

Anti-Imperialist News Service

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A Day's Toll in Iraq

On August 31, nearly 50 Iraqi civilians were killed as a result of U.S. airstrikes in western Iraq, near the Syrian border.

Hospital officials in the town of al-Qaim said that at least 47 people were killed after U.S. warplanes launched three waves of strikes. The hospital director, Dr Hamdi al-Alusi, stated "Among the casualties were children and women." A spokesman for the U.S. 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force admitted that F-16 warplanes dropped six 500-pound bombs on the town which "had flattened several houses in the area."

Also, in northern Iraq, thousands of U.S. troops launched a new offensive against the city of Tall Afar on September 1st. 27 Iraqis were reportedly killed as the city of 250,000 was encircled by U.S. troops while Apache attack helicopters flew overhead all day. Reporters stated that the assault was "the largest urban assault by U.S. troops since the siege of Fallujah last November."

These brutal attacks reflect the ever-growing desperation and isolation of U.S. imperialism. Over the last few weeks, large demonstrations have been organized all across Iraq denouncing the sham constitution being cooked-up by the U.S. and its paid agents in Iraq. So too, the armed

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National Demonstration

U.S. Troops, Out of Iraq, Now!

**Washington, D.C.
September 24**

Massacre at Soccer Field in Haiti

By Tom Luce with AUMOHD investigators (reprinted from the Haitian Information Project)

Dredging up fearsome memories of days thought to have gone by forever, eyewitnesses here in Port-Au-Prince have portrayed an unbelievable massacre-by-machete/hatchet rampage by red-shirted killers, backed up by the Haitian National Police (PNH), of up to 50 victims on Aug. 21 at a soccer field in Gran Ravin-Martissant. This summary, extra-legal execution follows similar type massacres in Bel Air and Solino earlier this month.

This time the killings were done in plain daylight in front of and involving 5000 soccer fans, an incredibly bold assault by Haitian police and their civilian accomplices in the presence of troops from MINUSTAH. As has been the case this entire past year, the "targets" in Saturday's massacre, were all identified as "bandits", "Lavalas" scum (Rat pa caca).

Eyewitnesses described to a group of human rights agents today this super TV drama styled event. As fans were being entertained during one of the breaks in the soccer game - - highly attended because national league players had joined the local teams -- a group of police and men wearing red t-shirts and head bands entered the playing field and took over the microphone from the announcer. The people in the crowd at first thought that this was a friendly show of security by the police. But that idea was immediately dashed when the red shirt announcer stopped the music being played by the DJ and then demanded everyone to lay on the ground. A shot was fired into the air and people began a panicked response. Some tried to run away, some tried scaling the walls to escape and several of these were shot. Others tried running into the adjoining rooms of the stadium and later were found hacked to

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Another "Election" at Gunpoint

The U.S. and the U.N. are trying to give a facade of legitimacy to their occupation of Haiti by advertising a "democratic election" which they are organizing in October. Already the foreign occupying powers have invested more than \$40 million in these elections.

But just as in Iraq, the entire project is a contradiction in terms. No country can have democracy when the people's most fundamental right to sovereignty is denied and elections are organized by the armies of occupation.

In Haiti, the "election" fraud is being carried out while the armies of the U.N. and the U.S., along with the Haitian National Police, are imposing fascism on the people. Over the last 18 months since the U.S. invasion, more than 10,000 Haitians have been murdered. A continuous reign of terror is carried out in the poor and working class neighborhoods and the primary target of these raids are political supporters of the Lavalas party and other opponents of the occupation. Lavalas is the largest party in Haiti; it is the party of President Aristide who was elected by an overwhelming majority in 2000 only to be kidnapped by U.S. marines and his government replaced with U.S. puppets. More than 1,000 political prisoners, including the Prime Minister of the constitutional government, remain in prison.

In a recent press release, August Fanmi Lavalas, the leading political party in Haiti, underscores: "Today in 2005, who can expect free, fair and democratic elections in Haiti while thousands of Lavalas members and supporters are in jail, exile and hiding?..."

"Because the people refuse to follow the de facto government's logic of "election-by-selection", Fanmi Lavalas

is asking the people not to stand in line for the rigged electoral card.

"Furthermore, Fanmi Lavalas asks its members not to stand in line to be assassinated once more, as has occurred in Solino, Bel-Air, Cite Soleil, Grand Ravines, La Saline, Barriere Bouteille, etc. People will not bring themselves to the butchers. Remember November 29th, 1987 in Ruelle Vaillant; remember September 11th, 1988 in Saint Jean Bosco. Remember, the one causing the pain may forget, but the one who bares the scar always remembers."

At the same time, the U.S. has handpicked the current government from amongst the Haitian elite, American citizens and people on the C.I.A. payroll. In addition, the U.S., through the National Endowment for Democracy and other government agencies, continues to provide millions of dollars in financial support and unlimited media backing to political groupings of its choice.

Yet more. The vast majority of Haitians will not be able to vote in the October elections. As of June, only 60,000 people had registered to vote out of an eligible pool of 4.5 million. At last count, the Provisional Electoral Council had only opened 14 of 436 planned registration centers; *none* have been opened in the poor neighborhoods. In the 2000 elections, won by Aristide, there were more than 12,000 registration centers.

No, the October "elections" being held in Haiti are not seeking the voice and will of the people. Rather they are being held at the point of the gun with the aim of trying to legitimize fascism and colonial occupation.

Massacre in Haiti (continued from page 1)

death. The red shirts, backed up by the police, began demanding specific individuals lying on the ground if they were affiliated with Aristide, asking for confirmation from others whether these people were "bandits". Then without mercy these red shirts either hacked their victims to death or hacked them and then had their victims shot by the police. According to eyewitnesses and the family members of the victims interviewed today, the victims of the executioners were innocent people and were attacked only because they were allegedly Lavalas supporters.

The red shirts were equipped with machetes and hatchets that were distributed, according to witnesses, by the police at the Martissant police station. These same civilians who appeared in red shirts and head bands at the soccer game, armed with machetes, were recognized by people in the area as the same people who at least a month previously were thrown out of the area as trouble makers

among whom were some prison escapees and thieves. Some of these executioners were named by witnesses: Georges Jean Yves, Gérard, aka, Gwo l'Ombil (Big Belly Button), ...lifet aka Títe Calé (Shaved Head), Ti Clody, Rudy, JoÏl, Eddy, Apoupann aka Colonel, Ronald Toussaint, Kiki, Rocky Rambo, and Cliska. The chief of police of Martissant was also implicated in the operation by the witnesses and according to the witnesses threatened to come after them and "wipe them out the next day."

On Sunday, Aug. 21 the same red shirts, accompanied by the police, invaded residential areas and burned more than four houses alleged to be inhabited by Lavalas supporters. They also severely damaged an electricity transformer in the area. They also damaged several other houses.

The UN in Haiti: Part of the Problem, Not the Solution

The following is excerpted from an August 30 article by the Haiti Information Project

As reports continue to surface about the human rights hell that Haiti has become, any independent observer must ask how many massacres the Haitian police will commit under the tutelage of U.N. forces before the U. N. is held accountable? Are U.N. forces in charge of the PNH, as their mandate states, or do we simply accept their excuse of being unable to stem police violence against Aristide's supporters.

How many massacres, like the one U.N. forces carried out on July 6 in Cité Soleil, must be committed before we acknowledge that their role in Haiti is far from altruistic? How many more political prisoners need to rot away in Haitian jails, as the U.N. continues to support and bolster the U.S.-installed regime of de facto Prime Minister Gérard Latortue? How many times has the U.N. called for investigations into human rights violations by the Haitian police only to have it lead nowhere as the slaughter of innocent Haitians continues? When will we admit that the U.N. mission itself is fundamentally corrupt?

The U.N. is responsible for creating the very environment that has given rise to the police state in Haiti. Some human rights organizations believe that the U.N. can play a positive role, if pressured to do so. They think that only the U.N. stands between the naked repression of the Haitian police and the majority of the population that continues to demand Aristide's return. But this thinking is naive and dangerous.

It is dangerous because it ultimately views the poor majority as powerless and serves the interests of those who wish to further take power and voice away from Haiti's poor. This is precisely the role being played by the U.N., whose fundamental goal is to legitimize last year's coup with sham elections this fall. The U.S.-installed Latortue regime would not stay in power for more than a week without the guns of the U.N. protecting it in the Presidential Palace. And the sham elections would not be possible either.

Objectively, the U.N. has proven time and again that it is enforcing Washington's coup agenda and is ultimately responsible for the human rights nightmare in Haiti today.

A Day's Toll in Iraq (continued from page 1)

resistance to the occupation keeps growing; for example, at least 13 U. S. soldiers have been killed in Tall Afar just during the past week.

Yet the response of the U.S. is to continue and escalate the war. On August 20, the army's top general, Peter Schoomaker, announced detailed plans for the deployment of 100,000-plus U.S. troops for at least the next 4 years. In fact, the Pentagon is currently increasing the number of U.S. soldiers in Iraq.

These latest actions prove that U.S. imperialism will continue its war against Iraq until it is forced out of the country. This can only be done through the struggle of the Iraqi people. The American people must continue to extend and intensify their struggle against the U.S. government's war on Iraq.

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DPRK Foreign Ministry Spokesman on Second Phase Of Fourth Six-Party Talks

Pyongyang, August 29 (reprinted from the Korean Central News Agency -- KCNA)

A spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry gave the following answer to a question put by KCNA on Aug. 29 as regards the issue of holding the 2nd phase of the fourth six-party talks:

As known, at the first phase of the fourth six-party talks held between late July and early August, the participating countries agreed to open the 2nd phase of the talks in the week beginning on Aug. 29 and reached understanding of the need to refrain from words and deeds obstructive to the resumption of the talks during their recess. However, no sooner had the talks gone into recess than the United States began the large-scale war exercises "Ulji Focus Lens-05" targeted against the DPRK and staged such charade as appointing a "presidential envoy for the human rights issue of north Korea", an issue that had been put on hold till recently.

This has thus eliminated all possibilities of holding the second-phase of the talks in the week beginning on August 29.

What the U.S. has done is little short of spitting at the DPRK. It has seriously insulted its dialogue partner and broke faith with the DPRK.

It is unimaginable for the DPRK to sit at the negotiating table with the U.S. at a time when the powder-reeking war exercises targeted against it are under way. Under such situation the DPRK, through the New York contact channel, has notified the U.S. side of its stand that it can not return to the six-party talks while those war exercises are going on and its view that the talks may be resumed in mid-September when the atmosphere chilled due to the saber rattling is likely to improve. The U.S. expressed understanding of this view.

It is the stand of the DPRK to open the second-phase of the fourth six-party talks in the week beginning on September 12 when one will be able to view that the war exercises have worn down a bit.

This is the utmost magnanimity the DPRK can show under the prevailing situation.

U. S. Urged to Roll Back Its Hostile Policy Toward DPRK

Pyongyang, August 27 (reprinted from the Korean Central News Agency -- KCNA)

Some days ago, the U.S. chief executive appointed former presidential aide Lefkowitz as "envoy for the human rights issue of north Korea." Supporting this appointment, a spokesman for the White House said it would help somebody redouble his efforts to improve human rights situation and reinforce the U.S. efforts. In this regard Rodong Sinmun Saturday says in its signed commentary:

"The appointment proves that what the U.S. had said before its dialogue partner does not agree with what it has done later. This, at the same time, indicates that the U.S. policy to bring down the "system" in the DPRK has gone over to the phase of practice from the legislative phase.

Such U.S. behavior is a very disturbing act as it is little short of challenging the DPRK which has shown generous magnanimity and flexibility for a solution to the nuclear issue and an act of throwing a hurdle in the way of the six-party talks. The U.S. seems not to be interested in the dialogue and the settlement of the nuclear issue at all but more keen on standing in confrontation with the DPRK and bringing about a "regime change" and "bringing down the system" in the DPRK. If the U.S. persists in such behavior, it will compel the DPRK to change its mind. The U.S. should abolish at once such unreasonable post of "envoy" and abandon its ambition to "bring down the system in the DPRK."

Pamphlet Available:

***Reference Material on
Korea***

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