Brutality, Repression and the Criminalization of a Generation, the progressive coalition that has sponsored dozens of annual protests against police brutality that will take place around the nation on October 22. (For Information: 1-888-NO BRUTALITY, www.october22.org)

In the aftermath of September 11, with the ensuing glorification of police authority and with many white youth’s concentration on anti-war activities, the movement against police brutality has all but disappeared from view. But the police brutality of the murderers of civilians, especially Black and Latino youth, who are least wanted, unabated, however, and the official investigations engendered by the last few years’ police brutality campaigns have yet to come to a halt.

The Oct. 22 Coalition sponsored a showing of a new film, *Justifiable Homicide*, which would help bring attention to the problem. Made by two New York directors, Marie Domenach and Jonathan Stack, it was a big hit at this year’s Human Rights Film Festival. The film documents the execution of two young Puerto Ricans by the NYPD in January 1995, and the subsequent cover-up that appears to have included former Mayor Giuliani.

Advise him by means of rifle-butt and napalm not to bud. It is obvious here that the agenda of government spokespeople is the same as that of Frantz Fanon, the *Wretched of the Earth*, Grove Press, 1963, p. 31).

Fanon’s 1961, and the subsequent cover-up that appears to have involved former Mayor Giuliani.

Fanon recognized that psychiatric treatment was not a solution. He resigned his post and became active in the struggle for liberation of Algeria. Fanon treated both victims of torture and torturers. His experience changed him. Fanon realized that torture was in itself a kind of violence. When he didn’t rule out the use of violence by the national liberation struggles, he didn’t treat the Algerian victims of violence against the Algerian people.

Both were people to him, broken by their experience of violence, who were attempting to create in his mind visions of pure closed forms from the past.

The film features Margarita Rosario, the mother of Anthony Rosario and aunt of Hilton Vega, the two men executed while lying face down on the floor. It documents the execution of two young Puerto Ricans by the NYPD in January 1995, and the subsequent cover-up that appears to have included former Mayor Giuliani.

Fanon was looking for a way to break completely from the past. He was seeking a new humanity. "Let us combine our muscles and our brains in a new direction. Let us try to create a new human being, who has been incapable of bringing to triumphant birth" (*Wretched of the Earth*, p. 23).

Fanon, however, was seeking creation of a new human being that we have to find for today if we hope to break the never-ending cycle of war and terror in which we live.

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**Who owns water?**

New York — A protest at the South African consulate here calling for an end to “apartheid” was taking off. In Bangladesh 87 protesting were taking water off the river. The cost was a choler epidemic with thousands ill and hundreds dead. According to the Southwater Electricity Crisis Committee (SECC) an average of one person was arrested every minute.

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1. Discontent at UN economy summit

"Our world is not for sale!" Another world is possible!" "Water for the thirsty! Light for the people! Homes for the homeless!"

"Hijacked" is the word being used for the summit by media and people, for the only poor South Africans who were attacked... The participation of the BIA, the federal agency of the United States, in the demolition of the homes of the remaining residents who all face the same fate. Help us project second negation as the method needed in..."

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Mitch Weerth
Bush's war against Iraq threatens global disaster

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

almost every day.

The number of countries in which the U.S. has troops and Britain has) is in the area around Iraq, truly astounding. It includes Pakistan, Afghanistan, Turkey, Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, Yemen, and Kenya. The U.S. military now has a presence in the entire region from the Persian Gulf to the Eritrean part of Assab. Hardly any nation in the region has been left untouched by this unprecedented display of U.S. imperial might.

WHY IRAQ? WHY NOW?

Given this immense military buildup, the question is who is to benefit from all this time and energy on confronting Iraq in the first place.

It isn't simply because Iraq, like 60 other nations, is a haven for weapons of mass destruction. Hussein has been known ever since the War of 1991 that any use of weapons of mass destruction on his part would bring grave consequences.

So why is Bush so determined to overthrow Hussein when it is clear that his policies have long and death and destruction on his part is considered a threat to the region as a whole?

The answer lies in the U.S.'s effort to project its sta-
ture and prestige on the world stage. Hussein's challenge to the U.S.; it spends more on the military than any other nation by far. The U.S.'s drive for single world superpower status has no precedent in human history.

The buildup of forces in the Middle East has been in response to the increasing power and influence of Iran. The U.S. and Britain assembled an international coalition of forces, including 13,000 troops. Within days, however, the Bush administration issued a statement, in effect, approving that Putin dropped his objections to an Iraq invasion in exchange for being given a free hand against Georgia.

Russia has signaled that it will not stand in the way of Bush's effort to go after Iraq. The U.S. recently announced that it will not allow its military to be used for caving into Bush. Neither wants to be left out of the con-
tracts to rebuild the Iraqi oil industry once Hussein is removed from power. Iraq has proven reserves of 12 billion barrels—second only to Saudi Arabia—and there will be much to make money on after August 1.

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of what could be and the forces that could make it happen. In the question and answer period after his talk, he made sure to point out that "we," meaning you and I, can still make a difference. The question was how long that the government does and in turn share the blame for the present and actions.

DEAD-END IDEAS

I think that this mentality really impedes the move- ment from getting somewhere, I saw it in the discussion that the video generated at the University of Memphis on Sept. 10 showed a video of a talk given by Chomsky following the attacks last September. Chomsky presented evidence that the situation in Afghanistan was to again and again, again, mechani- cally, more or less, repeated. Politically. Throughout is a lack of a vision of the future, a lack of a means of rejecting the past.

New York—Anti-war New Yorkers marked the first anniversary of the September 11 destruction of the World Trade Center with demonstrations and vigils different character than those put on by the govern- ment and by the criminal justice system.

The Sept. 8 event was a march from Times Square to a rally in Union Square, the site where New Yorkers gathered spontaneously for weeks after the Sept. 10-11, were distinguished from the flag-waving church services around town.

The All Party Hurriyat Conference, a conglom- eration of human liberation." The small turnout contrasted with the 20,000 who demonstrated in Union Square on Oct. 7, 2001—the day before the war began. Another 2,000 people showed up, taking the ground of the New York Times building.

The larger anti-war event this month was an Ann Arbor demonstration on Oct. 1, 2002. The Demo- crats marched down downtown, opposed the war in Afghanistan, and in addition to denouncing the Bush administration, they demanded that the war be "not in our name." The amazing anti-war movement is really a "when" and not an "if," some people are*...
Israel's attack on Palestinian resistance

by Kevin A. Barry

The Israeli army launched a massive attack on Yasser Arafat's compound, Sept. 19, after two suicide bombings within Israel in which six people were killed and 65 wounded. The attack has left Arafat's compound and has surrounding the one remaining Palestinian president in exile, refugees, and aid. Mass Palestinian protests are taking place in the West Bank and Gaza. Six Palestinians participating in these demonstrations were killed, including a 23-year-old Carlo Giuliani, and ecologists joined together, as one

Giuliani. This year's eclectic protests, when Berlusconi set out in his cabinet to protect his esteemed newspaper. Instead of allowing the right-wing newspaper to continue its publication, the troops of the ruling party's Interior Ministry opened fire on the demonstrators, murdering 23-year-old Carlo Giuliani, who had been reported as being injured in the attack. The demonstration was called to protest the fusion of media and state power in Italy, and to call for a referendum on corruption charges. Another issue was Berlusconi's simultaneous control of both government TV and the major Italian newspaper. This action was taken to pressure the Catholic Church to accept Berlusconi's proposals, or banned newspapers which have now adopted a more xenophobic tone. Efforts to hold a September 11 commemorative candle light vigil in_bonus were thwarted by heavily armed police. The day before, however, angry residents of the Jerusalem city of Ma'aleh Adumim local government offices to protest police killings.

Dow liable for Bhopal

Students and organizations from Mumbai demonstrated, in the first public statement demanding that Dow-Carbide be held liable in criminal cases from the world's worst industrial disaster in Bhopal, India. A Bhopal court ruled in favor of the victims later in the month.

German elections hold off the Right

Germany's Social Democrat-Green coalition narrowly survived a challenge from conservatives to win a second term, Sept. 22. This victory by the social democratic Left, along with a more decisive one in Sweden a few weeks before, suggests that the Right would repeat its earlier wins in France and the Netherlands.

This sense of surprise was deepened by the fact that Germany's Gerhard Schroeder ran to the Left, here taking a different tack from Tony Blair's Labor Party victory, Metro defeat. Lionel Jospin in France. Most dramatically, Schroeder stood up against the Bush administration's drive to war in Iraq. This enraged Washington, but as France's leading newspaper commented: "At the end of August, the prime minister seized the opportunity to put himself in the line of fire to win the major European ally to oppose the U.S. in a country traumatized by Nazi war crimes in the Cold War period, Gerhard Schroeder knew how to tap the support of more than half the population." (Le Monde, Sept. 22).

In fact, polls show that the vast majority of the German people oppose war over Iraq. This, despite an unemployment rate of 10%, gave Schroeder and his Green allies a narrow victory.

Mahmoud Abbas or Abu Mazen, as he is known, is the heir apparent of Arafat's executive powers, others will be contending for the Palestinian presidency. It remains to be seen if any of them will be able to change current conditions.

The current peace organization, Gush Shalom, has confirmed that in response to a U.S. invasion of Iraq, Ariel Sharon "intends to exploit the ensuing chaos in order to rule with an iron fist and to pass the flame of power to the Palestinians from all of the country. To this end, he is preparing to launch a new attack on the people of the West Bank and Gaza."

The uprising in Iraq has made it clear that the West will not simply walk away. After the failed peace process since the year 2000. The Israeli army's endless curfew, army clampdowns, house demolitions, expulsions, bombings and assassinations of whole communities are part of life in Palestine.

With the current unemployment rate of 63% in the West Bank and 70% in Gaza a large majority of Palestinians are surviving on less than 82 per day. Hunger demonstrations and protests have spread to the heart of the new government recently began trial proceedings for Marwan Barghouti, a prominent Palestinian leader of Fatah, on charges of funding and orchestrating terrorist attacks. He had been influential in peace negotiations in the 1990s, but adopted a different view after the collapse of the peace talks in 2000.

For the first time when Israel's siege and Palestinian suicide bombings have seemingly killed the hope of a just and lasting peace, the U.S. and Israel have only slightly less fundamentally determined to crush the Intifada. In Kabul, thousands of women have been able to assemble in protest against the ban on women's newspapers in 2000. For example, recently a bill that would have raised the legal marriage age for girls from nine to 15 was blocked for months by the Council of Guardians because it was against the Shariah or Islamic law. Eventually the bill was approved with a majority vote. Women in Parliament had also proposed that Iran join the UN Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. But the Islamic regime forced to drop this proposal under pressure from fundamentalists. It is also believed that the Islamic Republic was one with the Bush administration which also pushed for the U.S. from joining this UN Convention on women.

In the meantime, Iran's judiciary continues to silence newspapers which are critical of the Supreme Religious Leader. Even as newspapers are banned, new newspapers or banned newspapers which have recently been allowed to change names, begin publication.

Efforts to hold a September 11 commemorative candle light vigil in Tehran were thwarted by heavily armed police. The day before, however, angry residents of the Jerusalem city of Ma'aleh Adumim local government offices to protest police killings.

September 23, 2002

Sheila Sahar

Italian demonstrations

Hundreds of thousands marched in Rome, on Sept. 14, to protest the fusion of media and state power in the hands of one man, rightist Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi. A demand was to stop proposed legislation that would make it easier for Berlusconi to avoid prosecution. Berlusconi has been accused of using his government's control of the media to further the interests of his family and cronies. The simultaneous control of both government TV and the major Italian newspaper. This action was taken to pressure the Catholic Church to accept Berlusconi's proposals, or banned newspapers which have now adopted a more xenophobic tone. Efforts to hold a September 11 commemorative candle light vigil in Tehran were thwarted by heavily armed police. The day before, however, angry residents of the Jerusalem city of Ma'aleh Adumim local government offices to protest police killings.

...Sheila Sahar

Afghan war continues

A year after September 11, Afghanistan remains at war. U.S. troops continue to hunt for remnants of Al Qaeda, killing hundreds of innocent civilians in the process. The U.S.-installed government of Hamid Karzai continues to draw strength from the Northern Alliance rather than from the majority of the population. Karzai has yet to take an authoritative stand on the Bush administration's move to war in Iraq. This enraged Washington, but as France's leading newspaper commented: "At the end of August, the prime minister seized the opportunity to put himself in the line of fire to win the major European ally to oppose the U.S. in a country traumatized by Nazi war crimes in the Cold War period, Gerhard Schroeder knew how to tap the support of more than half the population." (Le Monde, Sept. 22).

In fact, polls show that the vast majority of the German people oppose war over Iraq. This, despite an unemployment rate of 10%, gave Schroeder and his Green allies a narrow victory.

...Shelia Sahar

Sept. 23, 2002