

FORsooth

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Dec. 2006/Jan. 2007

Resisting atoned for sins in Iraq war, soldier said

by Marcia Schneider

Before turning himself over to military custody Oct 3, Army Spc. Darrell Anderson of Lexington held a press conference at the Colvin Center in Radcliff, Ky. Surrounded by his peace activist mother, Anita Dennis; his stepfather; his Canadian wife, Gail Greer and several dozen supporters including war veterans, Anderson said. "I feel that by resisting, I made up for the things I did in Iraq. I feel I made up for the sins I committed in this war." Three days later, Fort Knox released Anderson who later received an "other than honorable" discharge.

Anderson served with the Army's 1st Armored Division and spent most of his time in Baghdad where he was wounded by a roadside bomb, for which he later received a Purple Heart medal. Anderson said that witnessing the abuse and killing of Iraqi civilians and being commanded to fire on a car containing an Iraqi family (which he refused to do), were turning points leading him to decide that the war was immoral and illegal. He went to Canada rather than participate in a second deployment to Iraq.

In Canada he became an outspoken critic of the war. Anderson met his wife, Gail, while being interviewed for a war documentary that was being filmed in Toronto. Originally, he and Gail had planned to stay in Canada, but later he decided to return to the United States and turn himself in at Fort Knox.

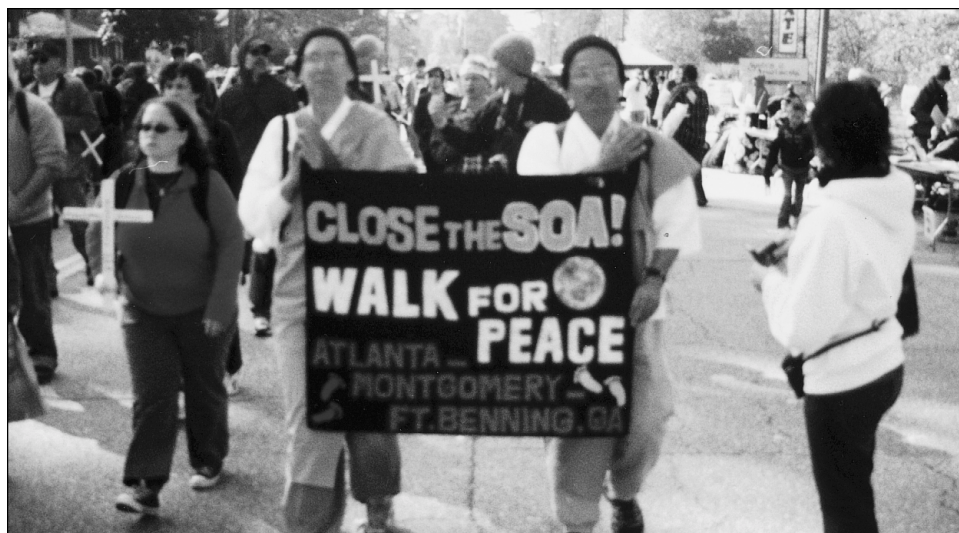
Before Anderson returned to the U.S., his lawyer from Chicago, Jim Fennerty, had talked with a Fort Knox officer in charge of AWOL soldiers who told Fennerty that most likely Anderson would not be charged but would be released within three-to-five days after he turned himself in to custody. However, no guarantees were offered, and when Anderson returned he realized that he indeed could be facing arrest, court-marshal, and possibly lengthy imprisonment.

In his press conference statement, Anderson said that one of the most important reasons for returning to the United States was to receive treatment for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Of course he will not be eligible for any veterans' benefits to cover the cost of such treatment but must rely on family and other private resources.

On Oct. 31, another outspoken Iraq veteran war resister — days after returning from Canada — announced his intent to turn himself in at Fort Knox. Kyle Snyder said at a press conference held at Central Presbyterian church in Louisville, that he had been recruited out of the Job Corps by an Army recruiter who promised him money for college and a chance to help the Iraqi people by participating in the reconstruction of Iraq.

Instead, Snyder found himself behind a 50-caliber machine gun and being commanded to point his weapon into

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— photos by Dennis Bricking

Rallying for life

by Peggy Kidwell

Two busloads and several carloads from Louisville joined an estimated 22,000 protestors at the annual vigil and rally Nov. 26 to close the School of the Americas in Columbus, Ga. Although the school's name was changed in 2001 to WHINSEC (Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation), the school's purpose has not changed, that is, to "teach" the "art" of torture and murder.

This witness each year commemorates the brutal murder in El Salvador of six Jesuit Priests, their housekeeper and her daughter, while they were sleeping on November 19, 1989 by soldiers trained at the SOA. The SOA Watch was founded in 1990 in an effort

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A pastor's point illuminates woes involved in violence

by Gracie Lewis

I recently heard my pastor, Rev. Dr. Kevin Wayne Cosby, preach about "attitude:" For as a man thinketh in his heart, so is he! There has never been a truer statement. On Sunday, Nov. 12, there was a meeting at the Yearlings Club in West Louisville of about 150 people to discuss the issue of an increase in violence.

Violence is linked to racism and poverty or "attitude." Hatred for one another runs deep in today's world. Some people can't cope with hurts and disappointments in life. You cannot say anything or do anything, without thinking. Every act has a consequence. Yet, we know that God is still in control.

Rev. Jesse Jackson so stated in July 2006, while making us aware of a Supreme Court case, *Meredith v. Jefferson County School Board*. There was much discussion about the achievement gap and how the teachers were to blame. Rev. Jackson suggested that parents get to know their teachers from the beginning of the school

year, exchange telephone numbers. He let everyone know that there are opportunities out there to help your child with homework from the churches to private organizations.

Rev. Jackson emphasized "positive thinking" toward our children, stating that learning takes place initially in the home!

Gracie Lewis will report in the February FORsooth on the Dec. 4 march on Washington for protecting school de-segregation. The march happened after deadline.

Parents have to take control of their household! It was stated in the meeting that youth do not like "structure." Discipline has to be established. If not in the homes, you will find structure behind prison walls. There have to be boundaries set, while children are young. We all know there will be protests expressed or unexpressed, but set limits. All children need to be loved and

praised. When youth seek out gangs, they do so because of lack of attention and love. Parents, relatives, or the "village" should take children to church and let them get to know God! God and family are *one*! The church will teach youth how to "seize opportunities" for growth and development.

Bishop Dennis Lyons of Gospel Missionary Baptist Church; Allen Barnett, Chair of the Kentucky Alliance; and I went on a tour of Luther Lockett Correctional Complex Nov. 9. Violence and crime are on the rise and this is reflected in the prisons. There is an inmate population at Luther Lockett of 1,047 men from the ages of 19-25 years of age. It costs the state about \$25,000 a year to incarcerate a prisoner. These monies could be better spent on a college education. We started out our tour with maximum security, where inmates are in their cells without television

or an opportunity to be with others. Inmates there are only allowed one hour out of their cells. Can you imagine being in lockdown 23 hours out of a day?

Then we were escorted to the chapel, which was built by the prisoners. Without a doubt there are some inmates that are highly skilled, but they made the wrong choices on the outside. We walked over to the library, which was so neatly arranged by a retired librarian.

The best part of the tour was the Education Center. This is what is needed to stop the violence in our own neighborhoods — a vocational education school for those students desiring to take an alternative education. We stopped by the masonry shop. Students learn to read and interpret blueprints and build walls, fireplaces, etc.!

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Health care crisis solution is a bill away, speakers say

FORsooth staff report

The competitive, for-profit health insurance system in the U.S. costs \$300 billion a year more in administrative costs than would be required by government-financed single-payer health insurance, advocates for single-payer care said Nov 16.

Kay Tillow, coordinator of Kentuckians for Single Payer Healthcare, and Dr. Garrett Adams, state coordinator for Physicians for a National Health Program-Kentucky, told the Louisville FOR’s Third Thursday Lunch that the \$300 billion could go for better care.

The two asked for support for a congressional bill, House Resolution 767, which would create a single-payer health insurance system nationwide with universal coverage.

Tillow said after the lunch the groups are calling for letters to state legislators asking the Kentucky General Assembly to

endorse the U.S. House resolution, sponsored by Rep. John Conyers on Michigan.

“We’re asking that (state legislators) pass a resolution that would urge Congress to help us to solve this problem with... lack of insurance by supporting and passing H.R. 767,” Tillow said.

While the resolution awaits action, the crisis is worsening, the two said.

“It’s like having a paper umbrella,” Tillow said of our current health insurance system. “If it rains, it’s not going to work.”

“In this state it’s something like 550,000 (people) with no insurance at all,” she said. “In Jefferson County, it’s 85,000. And that’s not taking into account the people who have such bad insurance that it’s almost no insurance.”

While deductibles and co-payments have soared in the last 20 years, coverage has been cut, she noted.

“It’s like having a paper umbrella,” Tillow said of our current health insurance system. “If it rains, it’s not going to work.”

Adams showed via a power point presentation how overall health care costs as a percentage of gross domestic product have

presentation showed.

The private U.S. health insurance system doesn’t keep government spending low, either, Adams said, explaining that total public spending on health care in the U.S. per capita is about \$2,900; that’s greater than the total health care spending in the United Kingdom, Japan, Sweden, France, Canada or Germany, which of which have single payer or socialized medicine.

The number of uninsured Americans, Adams added, has risen from about 22 million in 1976 to about 43 million in 2002.

Attica Scott, coordinator of Kentucky Jobs With Justice, will talk at the Jan. 18 Third Thursday Lunch about blacks and labor. The lunch costs \$6 and reservations are required by Jan. 16. Call Polly Johnson at 473-8435 or Mary Ann Lambert at 425-3844.



Tarring was effort to win day in court to aid pro se

by Daniel Cobble

There are gross misunderstandings of why I tarred the federal courthouse steps on May 26. These misconceptions were allowed to spread, because, on that day, the federal authorities immediately took me away from public view so that I could not explain. Louisville’s mainstream news outlets did not help to clarify the situation, for they neglected to interview me while I was wrongfully jailed at the Grayson Co. Detention Center in Leitchfield, Ky.

The tarring was not a simple protest against court-corruption. Most specifically, my purpose was to get a misdemeanor trial so I could present to a jury evidence of how state and federal judges are violating public policies and laws to dismiss the civil cases of taxpayers.

With methodical violations of the 1st and 14th Amendments, in effect, officers-of-the-courts are setting aside the U.S. Constitution. By this I mean that their misdeeds are systematically supported by elected officials and local and federal law enforcement. Their violations include obstructions of justice, the coloring-of-law (18 U.S.C. 241 and 242), subversion, coercion, even extortion and other infractions. Please visit www.pro-se-litigants.org to view some of these abused civil cases.

Obviously, these unlawful, unconstitutional actions by government are far more serious than my simple act of tarring the courthouse. Indeed, my taxpaying over many years helped to pay for that courthouse. This year, alone, my household has paid over \$3,000 in income and excise taxes.

Hence, I have a right to defend my rights where government officials are covertly acting to take them away. By covert I mean that elected officials and law-enforcement ignored over 40 verifiable letters, over an 18-month period, asking to investigate judges and prosecutors. These requests were routinely sent to the mayor of Louisville, Louisville’s Metro Council members, Kentucky’s attorney general, and the supervising Special Agent of Louisville’s FBI office.

My evidence at a trial would clearly show that our government, in very many situations, is no longer following the U.S. Constitution. As well, my case is one of “inequities in losses.” Where I made a public mess on May 26 to bring your attention to this “quiet” crisis, the damage done to many taxpayers is overwhelmingly greater than the mere clean-up costs of the courthouse, in terms of the longtime denying of our rights, our emotional pain and suffering, and their outright criminal violations.

My May 26 “act of civil self-defense” is lawfully justified for community security, that could well extend to a state of national security.

Therefore, my act was a matter of practicality. Some say that I should I’ve continued to only protest the courthouse, but then these routine violations of the constitution and laws would I’ve continued. And it is reasonable to expect that the corruption will only grow if not checked. Once clearly identified, it was my duty to do something about it, even in a conservative community such as Louisville, where I was born and raised.

At a trial, I will prove that officials are now operating in an environment of “controlled anarchy,” an oligarchy where corporations are dictating what the courts will do, instead of following our written laws under a constitutional standard. Yet, sadly, there is another dimension to my criminal case as further evidence of the out-of-control corruption. The court and government prosecutors have continued their wrongdoings into my criminal proceedings.

Since May 26, I have filed 9 letters of criminal complaints with the Louisville FBI, but again, no action has been taken. For public inspection, a copy of each complaint has been filed by respective notices in the court.

These persistent, quite serious violations into my criminal proceedings not only require dismissal of the case, but too, it demonstrates how the corruption is culturally based in our government. My case is an unprecedented “macro-observation” of identified crooked government that you cannot afford to ignore. For years, people have been frustrated with how to approach this massive problem. Though this single case will not settle these difficulties, it is a rare opportunity based on solid evidence for people to signal to officials that, today, as always, they do not support dishonest government.

Yet, should a trial ensue and a jury find me not guilty, this, too, would send the same powerful message that corruption cannot be accepted by the community. Hence, I urge you to send a copy of this story to your elected officials at the local, state and federal levels. Since government corruption can only occur with our tax dollars, clearly we all must demand accountability from our representatives.

In conclusion, I wish to thank everyone for their interest and support of addressing this critical security issue. Surely, the “idea of America” begins with our maintenance and governmental adherence to the U.S. Constitution.

The writer, of Louisville, was incarcerated in several states after his arrest May 26 for tarring federal courthouse steps in Louisville in a protest against the courts’ handling of “pro se” lawsuits, which means suits filed by a person representing him or herself. He alleges many unconstitutional and dishonest actions by the courts involved in his case.

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Staff

Editor George Morrison
Calendar editor Jean Edwards
Production manager Barbara Powers
Bulk mailing Beverley Marmion

91 Years on Peace Frontiers

Since 1915, the Fellowship of Reconciliation in the United States has led campaigns to obtain legal rights for conscientious objectors, win civil rights for all Americans, end the Vietnam War, oppose U.S. intervention in the Third World, and reverse the superpowers’ arms race. An interfaith pacifist organization, the FOR has members from many religious and ethnic traditions. It is part of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation, with affiliates in 40 countries.

In the development of its program FOR depends upon persons who seek to apply these principles to every area of life. If you are not already a member, we invite you to join us in this endeavor. Membership consists of signing the Statement of Purpose, indicating that you agree with FOR goals. To receive more information, please call 458-8056.

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The University of Louisville Commission on Diversity and Racial Equality, The Ekstrom Library and The Left Alternative are among the sponsors of a ..

PAUL ROBESON FILM FESTIVAL
to celebrate **Black History Month**
in **February 2007** !!

The films to be shown (each on both days of its corresponding weekend, as detailed below) are:

Song of Freedom [1936];
Jericho (Dark Sands) [1937];
Big Fella [1938]; and
The Emperor Jones [1933].

The last of these is probably the best-known. It is based on the Eugene O'Neill play, in which Robeson also played the lead. *Song of Freedom* was reshowed at the 1950 celebrations of the Ghanaian independence party.

The show schedule is as follows:

11:00 a.m. Saturdays----February 3, 10, 17, 24, at Highlands/
Shelby Park Branch Library, Mid-City Mall
(1250 Bardstown Road).

4:00 and 7:00 p.m. Sundays----Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, at Elaine Chao
Auditorium in Ekstrom (main) Library, University of
Louisville (easiest parking: Speed museum ramp).

FREE admission!! \$5.00 donation to help defray costs and
benefit the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political
Repression encouraged. For more information, contact Ike
Thacker or Eustace Durrett at 502/409-8706 or ike5775@
yahoo.com, or David Horvath at 502/852-7589.

Resister made better use of time, skills by not fighting

We just celebrated the Thanksgiving holiday here in the U.S. I have several things for which I need to be thankful. The first is the privilege of having gotten to meet Pvt. Kyle Snyder, a soldier in the U.S. Army who went to Canada rather than continue as, effectively, a mercenary for Bush, Halliburton and company in Iraq.

He tried to turn himself in at Fort Knox, a few weeks ago, but the army reneged on the agreement it had worked out with Kyle’s lawyer, and Kyle is still a “deserter” from the killing machine. Kyle “spent Thanksgiving week gutting houses flooded by Hurricane Katrina more than a year ago,” the Louisville Courier-Journal said Nov. 25. Now isn’t that a better use of his time and skills? It was my honor to house Kyle one of the days he was in Louisville.

Your columnist’s second reason to be thankful is the drubbing the Republicans got at the polls by an electorate fed up with war, corruption, and economic oppression. This election has given the labor movement, and poor and working class people, some concrete material gains. We now have the opportunity to better access the political system to push for reforms — health insurance, including Medicare drug prescription programs; higher minimum wage; improved bankruptcy laws preventing companies from abandoning contractual pension and retiree healthcare coverage. As noted by Bill Samuel, legislative director of the AFL-CIO: “We have an opportunity to push our agenda for working families.”

But is the agenda for working families the same as the Democratic Party’s? As noted in a New York Times story November 24: “Alarmed at the prospect of Democratic control of Congress, top executives from two dozen drug companies met here last week to assess what appears to them to be a harsh new political climate, and to draft a battle plan.

“Hoping to prevent Congress from letting the government negotiate lower drug prices for millions of older Americans on Medicare, the pharmaceutical companies have been recruiting Democratic lobbyists, lining up allies in the Bush administration and Congress, and renewing ties with organizations of patients who depend on brand-name drugs.” How will the rest of the Democratic Party react?

The election has given impetus to moves to hold accountable those whose policies have made the U.S. feared and loathed by so many populations all over the globe.

Yet, we must view all of this carefully. While an improved minimum wage is welcome, the \$7 per hour proposed minimum by the Democratic Party is hardly a living wage. So, this ruling class concession, if won, is welcome, but hardly adequate. Nor have the Democrats opposed as a whole the U.S. troop withdrawal in Iraq. If Sen. Lieberman is welcomed back under the Democratic Party sheets, we all will get screwed.

Nor must we forget that the Republican far-right (is this an oxymoron?) still rules the executive roost. Which brings us to Nicaragua. Daniel Ortega, long-time Sandinista leader, recently won the presidential election. The Nicaraguan right-wing was split, despite U.S. efforts to unite them, and Ortega emerged victorious.

There are those who accuse Ortega of corruption, cult of personality, and more. Even if some of this is true, he is a servant of the poor and dispossessed, and that is why the Nicaraguenses returned him to office.

But the U.S. is not sitting still. Robert Gates is being considered by Congress to replace disgraced Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld. Gates is an old Cold Warrior involved in most of the illegal and immoral U.S. government actions in the Reagan and first Bush administrations. As director of the Central Intelligence Agency, in the 1980s, he signed off on the mining of the Nicaraguan port of Corinto, and execution of the Contra war against Nicaragua, ruled illegal by the International Court of Justice at The Hague.

Gates further distinguished himself by lying to the U.S. Senate about knowledge of the illegal activities known as the Iran-Contra scandal, in violation of the Arms Export Control Act and the Boland Amendment. Julia Barnes writes Nov. 25 in the Los Angeles Times: “(Gates) advocated a bombing campaign against Nicaragua in 1984 in order to ‘bring down’ (the government).”

The Democrats’ majority in the U.S. House of Representatives will have a positive effect locally. Rep. Anne Nothup, Louisville’s four-time Congressperson, hawk-extraordinaire and lapdog of Sen. Mitch McConnell, was defeated by liberal publisher and millionaire John Yarmuth.

I was on John’s television show years ago talking about the Israeli-Palestinian situation. When he was publisher of LEO, Louisville’s alternative newspaper, he had his media columnist write a full-page piece on the local



National Public Radio (NPR) station’s withdrawal of an invitation for me to speak on a popular talk-show, due to my support for justice for the Palestinians. I found him to possess something sorely lacking in the Congressional hall he will soon enter: integrity.

A former Republican, Yarmuth supports affirmative action, universal health insurance, raising the minimum wage, and a woman’s right to choose. He won despite the local, state and national Democratic Party’s lack of financial and other support, until the last minute.

But there are serious concerns. His stated position on immigration did not differ from the far-right and objectively racist view of his opponent.

Northup charged that, despite Yarmuth saying he favors raising the minimum wage, a restaurant chain the Yarmuth family owns has franchisees that pay the bare minimum.

Yarmuth countered that the parent company has no say in what franchisees pay. Well, John, take a look at Yum! Brands, Louisville-based owner of Kentucky Fried Chicken, Pizza Hut, Taco Bell and more. Florida tomato pickers, and the United Food and Commercial Workers Union, Jobs With Justice, and others, kept pressing Yum! to lean on tomato suppliers to raise the per-barrel rate.

Yum said it had no say in the matter — the tomato growers were the ones to pressure. The workers, and their allies, kept pressing Taco Bell, and, lo and behold, the workers got the raise. Why is this situation any different than yours, John? You know you can get the franchisees to raise the wage.

I am thrilled that Yarmuth is the Congressman-elect. But we still have lots of work ahead of us. The working class still votes many times against its own interests. For every 51 votes Yarmuth got, Northup got 48, which included many many non-filthy rich folk.

Space prevents comment on job cuts and buyouts at Ford Motor Company, Daimler-Chrysler possibly gutting or selling off its Chrysler division, the Kroger Distribution Center in Louisville possibly being sold and its effect on 800 Teamsters, Smithfield Packing Company targeting undocumented workers as a way to thwart unionization, the Houston janitors’ situation; and the Philadelphia Inquirer newspaper strike.

Although your humble scribe would like to close the year on a happy note, this cannot be done in good conscience. Listen to the Israeli

group, Rabbis for Human Rights (RHR), in two separate November press releases:

“As Jews all over the world read this week that even God must not kill innocent people, the State of Israel continues to play God by deciding when they can rain down fire and brimstone on civilians in the name of self defense. RHR condemns the firing of Kassam rockets on Israeli cities, but the firing of rockets does not justify Israeli shelling of densely populated areas in Gaza that has caused the death of over 68 children in the last four months alone, certainly when this shelling has not stopped the Kassams from falling.”

The second press release lists the names and ages of those killed in the shelling of Beit Hanun in Gaza. (the first name, with no age listed, is probably a Jew, and the rest Palestinians — I.G.):

“Don’t Say You Didn’t Know: Amos Gvirtz, Na’ama Akhmad Atmana, 57; Masud Abdallah Atmana, 55; Fadma Masud Atmana, 16; Samir Masud Atmana, 5; Manal Muhammad Atmana, 35; Misa Ramzi Atmana, 5; Mahadi Sa’ad Abdallah Atmana, 16; Muhammad Saad Abdallah Atmana, 16; Arafat Sa’ad Abdallah Atmana, 20; Snaa Akhmad Atmana, 70; Sacakh Abdallah Atmana, 45; Sa’ad Majdi Atmana, 5; Muhammad Amjad Atmana, 12; Muhammad Ramadan Atmana, 28; Nihad Muhammad Atmana, 31; Saker Muhammad Udwan, 45. Beit Hanun (Gaza Strip), Nov. 11, 2006.”

Don’t say you didn’t know. Saalam. Shalom. Peace.

Contact Ira Grupper at irag@iglou.com.



KITLAC Kentucky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean Witness for Peace Delegation to VENEZUELA Venezuela’s Social Realities and US Responses February 16-25, 2007

This delegation to Venezuela offers opportunities to:

Understand U.S. policies toward Venezuela and their potential impact on the people of Venezuela.

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Learn about grassroots resistance to unjust and devastating global economic trends

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Cost: The price of this 10 day delegation is \$1180 USD plus airfare. The delegation fee covers all set-up, preparation, meals, lodging, interpreters, and transportation within Venezuela.

The fee also covers extensive reading and activist tools both before and after the delegation.

Fundraising opportunities will be coordinated by the group and scholarships are available.

Although most delegates will be from Kentucky, we welcome others to join us!

To Join Us: Send application with a non-refundable deposit of \$150 by December 15, 2006

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND ARE GLADLY ACCEPTED!

For more information/application, please contact:
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Settlers made a desert bloom, but some hopes parched

by Mark Chmiel
and Patricia Geier

Nov. 29 marked the date of the 1947 United Nations General Assembly partition plan for Palestine. As the result of the deliberations of this body, historic Palestine, which had most recently been under a British Mandate, was divided into three parts. Two states were created, an Arab one including 42 percent of the land, and a Jewish one, receiving 56 percent, and the third part, the remaining 2 percent centered around Jerusalem. This portion was to come under international governance.

In the United States, many people are familiar with the Jewish, Zionist, and Israeli narrative. People often think of Israel as the guarantor of security for Jews worldwide, given historic anti-Semitism, which reached its zenith in a genocidal mania under Hitler.

The Zionist settlers were credited with “making the desert bloom” through their industry and know-how. Israel declared itself a state on May 14, 1948, thus realizing the Zionists’ dream of Jewish independence in the land of biblical Israel. Subsequently, many Americans have become familiar with the Israeli account of themselves as a tiny beleaguered nation surrounded by a hostile Arab world that wants to drive the Jews into the sea; all because they occupy this small slice of territory to which they have clung with devotion over the centuries.

But there is another, more disturbing narrative that follows from the U.N. partition plan. While the partition presaged the birth of Israel, it was also the beginning of what the Palestinians have called al-nakba, “the catastrophe.” The Palestinians rejected the partition plan, as they could see that the drive for Jewish sovereignty in Palestinian Arab land would have disastrous effects on Palestinian life. Their fears were prescient and manifested in the terrors that took place from December 1947 onward.

A new generation of Israeli historians, with access to declassified documents and diaries of the principal Zionist and Israeli leaders, has offered corroboration of what the Palestinians have long characterized as their catastrophe. One of these historians, Ilan Pappé has recently published a book, *The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine*, focusing on 1947-1948 and the future Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion’s leadership to create a Jewish state in as much Arab land as possible, regardless of the U.N. partition plan.

Thus, there is an obvious contradiction that must be borne in mind when considering today’s conflict between Israeli Jews and Palestinian Arabs. Zionism wanted a state for Jews, not Arabs. In historic Palestine, Arabs significantly outnumbered Jews. Pappé focuses on the critical mechanism in effecting the Palestinian catastrophe, namely, Ben-Gurion’s Plan D, in which Zionists, then later Israeli brigades and forces, were to occupy the Palestinian villages in what was to become the Jewish state, expel the Palestinian population, and destroy their villages. Pappé states that 200 such villages were thus “de-Arabized” in the weeks before the State of Israel was founded.

Pappé and other Israelis have characterized what took place in late 1947 and throughout 1948 as “ethnic cleansing,” an odious process familiar to many in the United States from the recent examples of Bosnia and Rwanda. Even a famous military hero like Moshe Dayan conceded that such cleansing had taken place, when, in 1969, he admitted to fellow Israeli Jews, “There is not one place built in this country that did not have a former Arab population.”

But to Palestinians, this is not an academic history lesson that has given way to a brighter future. For there is another word from the global political lexicon that is linked to this “ethnic cleansing”: “apartheid,” which refers to the white domination of South African blacks and their separation from the white Afrikaaner

population. In the Palestinians territories that Israel has illegally occupied since 1967 in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (and the Israeli military still controls Gaza from outside the strip), Palestinians have been increasingly segregated in towns and cut

Today, Palestinians in refugee camps who are descendants of those Palestinians expelled by the Zionists and Israelis remember this as a dark day. The same holds for Palestinians in the Diaspora, many of whom may want to exercise their

drive for a homogenous Jewish state.

This narrative of ethnic cleansing and institutionalized apartheid is not nearly as well known in the U.S. as the triumphant Zionist/Israeli narrative. However, if American citizens wish to understand the basic dimension of the conflict, we must listen to Palestinian survivors of this catastrophe as well as those courageous Israeli historians who are willing to challenge the militaristic patriotism that elevates the state above moral principle and human rights.

Patricia Geier works with the Louisville Committee for Peace in the Middle East. Mark Chmiel teaches at Saint Louis University and is a graduate of Bellarmine University in Louisville.

While the partition presaged the birth of Israel, it was also the beginning of what the Palestinians have called al-nakba, “the catastrophe.”

off from roads, employment, farmland, and the rest of the Palestinian territories. In a newly released book, former President Jimmy Carter has used the word “apartheid” to describe what Israel has been doing to the Palestinians.

internationally guaranteed legal right of return, but Israel has ignored U.N. resolutions calling for this exercise. Meanwhile, Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip languish in de facto ghettos and prisons because of the Israeli Jewish

Third Thursday Lunches

presented by the

Fellowship of Reconciliation

September 2006 to January 2007

January 18

Blacks and Labor: Building a Movement Together

Attica Scott, Coordinator, Kentucky Jobs with Justice, will give a brief history of the subject, then explore some of the opportunities and tensions that exist as these groups support a progressive social justice movement and finally, suggest opportunities for action by identifying ways in which both groups can work more collaboratively

The Rudyard Kipling • 422 West Oak Street • Louisville
Buffet Lunch at 11:30 • Presentations at Noon
\$6.00 • Reservations required



For reservations, call Polly Johnson (473-8435) or Mary Ann Lambert (425-3844) by Tuesday before the Lunch.

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*Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR)/Louisville Chapter (502.458.8056)
www.louisville-for.org*

*American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)/Kentucky Chapter (502.893.9828)
www.adckentucky.com*

Wear a boyish grin - crisis called false, rooted in bias

Nothing makes us angrier with the powers that be in this society than when the news media jump on a story that is a fabrication of right-wing pressure groups. The New York Times uncritically passing on sham evidence of WMDs in Iraq is a classic — and deadly — example. Well, there’s another newspaper that deserves some criticism for cooperating in this way with a right wing agenda. You are reading it. Yes, FORsooth, more particularly this Just Ideas column, twice explored the “boy crisis” which such media stalwarts as Atlantic and Newsweek assured us was verified by factual analysis. We wondered in this column (once in 2000 and again in 2006) what it meant for feminism and for peace and justice overall that boys were well behind girls in schools and were slipping in college enrollment.

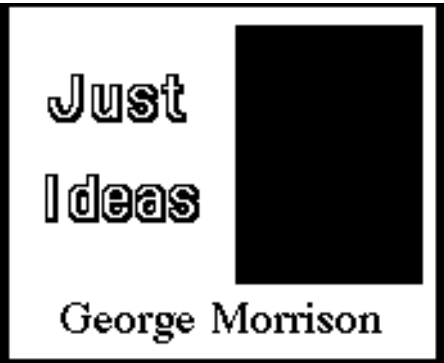


Resisting

(continued from page 1)

crowds of civilians, including many children. Snyder related that he witnessed absolutely no reconstruction of civilian sites by our military, but that the only construction that our military appears to be engaged in is the building of mammoth U.S. bases across Iraq. In March 2005, Snyder witnessed another soldier, in an unprovoked act, shoot and seriously injure an Iraqi civilian. He reported the incident to his supervisor, but the incident was never investigated, and the soldier was never disciplined. This was the deciding factor for Snyder in changing his mind about the legality and morality of this war. While on a two-week leave, Snyder sought sanctuary in Canada rather than return to Iraq. Since then he has become an outspoken opponent of the war. Jim Fennerty, who also represents Snyder, thought he had worked out an arrangement with Fort Knox similar to the one he had arranged for Darrell Anderson. But that was not to be. When Snyder turned himself in to Fort Knox, he was told to report to his old unit at Fort Leonardwood. (His old unit will begin a third tour of duty in Iraq in January 2007.) In fact, Snyder was handed a bus ticket, driven by Fort Knox personnel to and dropped off at the bus depot in Louisville. So Kyle Snyder is AWOL again. As of this writing, he is traveling the U.S. speaking out against the war and speaking up for his fellow soldier resisters. His lawyer is still attempting to secure his discharge but is being silently stonewalled by the Army. In the meantime, Snyder provides us with this challenging statement: “When I joined the Army, I took an oath to defend the U.S. Constitution and that is what I am doing. By refusing to fight an illegal war I am obeying international laws that are being violated by Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld. It is they who should be punished, not me.” For more information see www.couragetoresist.org.

The writer is from Louisville and is a peace and social justice activist associated with several organizations including Louisville Peace Action Community and FOR.



Did feminism need re-shaping, we asked? Well, there may well be no need to reconfigure feminism to accommodate the boy crisis, because the crisis may be false. Education Sector, a nonpartisan education research group, reported recently in a study titled “The Truth About Boys and Girls,” that the widely disseminated image of boys, per se, falling behind was generated by selectively obtained or “cherry-picked” data. The gender gap is really a function of poverty and racism reflecting inferior educational opportunities for minorities and the poor, not boys, the report said. Education Sector Researcher Sara Mead concluded in the report that the hard-times-for-boys image was pushed on by right wingers anxious to damage the femi-

nist movement, not to help struggling boys. Many conservatives looking for a way to bash feminism banged their drums about how every feminist-generated education effort today - from criticizing teachers for calling on boys more often in math and science classes to trying to eradicate sexual harassment and date rape from colleges - amounted to a “war on boys.” The equation that created this likely false crisis is a common one in the world of the punditocracy: Ideologically overzealous researchers multiplied by journalists and commentators who never check or question the findings of studies equals mythmaking. Even the leftist alternative FORsooth was pulled along. I’d love to end this column with a promise that this will not recur, but life in this interest group- and pundit-filled society isn’t that simple. There will always be studies claiming grievances against one group or another, then counter claims by response studies. We in media generally need to do a better job of communicating the preliminary nature of such findings, rather than representing them as absolute truth. Another example: a study finding that diagnoses of autism are more common in areas where people watch more television was hastily used to create a “TV causes autism” mantra, when in fact,

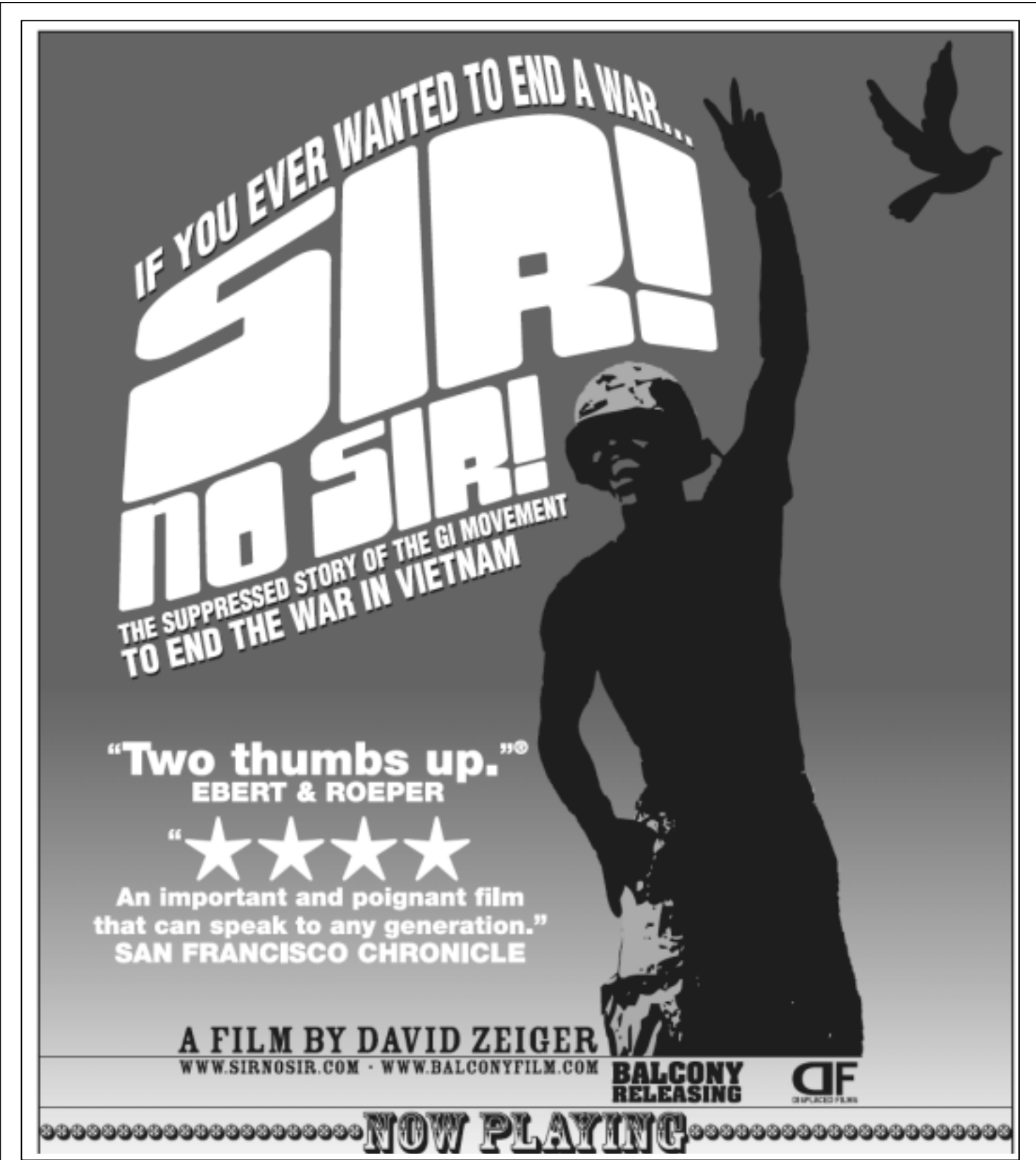
diagnoses of this still relatively newly understood disease (the term goes back only 40 years) are inconsistent. Bias and the educational backgrounds of doctors and psychologists lead some to declare many children autistic while others use the diagnosis sparingly. At least autism is verifiably real, which is more than we can say for the “war on boys.”

Contact George Morrison at klm86@netzero.net.

Rallying for life

(continued from page 1)

to close this military school. A child victim is remembered at left. Sixteen activists were arrested this year for stepping over the line on to U.S. military property. Their cases were continued to Jan. 29. One person was held in custody for refusing to post bond. Pressure to close the school is also coming from the south. Venezuela, Argentina, and Uruguay, have ceased sending troops and Bolivia, Equador, Chile, and Peru are also considering doing so.



Sunday, Feb. 11th 2:00 pm
Central Presbyterian Church -- Fourth & Kentucky Streets

Local Sponsors include: Louisville Peace Action Community, Louisville Committee for Peace in the Middle East, Louisville Chapter of Vietnam Veterans Against War, Aim Higher, Feminist Peace Network, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Kentucky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean

NEWS FROM MEXICO
SOLIDARITY
NETWORK

“Mexico is in crisis,” states Tom Hansen, Director of the Mexico Solidarity Network, in his newsletter dated 12/06. “Popular movements seeking fundamental change are exploding all over our southern neighbor.”

He takes us back to early 2006 when the Zapatistas launched the *Other Campaign* and Subcomandante Marcos spent five months traveling, prior to the July 2nd presidential election, to discuss issues with activists and community-based groups in an effort to define a new way of doing politics. Many times, Marcos drew larger crowds than the presidential aspirants.

He visited San Salvador Atenco where in 2002 campesinos had successfully prevented President Fox from building an airport on communally owned lands.

“Then on May 3rd in Texcoco on the outskirts of Mexico City, flower vendors protested when local police violently removed them from a traditional market destined to become a WalMart mega-mall. Friends and neighbors from nearby San Salvador Atenco quickly rallied to their support, blocking a local highway.”

Police moved into Atenco. Some 4,000 heavily armed officers arrested more than 200 residents, pulling many from their homes in the middle of the night. The women were raped or sexually molested; a 14 year old youth was shot at point blank range and a university student was also killed. Police severely beat most of the men — including a quadriplegic who was then held in prison for nearly a month without access to medical care. Marcos then suspended his travels across Mexico to deal with this crisis, and committees around the world took up the struggle of 29 Atenco political prisoners who remain jailed today, six months later.

After the presidential election on July 2 (when 58% of eligible voters went to the polls) “Fox’s National Action Party, working hand-in-hand with the PRI, Mexico’s historic ruling party, perpetrated a massive fraud, stealing the election from center-left candidate **Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador**. Thousands of demonstrators paralyzed the center of Mexico City for nearly *two months* as election officials struggled to hide increasing evidence of widespread fraud.” In the end, **Felipe Calderon** was named president-elect. He ran on an iron fist platform against political opponents.

ATTENTION SHIFTS TO OAXACA

Oaxaca is the second poorest state in Mexico, and teachers are among the most underpaid civil servants in Mexico. In June some 70,000 striking teachers were met with brutal repression when Governor Ulises Ruiz sent local police to dislodge protesters from the center of Oaxaca City. They killed at least two teachers and beat hundreds before running short of tear gas. Teachers quickly regrouped and ousted the police from the city center in an embarrassing defeat for the Governor.

Following this attack, a massive movement has formed called the *Popular Assembly of the People of Oaxaca (APPO)* including more than 200 community-based groups plus many of the teachers. Their principle demand is the removal of Governor Ruiz, a typical PRI strongman who stole the gubernatorial election in 2004.

In October, the Fox administration sent the Federal Preventative Police to take over Oaxaca City. Currently, they control about six blocks in the center of the city, but the APPO



controls most of the rest of the state. “The popular movement will not back down,” says Tom Hansen in his excellent report, “and the government faces yet another political crisis.”

To keep in touch, contact the **Mexico Solidarity Network, 3460 West Lawrence, Chicago IL 60625. Tel: 773-583-7728.**

WITNESS FOR PEACE MOVES TO OAXACA


Last year, Witness for Peace moved its office from Mexico City to Oaxaca in order to accompany the people of Southern Mexico who have been most affected by harmful US trade policy. In a letter from Todd Miller of the Witness for Peace Mexico International Team, we read his analysis: **Remarkably, after twelve years of NAFTA’S devastating results for the poor in Mexico, the US government continues to proliferate free trade agreements that decimate the fragile economies of our neighbors here in Latin America.** Nicaragua was thrust into this cycle this year with the implementation of **CAFTA**. Now, Colombia is threatened with the **US-Colombia Free Trade Agreement** which is being pushed in Congress at this very moment.

Todd Miller continues, “In Oaxaca, the crisis continues unabated. With the majority of government offices not functioning or closed altogether, the people of Oaxaca have had to provide for their own security.” Responding to the presence of armed groups in Oaxaca, and fearing a possible attack, people have started to install barricades outside their houses. After

this development, the state attorney general began calling the protesters an “urban guerrilla front.” The Mexican government seems poised to escalate the violence in this conflict even further.

WITNESS
FOR PEACE
PLANS
EMERGENCY
DELEGATION
TO OAXACA

For those interested in participating in a WFP emergency delegation to Oaxaca, call or write today to join fellow Witnesses to stand with the Oaxacan people. Contact Ken Crowley, National Delegations Organizer, 3628 12th St NE, Washington DC 20017. Tel: 202/547-6112. Fax: 202/536-4708. E-mail: ken@witnessforpeace.org

FINANCIAL REPORT			
November 2006			
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$6,936.56		
FORsooth ad revenue	15.00		
Contributions	<u>590.00</u>		
TOTAL	\$7,541.56		
EXPENDITURES:			
FORsooth Editing	\$150.00		
FORsooth Layout	100.00		
FORsooth Printing	264.00		
FORsooth Mailing	212.00		
FOR National Dues	75.00		
TTL Speakers Lunch	14.00		
Office Expenses	<u>21.94</u>		
	\$836.94	\$836.94	
ENDING BALANCE	\$6,704.62		
Please make your check payable to the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Your gift is tax deductible.			
			
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Talk’s hopeful message: life is ultimately infinite bliss

by Eustace Durrett
and Ike M. Thacker IV

An excellent antidote to the poison of dark depression in these days of murder and mayhem in Iraq came to our community almost two years ago in a presentation by Robert Thurman, the first westerner ordained as a Buddhist monk by the Dalai Lama and the founder of the Tibetan Studies program at Columbia University.

The title, “How to Live Forever Right Now” was provocative and the talk at the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary served as a sort of preface to a convention there the next two days on the theme: “Thomas Merton and Buddhism: Wisdom, Emptiness, and Everyday Mind.”

Thurman, the author of many books on Buddhism, including a best-selling translation of the Tibetan Book of the Dead, gave a talk that lived up to the title, relating the story of the meeting some 40 years ago between the Dalai Lama and Merton, which was the event that convinced the Dalai Lama that Christians, too, could achieve Enlightenment.

This was one of only a very few mentions of Merton that Thurman made. Thurman lightheartedly apologized for this fact, saying he would deal at length with Merton at the ensuing convention.

The purpose of Thurman’s talk, in one sense, was simply to define the Buddhist concept of Enlightenment and suggest how to achieve it. Central to this definition is the concept of a “Buddha,” or a human who has learned the Three Noble Truths, abandoned manifold illusions and achieved Enlightenment. The Three Noble Truths, he explained, are that unenlightened life is suffering, that unenlightened humans have many illusions (“misknowledge,” thinking they know things that in fact are false) and

that Enlightened life is infinite bliss.

Thurman said that he was “threatening” us Americans with this idea of infinite life, rather than promising it, for it means that everything we do reverberates throughout the universe. Thus, everyone of us has a big responsibility. Ultimately, though, infinite bliss is of course a very good thing, and eventually all beings will achieve it; how long it takes is up to us, Thurman said.

Every great religious figure has had this central similar vision of the “infinite life of every being,” he added, noting that Buddha and Jesus were fundamentally similar, for example, in that they “loved everything all the time.” Unhappiness in this world comes from focusing on achieving our own happiness; true happiness comes from wanting the happiness of others, Thurman said. This, and not something related to ourselves, should be the first thing we think upon waking in the morning, he said, adding that when it is, our lives will be infinitely blissful.

But where does God — or do Gods — fit into all this? The Buddhist conception is different from that of Christianity, said Thurman. In Christianity, God (Jehovah) is separate from and above everything He created: He is *exterior* to the universe. Buddhists emphasize, rather, the *interconnectedness* of all things, he said.

“Your suffering is only the result of your confusion:” you need only realize that you are not “it” in the world, Thurman said. In fact, there is no “you” at all that is really separate from the world, just as there is no God separate from His creation, he added. We feel the best when we truly, viscerally know our connectedness to all things, Thurman said, adding that, in a way, the point of all life is to know that we are

“totally interconnected with all other beings and all things.”

He described how we seem, however, not only to exist discretely, but even (to ourselves) to be the center of the universe. Obviously, however, this cannot be the case, said Thurman, for there would then be billions of “centers of the universe.” Noone will discover upon analysis that they are really the center of the universe, he said, adding that, rather, each of us is just a fully-interconnected, potentially-blissful being who needs not fear even death. Thurman said we shouldn’t fear death, this “nothing,” since there is no pain or suffering in “nothing.”

Women understand this reality as conceived by Buddhism better than men do, said Thurman - perhaps because they (during pregnancy) have another life not their own inside their body and thus can intuitively grasp the idea of interconnectedness and lack of distinct existence better. All is *not* separate from all else, and women understand this better than men; the “feminine revolution” needs to be completed, Thurman said.

But it “all” does have a meaningful existence. “In science class we learn that we are basically nothing,” said Thurman, who added that indeed, science claims to have “proved” that living beings are just meaningless collections of atoms (but “nothing” can’t think, and neither can atoms); it is in fact much more reasonable to think that “you” are something rather than nothing — and “something” can’t turn into “nothing” when you die. The most that can happen then is a change of form, he said.

Thurman left his audience with these thoughts; obviously, his was a very hopeful message. Life is ultimately infinite bliss for all living beings, he said, and then even

when we die we do not turn into “nothing,” but rather only into a different “something.” Who could ask for more?

Eustace Durrett is an advocate for economic equality and rail transit. Ike M. Thacker IV is an advocate for radical socioeconomic equity, focusing especially on housing issues.

Pastor’s point

(continued from page 1)

Then we visited the Business Education center, where inmates could learn everything about computers. The credits they receive there in computers are transferable to any college in the area. We visited the Automotive Technology shop. Inmates who are disciplined spend their time there, learning a new skill that they would not get standing around on the corner with baggy pants and no place to go. The last instructor we met, just delighted my heart. He was a retired electrician who loved his job and wanted to pass on the “torch.” He said that he encourages his students to learn as fast as they can, so that they can make all the money they can! This is a great philosophy for those moving from the prison world to the streets.

You want to stop the violence? Remember Election 2006: it was community, labor, elected officials, and most importantly the church, working together, that created a “win-win” situation.

The writer is an activist with REACT, a group fighting toxic pollution in Louisville.

Calendar for peacemakers

Dec 10 (Sun) **INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY - *DARFUR*: A Case Study in Human Rights Disaster**, Jewish Community Center, 3600 Dutchmans Lane. 2:00 pm. Multi sponsored with music by Rene Morgan Brooks. Remarks by Matt Hanka, president Louisville UN Association; Reflection on Thomas Merton and the Spiritual Struggle for Human Rights by Terry Taylor of Interfaith Paths to Peace; video on the crisis in Darfur; presentation by a Darfur refugee, presentation by Carol Young of Kentucky Refugee Ministries on “Refugees in Our Midst: Victims from Darfur;” closing discussion on what we can do here in Louisville. Contact Terry Taylor, 214-7322.

Dec 10 (Sun) **PALESTINIAN AND ISRAELI PEACE MEDIATORS proposing solutions to “The Current Problems in the Middle East.”** Ambassador Affif Safieh, head of the PLO Mission in Washington, and Yossi Alpher, coeditor of bitterlemons.org, a web-based political dialogue magazine, and a frequent contributor to the Washington Post and the NY Times will bring keen insights into Middle East problems and solutions. Moderated by Jim Wehrle who served in Israeli-Palestinian “Two State” meetings in New York, Tel Aviv, and Ramallah. St. Michael Orthodox Church, 3026 Hikes Lane. Dinner at 6:00. \$20. Contact Kenneth George, 489-5568.

Dec 10 (Sun) **“AIM HIGHER”** focusing on military counter recruitment. Every 2nd Sunday at 7:00 pm, 2236 Kaelin Avenue at the **FOR** office. This group would welcome invitations to speak about conscientious objection, military recruitment, and the possibility for highschool students to “opt out” of having their names given to recruiters. Call Chris Harmer, 893-2334. *charmer@ch2m.com*

Dec 13 (Wed) **KITLAC (Ky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean)**. Every second Wednesday, Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, Room 10, 7:30 pm. Call David Horvath, 479-9262, or Pat Geier, 456-6586.

Dec 14 (Thu) **SCOTT RITTER’S new book, *Target Iran: The Truth About the White House Plans for Regime Change*** will be the topic for discussion at the **American Palestine Public Affairs Forum (APPAF)**. League of Women Voters Building, 115 S. Ewing (off Frankfort Ave). 7:30 pm. Call Bashar Masri, cell: 773-1836 or 895-8150.

Dec 15 (Fri) **NOON VIGIL FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST**, including a news update. ***EVERY FRIDAY AT SIXTH AND BROADWAY***, in front of the Federal Court House (where Senator McConnell’s office is located). We vigil in solidarity with the **“Women in Black”** who vigil every Friday at noon in Israel. Sponsored by the Louisville Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States, the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, and the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Call Beverley Marmion, 451-5658.

Dec 21 (Thu) **SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE**, every third Thursday, 5:30pm. Main library, 4th & York Sts, Board Room, Mezzanine. Call Kay Tillow, 636-1551.

Dec 21 (Thu) **POTLUCK/CELEBRATION AND SEND-OFF FOR THE HENRY WALLACE BRIGADE TO CUBA**. 6-8 pm. Central Presbyterian Church, 4th & Kentucky. Call Sonja Devries, 558-3568.

Dec 30 (Sat) **MINDFULNESS MEDITATION RETREAT** led by **Glends Hodges-Cook**, sponsored by the Center for Faith and Action. Held at The Barn behind St. Agnes Catholic Church on Newburg Road. 9:30 to 4:00. Oriented toward beginners, but all welcome. Includes instruction, sitting and walking practice, question/answer, dharma talk. \$30. Pre-registration required. Call 896-0172, or email *directorfaithaction@yahoo.com* for information and to register.

Jan 7 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE** every first Sunday evening remembering all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a sign or a candle. Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. 7:00-8:00pm, sponsored by **LPAC** (Louisville Peace Action Community). Call Judy Munro-Leighton, 456-6914.

Jan 8 (Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE** (every 4th Monday). (Note change in date due to the holidays). Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road, Nelson Hall, #10, 7:30pm. Visitors welcome. well as Call Phil Schervish, 451-6638, or Dennis Bricking, 895-8516.

Jan 15 (Mon) **DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF FORsooth**. Contact **George Morrison, editor**, 944-6460, E-mail: *klm86@netzero.com* **Note: For calendar listings**, contact Jean Edwards, 458-8056. E-mail: *edwardsfor@bellsouth.net*

Jan 18 (Thu) **THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation: BLACKS AND LABOR: Building a Movement Together**, featuring ***ATTICA SCOTT***, Coordinator of **Kentucky Jobs with Justice**. She will explore some of the opportunities and tensions that exist in building together as well as identify ways in which Blacks and Labor can work more collaboratively. Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 422 W Oak St. Buffet lunch, \$7, begins at 11:30. Presentation at noon. Reservations required. Call Polly Johnson, 473-8435 or Mary Ann Lambert, 425-3844.

Jan 18 (Thu) **LPAC (Louisville Peace Action Community)** every third Thursday evening. Douglass Blvd Christian Church, 7:00pm. Call Judy Munro-Leighton, 456-6914, or Ellen Schagene, 451-6392. *www.louisvillepeace.org* E-mail: *pcunity@yahoo.com*

Jan 20 (Sat) **COMMEMORATION OF THE 3000th US SOLDIER KILLED IN IRAQ**. T-shirts will be displayed at Hurstbourne and Taylorsville Road, between 1:00 - 3:00pm. Sponsored by LPAC. If you can help organize the T-shirts and make signs, call Judy Munro-Leighton or e-mail: *jmunroleighton@gmail.com*

Jan 29 (Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE** (every 4th Monday). (Note change in date due to the holidays). Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road, Nelson Hall, #10, 7:30pm. Visitors welcome. Call Phil Schervish, 451-6638, or Dennis Bricking, 895-8516.

Jan 30 (Tue) **KCADP (Ky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty)** every last Tuesday. Highland Presbyterian Church, 1011 Cherokee Rd, 6:30pm. Call Kaye Gallagher, 721-8885 or Mark Meade, 541-9998. *kcadp@earthlink.net*

Jan 25 (Thu) **FORsooth LABELING at Beverley Marmion’s. 6:30pm**. Please share your expertise and enjoy the conversation. We need you for one hour. Call Beverley, 451-5658.

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

PAUL ROBESON FILM FESTIVAL, jointly sponsored by the Unversity of Louisville and a left-wing cultural group called The Left Alternative to help celebrate **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** during all four February 2007 weekends: **“SONG OF FREEDOM”**: Feb 3 (Sat) 11:00 am, Highlands/Shelby Park Library, Mid-City Mall, (1250 Bardstown Rd) and Feb 4 (Sun) 4:00 and 7:00 pm, Elaine Chao Auditorium, Ekstrom (main) Library, UL. **“JERICHO Dark Sands”**: Feb 10 (Sat) 11:00 am, Highlands/Shelby Park Library, Mid-City Mall, (1250 Bardstown Rd) and Feb 11 (Sun) 4:00 and 7:00 pm, Elaine Chao Auditorium, Ekstrom (main) Library, UL. **“BIG FELLA”**: Feb 17 (Sat) 11:00 am (with places as above); Feb 18 (Sun) 4:00 and 7:00 pm. **“THE EMPEROR JONES”**: Feb 24 (Sat) 11:00 am; Feb 25 (Sun) 4:00 and 7:00 pm

Feb 11 (Sun) **DOCUMENTARY, “Sir, No Sir.”** Film by Dave Zeiger, tells the story of the Vietnam era, GI anti-war movement including the creation of the GI coffee-house and counseling network. 2:00pm. Central Presbyterian Church, Community Room, 4th and Kentucky Streets. Call 634-0468. Multi-group sponsored including Louisville Peace Action Community.

March 17-19 (SSM) **MASSIVE RALLY IN WASHINGTON, DC, TO CALL FOR AN END TO THE WAR. Watch for details.**

May 25-29, 2007 (TFSSM) **BEATLES TRIBUTE FESTIVAL “Abbey Road on the River,”** with bands and merchandise. Memorial Day Weekend. Riverfront Plaza/Belvedere/Galt House, \$200 until Jan 2007. \$220 after Jan 2007. One-day tickets also available. Call 216-378-1980. *www.abbeyroadontheriver.com*

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

Feb 16-25, **KENTUCKY WITNESS FOR PEACE DELEGATION TO VENEZUELA**. Meet directly with civil society leaders. Put a “human face” on US policy toward Venezuela. Cost of this ten day delegation is \$1180, plus airfare. *Sign up now!* Call Amy Shelton, 502/424-3444. *amyeshelton@gmail.com* or *kitlac@yahoo.com*

Mar 23-25, **AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** (AGM) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the Hilton. Registration now open. Be the Early Bird! Contact AIUSA-AGM, 600 Pennsylvania Ave SE, 5th Floor, Washington, DC 20003. Tel: 202/544,0200. E-mail: *aiusa-agm@aiusa.Org*

Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

ACORN (Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now) – (568-1918)

AD HOC COALITION FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION – (778-8130)

ADDICTION RECOVERY ADVOCATES OF KENTUCKIANA – 2nd Thursday (585-3375)

AMERICA 2000 DEMOCRATIC CLUB – 4th Tuesday (459-0616)

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – 1st Saturday (637-8951)

APPAF (American Palestine Public Affairs Program) – 2nd Thursday (895-8155)

BREAD FOR THE WORLD – 1st Tuesday (239-4317)

CAPA (Citizens Against Police Abuse) – 2nd Thursday (778-8130)

C.E.A.S.E. [Citizens for Equitable Assignment to School Environments] – (778-9427)

CLARK & FLOYD COUNTIES AIDS COALITION – (288-2706)

CLOUT [Citizens of Louisville Organized and Working Together] -(583-1267)

COMMITTEE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST – 2nd Monday (456-6586)

COMMON CAUSE – 1st Tuesday, every other month (454-7797)

COMMUNIST PARTY USA – Sunday evenings (409-8706)

CONVERSATION CAFE – Wednesday evenings (454-4820)

COUNTER RECRUITMENT, “Aim Higher” – Second Sunday (893-2334)

EARTH SAVE LOUISVILLE – 2nd Sunday (569-1876)

FAIRNESS CAMPAIGN – Quarterly community dialogues and volunteer opportunities (893-0788)

FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION – 4th Monday (451-6638 or 895-8516)

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LOUISVILLE – 2nd Tuesday (893-8436)

GREATER LOUISVILLE SIERRA CLUB – 3rd Tuesday (897-3335)

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays (637-6265)

HATE FREE SCHOOLS COALITION – 3rd Thursday (454-3300)

INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE – 1st Tuesday (214-7322)

JOBS WITH JUSTICE KENTUCKY (582-5454)

JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER – 3rd Saturday (562-6737)

KFTC [KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH] – 2nd Monday, jointly with POWER (589-3188)

KY AIDS LIFE ALLIANCE (KALA) – Every Thursday (479-7884)

KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION – 3rd Monday (778-8130)

KY COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY – Last Tuesday (541-9998)

KITLAC (KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN) – 2nd Wednesday (479-9262)

KY RAINBOW/PUSH COALITION – (774-4000)

LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES – 3rd Sunday (451-5658)

LOUISVILLE MEDIA REFORM COMMUNITY – 3rd Wednesday (584-4811)

LPAC (LOUISVILLE PEACE ACTION COMMUNITY) – 3rd Thursday (558-9124)

LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH – Meditation 1st & 3rd Sundays (473-8435)

LOUISVILLE YOUTH GROUP – Friday nights (893-0788), *www.louisvilleyouthgroup.org*

METRO SWEEP FOR ACCESS – 3rd Tuesday (895-0866 or 899-9261)

METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION – 4th Wednesday (584-6858)

MUHAMMAD ALI INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE, at UL (852-6372)

NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) – 3rd Monday (776-7608)

NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) – 2nd Monday (245-5287)

PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (P-FLAG) – 3rd Sunday (329-0229)

PEACE & COMPASSION BUDDHA CIRCLE/CML – (451-2193, *brozier@bellsouth.net*)

POWER [PEOPLE ORGANIZED AND WORKING FOR ENERGY REFORM] – 2nd Monday, jointly with KFTC (778-2687)

RCRC [Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice] – (866-606-0988)

RESULTS (a hunger lobby) – 2nd Saturday (451-4907)

SHADHULIYYAH SUFI SPIRITUALITY GROUP – (637-5010)

SINGLE WOMEN’S GROUP – 3rd Sunday (812-866-1667)

911 TRUTH LOUISVILLE (502-609-6022)

Note: If your group would like to be added to this list or if information needs to be updated, please let us know by calling 458-8056.