

BCA Dispatch

"The issue is not issues; the issue is the system"
—Ronnie Dugger

Newsletter of the **February**
Boston-Cambridge Alliance for Democracy **2009**

Hope has two beautiful daughters. Their names are Anger and Courage; anger at the way things are, and courage to see that they do not remain the way they are.

—Saint Augustine

COMMUNITY NOTES

The next BCA/NorthBridge Alliance working group meeting will be announced. Phone Barbara at 781-894-1179. Currently we are working to inform legislators and urge them to register their support for the newly filed MA Globalization Impact Bill by calling Rep. Byron Rushing's office at 617-722-2180. Want to help? Call Barbara Clancy as noted above, or call your state senator and representative yourself. Read the bill on Page 7 below.

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"All Of Them Must Go"

Time to Bang Pots and Pans

by Naomi Klein, *The Nation*, 5 February 2009

WATCHING THE CROWDS IN ICELAND banging pots and pans until their government fell reminded me of a chant popular in anti-capitalist circles back in 2002: "*You are Enron. We are Argentina.*"

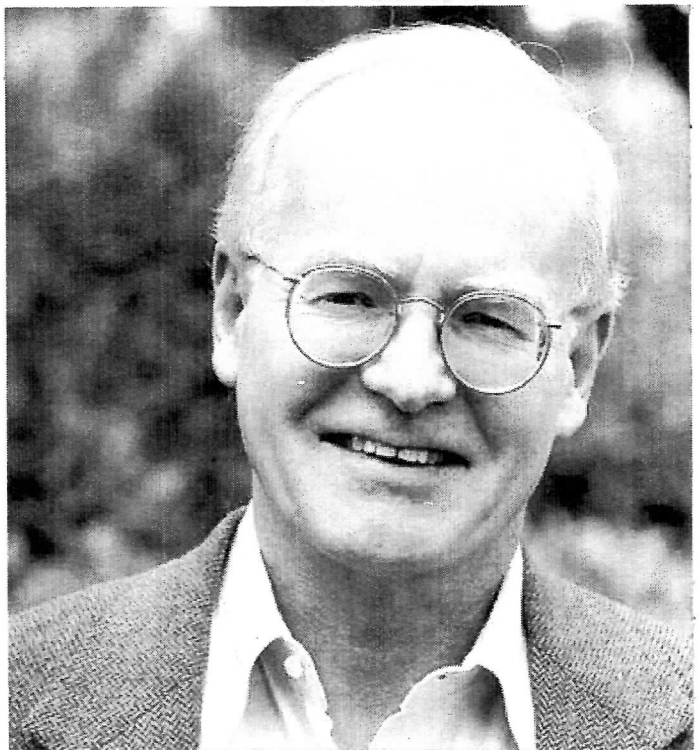
Its message was simple enough. You—politicians and CEOs huddled at some trade summit—are like the reckless scamming execs at Enron (of course, we didn't know the half of it). We—the rabble outside—are like the people of Argentina, who, in the midst of an economic crisis eerily similar to our own, took to the street banging pots and pans. They shouted, "*¡Que se vayan todos!*" ("All of them must go!") and forced out a procession of four presidents in less than three weeks. What made Argentina's 2001-02 uprising unique was that it wasn't directed at a particular political party or even at corruption in the abstract. The target was the dominant economic model—this was the first national revolt against contemporary deregulated capitalism.

It's taken a while, but from Iceland to Latvia, South Korea to Greece, the rest of the world is finally having its *¡Que se vayan todos!* moment.

The stoic Icelandic matriarchs beating their pots flat even as their kids ransack the fridge for projectiles (eggs, sure, but yogurt?) echo the tactics made famous in Buenos Aires. So does the collective rage at elites who trashed a once thriving country and thought they could get away with it. As Gudrun Jonsdottir, a 36-year-old Icelandic office worker, put it: "I've just had enough of this whole thing. I don't trust the government, I don't trust the banks, I don't trust the political parties and I don't trust the IMF. We had a good country, and they ruined it."

Another echo: in Reykjavik, the protesters clearly won't be bought off by a mere change of face at the top (even if the new prime minister *is* a lesbian). They want aid for people, not just banks; criminal investigations into the debacle; and deep electoral reform.

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David Ray Griffin

Philosopher-theologian David Ray Griffin is professor emeritus at Claremont School of Theology and Claremont Graduate University, and co-founder of the Center for Process Theology in Claremont CA. Author of 34 books, the latest of which is *Whitehead's Radically Different Postmodern Philosophy* (2008), he has long been concerned with the problem of evil and the relations between science and religion.

Griffin is best known to the public for his dedication to discovering and demanding the whole truth about the 9/11 catastrophe. His 7 books on the subject are • *The New Pearl Harbor: Disturbing Questions About the Bush Administration and 9/11*, with Richard Falk (2004) • *The 9/11 Commission Report: Omissions And Distortions* (2004) • *Christian Faith and the Truth Behind 9/11: A Call to Reflection and Action* (2006) • *9/11 and American Empire: Intellectuals Speak Out*, with Peter Dale Scott (2006) • *Debunking 9/11 Debunking: An Answer to Popular Mechanics and Other Defenders of the Official Conspiracy Theory* (2007) • *9/11 Contradictions: An Open Letter to Congress and the Press* (2008) • *The New Pearl Harbor Revisited: 9/11, the Cover-Up, and the Exposé* (2008).

EDITORIAL

The Importance of 9/11 Truth

If President Obama's early efforts at nonpartisanship prevail, only the most politically bland crimes of the past administration will be investigated and suspects tried. This, in contradiction to 2-to-1 public demand for justice. Meanwhile, Representative Conyers and other congress members with subpoena power may conduct hearings which might lead to trials for Bush, Cheney, and others for specific misdeeds such as firing democratic federal attorneys or even falsifying information so as to justify war in Iraq. Prosecution for war crimes may be another matter.

The war in Afghanistan (already spread to Pakistan) was justified not just by falsified information, but by a manufactured, colossal disaster—attacks on World Trade Center buildings and the Pentagon—under the false flag of "Islamic extremists" led by the elusive Osama bin Laden. The evidence is weak and spotty that the total collapse of WTC towers and Building Seven, and even damage to the Pentagon, were due to rogue airliners.

(Continued on next page >>)

But contrary evidence—see the video “Zero” or “9/11 Mysteries” among others—remained hidden until well after the immediate, well-publicized invasion of Afghanistan with its righteous justification. By that time the public and public agencies were so deeply committed to this cause—by official and demagogic rhetoric as well as troop and materiel transfer and Defense and Homeland Security contracts—that alternative explanations based on emerging evidence were ignored or decried as foolish, insane, or subversive.

Yet 9/11 is crucial; without it there would be no USAPATRIOT Act or Department of Homeland Security, and thousands of dead New Yorkers, Afghans, Iraqis, Gazans, and American soldiers and scores of journalists, aid workers, airline passengers, and Pentagon employees would still be alive, and the US Government more credible. It is for such reasons that gutsy people like professors David Ray Griffin and Stephen E. Jones investigated circumstantial and physical evidence, published books, and set up www.911truth.org with scores of other professionals.

BCA Dispatch believes that you will agree: Only fools or the fooled would deny the most obvious visible evidence, the perfect collapse of the 47-story Building 7 at the World Trade Center—deny that it was brought down by controlled demolition. That is why we enclose the card “11 REMARKABLE FACTS ABOUT 9/11”, and hope that you may take a minute to watch the video of the building’s collapse on the web—just google “WTC7”. Maybe then you will watch “Zero” or another contextual video— you may have to ponder how to re-relate to your conventional friends.

NEWS: A large E-4B “Doomsday” military aircraft was filmed by CNN flying in the restricted air space above the White House during or just after the Pentagon strike. Mark H. Gaffney found and pursued this, and last September published *The 9/11 Mystery Plane: And the Vanishing of America* (with foreword by David Ray Griffin): More evidence of insider complicity.

Building 7 (see photo, Page 9) housed the mayor’s emergency command complex as well as federal Securities & Exchange records (including Enron, etc.) and FBI offices. Evacuated, it suddenly collapsed several hours after the Towers were hit (google “Griffin critique of NIST explanation”). The Bush-era 9/11 Commission mentioned neither Building 7 nor the E-4B. If neither Obama nor Congress will conduct a full-scale, impartial investigation of 9/11, then Griffin recommends that a commission of churches— credible religious organizations—do it.

The truth of 9/11 could discredit the whole of Bush-era political assumptions, and open us to “another world”. Can we handle the truth?
—Dave Lewit

Whose Conspiracy?

A Saudi Plea for Open Debate on 9/11

by Zein Al Abdeen Al Rekabi, Asharq Al-Awsat*, 16 Sept 2008

BELIEVING IN THE NARRATIVE OF THE NEO-CONSERVATIVES regarding the 9/11 attacks is based on “trust” in these people and the story that they constructed and relayed based on specific information.

Are they right to be trusted?

One of the books that discuss the “official version” of this unfortunate event is *9/11 and American Empire: Intellectuals Speak Out* edited by David Ray Griffin and Peter Dale Scott, to which a number of American researchers, intellectuals, and academics have contributed, all of whom do not believe the official version of the 9/11 attacks. The editors of the book said that researchers, who do not belong to the mainstream, have found evidence that refutes the official version of who is ulti-

mately responsible for the 9/11 attacks.

Morgan Reynolds is a professor at Texas A&M University, and a former member of the Bush administration. He believes that 9/11 was carried out by individuals with ties to the US administration in order to achieve world domination.

There is also Richard Falk, a professor of International Law and the chairman of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation who said that the Bush administration either allowed 9/11 to take place or conspired directly to facilitate the attack to help with its current international operations. What raises more suspicions is the fact that there is deep fear of discussing the truth of what happened that day so that dark and ugly secrets will not be discovered.

Karen Kwiatkowski, an academic who served in the US military for 20 years until 2003 says that she was at the US Department of Defense [the Pentagon] on September 11, 2001, and that none of the members of the 9/11 Commission, which was responsible for investigating the attacks, were capable of assessing the evidence from a technical point of view. She also states that she did not see the wreckage of the airplane that supposedly crashed into the Pentagon, nor did she see any evidence of the destruction that could be attributed to an aerial attack.

Steven E. Jones, a physics professor at the Brigham Young University added that the way that the Twin Towers and World Trade Center Seven collapsed was not explained by the official report. He argues that the buildings were not destroyed by airplanes; the closest interpretation using scientific logic concludes that the collapse was caused by controlled demolition using bombs that were planted beforehand.

David Griffin said that the behavior of the US army on September 11 was indicative of military involvement in the attacks, and that the collapse of World Trade Centre Seven is an example of a controlled demolition using explosives that were placed all over the building before the attacks.

The increased suspicion surrounding the narrative of the hawkish neo-conservatives regarding the 9/11 attack motivated American elites and groups to conduct “collective scientific research” into what really happened on September 11, 2001. An example of these collective scientific efforts is the establishment of the 9/11 Truth Movement, which is run by approximately 50 American academics and intellectuals, some of whom are ex-military experts.

In a testimony to the US Congress, Condoleezza Rice, who was the National Security Adviser at the time, said that US President George Bush had received a classified memo one month before September 11 detailing Bin Laden’s interest in launching an attack against the United States using hijacked planes. The memo was entitled, ‘Bin Laden Determined to Strike in US,’ however it did not state the exact date, place or method of the attack. She added that nobody could have imagined taking planes and slamming them into buildings.

Richard A. Clarke, the former Chief Counter-Terrorism Adviser on the US National Security Council, clearly stated that the American administration ignored the threat posed by Al Qaeda before the 9/11 attacks despite knowing of such threats. Clarke added that he and George Tenet, the former Director of Central Intelligence Agency, have always felt sorry that Al Qaeda and its threat were not dealt with seriously by the administration; even after the 9/11 attacks and the disappearance of Bin Laden in Afghanistan, the administration wanted to strike Iraq immediately, despite the lack of evidence of a link between Iraq and the attacks.

Michael Meacher, a senior member of British Parliament and

the former minister of Environment (1997-2003) wrote in his article entitled, 'This War on Terrorism is Bogus,' published in *The Guardian* on September 6, 2003 that: "It is known that at least 11 countries provided advance warning to the US of the 9/11 attacks ... [There was information that] 200 terrorists were said to be preparing a big operation (*Daily Telegraph*, September 16, 2001). The list they provided included the names of four of the 9/11 hijackers, none of whom was arrested ... The first hijacking was suspected at not later than 8.20am, and the last hijacked aircraft crashed in Pennsylvania at 10.06am. Not a single fighter plane was scrambled to investigate [from the US Andrews airforce base, just 10 miles from Washington DC] until after the third plane had hit the Pentagon at 9.38am. Why not? There were standard FAA intercept procedures for hijacked aircraft before 9/11. Between September 2000 and June 2001 the US military launched fighter aircraft on 67 occasions to chase suspicious aircraft (AP, August 13, 2002)... Was this inaction simply the result of key people disregarding, or being ignorant of, the evidence? Or could US air security operations have been deliberately stood down on September 11? If so, why, and on whose authority?"

The aforementioned information from various sources prove that the official narrative of the event is invalid, that the high ranking officials were aware of what was going to happen, and that standard procedures were suspended at this instance. This is all evidence that proves the existence of a conspiracy of some sort; isn't the crux of conspiracy the absolute denial and the terrorizing of whoever speaks of it whether it is called a "conspiracy" or a "miscalculation" or "foolish deception" or "a dark malicious plot" or the American strategy for hegemony in the 21st century instigated by powerful earthquake?...

If nobody has enough evidence to prove or refute a conspiracy theory, then the issue should be open to debate and discussion based on liberal thinking and supported by documented information, and according to the logic of the right to know the truth behind a major event, which had a huge impact on the lives of Americans and Muslims all over the world and an event which has affected world peace and security and continues to do so. Bold and open discussions must take place regarding the various narratives that surround this event; discussions, which nobody should restrain or suppress.

*"Dr. Zein Al Abdeen Al Rekabi is a prominent Saudi writer and Islamic affairs expert." *"Launched in London in 1978, Asharq Al-Awsat has established itself as the decisive publication on pan-Arab and international affairs" —from the publication's web site*

Does Your Kid Play League Football? Hidden Brain Damage Is Cause for Concern

by Stephanie Smith, CNN (medical producer), 27 January 2009

For years after his NFL career ended, Ted Johnson could barely muster the energy to leave his house. "I'd [leave to] go see my kids for maybe 15 minutes," said Johnson. "Then I would go back home and close the curtains, turn the lights off and I'd stay in bed. That was my routine for two years... Those were bad days."

These days, the former linebacker is less likely to recount the hundreds of tackles, scores of quarterback sacks or the three Super Bowl rings he earned as a linebacker for the New England Patriots. He is more likely to talk about suffering more than 100 concussions. "I can definitely point to 2002 when I got back-to-back concussions. That's where the problems started," said Johnson, who retired after those two concussions. "The depres-

sion, the sleep disorders and the mental fatigue."

Until recently, the best medical definition for concussion was a jarring blow to the head that temporarily stunned the senses, occasionally leading to unconsciousness. It has been considered an invisible injury, impossible to test -- no MRI, no CT scan can detect it. But today, using tissue from retired NFL athletes culled posthumously, the Center for the Study of Traumatic Encephalopathy (CSTE) is shedding light on what concussions look like in the brain. The findings are stunning. Far from innocuous, invisible injuries, concussions confer tremendous brain damage. That damage has a name: chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE).

CTE has thus far been found in the brains of five out of five former NFL players. On Tuesday afternoon, researchers at the CSTE will release study results from the sixth NFL player exhibiting the same kind of damage. "What's been surprising is that it's so extensive," said Dr. Ann McKee, a neuropathologist at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Bedford, Massachusetts, and co-director of the CSTE. "It's throughout the brain, not just on the superficial aspects of the brain, but it's deep inside."

CSTE studies reveal brown tangles flecked throughout the brain tissue of former NFL players who died young -- some as early as their 30s or 40s. McKee, who also studies Alzheimer's disease, says the tangles closely resemble what might be found in the brain of an 80-year-old with dementia. "I knew what traumatic brain disease looked like in the very end stages, in the most severe cases," said McKee. "To see the kind of changes we're seeing in 45-year-olds is basically unheard of."

The damage affects the parts of the brain that control emotion, rage, hypersexuality, even breathing, and recent studies find that



CTE is a progressive disease that eventually kills brain cells.

Chris Nowinski knows well the impact of concussions. He was a football star at Harvard before wrestling pro-

professionally with World Wrestling Entertainment. In one moment, his dreams of a long career wrestling were dashed by a kick to his chin. That kick, which caused Nowinski to black out and effectively ended his career, capped a career riddled with concussions. "My world changed," said Nowinski. "I had depression. I had memory problems. My head hurt for five years."

Nowinski began searching for studies, and what he found startled him. "I realized when I was visiting a lot of doctors, they weren't giving me very good answers about what was wrong with my head," said Nowinski. "I read [every study I could find] and I realized there was a ton of evidence showing concussions lead to depression, and multiple concussion can lead to Alzheimer's." Nowinski decided further study was needed, so he founded the Sports Legacy Institute along with Dr. Robert Cantu, a neurosurgeon and co-director of the Neurologic Sports Injury Center at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

The project solicits for study the brains of ex-athletes who suffered multiple concussions. Once a family agrees to donate the brain, it is delivered to scientists at the CSTE to (Continued >>) look for signs of damage. So far, the evidence of CTE is compelling.

The Center for the Study of Traumatic Encephalopathy, along

with other research institutions, identified traumatic encephalopathy in the brains of late NFL football players John Grimsley, Mike Webster, Andre Waters, Justin Strzelczyk and Terry Long. Grimsley died of an accidental gunshot wound to the chest. Webster, Long and Strzelczyk all died after long bouts of depression, while Waters committed suicide in 2006 at age 44. "Guys were dying," said Nowinski. "The fact of the matter was guys were dying because they played sports 10 or 20 years before."

So far, around 100 athletes have consented to have their brains studied after they die. Ted Johnson was one of the first to sign up. He said he believes that concussions he suffered while playing football explain the anger, depression and throbbing headaches that occasionally still plague him. Johnson said he played through concussions because he, like many other NFL athletes, did not understand the consequences. He has publicly criticized the NFL for not protecting players like him. "They don't want you to know," said Johnson. "It's not like when you get into the NFL there's a handout that says 'These are the effects of multiple concussions so beware.'"

In a statement, the NFL indicated that their staffs take a cautious, conservative approach to managing concussions. While they support research into the impact of concussions, they maintain that, "Hundreds of thousands of people have played football and other sports without experiencing any problem of this type and there continues to be considerable debate within the medical community on the precise long-term effects of concussions and how they relate to other risk factors." The NFL is planning its own independent medical study of retired NFL players on the long-term effects of concussion.

"Really my main reason even for talking about this is to help the guys who are already retired," said Johnson. "[They] are getting divorced, going bankrupt, can't work, are depressed, and don't know what's wrong with them. [It is] to give them a name for it so they can go get help."

"The idea that you can whack your head hundreds of times in your life and knock yourself out and get up and be fine is gone," said Nowinski. "We know we can't do that anymore. This causes long-term damage." ■

World Social Forum—Belém '09 Eco-Socialist Observes Day by Day

by Cy Gonick, *climateandcapitalism.com*, 3 February 2009

Day 1—Carnival

An estimated hundred thousand delegates opened the 2009 World Social Forum with a spirited march down the main street of this northern port city of Belem in the heart of the Amazon. An equal number of local residents lined the streets observing the carnival-like demonstration and cheering on the boisterous marchers along with their drummers, banners and chanters.

This veteran marcher/activist had never before been surrounded by such a sea of humanity as committed as himself to changing the world. I can say that the feeling was exhilarating, bordering on jubilation—knowing all the work in organizing, capacity building and struggles of so many diverse movements that brought these people together but with the usual caution that so much more needs to be done.

Day 2—Compensating for Environmental Damage

For me the most exciting thing that happened at the WSF today was the moment the roof collapsed with the ceiling fan crashing down a few feet from where I was sitting in a meeting room along with 60 others listening intently to a presentation against the principle of compensation for environmental damage.

This was the first of a series of presentations on eco-socialism at the 2009WSF, the ones I especially came here to participate in. The concept we were introduced to is that no level of compensation is sufficient to cover the forever damage to nature inflicted by giant resource corporations in the course of their everyday operations.

The only acceptable remedy is one of fully repairing the damage/loss so that the land/waters/air is left in the same shape as it was prior to so-called development. It was just at the moment that Terisa Turner (of the University of Guelph and an occasional contributor to *Canadian Dimension*) rose to ask how very poor indigenous peoples faced with an offer of a large cash compensation could turn it down—that the roof caved in! Fortunately no one was injured.

Day 3—Indigenous Peasants Speak

This session, sub-titled "The Significance of the WSF of the Participation of the Indigenous Peoples of the World" examined the WSF's special effort to include indigenous peoples in the planning as well as the content of the Forum.

It was explained to us by J'ai Sen, who chaired the session, that the first few years of the Forum were planned as 'white settler' events with virtually no provision for first peoples. That began to change as the WSF shifted from Brazil to Nairobi and Mumbai. But it was only at this 2009 WSF in Belem that a real effort was to be made to not only have a strong indigenous presence at the Forum but their involvement in its planning. Presentations were made by indigenous representatives from Columbia, India, Peru (Hugo Blanco) and Canada (Ben Powers). The meeting was conducted in classic participatory style with statements invited from the audience being responded to by the main speakers.

Hugo Blanco, the remarkably vigorous revolutionary peasant leader, now in his mid 80s, is the leader of the Campesino Confederation of Peru. He added a strong anti-capitalist flavour to the session and his perspective seemed to be fully supported by the other speakers.

The most insightful presentation was provided by the Canadian, Ben Powers of the Indigenous Environmental Movement. Ben also acted as translator for Blanco and other speakers. More than a thousand indigenous peoples, mainly from within Brazil, made their way to Belem, a two week journey for many of them.

Day 4—EcoSocialist Manifesto

The three hour session I attended was really interesting. Sponsored by the Eco-socialist International Network, an organization I'm active in, the session featured a discussion on indigenous peoples and eco-socialism with presentations mainly by Brazilian eco-socialists. The session was chaired by Beatriz Leandro of the Brazilian Network of Socialists.

The session opened with Ana Isla, a South American scholar now teaching at Brock University and on the editorial Board of *Capitalism, Socialism, Nature*, summarizing her research on the impact of the development of the rainforest in Costa Rica that eats up the soil and robs the people of the trees that produce their food and livelihood, eventually displacing them into the cities where women are forced into the sex trade.

Adilson Viera, Secretary General of the Workers Union of the Amazon, described how the resource workers he represents, like fishermen, are eco-socialists in everything but name, resisting the encroachment of capital that destroys their livelihood.

In his history of ecosocialism in Brazil, Mauricius Laxe (Brazilian Network of Ecosocialists) described how it started back in 1991 with the eco-socialist manifesto for Brazil that

attracted over a hundred supporters back then. A year later in response to the UN's Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, regarded by them as capital's response to the environmental crisis, they organized the march of the oppressed.

In 1996 the association of socialists and environmentalists of northern Brazil was formed and signed on to the first eco-socialist manifesto drawn up by Joel Kovel and Michael Lowy on the occasion of the 2003 World Social Formation. A second eco-socialist manifesto has been drafted for this 2009 WSF meeting.

During the discussion following the presentation, Laxe said that the term 'socialist' is a drawback especially among peasants and indigenous peoples, and suggested that eco-socialism be replaced by eco-politics. That generated a wide-ranging discussion. We were informed that the ultra violent Shining Path Maoist group has given socialism a very bad name in Peru.

Joel Kovel intervened to say that in the old USSR, Leon Trotsky expressed total contempt for rural existence, resulting in a troubled legacy for socialism among peasants everywhere. Joel went on to give a short discourse on how in his last ten years, Marx began to re-evaluate his theses that all peoples had to pass through several stages of history and that none could be skipped and in particular, that capitalism could not be skipped to arrive at the socialist stage.

He hinted toward the end of his life that communal societies might not have to go through capitalism. Joel suggested that eco-socialists need to return to this question as it relates to indigenous peoples in the age of globalization. By this time the ageless Peruvian revolutionary Hugo Blanco joined the session and offered a number of points including that the two features indigenous peoples 'from Canada to Chile' have in common are collectivism and love of nature and that in their 500-year resistance to capitalist encroachment on their lands they are natural eco-socialists.

Day 5—Limit Growth, International Barter Not Corp's

The three-hour session on eco-socialism featured two very good talks one by Joel Kovel, author of the fabulous book, *The Enemy of Nature*; the other by Terisa Turner, a prof at Guelph University in Canada. Both Joel and Terisa have contributed articles to *Canadian Dimension* sometime in the past two or three years.

Joel Kovel is really the father of eco-socialism. He described how this was the second gathering of eco-socialists from around the world, the first having taken place in Paris in 2007. There, a small group of mainly northern intellectuals decided that it was important that the second gathering include a large contingent of indigenous people from the global south. That's why they chose to meet in Belem, smack in the middle of the Amazon [delta region].

Joel boldly stated that the only way to save the planet is to end capital's compulsion to grow. Some form of world government is necessary to impose limits to growth which, if effective, would collapse the capitalist system since its existence requires endless accumulation. But societies will only transcend capitalism with eco-socialism—which he defined as production based on free association of workers combined with eco-centric means and ends. Whereas absentee owners can easily damage the

environment, when workers come to own the means of production they work with, they are much less likely to damage, let alone destroy nature which they are part of, depending upon it for both their survival and their comforts.

In his concluding remarks Joel said that, inspired by the eco-socialist measures of Cuba and Bolivia under Evo Morales, he is convinced that eco-socialists have no alternative but to intervene in state formations as they currently exist, starting with a mass intervention at Copenhagen, site of the UN meeting to reformulate the Kyoto Protocol. Secondly, he urged the development of autonomous zones within capitalist societies that would establish islands of freely associated labour as capitalism lurches from crisis to crisis. Thirdly, he said that what's needed now is a mass mobilization

of society to demand a series of structural reforms to prevent climate change, reforms that capitalism cannot endure.

Terisa Turner offered the most optimistic prognosis of our immediate future. She described several examples of grassroots movements successfully stopping resource multinational corporations and keeping fossil fuel in the ground. She argued for a joint global strategy of all-out support for these efforts of halting resource development combined with consumer boycott campaigns—which would deprive capital of energy and resources and markets. And direct trade deals that cut out the multinationals, in place of capitalist trade/investment agreements, citing the arrangement between Cuba and Venezuela—oil for medical services.

She asked, who is engaged in these efforts? Indigenous peoples with women in the foreground.

What is their means? Direct action to shut-down production and keep fossil fuel in the ground.

She ended her presentation with a call for a people's charter on climate change in opposition to the Kyoto Protocol and sanctions against governments and corporations that violate its measures. As for Copenhagen December 2009, she called for a mass organization to stop the proceedings, like Seattle 1999.

Cy Gonick is publisher and co-ordinating editor of Canada's longest-running left-wing magazine, Canadian Dimension.
<http://climateandcapitalism.com/?p=618>



Medicare for All—H.R.676

Summary and Fact Sheet

by Connecticut Coalition for Universal Health Care

Ed. Note: With the end of the Bush administration, universal medical care has become possible. The national council of the Alliance for Democracy has made its promotion a top priority. The bill was introduced in Congress by Rep. John Conyers and many cosponsors including Reps. Kucinich, Kaptur, and 8 of the 10 Massachusetts congress members.

Summary

H.R. 676, the United States National Health Insurance Act (USNHI), establishes a unique American universal health insurance program with **single payer** financing. The bill would create a publicly financed, privately delivered health care system that improves and expands the already existing Medicare program to all U.S. residents, and all residents living in U.S. territories. The goal of the legislation is to ensure that all Americans will have access, guaranteed by law, to the highest quality and most cost effective health care services regardless of their employment, income or health care status. With 47 million uninsured Americans, and another 50 million who are underinsured, the time has come to change our inefficient and costly fragmented non-system of health care.

Eligibility

Every person living or visiting in the United States and the U.S. Territories would receive a United States National Health Insurance Card and ID number once they enroll at the appropriate location. Social Security numbers may not be used when assigning ID cards.

Health Care Services Covered

This program will cover all medically necessary services, including primary care, inpatient care, outpatient care, emergency care, prescription drugs, durable medical equipment, hearing services, long term care, mental health services, dentistry, eye care, chiropractic, and substance abuse treatment. Patients have their choice of physicians, providers, hospitals, clinics, and practices. No co-pays or deductibles are permissible under this act.

Conversion To A Non-Profit Health Care System

Private health insurers shall be prohibited under this act from selling coverage that duplicates the benefits of the USNHI program. Exceptions to this rule include coverage for cosmetic surgery, and other medically unnecessary treatments. Those who are displaced as the result of the transition to a non-profit health care system are the first to be hired and retrained under this act. Those not rehired would receive 2 years unemployment benefits. The conversion to a not-for-profit health care system will take place over a 15 year period, through the sale of U.S. treasury bonds.

Cost Containment Provisions/ Reimbursement

The USNHI program will negotiate reimbursement rates annually with physicians, allow for Aglobal budgets @ (monthly lump sums for operating expenses) for hospitals, and negotiate prices for prescription drugs, medical supplies and equipment. A "Medicare For All Trust Fund" will be established to ensure a dedicated stream of funding. An annual appropriation is also authorized to ensure optimal levels of funding for the program.

Families Will Pay Less

Currently, the average family of four covered under an employee health plan spends a total of \$4,225 on health care annually—

\$2,713 on premiums and another \$1,522 on medical services, drugs and supplies (Employer Health Benefits 2006 Annual Survey, Kaiser Family Foundation and Health Research and Educational Trust; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Expenditure Survey.) This figure does not include the additional 1.45% Medicare payroll tax levied on employees. Under H.R. 676, a family of four making the median family income of \$56,200 per year would pay about \$2,700 for all health care costs, including the current Medicare tax.

Business Will Pay Less

In 2006, health insurers charged employers an average of \$11,500 for a health plan for a family of four. On average, the employer paid 74% of this premium, or \$8,510 per year. This figure does not include the additional 1.45% payroll tax levied on employers for Medicare. Under H.R. 676, employers would pay a 4.75% payroll tax for all health care costs, including the current Medicare tax. For an employee making the median annual family income of \$56,200, the employer would pay about \$2,700 per year.

Total Cost ~Same, Covering All Americans

Savings from reduced administration, bulk purchasing, and coordination among providers will allow coverage for all Americans while reducing health care inflation in the long term. Annual savings from enacting H.R. 676 are estimated at \$387 billion (Baker).

Proposed Funding For USNHI Program

- * Maintain current federal and state funding for existing health care programs
- * Establish employer/employee payroll tax of 4.75% (includes present 1.45% Medicare tax)
- * Establish a 5% health tax on the top 5% of income earners, 10% tax on top 1% of wage earners
- * ¼ of 1% stock transaction tax
- * Close corporate tax loopholes
- * Repeal the Bush tax cuts for the highest income earners ■

CHUCK TURNER ON THE OFFENSIVE

Prevent Speech Gagging

End Corruption in US Justice Department

by SupportChuckTurner@MassLists.org, 9 Feb 2009

Dear Friends,

Today, we move beyond the first phase of my Campaign for Truth, Light, and Justice by focusing national and international attention not just on my arrest and indictment but also on the eight years of corrupt practices of President Bush's Department of Injustice. With the help of former Attorney General Ramsey Clark and his organization, the International Action Center, a petition is being sent around the world to enable people to speak out against the judicial atrocities of the Bush administration. (To sign the petition go to:

<http://www.iacoboston.org/chuckturnerpetition.html>)

We are asking that they send the online petition to President Obama and Attorney General Holder asking them to

- Drop the fraudulent charges in my case;
- Investigate all pending indictments of public officials to determine which ones should be dropped because of political and/or racial motivation;
- Review all convictions of all political officials indicted during the Bush/Ashcroft/Gonzalez/Rove administration to determine which ones should have new trials because of political and/or racial motivation;

(Continued on next page >>)

- Initiate legal action against those Attorney Generals who set up politically and/or racially motivated indictments and prosecutions; and
- Initiate legislation to end collusion between prosecutors and media that destroys the opportunity for a fair trial by distributing governmental allegation as evidence before any arraignments, indictments, or trials have taken place.

We believe that this petition drive is taking place at an excellent time given the focus on corruption in the Justice Department locally and nationally. On Monday, January 26th, Federal Judge Mark Wolfe, Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Federal Court, ordered Ass't US Prosecutor Suzanne Sullivan (not related) and US Attorney Michael Sullivan to file affidavits by February 5th explaining why he should not sanction either Ms. Sullivan or the US Attorney's Office or both for withholding evidence. The report in the *Globe* said that Chief Justice Wolfe characterized Ms. Sullivan's actions "as the latest 'egregious failure' of the US Attorney's office to disclose evidence that could have helped clear a defendant." Chief Justice Wolfe also listed in his 42-page ruling at least nine major cases he presided over during the last two decades in which prosecutors working for Michael Sullivan and his predecessors allegedly withheld importance evidence.

Remember when Ron Wilburn said that the statements in the US Attorney's complaint—that said he came to them and told them that he knew of six instances where Senator Wilkerson had taken bribes—were lies. At that time I said to the media that they should focus on whether the prosecutors were lying, given Mr. Wilburn's statements. The media reaction, as usual, was that I was trying to hide my guilt. Yet, so far the only newspaper response to the report on Justice Wolfe's action has been an editorial in the *Globe* saying that the next US Attorney should be required to make a commitment before appointment not to conceal evidence the way US Attorney Sullivan and those working for him have done. Where is Howie Carr and the other columnists who condemned me, now that the Chief Justice is condemning US Attorney's allowing evidence to be hidden yet again? Seems like a double standard to me.

In addition to Chief Justice Wolfe's action, the Chair of the House Judiciary Committee has subpoenaed Karl Rove to testify before the Judiciary Committee to discuss his role in the firing of nine US Attorneys allegedly for their unwillingness to cooperate with the Bush administration's desire to have them move aggressively against political officials. Although these firings led to Attorney General Gonzalez and nine top Justice Department officials, there was little if any discussion of this during the focus on US Attorney Sullivan's focus on Senator Wilkerson and myself.

You can find the online petition on the www.supportchuckturner.com website. For those who have been asking how you can help, please sign a petition to President Obama and US Attorney Holder and forward it to your friends and neighbors and ask them to get involved. While it certainly will be helpful to me, hopefully it will also play a role in persuading President Obama's administration to join Congressman Conyers and his House Judiciary Committee in their attempt to prosecute the prosecutors who brought injustice to the Justice Department.

Watch for announcements of our February rally where we plan to focus on these issues as well as the historic attacks by the Justice Department on African-American and other elected officials of color as well as progressives.

- We also ask that you come to the Moakley Courthouse [in Boston] on February 25th when my lawyers will attempt to stop

US Attorney Sullivan's attempt to have Judge Hillman force me to sign a gag order saying that I can't talk publicly about any evidence that could help convince the public of my innocence.

Sincerely,

Chuck

(To contribute \$\$\$ to Chuck's legal defense, see BOX, Page 10)

MA Globalization Impact Bill Version 2009—Inform Your State Rep!

Passage of this bill will be the culmination of 12 years of BCA work in fighting corporate globalization: We mounted the big MAI conference at Boston College, drafted the Common Agreement on Investment and Society (CAIS), drafted this bill as a resolution, roused activists in ME, NH, and VT—all of whom have passed similar bills and now have active citizen trade commissions, lobbied legislators (against the tide of "terrorist" distraction) and continue to lobby. We must turn to and rely on ourselves—in New England, to realize "another world is possible".

To help, see opening paragraph of Community Notes, Page 1.

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House Docket No. 1166 Filed on 1/12/2009

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Presented by: Byron Rushing

An act providing for the creation of a special commission relative to the impact on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts of the international trade and investment agreements.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Chapter 3 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:--

Section 69. A permanent special commission is hereby established for the purpose of evaluating the continuing impacts on state laws and regulations by international trade policy and international trade agreements, examining proposed international trade agreements, maintaining active communications with any individual or entity, as the commission determines appropriate, regarding ongoing developments in international trade agreements and policy; and examining any aspects of international trade, international economic integration and international trade agreements that the member of the commission consider appropriate. An "international trade agreement" is defined as any international trade or investment agreement or treaty, including but not limited to, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), and agreements concluded by the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Said Commission shall engage in at least one public hearing annually and shall report on the economic and sovereignty impacts of international trade agreements on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Such report may include recommendations of support or opposition of revisions in United States trade policy or commitments, including by not limited to proposed international trade agreements. This annual report shall be transmitted to the General Court, the Governor, the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; to federal officials, including the United States Trade Representative and members of the Massachusetts Congressional delegation. >>

Said Commission shall consist of
 3 members of the Senate of the General Court,
 3 members of the House of Representatives of the General Court,
 the Governor or his designee,
 the Attorney General or her designee,
 the Treasurer or his designee,
 a representative from the Office of International Trade & Investment,
 and 9 persons appointed by the Governor,
 one of whom shall be a representative of organized labor,
 one of whom shall represent small business,
 one of whom shall be a representative from a human rights organization,
 one of whom shall represent farmers,
 one of whom shall be a representative from an environmental group,
 one of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Municipal Association,
 one of whom shall be engaged in the business of exporting goods internationally,
 one of whom shall be a member of a graduate faculty of law, with expertise in issues of constitutional federalism, of a private university in the commonwealth, and
 one of whom shall be a member of a graduate faculty in economics or labor studies of the University of Massachusetts

[Senators and Representatives: Call Rep. Byron Rushing's office for information, and to endorse: 617-722-2180. If you, Mr/Ms Citizen, wish revisions—e.g., that appointments to the commission issue from democratic or diverse bodies rather than from the Governor, tell Rep. Rushing, and AfD at 781-894-1179]

TALKING POINTS: Why We Should Have This Commission:

- *The instability of the world and national economy calls into question existing trade rules which limit the authority of the Commonwealth and other states and municipalities to regulate or subsidize planning, industry, services, purchasing, etc.*
 (1) International agreements NAFTA and WTO are considered to be treaties, whose provisions override conflicting state and local as well as national laws. Despite limitation of traditional state prerogatives, regional developments proceed within the US. See Gar Alperovitz, *America Beyond Capitalism: Reclaiming our wealth, our liberty, and our democracy* (2005), p.156ff. Currently, see Forum on Democracy & Trade at www.forumdemocracy.net.
- *International trade and investment has reduced the capacity of the Commonwealth in manufacturing, agriculture, and other sectors and has reduced the stability of its financial institutions.*
 (2) Outsourcing of manufacturing and importation of food, energy, etc., not only from other regions of the US but since the institution of NAFTA and WTO in the mid-1990s has made Massachusetts more dependent upon its financial, research, education, medical, design, and other services, many of which are being coopted abroad. Neoliberal trade agreements—based in part on the obsolete assumption of regional specialization—make more difficult re-industrialization and re-localization anywhere in the US. Nevertheless, with peak oil, re-industrialization and re-localization are becoming necessary for long-term survival. See James Howard Kunstler, *The Long Emergency: Surviving the converging catastrophes of the twenty-first century* (2005).
- *Current federal policies and international agreements favor major corporations and military expansion at the expense of jobs, local businesses, and the environment.*
 (3) International trade agreements are driven chiefly by multinational

corporations and achieved largely by political influence. See, for example, Richard Peet, *Unholy Trinity: The IMF, World Bank, and WTO* (2003). Famously, conservative columnist Thomas Friedman sees the impossibility of a global McDonald's without global military dominance: *The Lexus and the Olive Tree: Understanding globalization* (2000).

- *Many international trade agreements bar consideration of human rights abuses and consumer information, substitute narrowly qualified tribunals for courts of law, and ignore the authority of the United Nations.*
 (4) For example, labor rights enumerated by the International Labor Organization, a UN agency, are violated as non-tariff barriers to trade by NAFTA and WTO. See Jeremy Brecher, Tim Costello, & Brendan Smith, *Globalization From Below: The power of solidarity* (2000).
- *Federal trade policy has been made without public oversight and rushed through Congress with minimal scrutiny and amendment.*
 (5) Although "fast track" limitations of Congress in considering trade bills has expired, NAFTA and GATS agreements, made under fast track, still stand. See: www.citizen.org/documents/GATS%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf.
- *The Supreme Court of the US has frustrated the Commonwealth's moral concern for barring state purchases which would enrich an oppressive regime such as Burma.*
 (6) See "Supreme Court Strikes Down Massachusetts Burma Law" June 28, 2000, www.socialfunds.com.
- *Municipal authority in Massachusetts to develop resources for public use has already been challenged by foreign corporations (Mondev vs. City of Boston) under NAFTA and the World Trade Organization (negating preference for local labor, management and materials, while exporting profits).*
 (7) See Chris Mooney, "In Our Own Back Yard", *Boston Phoenix*, August 30, 2001; and Damara Griffith, "NAFTA, Sovereignty and Tradeoffs", <http://fedsoc.server326.com/IntlLaw&%20AmerSov/NAFTA.pdf>.
- *Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire already have Citizen Trade Commissions in operation, and are ready to cooperate with Massachusetts and other states in the region.*
 (8) See Forum on Democracy & Trade at www.forumdemocracy.net.

NAOMI KLEIN (Continued from Page 1)

Similar demands can be heard these days in Latvia, whose economy has contracted more sharply than any country in the EU, and where the government is teetering on the brink. For weeks the capital has been rocked by protests, including a full-blown, cobblestone-hurling riot on January 13. As in Iceland, Latvians are appalled by their leaders' refusal to take any responsibility for the mess. Asked by Bloomberg TV what caused the crisis, Latvia's finance minister shrugged: "Nothing special."
 But Latvia's troubles are indeed special: the very policies that allowed the "Baltic Tiger" to grow at a rate of 12 percent in 2006 are also causing it to contract violently by a projected 10 percent this year: money, freed of all barriers, flows out as quickly as it flows in, with plenty being diverted to political pockets. (It is no coincidence that many of today's basket cases are yesterday's "miracles": Ireland, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia.)
 Something else Argentina-esque is in the air. In 2001 Argentina's leaders responded to the crisis with a brutal International Monetary Fund-prescribed austerity package: \$9 billion in spending cuts, much of it hitting health and education. This proved to be a fatal mistake. Unions staged a general strike, teachers moved their classes to the streets and the protests never stopped.

(Continued on next page >>)

This same bottom-up refusal to bear the brunt of the crisis unites many of today's protests. In Latvia, much of the popular rage has focused on government austerity measures—mass layoffs, reduced social services and slashed public sector salaries—all to qualify for an IMF emergency loan (no, nothing has changed). In Greece, December's riots followed a police shooting of a 15-year-old. But what's kept them going, with farmers taking the lead from students, is widespread rage at the government's crisis response: banks got a \$36 billion bailout while workers got their pensions cut and farmers received next to nothing. Despite the inconvenience caused by tractors blocking roads, 78 percent of Greeks say the farmers' demands are reasonable. Similarly, in France the recent general strike—triggered in part by President Sarkozy's plans to reduce the number of teachers dramatically—inspired the support of 70 percent of the population.

Perhaps the sturdiest thread connecting this global backlash is a rejection of the logic of "extraordinary politics"—the phrase coined by Polish politician Leszek Balcerowicz to describe how, in a crisis, politicians can ignore legislative rules and rush through unpopular "reforms." That trick is getting tired, as South Korea's government recently discovered. In December, the ruling party tried to use the crisis to ram through a highly controversial free trade agreement with the United States. Taking closed-door politics to new extremes, legislators locked themselves in the chamber so they could vote in private, barricading the door with desks, chairs and couches.

Opposition politicians were having none of it: with sledgehammers and an electric saw, they broke in and staged a 12-day sit-in of Parliament. The vote was delayed, allowing for more debate—a victory for a new kind of "extraordinary politics."

Here in Canada, politics is markedly less YouTube-friendly—but it has still been surprisingly eventful. In October the Conservative Party won national elections on an unambitious platform. Six weeks later, our Tory prime minister found his inner ideologue, presenting a budget bill that stripped public sector workers of the right to strike, canceled public funding for political parties and contained no economic stimulus. Opposition parties responded by forming a historic coalition that was only prevented from taking power by an abrupt suspension of Parliament. The Tories have just come back with a revised budget: the pet right-wing policies have disappeared, and it is packed with economic stimulus.

The pattern is clear: governments that respond to a crisis created by free-market ideology with an acceleration of that same discredited agenda will not survive to tell the tale. As Italy's students have taken to shouting in the streets: "We won't pay for your crisis!"

Ed. Comment: *A popular movement in Iran demanded and achieved change after President Jimmy Carter attempted to pull a coup; masses of abused people forced the Bolivian government out when Bechtel Inc took over Cochabamba's water supply; a similar flood of ordinary people supporting loyal troops overthrew—in a few hours—the elite's coup against President Hugo Chavez in Venezuela in 2002. Similar things happened in eastern Europe. From a distance, these movements appear to have arisen spontaneously. In fact they were ready after months or years of local organizing despite absence of publicity in the mass media.*

The Big Bank Bailout in the last days of the Bush administra-

tion was an economic coup. Will millions of Americans force the establishment to relinquish its loot and its power? Well, they/we elected Barack Obama, who promised a democratic restoration. Yes, TV and big newspapers gave Obama exposure, possibly because he was the choice of Democratic party insiders as well as of a great many ordinary people. But organizer organizations like MoveOn, SEIU, and the Obama Campaign itself, as well as hundreds of local liberal and booster groups held the line against corporatist electioneering of more of the same—McCain-Palin/RNC and demagogues like Rush Limbaugh.

Obama, however, is still much beholden to scions of the corporate system, appointing mostly Clinton-era administrators while calling for Roosevelt-style "make me do it" public action. This reflects his pragmatism as well as the democratic inclination which got him elected. So we must, like the American Revolutionaries, open our purses and our spare time to local prodemocracy groups like Encuentro5, Open Media Boston, Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, Alliance for Democracy, United for Justice with Peace, Boston Underground, Alternatives for Community & Environment (ACE), and so on, and use our local forums (town, church...) to organize new groups where they are lacking.

These new movement groups can be local in origin, and ultimately proudly local in coverage. America is perhaps too large—a lot larger than Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Iceland (all less populous than New England), Argentina, South Korea, UK, and other countries where people are practicing mass civil disobedience against the corporatist system. Congress is unwieldy and unrepentant. City councils and State legislatures may be more responsive, especially if local movements in neighboring localities can collaborate. In the land of higher education—New England—students may lead, as in many rebellious countries, by organizing forums questioning Federalism.

ACTION ALERTS

Tue, 24 Feb, 8:30-11:30am, Quincy. **Metro Area Planning Council** meets. Speaker: **Jeffrey B. Mullan**, MA Undersecretary of **Transportation**. Boston Marriott Quincy Hotel, 1000 Marriott Drive. Info: thauenstein@mapc.org or call 617-451-2770 x2072.

Fri-Sun, 27-29 Mar, Tufts U, Medford. **New Strategies for Peace & Social Justice:** U.S. foreign and military policies, the economic crisis, and energy and the environment, intersections. Panels, lectures, workshops, networking. Invited speakers: **Noam Chomsky, Phyllis Benis, Bill Fletcher, Zia Mian**, others. Sponsors: American Friends Service Committee; Tufts Peace & Justice Studies Program. Info: Jgerson@afsc.org or GGold@afsc.org or phone 617-661-6130.

Sat-Sun, 28-29 Mar, UMass, Dorchester. **One State for Palestine/Israel:** a country for all its citizens? Sponsor: Trans Arab Research Institute (TARI), and William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Its Social Consequences (UMassBos). Leading scholars from Palestine, Israel, Canada, US, Europe. Free. onestateforpalestineisrael.com



World Trade Center Bldg 7
See 9/11 articles Page 1 ff.

Corporate Jet Arrogance, Menace Unscreened, They Could Easily Bomb Us

by Institute for Policy Studies (IPS), June 2008

Excerpt from "High Fliers", report of an investigation by Chuck Collins, Sarah Anderson, Dedrick Muhammad, Sam Bollier & Robert Weissman

As the upper echelons of American society insulate themselves further from the traveling public via private jet travel, we run the risk of a dangerous loss of social cohesion. As the super-rich and wealthy "opt-out" of the public commercial air travel system, they withdraw their considerable political clout from making sure that the system works well for everyone.



Citing security concerns, companies such as GE, Motorola, Time Warner, and News Corp. actually require their executives to fly on the corporate jet, as opposed to charter planes or commercial airlines. This safety argument extends even to smaller companies such as Rollins, a pest-control business, which paid its chief executive's taxes for his \$116,988 of travel expenses on the corporate jet. New York University School of Business professor David Yermack says that this arrangement "is like telling the CEO: 'We insist that you eat at a five-star restaurant for your own nutrition, and we insist that you drink \$800 champagne for your health.'"

If CEOs find security in private jet travel, where does that leave the rest of us? As security lines in airports grow longer and more invasive, private jet passengers face comparatively little scrutiny. As the Department of Homeland Security recently noted, compared with commercial airline passengers "little or no screening or vetting of crew, passengers or aircraft on international GA [General Aviation] and private aircraft is required" at U.S. airports. "In addition," says DHS, "thousands of GA operators conduct operations in large aircraft but are not subject to have security programs under current TSA regulations."

Currently, DHS and the Transportation Security Agency are planning new regulations to enhance security requirements for private jet travelers, including measures that would identify and vet all general aviation passengers and crew and screen aircraft entering from overseas for illicit materials or weapons.

Not surprisingly, the general aviation community is chafing at the increased scrutiny. Jim Coyne, head of the National Air Transportation Association, the leading general aviation trade association, complained to the trade publication *Aviation International News* that DHS didn't understand the difference between typical airline passengers and the people who fly on private planes. "It could be anybody on an airliner," Coyne said. "On a charter or business airplane it's a much smaller group of people. It's much easier to know who they are and to know that they're safe."

That may be, but DHS remains concerned about "the vulnerability of GA [General Aviation] and private aircraft flights being used to deliver illicit materials, transport dangerous individuals or employ the aircraft as a weapon." In [then] DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff's words, when it comes to general aviation, "the nightmare scenario that we talk about is the possibility of a weapon of mass destruction, in particular a nuclear bomb or a radiological bomb, being detonated in a city." ■

Support Chuck Turner's Fight for Justice

1. Sign the on-line petition (see Chuck's letter, Page 6 above).
2. Show up at Moakley Federal Courthouse, Boston, on 25th of February, 3pm, courtroom #16. (Allow time to go thru security. For directions to courthouse, call 617-748-9152).
3. Send a check for legal expenses. Until further notice, make it out to "Committee to Re-Elect Chuck Turner" (\$500 limit) and send it to P.O. Box 190251, Roxbury MA 02119. If over \$200, include occupation as well as name and address. You don't have to be a Boston resident. Info: phone 617-427-8100.
4. Educate your friends; speak up at forums. This isn't just to ease Chuck. It's to bring change to a corrupt system, locally and nationally.

COMMUNITY NOTES (Continued from Page 1)

Navy Veteran for Peace and BCA stalwart **Tony Flaherty** of South Boston issues "a black flag for White America" as the St. Patrick's Day Parade approaches (March 15). For years Tony has led the struggle to end the racist, pro-war, dictatorial administration of the Parade, pointing out the complicity of Mayor Menino in supplying expensive overtime police presence, and the silence of the Massachusetts political establishment. "Held to be a 'private' family affair," he says, "any voice for 'peace' is vigorously barred from the parade...celebrating an Irish heritage amongst a community which has lost its roots in oppression—their forebears being slaughtered by the mercenary English army of Black and Tans during the famine—thugs from jails unleashed upon a starving population—identical to our occupation of Iraq."

Good news from **Cambridge!** The city council voted unanimously to ban the no-warrant lamppost surveillance cameras paid for by the Dept of Homeland Security. First such ban in the nation! But **Nancy Murray** of ACLU-MA had to work hard to get councilors to ask critical questions—who gets access? How long are records kept?...Meanwhile **Brookline** councilors voted 3-2 to try the cameras for a year... Harmless? Tasers, anyone?

JOIN THE BCA

YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIVE IN BOSTON TO LOVE BCA

Please help us as we fight to make a better future for ourselves and our children — Join the Boston/Cambridge Alliance for Democracy. (Cut out or copy this form and send it to Dave Lewit, 271 Dartmouth St. #2h, Boston, MA 02116.)

BOSTON-CAMBRIDGE ALLIANCE for DEMOCRACY PLEDGE

- ___ \$33/Year - "Count me in!"
- ___ \$66/Year - "Contributor" (We need to average this amount.)
- ___ \$111/Year - "Sustainer" (Helping us thrive.)
- ___ \$222/Year - "Community Steward"
- ___ \$500/Year - "Realize the vision"
- ___ What's fair for YOU? \$_____

Name : _____ Date: _____

Street No./Box/Apt: _____

Town and Zip: _____

Phone: Day _____ Night: _____

E-mail (for occasional contact): _____

COLOPHON

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Visit the Alliance web site: www.TheAllianceForDemocracy.org

Visit our regional web site: www.NewEnglandAlliance.org