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# WORKERS SOLIDARITY

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Volume 1 Issue 1 (New Series)

February - April 2004

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**SOLIDARITY DONATION: \$1.00**

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*Editorial:*

## *What America Needs: A New Labor Movement*

Why? Not just because the organized labor movement today is full of self-serving bureaucrats who are out to enrich their pockets or their prestige at our expense. After all, there are many hard-working, sincere people in the ranks of union officials. But no matter how well-meaning they are, there are some fundamental flaws in the way the unions are structured today that makes them at best limited in what they can achieve.

The problem with the unions today starts with the way they function, with so much of the power in the hands of paid officials and not with the workers themselves. We say the alternative to this is direct democracy, with all decision-making flowing from the workplaces and local organizations, with elected **delegates** acting under direct mandates from those they represent, subject to immediate recall when they fail to carry out their mandates. Take away the concentrations of power and privilege and the careerists in the labor movement will have to find some other way to earn a living.

Another problem we see is the reliance on politicians and the electoral system that typifies so many unions today. Yet most union members know that the politicians in the end only serve the interests of the rich and powerful and that the electoral system in this country is a stacked deck. Real political power lies in our ability to control the system of production of goods and services, in building a movement for social change in our communities, and in fighting against **all** forms of oppression and domination, be it racial, sexual or whatever.

It is also not nearly enough to talk about things like raising the minimum wage, getting better health care, or

equal opportunity. Not that there is anything wrong with those things, but why should workers settle for a little bit bigger slice of the economic pie when we should be fighting to control the whole bakery? In the meantime, the labor movement could be addressing issues like

shortening the work week as an alternative to unemployment and downsizing, more control by workers of the workplace itself, and challenging many of those areas of decision-making that have been conceded to the bosses.

To accomplish this, we need more militant and innovative tactics. It's nice that some union leaders are now talking about things like civil disobedience and are willing to employ some more tactics of confrontation than before. But we will need to go much, much further, particularly if we are at all serious about bringing new sectors of unorganized workers into the labor movement. We need to consider new forms of on-the-job action, including occupations and sit-ins, and to begin ignoring the labor laws that were put in place to control workers in the first place.

In the final analysis, the labor movement needs a new vision, one that doesn't accept the current inequality and class divisions in society as inevitable. We need to look toward building a society without power, profit and privilege, in which working people in their workplaces and their communities make the decisions about how our work is done and what we want from it. We need a movement that fights for real gains within the context of this society while using its own organizations as the basis for a new one.

We call this vision anarchist unionism or anarcho-syndicalism. What matters most however, is not what you call it, but the types of hopes and aspirations for working people we believe it embodies. We of the Workers Solidarity Alliance are men and women, like other working people, from different backgrounds, but united in a single vision. It is a vision we hope you will get to know more about.



## Bureaucratic Putsch at National Writers Union

by Tom Wetzel NWU Local 3

As a member of the National Writers Union, I was dismayed but not surprised at the dictatorial moves of the UAW bureaucracy at the latest national Delegates Assembly of the NWU.

In order to consolidate its hold, the UAW sent a two-person team of paid hacks to intimidate the delegates into submission — a sub-regional director, Julie Kushner, and a lawyer from DC, Gary Bryner.

A series of bylaw and constitutional changes were ramrodded through, taking away the right of union members to vote on dues increases and future decisions. Jonathan Tasini, the president of the NWU, had apparently made a deal with the UAW bureaucrats that the NWU would be brought into conformity with the way UAW does things, but without this being well publicized among the membership. The NWU delegates assembled in Las Vegas at the Circus Hotel were bluntly confronted with what "doing things the UAW's way" means. When lawyer Bryner denied the appropriateness of proposed amendments to the changes in the bylaws, often just by saying "No," debate ended and that was that. *Z Magazine* reports that one delegate finally asked him what would happen if they approved changes he didn't agree with. He replied they would have to come before his desk for approval and he'd deny them. And "if we insisted on keeping them she asked?" His blunt reply was that the UAW would put the NWU into receivership — that is, impose a dictatorship. The UAW has a long history of disgraceful, dictatorial behavior towards local unions, so Bryner's reply simply states the normal practice of "Solidarity House" (home of the UAW apparatchiks).

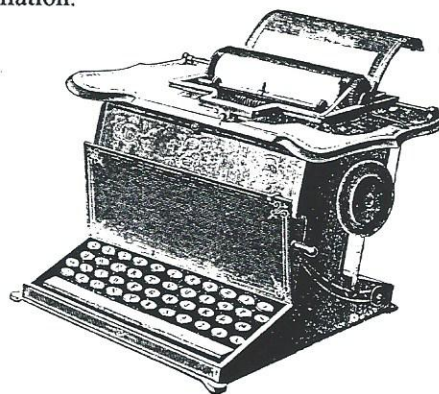
But it was this sort of coercion that forced the majority of delegates to resign themselves to the UAW's dictates. When a member suggested carrying the discussion over to a second day, Kushner insisted that the changes demanded by the UAW had to be done that day because the next day she had to be home to oversee a birthday party sleep-over.

The new scheme abolished the existing system of local unions of the NWU, creating a nation-wide amalgamated local. For example, this means that the locals — henceforth called "units" — are not permitted to have their own bank accounts. Every single expense must be

invoiced from the national office. That national office is already overworked and barely able to function as is, and it will be difficult for a union with a declining membership afford the expense of hiring a professional accountant to do the work.

San Francisco member Bruce Hartford, a former national secretary of the union, resigned, stating that altering the NWU's structure without a vote of the members "is an utter violation of the most basic principles of democracy." Since the NWU's constitution had required such a vote, not holding it means that these changes in the NWU charter are of dubious legality.

Said Hartford: "The new...order centralizes all authority and power in a cabal of paid functionaries, guts our NWU locals, and eviscerates the Delegates Assembly into a meaningless charade." (*Z Magazine*, 12/03). The Delegates Assembly also voted a large dues increase. In the past, such a dues increase could not be imposed without a vote of the members. But with the UAW-imposed changes, no such vote is now required. The NWU was already declining, partly due to the collapse of its health insurance program. Membership shrank from 7,200 two years ago to about 5,460 in October, 2003. With a flurry of resignations after the Las Vegas farce, further decline seems quite likely, unless somehow the NWU can extricate itself through disaffiliation.



This is simply another example of how the top-down, self-interested bureaucracies of the AFL-CIO unions are incapable of being "home" to living organizations that directly involve working people to deal with the issues that affect them.

In the union mail ballot election, held after the national meeting, the incumbent president, Marybeth Menaker, and her slate, were defeated two to one by an opposition slate. Perhaps this is a backlash against the heavy-handed UAW takeover, and the top-down methods of the outgoing administration of the union.

**Workers Solidarity** is published by the Workers Solidarity Alliance (WSA).

Submissions of articles, cartoons and graphics are welcomed. Submissions should be either mailed or emailed to the addresses below. All signed articles do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Workers Solidarity Alliance.

**Subscription rate: \$10.00 (USD) per year.**

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339 Lafayette Street-Room 202  
New York, NY 10012  
Tel: 212-9798353 or email: [wsany@hotmail.com](mailto:wsany@hotmail.com)

## Minimax Workers Continue Their Struggle by Bert

The workers at the MINIMAX store on Knickerbocker Ave in the Bushwick section of Brooklyn, NY are continuing their struggle for workplace justice.

These immigrant workers have been engaged in a months long fight over poor working conditions, pay and firings. With the support of Workers in Action (Make the Road) and others, there have been many pickets and other activities.

We are still out there leafleting every Saturday and Sunday, weather permitting. We are still in slow negotiations with the bosses, the principal demands being the boss pay the back wages and penalties to the workers (some \$90,000), and give a raise to all the present workers. The other demands, coffee breaks, not getting fired for being out sick or with a sick child, etc., which cost the boss no money, we apparently have won. But the money is the main sticking point.

If the workers went to court the workers will surely win their back pay. But the workers want to make a change, not only for themselves, but for all the workers. We can only win demands like the raise and so on, by pressuring the boss with protests and boycott. The court will not go there. That's why direct action is important. So that is why we continue our protests!

If we can win something for the workers there, we can go

on to target other stores in that shopping area and pressure them to comply or face protests and boycotts too. The best would be to get the workers rehired, and then have a union situation. But that is where immigrants face particular problems.

### CONTACT:

### **WORKERS IN ACTION/MAKE THE ROAD BY WALKING**

301 Grove Street, Brooklyn, New York 11237  
718-418-7690

## Sweatshops Are Us

by JoAnn Lum

It has become fashionable to talk about sweatshops these days. Unfortunately, the public discussion is dominated by a removed, self-righteous and paternalistic stance. It's those poor women and children in Third World countries being exploited by Nike and Disney. Meanwhile, we turn a blind eye to the sweatshops flourishing right here in the United States. And when those outside of poor communities do notice the sweatshops, too often they think they have nothing to do with them.

But the rising number of sweatshops in L.A. or North Carolina or New York is part of an intensification of work and underemployment that affects almost anyone, regardless of their race, ethnicity, geographic location, trade or class. Those who want to support workers stuck in sweatshops might start considering that the conditions these workers face – longer hours, lower wages and job insecurity – are problems they may be experiencing themselves.

It is true that the Chinese community, along with many other immigrant groups and communities of color in this country, have suffered the brunt of the expansion of what appears to be a global sweatshop. Here in Chinatown, New York, Chinese immigrant women are toiling in garment factories under illegal, inhuman conditions, even though most shops are unionized. Hours are rising, workers are continually threatened with replacement by cheaper labor and work is increasingly contracted out to middlemen for whom labor law does not exist. In garment factories, restaurants in New York, Chinese workers – documented and undocumented – are forced to work 70 – 100 hours a week without receiving benefits, overtime pay or even minimum wage.

The impact of such harsh working conditions is brutal. Garment workers, for example, report mounting number of job-related injuries. They cannot sleep, they have no time for their children or spouses, and they have no energy for community or civic activities. Children as young as eight work in factories to supplement their families' income.

But what is happening to working conditions beyond these sweatshops? Violations of basic labor laws – governing minimum wage, child labor, overtime, safety and health – are spreading, even as the inspectors who are supposed to enforce them are downsized. And work days are growing longer and longer as people try to make up for their declining wages.



Sweatshop conditions are most obvious in domestic work, agriculture, hotel cleaning and meat processing. But even Hollywood film production crews are protesting their grueling schedules, which often call for 80-hour work weeks and two-week stretches without a break. They are organizing – for a 14-hour workday.

Moreover, firms in all types of industries increasingly rely on subcontracting networks similar to those used by garment makers to evade responsibility for poor conditions. Workers in full-time positions with benefits and pensions are being laid off and replaced with contract labor. Last year, the nation's largest job-finding company for laid off white-collar workers made an agreement with Manpower, Inc., the nation's largest temp company and reputedly the nation's largest employer, to place such workers – managers, engineers, accountants, lawyers and bankers – when it can't place them in permanent, well-paying ones. One estimate puts the total number of contingent workers (including part-time, temporary and contract workers) at 35 million, 28% of the civilian labor force.

These related national trends of overwork and underemployment are creating a desperate climate in our communities where workers must compete relentlessly for jobs, and we are constantly compromising our basic

needs. Yes, we need to challenge the global sweatshop and the multinationals mining the globe for cheap labor. But not without starting with ourselves, right here in this country. We need to address the conditions here, rather than frame it as a Third World problem, or marginalize it as an immigrant or low-wage workers' problem.

We need to talk about how much work – or the lack of work is taking over our lives, controlling our time, reducing us to machines, depriving us of time with our families, friends, communities.

How many of us are working 50, 60, 70 and more hours a week to keep our jobs? How many of us are working two or even three jobs? How many of us are suffering from aches and pains and stress related to work? How many of us have looked for a job for ages? If we embrace the idea that control over our time is a human right, then conversations about organizing to end the sweatshop system will be about us too and we will construct the alternative.

Mail: NMASS P.O. Box 130293, New York, NY 10013-0995  
Office: 30 Third Avenue, Brooklyn (between Atlantic and State) [nmass@yahoo.com](mailto:nmass@yahoo.com)  
tel: 718-625-9091 • fax: 718-625-8950 • email:  
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## Workers Of Montpelier Unite!

by Sean Damon, Green Mountain Anarchist Collective

While Democratic presidential hopeful Howard Dean pays lipservice to the struggles of working people around the country, workers are taking matters into their own hands in the capitol of Vermont. In the city where Mr. Dean once reigned as governor, retail and service workers are busy organizing a citywide union that would unite workers in restaurants and retail operations and build working class power on the job and in the community.

The rank and file oriented United Electric, Radio & Machine Workers (UE) in collaboration with The Vermont Workers Center have, for months, diligently worked to bring the city's unorganized workers into a union that would represent cooks alongside cashiers, servers together with movie theater concession stand clerks and bartenders next to coffee house workers. The organizing drive seeks to gain union representation in every single shop in this small capitol city of 8000.

Rank and file workers in well over a dozen downtown shops have come together in an organizing committee to

bring the Montpelier Downtown Workers Union (MDWU) into existence. To date a majority of workers at 6 retail businesses have signed up with the union. These workers have demanded that their employers recognize the union and sign a contract that entitles the workers to a fair grievance procedure, a fifty cent an hour raise, and a "just cause" standard for discipline and firing.

Recognizing that National Labor Relations Board elections are just another tool in the hands of the boss, organizers have refused to file for elections. Instead of allowing for employers to stack the elections, organizers have decided upon an approach where MDWU will ask for voluntary recognition in shops where a majority of workers have signed up with the union. If they refuse to recognize the union, a concerted campaign of action and pressure will convince the boss otherwise. Of the six aforementioned shops where workers have demanded union recognition only one has so far voluntarily recognized the union and signed a contract. It's clear that the unionization of the entire city of Montpelier will not be won without a struggle.

At J Morgan's, an upscale restaurant which employs over 40 people, management has gone great length to combat the efforts of their workers to win union representation. The Bashara family, owners of J Morgan's and about half a dozen other Central Vermont businesses, have intimidated and harassed workers, threatening them with dismissal if they joined the union, offering bribes of meals and pay increases if they opposed the union drive, and coercing them to reveal the names of union organizers and prospective members. They have fired at least one server and have given pro-union employees the worst shifts and hours in an effort to break their morale.

The Green Mountain Anarchist Collective (Vermont-NEFAC) has published a leaflet titled, UNION + TOWN MEETING = DEMOCRACY, and distributed hundreds of copies around Central Vermont. As anarchists we understand that it will be the working class itself who forwards its own struggle for liberation. Our role is simply to act as agitators, educators and organizers towards those ends.

Green Mountain Anarchist Collective  
POB 76, Montpelier, VT 05601 -  
greencollective@chek.com

★ Direct Action  
★ Direct Democracy  
★ Workers Control

## Bittersweet Victory at Danmar Finishing by Bert

One hundred seventy-five workers won \$410,000 in back pay at the Danmar Finishing clothing factory, located at 456 Johnson Ave in Brooklyn. The owners had been in the habit of stealing their overtime pay for many years. Under labor law all hours worked over 40 in one week must be paid at time-and-a-half.

"We were not fighting for the money. We were fighting for justice. The owners told us we had no right to speak up because we didn't have papers. They would insult us," said Blanca, one of the former Danmar employees, at a press conference in front of the factory December 18th.

"I am happy because we won this victory. We are sending a message that the law must be respected. What we want is that every worker be treated with respect and equality," said Maria Arriaga, a worker for over ten years at Danmar, who had been the first to raise her voice in protest at the stealing of their pay. In retaliation the owners harassed her, she said, and eventually fired her and 13 others who joined in the struggle.

Cristina, one of the 13, said, "I am happy because the truth has finally come out, and the truth is I was exploited for many years here in this factory, and I call on workers to have no fear of speaking the truth. We believe we all deserve a fair wage, and not just us but also all of those still inside the factory."

Nieves Padilla, the organizer of Workers in Action, the project of Make the Road by Walking which supported the workers, explained, "We started this campaign against Danmar over 3 years ago. It took us 18 months to get the Department of Labor (DOL) to take this case. That was our first victory, which we won through our protests and with the help of Congresswoman Nidia Velazquez. It was a long and difficult campaign but we had truth on our side and it finally came out. Se puede!"

Hidelfonso, another of the 13, added, "I am happy that the truth came out. And the message goes out to all the companies that don't pay the overtime. Don't ever be afraid, and always speak the truth!"

"I thank the organization Make the Road by Walking, because we could not have won alone. This victory is for everyone. Respect, justice and equality is for all; this is

what we have learned in our organization, where we pursue the exploiters," said Ms. Arriaga.

After the press conference the press tried to enter the factory to get comments from the owners but were refused entry.

Ms. Padilla wanted all the 175 workers to know that another victory was that the DOL declared this case has nothing to do with immigration, and that the workers could come forward to claim their back pay with no fear. Ms. Padilla urged workers who have not done so to contact the DOL or Make the Road, at (718) 418-7690 ext 208.

She stated that another result of the Danmar struggle is that the DOL now pays attention to cases brought to them by Workers in Action. But she added, "What we want is that the DOL attend to every worker and not just our members."

While Workers in Action has won back pay for workers in many cases, Danmar was their largest monetary victory to date. Another ongoing campaign is the one at the Minimax department store, on Bushwick's Knickerbocker Ave shopping strip. There, six women workers have come forward to sue the store for years of unpaid overtime and minimum wage, stating that they worked as much as 80 hours a week at times, never received overtime pay, and were fired after years of work for something as minor as missing work to attend to a sick child. As in all of their fights, the workers stated, they are not relying only on the courts. They have been urging the community to boycott Minimax until justice is done, and have had a number of noisy rallies in front of the store at peak shopping times.

The workers said that while they are confident they will win their back wages in court, they want more. They want a higher starting wage, an end to verbal abuse and harassment by managers, a fair disciplinary policy, the right to miss work due to illness without being fired, coffee breaks, and other improvements in conditions for all Minimax workers. Even though they themselves will not benefit directly from these gains, they say they want to make a change for all the workers. And these are things they feel they can win through direct pressure on the employers.

Such organizational campaigns also serve to reach out to other workers in the community, to educate them about their rights, and to show them by example that they too can organize and fight back. "I believe the best pressure

on the bosses is when it is organizational. For example, one member had been owed back wages by Great American Sweater, who had made clothing for the Kathy Ireland line at K-Mart. The lawyers had spent nearly a year going back and forth, with no resolution. When we showed up at their showroom offices with a delegation of our members, the next day there were calling to settle and pay up. Had they not, our next step was to have been a protest at K-Mart on 34th St, and a march to Great American Sweater," said Ms. Padilla.

Sometimes, all that has been necessary for victory has been a letter from the group, stating the worker's grievance, presented by a delegation of workers. Other times, protests have been necessary, and sometimes a lawsuit. Another way Workers in Action has intervened on workers' behalf has been to help them pressure their union to deal with their grievances, for example, by the workers making their union representative meet with them at the offices of Workers in Action, with their own lawyer present. They are also involved at this time with other organizations in a campaign to raise the NY minimum wage, and are planning a campaign to try to get enforcement of the criminal penalties for non-payment of wages under NY State law. The workers at the press conference were in agreement that Danmar was a case where the bosses really deserved criminal penalties. Hopefully, the members of Workers in Action will find a way to get that law enforced in such cases. "Si se puede!"

## Book Reviews

Richard A. Brisbin, Jr. **A Strike Like No Other Strike: Law & Resistance During the Pittston Coal Strike of 1989-1990.** Maryland: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2002. 368 pages. Hardcover, \$44.95.

By Gordon Simmons

Readers of Professor Brisbin's account and analysis of the contentious Pittston strike will be rewarded whatever their level of involvement or awareness of that nearly eleven-month struggle might have been. This protracted strike by the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA), began in 1989, lasted nearly a year and engendered sympathy strikes which spread across the coalfields of Virginia, West Virginia and Kentucky.

In terms of the account itself - what happened in what sequence - Brisbin does an admirable job not only of conveying the historical events and their context, but also of making explicit the evolution and development that

occurred on both sides of the struggle. Two conflicting narratives, one from the perspective of the miners and the other from that of the company, emerged, and the interpretations advanced by the courts and government matched the latter.

David Corbin (*Life, Work, & Rebellion in the Coal Fields* 1981; *The West Virginia Mine Wars* 1990) and Lon Savage (*Thunder in the Mountains* 1984) have demonstrated the distinction in values and attitudes on the part of coal miners and their communities on one hand and those in authority on the other, whether that be corporate, political, or even an entrenched union bureaucracy. If that class autonomy was present in the early twentieth century period analyzed by Corbin and Savage, its existence at the end of the twentieth century is demonstrated by Brisbin. He is consequently critical of any 'false consciousness' thesis, arguing that the miners clearly "are conscious of their subjection."

But it is a focus on laws and courts and the "legal complex" that further distinguished Brisbin's book. One could even read it as a sequel of sorts to Richard Lunt's study of the earlier period in *Law & Order vs The Miners* (1979). In Brisbin's account, "as the judiciary gradually but inexorably limited the strikers' protests by injunction and millions of dollars in fines for contempt of court, some individuals, to resist Pittston and the judiciary, turned to what they regarded as the only satisfactory alternatives." A conflict that began with the legal mechanisms of bargaining and the National Labor Relations Board transformed into a strike characterized by acts of civil disobedience- sit-ins, road blocking, wildcat sympathy strikes, and jackrocks to halt the movement of coal trucks. In one dramatic episode, strikers occupied the Moss No. 3 plant. The operators proved adept at the use of courts to retaliate against the union miners, even obtaining legal sanction for the use of replacement workers.

Brisbin's conclusion asserts that miners are in need of leaders who can "breach the dual boundaries that legalism and the institutions of the legal complex impose on workers." Yet two of the most notable instances of Appalachian mine workers acting autonomously demonstrate that dependence on leadership is precisely the opposite lesson. The solidarity and victory of miners in the Paint Creek/Cabin Creek strike of 1912-13 was achieved over the opposition of the union hierarchy (Corbin, 1981). And it was the absence of leaders that most markedly characterized the Armed March on Logan in the Twenties, described as an instance of "working anarchy" (Savage, 1984).

An objection to the lessons Brisbin draws in no way diminishes an appreciation of the significant contribution

he has made to the history of Appalachian coal miners and to labor history overall. This book will remain a valuable reference to many.

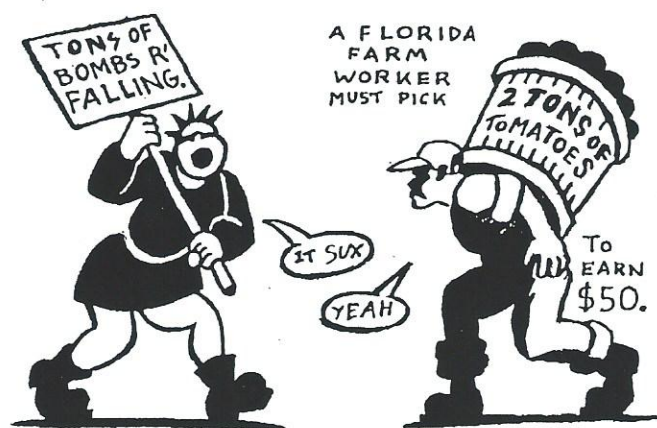
## Boycott Taco Bell!

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) is a multi-ethnic, community-based workers organization in southwest Florida. Immokalee is the largest farmworker community in Florida and most of CIW's members are farmworkers.

CIW began the boycott against Taco Bell in 2001 as part of its fight for justice for Florida's farm workers. Florida farm workers pick tomatoes for growers who sell to Taco Bell. Workers are denied the right to organize, receive no overtime pay, no health insurance, no sick leave, no holiday or vacation pay, and no pension.

Taco Bell has so far refused to accept any responsibility for the conditions of the workers who pick their tomatoes.

Taco Bell is owned by Yum, Inc. which also owns Kentucky Fried Chicken, Pizza Hut, A & W, and Long John Silver's. With 30,000 restaurants world-wide, Yum, Inc. claims to be "the world's largest restaurant chain" (in numbers of restaurants). In 2001 Taco Bell had \$5 billion in sales, and Yum, Inc. raked in over \$22 billion. The sheer market clout of Taco Bell gives them the potential to bring improved conditions to the tomato fields.



For more information about the Coalition of Immokalee Workers and news about the Taco Bell boycott, go to: [www.cjw-online.org](http://www.cjw-online.org) or write the CIW at P.O.B. 603, Immokalee, FL 34143

## Big Brother: Back with a Bang

by Max Lavine

I knew it! The Man is after me! Yes, that's right, this is not a joke, at least not according to the New York Times. This publication reported that the FBI has been spying on antiwar rallies, reportedly attempting to rout out "anarchists and extremist elements."

The article goes on to show how much chutzpah and how little common sense our government has. In a leaked memorandum sent by FBI counterterrorism (yes, opposing the state is now terrorism) offices to local law enforcement, the feds warn that "protesters have sometimes used training camps to rehearse for demonstrations, the Internet to raise money, and gas masks to protect against tear gas." No way! Using the Internet to raise money? What kind of evil mastermind was behind that zany scheme?

"The line between terrorism and legitimate civil disobedience is blurred," commented Anthony Romero of the ACLU. He's exactly right. Ever since 9-11, the government has tried and often succeeded at making the definition of "terrorism" so broad that it could extend to someone who engages in CD or even something as small as streetchalking.

"We're not concerned with individuals exercising their constitutional rights, but it's obvious that there are individuals capable of violence at these events. We know that there are anarchists" is a quote that can be ascribed to an FBI official. The word anarchist conjures, for most, images of rioting, bomb throwing, assassinations. Well, these have been ascribed wrongly to anarchism. In fact, terrorist actions are quite contradictory to anarchist philosophy, which believes in a radical restructuring of society to be based on cooperation, communalism, solidarity, and mutual aid, the opposite of what terrorism (and capitalism) engenders.

Another effect of this new policy of surveillance is scaring people away from dissent. If someone who goes to a protest is going to get watched and have files built on them by the clandestine forces of (in)justice, its much less likely that they will go to a protest, let alone adopt more radical beliefs such as anarchism. "Targeted" operations like the ones carried out by the Flag-waving Bureau of Instigators (FBI, get it?) have the general effect of scaring people away from public dissent. This is especially true as "law enforcement" takes more repressive measures against protesters like we saw here

in Chicago on March 20, 2003, as hundreds of demonstrators were beaten, verbally assaulted, and illegitimately arrested in a desperate attempt by the CPD to deter democracy and silence domestic dissent.

"The oppressed should rebel, and they will continue to rebel and raise disturbance until their civil rights are fully restored to them and all partial distinctions, exclusions and incapacitation's are removed." This was so eloquently stated by Thomas Jefferson and, by the definition of the government, a terrorist threat and "extremist element." But it is not just the revolutionaries, the radicals, the "anarchists" who are in danger. Repression makes no exceptions. What is at stake is the right of every citizen to publicly dissent without fear of state reprisal, to engage in civil disobedience and direct action without fear of brutalization or being staked out by the secret police. America was founded by revolution of yesterday, and now seeks to repress the revolutionaries of today. If you believe in the values this country was founded on, take a stand against this tyrannical action.

### Who We Are

The WSA is an anti-capitalist, anti-authoritarian organization of activists who believe working people can build a new society and a better world based on the principles of solidarity and worker and community self-management.

Our view is that such a society will be brought about only by working people building their own self-managed organizations from the ground up. Not from the top down.

In building workplace and community organizations that are run directly by their members, we not only create more effective fighting organizations in the day-to-day struggles, we will also be laying the foundation for a new society self-managed by working people.

If you are interested in joining the W.S.A., please contact our National Office, 339 Lafayette Street-Room 202 New York, NY 10012

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