Bridging the Gaps
Nodudol for Korean Community Development
SEUNG HYE SUH

One wintry Sunday in New York City, the Nodudol center crackled with energy. Biting cold outside gave way to the warmth of people moving around, taking off and putting on their shoes as they entered or left, as one activity gave way to the next. Good thing the mood was warm, because the heating system left something to be desired.

Founded in April 1999, Nodudol’s mission is to promote the self-determination and unification of the two Koreas and the Korean people through community development and grassroots organizing. The word “Nodudol” comes from the Korean language and has multiple meanings: “stepping stone; home, opening, entryway; bridging; love and longing in separation; reunification.” Nodudol seeks to bridge the divisions of war, national, gender, class, language, and generation by creating a broader definition of what it means to be Korean. With a perspective that critically analyzes the impact of imperialism, patriarchy, heterosexism, racism, and capitalism, Nodudol seeks to build solidarity between Koreans and the struggles of other peoples as part of the larger movement for progressive social change. Nodudol believes in a Korean community based on a common vision of democracy, social and economic justice, and self-determination.

A Day in the Life of Nodudol

Noon: Eight people gather around the table in the center of the room. Part of Nodudol’s Community Health Program, they trade tips on welcoming people on their first visit to the clinic. “Don’t ask ‘do you want a glass of water?’! They’ll say ‘no’ to be polite; give it to them.” In response to the corporatization and dehumanization of health care, exorbitant costs, and the government’s continued denial of universal health insurance, Nodudol has launched a people’s clinic that provides free basic health care to uninsured, low-income immigrants.

Nodudol is supporting the establishment of the clinic on its own. It will be a center for services but also a place for community members to unite around health issues affecting us all and find collective ways to fight and live with illness, demand affordable health care, organize for access, and live healthy lives. Nodudol sees community-led institutions as critical to long-term change.

1:15 PM: Three others meet in back to plan organizational culture workshops. Though busy with meetings and organizing work, members know that organizational culture, along with the mission and principles, are at the center of the work and the people who make it happen.

2:55 PM: Folks climb the stairs one by one for the immigrant workers English class. The topic for the day, based on class members’ suggestions, is signs like “take 20% off originally marked price,” “15% off—Discount taken at the register”: not easy even for native English speakers. Classes are not only language learning but also acquiring knowledge working people need for life in the US. At Nodudol as at many social justice organizations based in immigrant communities, they are part of long-term base-building. Though the program is new, several class members have begun to get involved in other Nodudol activities.

4:30 PM: A bevy of jackets drapes the rickety metal wheeling coat rack. Sahn, at 17 months one of Nodudol’s youngest members, uncaps a dry-erase marker and starts scribbling on the white board as he’s seen many do before (only the bottom two inches are within his reach). Sahn’s par-

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Bridging the Gaps

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ents were active in Nodutdol before he was conceived, and their continued central involvement means that Nodutdol has become a place where babies and toddlers are welcome. Everyone is committed to Nodutdol being a center for people in different stages of life. Even as the Korean Youth Action Program (KYAP) brings low-income, recently immigrated high school students into the organization, older members remain active, their roles evolving.

6:30 PM: Mostly new faces now gather at the table for a political study session on the US-DPRK (North Korea) military crisis. Nodutdol organizes, educates, and advocates for peace in Korea, in part by making visible the peace movements in those countries to the American Korean community and the US government.

Last year, Nodutdol joined with organizations in South Korea and regionally at the July 27 Coalition to End the Korean War, a campaign to raise awareness about the 50th anniversary of the armistice and call for a peace treaty to end the war. The US and North Korea are still at war, still enemies, since 1950. South Korean activist allies came to Washington DC; actions organized by Nodutdol and others were in turn relayed throughout Korea over the internet.

Nodutdol also challenges the mainstream media’s portrayal of North Korea. The media portrays North Korea as belligerent and incomprehensible while overlooking the fact that the largest military power in the world has identified North Korea as a possible target of first-strike nuclear attack and continues to threaten the country. Tonight, people discuss recent developments and fundraising plans to buy medical supplies for North Korea.

Building an Activist Community

Through organizing, education, and advocacy, we seek to build a Korean community active in and informed about the popular struggles for self-determination here and abroad, particularly the movements for democracy and peaceful (re)unification of the Korean Peninsula.

We also seek to bridge differences between different peoples, including divisions between overseas Koreans and those in the homeland. For us, the goal of (re)unification goes beyond the federation of states to include the liberation of and extension of rights to workers, immigrants, women, and people of all sexual orientations. This understanding is based on an active critique of imperialism, capitalism, racism, sexism and heterosexism as they affect the Korean people.

Years of military dictatorship, anti-North Korean propaganda, and a draconian National Security Law in South Korea have left the NYC Korean community fearful and divided, unable to speak out effectively about the social inequalities in our homeland, its division, and the oppressive role that the United States has played in our history. By providing a space to discuss these issues, we seek to build a community that is open to new ideas and supportive of the need for democracy and self-determination. An expanded understanding of the political, economic and social realities of both North and South Korea is of the utmost importance now, especially since tensions between North Korea and the United States have escalated in the wake of George W. Bush’s “war on terrorism” and his inclusion of North Korea in an “Axis of Evil.”

Finishing the Day

9:15 PM: Four people sit on the floor resolving a question about a grant application. Others hammer out a meeting time and location for the March 20th mobilization against the war. Nodutdol is part of a coalition of people of color organizations that mobilized hundreds for the M20 march and rally. Nodutdol’s work with other people of color organizations such as in the Third World Within coalition, with other Korean organizations such as the Korean American Network for Democracy and Unification, and with broad-based national coalitions, such as the antiwar United for Peace and Justice, emerges from awareness that Korean community issues and empowerment are one with the fate of all low-income immigrants, people of color in New York City, and the global struggle for peace.

10 PM: Several people plan a conference call with allies in Los Angeles about ongoing organizing for a national retreat in May for activists working for peace on the Korean peninsula.

Nodutdol is expanding work with groups in other cities to develop a national base to share resources and organize joint campaigns, respond to media, and inform and support one another’s work.

By the time lights go out and the last ones spill out into the windy Queens street it is midnight and the end of a typical day in the life of Nodutdol.

Seung Hye Suh is a member of Nodutdol, which received a grant from RESIST last year. For more information, contact Nodutdol, 37-48 61st Street, Woodside, New York 11377; www.nodutdol.com.

For information and grant guidelines, write to: RESIST, 259 Elm St., Suite 201 Somerville, MA 02144 www.resistinc.org/resistinc@igc.org

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Making Sense of the Korean Crisis

An Interview with Gavan McCormack

MARK SELDEN & STEPHEN R. SHALOM

Gavan McCormack, author of Target North Korea: Pushing North Korea to the Brink of Nuclear Catastrophe (New York, Nation Books, 2004) has published widely on aspects of modern and contemporary East Asia. A research professor at the Australian National University, he is currently also a visiting professor at International Christian University in Tokyo. He was interviewed via email.

Could you summarize political and economic conditions in North Korea?

Until the 1980s, North Korea was one of the more industrialized countries in Asia. Thereafter it has been reduced to penury and near-collapse by a combination of circumstances, some the consequence of its own choices, others beyond its control.

With the end of "socialism" in the 1990s, both Russia and China shifted from "friendly" to commercial terms of trade, which meant skyrocketing prices for North Korea's energy imports, especially oil. The country's heavily chemical and machine intensive agriculture suffered a severe blow, on the eve of a succession of unprecedented climatic disasters - the country became chronically unable to feed its people. Many starved. According to the UN Humanitarian Coordinator for North Korea, four out of 10 North Korean children are now stunted by malnutrition.

North Korea has been blocked by the US and Japan from participation in such multinational institutions as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, denied diplomatic relations with the US and Japan, and subject to sanctions as a "terror-exporting" state. The country is also caught on the horns of the dilemma of desiring to engage much more comprehensively with the global economy and fearing that such engagement might undermine its political and security systems. The biggest change is in the rapidly burgeoning web of ties that link North Korea across the DMZ to its erstwhile bitter enemy, booming South Korea.

The hostilities of the Korean War that ended more than 50 years ago are still suspended only by a temporary "cease-fire" and the economy remains distorted by the priority to military preparation. In 1987, soon after North Korea commenced operation of a gas graphite nuclear reactor for power generation, it seems to have begun diverting the plutonium-containing waste to a weapons program designed to produce its own deterrent, thereby to neutralize the semi-permanent US threat and to bring the US to the negotiating table.

A US attack on its installations was narrowly averted in 1994. North Korea's relations with the US warmed under the Clinton administration, trading its nuclear weapon and missile programs for economic and diplomatic normalization. The advent of the Bush administration plunged all this back to the starting-line.

What has been the significance of the fact that the North Korean leadership has passed from Kim Il Sung to Kim Jong Il?

Kim Jong Il (b. 1942) was groomed for succession long before his father Kim Il Sung (b. 1912) actually passed the reins to him. When Kim Il Sung died in 1994, Kim Jong Il was already in effect running the country. Kim Il Sung had the prestige associated with his role as an anti-Japanese partisan or guerrilla, an anti-fascist fighter. The cult that was built around him rested ultimately on nationalist and internationalist credentials. For Kim Jong Il, however, legitimacy stemmed only from being his father's son. A huge effort had to be launched to legitimize his succession. At his hands, the cult of his father was intensified and extended to the entire family. The entire country was turned into a family monument. Grandiose projects in honor of the Leader and his family were given priority over productive purposes.

Kim Jong Il's dilemma is how to reform his country while somehow retaining power. The more he "reforms" and opens the country, however, the less credible his dynastic and feudal rule becomes.

In 1994, the Clinton administration reached an agreement with North Korea designed to resolve the nuclear controversy. What happened to that agreement?

Under the 1994 agreement known as the "Agreed Framework," North Korea was to freeze its graphite nuclear reactor program, and to hold its 8,000-odd rods of plutonium-containing waste from the reactors in specially constructed ponds, under sealed International Atomic Energy Agency camera scrutiny, in return for two electricity-generating light-water reactors to be built by 2003, and an interim annual supply of 3.3 million barrels of oil. The United States and North Korea agreed to "move towards full normalization of political and economic relations" while the US was to provide "formal assurances to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea against the threat or use of nuclear weapons."

Wrangling over the site and getting the agreement of others to pay for it took several years. As control of Congress passed to the Republicans, who had opposed the deal from the start, the Agreed Framework was sidelined and criticized as misguided Democratic appeasement that should never have been entered into and should not be honored. It took the launch (albeit unsuccessful in achieving orbit) of the Taepodong

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For the neo-conservative group within the Bush regime... North Korea is evil and should be liberated. Where political, economic and historical differences can be negotiated, evil can only be stamped out.

What is the Bush administration trying to achieve with respect to North Korea?

For the neo-conservative group within the Bush regime, history and politics are less important than the moral frame. In their view, North Korea is evil and should be liberated. Where political, economic and historical differences can be negotiated, evil can only be stamped out. Bush himself has made no secret of his loathing for Kim Jong Il, in terms similar to those he used for Saddam Hussein. He has, however, also intimated, in quite contrary mode, that a peaceful, negotiated solution in Korea is possible and even expressed optimism about the prospects. In very crude terms, while the neoconservatives around Cheney and Rumsfeld prefer ultimatum, backed by the readiness to use force, and the president himself is disinclined for compromise, the State Department favors negotiation and cooperation with regional powers.

The current US position—readiness to meet North Korea's security concerns by some form of document and to offer economic aid in return for complete, verifiable and irreversible abandonment of its nuclear programs—is a big step forward from that enunciated by James Kelly in 2002 and 2003. Indeed on the face of it this is close to what North Korea seeks (though it fudges the key issue of full diplomatic normalization).

How would you assess the Bush administration's strategy?

Two major contradictions affect US/North Korea policy, nuclear on the one hand, strategic on the other. The US wants to maintain nuclear-based hegemony over the earth, and indeed over the universe, while blocking any new countries from joining the existing nuclear club.

The second contradiction is between short and long-term US objectives. Regime change in North Korea would remove a thorn in the US side, but at the same time it might serve to undermine US regional hegemony. George W. Bush and Kim Jong Il stand in a paradoxically symbiotic relationship. Bush's loathing for Kim, and his nuclear threat, maintains the isolation and siege conditions that allow Kim to legitimize his rule, mobilize nationalist support, and crush opposition. Bush, for his part, rules and reigns over Northeast Asia because Japan and South Korea feel compelled by the North Korean threat to seek American protection and to shelter under Washington's "nuclear umbrella."

It would be sensible for the US, while maintaining the existing security guarantees to both South Korea and Japan, to give North Korea the chance to show if it really does wish to change. Kim Jong Il's avowed desire for opening and normalization should be tested. He should be invited to talks in Washington or Tokyo (or anywhere else) and his willingness to denuclearize put to the test. Attempts to enforce change by issuing demands and refusing negotiation simply will not work. North Korean "face" is an important part of the security equation and a sympathy for the pain and the sense of justice that drive it, however perverted, will be needed for security goals to be met.

The Kim Jong Il regime in North Korea is indefensible, but violent intervention to change it is more likely to lead to the sort of chaos that engulfs Iraq and Afghanistan than to a resolution of problems that, in the last resort, only the Korean people, north and south, can solve. The necessary condition for them to do this is the "normalization" of the Korean peninsula, with problems ignored for far too long finally

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has blighted the lives of North Korea’s people for half a century and created the conditions within which the dictatorship sustains itself.

Mark Selden is the coordinator of Japan Focus and teaches at Binghamton and Cornell Universities. Stephen R. Shalom teaches political science at William Paterson University. Both men are RESIST supporters. An expanded version of this interview is available by visiting the ZNet website: http://www.zmag.org/asiawatch/koreawatch.htm.

Deportation Destroys Families
Secret Repatriation Agreement Disappears Cambodian Refugees

PROVIDENCE YOUTH STUDENT MOVEMENT

A 22-year-old Cambodian immigrant living in Providence, RI, Piseth was not really born in Cambodia. He was born in a refugee camp on the border with Thailand, his parents fleeing the bloody persecutions of the Khmer Rouge. When the militant communist group came to power in Cambodia at the end of the Vietnam War, Piseth and his family immigrated first to San Francisco, then South Providence. They took refuge in a Southeast Asian community itself struggling against poverty, isolation, and a war-torn history.

At 19, Piseth had graduated high school, fathered a child, and became caught up in the gang violence that flourished in his neighborhood. He served a two-year sentence for aggravated assault and, like many incarcerated youth, learned from his mistakes inside prison walls. At the end of his two-year sentence, he was promptly re-arrested by Immigration and Naturalization Service officials on immigration charges and spent another year in an INS detention center. Now, because of an agreement between the US and Cambodian governments signed in March 2002, he faces permanent deportation to Cambodia. “How can I go back?” he asks. “I only speak a little Khmer.”

Piseth is not alone. He is one of about 50 Cambodians in Providence and over 1,400 across the country who have been convicted of what the INS calls “aggravated felonies,” and are now awaiting deportation. Many are young men in their mid to late twenties, the main income earners for their families and fathers of American-born children. Though legal residents, they never became citizens and now find themselves facing a second round of federal punishment that extends beyond the statutory terms of their original sentences. Leng, for example, who served a total of seven years at state prison and INS detention centers for robbing a drug dealer, feels the renewed punishment of deportation is unjust. “Since I got out, I go to school, go to work, stay out of trouble. I’m 28 now. I learned so much. I grew up in prison, my mind is clear. I came out good, I feel that I should be given a second chance.”

Immigration Policies and Realities

In 1996, President Clinton approved the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act, which clamped down on the rights of immigrants, while granting the INS freer reign to police and detain them. It eliminated judicial discretion in the handling of immigration policy and INS procedure and lowered the bar for determining what crimes merit deportation. Before 1996, a non-citizen convicted of a crime bearing a sentence of five years or more was subject to deportation. Now, the bar has been lowered to one year, allowing shoplifting, minor drug possession, and drunk driving to be classified as “aggravated felonies.” Karl Kruger, an immigration lawyer at the International Institute of Rhode Island says, “These are sentences they used to give out like water. Now, because Congress changed the rules, it’s a huge problem. Every week we see people written up for relatively minor offenses.”

Furthermore, the deportation agreement between the US and Cambodia was not reached without some arm-twisting. According to former US Ambassador to Cambodia Kent Wiedemann, the US State Department threatened to withhold visas from Cambodians seeking to enter the US if Cambodia would not accept deportees.

Previously, Cambodians convicted of aggravated felonies could be held in INS detention indefinitely, because Cambodia would not accept them. Narrak, who also grew up in South Providence and was convicted of weapons possession as a teenager, spent four years being shuffled to different INS detention centers, not knowing if he would be released. “They considered you a ‘lifer,’ cause you don’t have a release date,” he explains. For the past year he has been working at a textile factory in Fall River. He works the 11 pm to 7 am shift, then waits for an hour before taking his 5-year-old daughter Angela to preschool. He pays taxes and child support and takes Angela clothes shopping every 2 months. He dreads having to explain to her why he won’t be able to pick her up for school any more if and when he is deported.

While Cambodians are not the only immigrant community to have suffered under the ’96 laws, the current political climate in Cambodia makes their fate particularly precarious. The country has taken steps towards democracy since the nightmarish dictatorship of Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge, but the current Prime Minister, Hun Sen, does not represent a clean break from Cambodia’s violent past. Human rights organizations report that violence and physical repression are still commonplace means of ensuring electoral victory, and incidents of torture and other mistreatment have also
Deportation Destroys Families

been documented in Cambodian prisons.

The deportees also face a hostile welcome from the general public. The Cambodian press has painted them as “dangerous felons,” and many Cambodians harbor resentment towards those who fled to the US during the bloody purges of the Khmer Rouge in the 1970s and 80s. Many people have already been deported to Cambodia and upon their arrival officials hid them at undisclosed locations for fear of mob violence, though no attacks have been reported.

Taking Action

The response of the Cambodian Community in Providence has been mixed. “You can’t get the Cambodian community to do anything until it drops on their head” says Molly Soum. Soum recalls trying to get people to come to the State House during the welfare reform hearings of 1996, which directly affected the amount of aid Cambodian families would receive. “People say, ‘if I go or if I don’t go, nothing will change.’ They don’t believe in government change.”

There are also more conservative members in the Cambodian community who feel deportation is just punishment for Americanized kids who stray from the values and traditions of their elders.

On the other hand, a year-old organization called the Providence Youth Student Movement (PrYSM), has been working heavily on the deportation campaign since early July. PrYSM grew out of an alliance between Hope High School and Brown University students, who protested substandard education at the high school and the resulting low level of admissions for Latino students at Brown. The group is not specifically Cambodian-American but it has opened up a space for many youth of color in Providence to become more active in advocating for their communities. According to Ammala Douangsavanh, a PrYSM member, “The Laotian Association or the Cambodian Society is like the group of elders back in the home country. The youth organizers have more energy and are more creative about getting the message out.”

In early August PrYSM brought over 100 people to the Providence INS office to protest the deportation agreement. They built a large cardboard heart filled with rice and burning incense and children of deportees offered letters to INS security guards, outlining reasons why the deportation procedure is unjust. A rally and BBQ organized by PrYSM this summer drew families from the Southeast Asian communities in Providence and Lowell, Massachusetts, student activists, philanthropist Alan Sean Feinstein, mayoral candidate David Cicilline, and other city council candidates eager to stand in solidarity with their constituents. Ut Doan, a Vietnamese Providence resident who attended the rally, said, “I’m here because my friends are Cambodians. My friend did seven years, he’s been out for three. He’s a good boy, he’s done good, and now they send him a letter that he’s being sent back to Cambodia.”

As Sarah Suong, a cofounder of PrYSM who was born in Thai refugee camps explains, “Cambodian refugees were deposited into pockets of poverty and the community has been struggling ever since its arrival. To deport them is going to increase poverty in their communities.”

For many Cambodians, deportation means the tearing apart of families for the second time. Narrak cannot remember his father, who was taken away by the Khmer Rouge when he was 3 months old. He fears Angola will suffer the same loss once he is deported. “I always want to see his face, how he looks like. My daughter sees me all the time now. If I leave now, when she’s 14 or 15 is she gonna remember my face? I want her to have the chance I never had.”

Providence Youth Student Movement received a grant from RESIST this year. For more information, contact PrYSM, 22 Miller Avenue, Providence, RI 02905. This article appeared in CAAAV Voice (Spring 2003); www.caaav.org.

Struggle on Many Fronts

CHRFP Fights US Intervention in the Philippines

RHONDA RAMIRO

US imperialists! Number 1 terrorists! Gloria’s a puppet! And just another part of it!” shouted the chant-leader from the Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines (CHRFP). As a member of the Filipinos for Global Justice Not War Coalition and the Asian Pacific Islander Coalition Against War, CHRFP helped mobilize a contingent of more than 700 Third World people, youth, queer, and other allies to participate in the March 20th demonstration against the war and occupation of Iraq. For CHRFP—a organization that educates and organizes people in the San Francisco Bay Area to uphold and promote genuine human rights for the Filipino people—the necessity of participating in the demonstration was obvious: the US war on—and occupation of—an oppressed nation for the purpose of seizing its resources, toppling opposition to the US’s imperialist agenda, acquiring a strategic location, and advancing US hegemony is reminiscent of the Philippines’ own history of war, colonial rule, and neocolonial control.

For over 100 years, the US has been waging a war against the Filipino people. It began with the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1898 and the Filipino-American War from 1898-1902, which resulted in the killing of nearly one million Filipinos. Although the US granted the Philippines independence in 1946, the US continues to wield its power over the country through numerous economic, political and military treaties and agreements. The economic and political agreements have provided the basis and means for exploitation of the Philippines’ resources, and the military agreements have provided the muscle to enforce these agreements.

Today, the Bush Administration is using the pretext of the “war on terrorism” to intervene militarily in the Philippines. Over 7,000 US troops plus military advisors have been deployed to the Philippines since No—

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Being committed primarily by Philippine military forces, the US must also be held accountable because the US both arms and advises the Philippine military. As an organization based in the US, CHRP is conducting a campaign to end US intervention in the Philippines and is currently focusing on terminating US military aid to the GRP. The campaign involves educating community members and the public about the brazen human rights violations being committed by GRP forces as a result of US aid, advocating for a shift in the media’s portrayal of US intervention in the Philippines, mobilizing community participation in mass actions and demonstrations, and conducting policy advocacy with Congressional representatives.

While human rights activists are being violently silenced by the GRP, CHRP’s own members have also been targets here in the US, as evidenced by an FBI visit to one of our spokespersons to question him about his involvement in “anti-American” activity. However, activists in the Philippines and here in the US are continuing to organize. Filipino national democratic groups such as the women’s organization GABRIELA, the workers organization Kilusang Mayo Uno (“May First Movement”), and the Alliance of Health Workers are fighting against the re-opening of US military bases, for an across the board wage increase, for a decrease in the Philippines’ debt service and military budgets and an increase in the national health budget. Just as the Philippine movement will not be deterred by the repression, CHRP also is committed to advancing the fight for human rights, freedom and democracy for the Filipino people.

Rhonda Ramiro is the Chair of the Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines in the San Francisco Bay Area and the Chair of the National Organizing Committee of BAYAN-International-USA, an alliance of progressive Filipino organizations in the US. CHRP received a grant from RESIST. For information, contact CHRP, 522 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94110; www.geocities.com/chrpsf.

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GRANTS

RESIST awards grants six times a year to groups throughout the United States engaged in activism for social and economic justice. In this issue of the Newsletter we list a few grant recipients from our April 2004 allocation cycle. For information, contact the groups at the addresses below.

Colorado Peoples’ Environmental & Economic Network (COPEEN)
23332 E. 46th Ave., Denver, CO 80216
www.copeen.org

COPEEN was formed by residents of Northeast Denver in 1994, as a proactive grassroots response to grave environmental injustices perpetrated against their communities. Through education, a quarterly newsletter, and Toxic Tours which give community members an up close look at the manifestations of environmental racism, COPEEN mobilizes and empowers residents, particularly low-income communities of color.

A RESIST grant of $3,000 will fund the production of outreach fliers, fact sheets, materials for community forums, and the annual environmental justice conference, which will be used to educate and mobilize communities to resist a proposal to expand Interstate 70 that would disproportionately burden low-income communities of color.

Lynne Stewart Defense Committee
351 Broadway, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10013; www.lynnestewart.org

The Lynne Stewart Defense Committee formed to oppose the April 9, 2002 indictment of veteran criminal defense attorney Lynne Stewart under the USA PATRIOT Act for allegedly conspiring with one of her high profile clients. The Project seeks to raise awareness of crucial legal issues surrounding the threat to the right to counsel for political or unpopular defendants (Sixth Amendment rights) by challenging the political and legal case against Lynne Stewart and by building bridges among various political and social entities in the fight for human rights and civil liberties.

A RESIST grant of $3,000 will provide support for the cost of maintaining the website and printed materials.

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Providence Youth-Student Movement
54 Robin Street, Providence, RI 02908

PrYSM is a grassroots organization that was started in 2001 by a group of multi-racial youth committed to building a powerful anti-racist youth movement in Providence, Rhode Island. PrYSM empowers Southeast Asian youth to become powerful activists, critical thinkers, and leaders working for social justice in the Southeast Asian community and to make connections and participate in a larger youth movement for social justice. The organization also works on a national level, as an integral part of the Southeast Asian Freedom Network, a coalition of grassroots Southeast Asian and youth organizations working together to fight the deportation of Southeast Asians.

A RESIST grant of $3,000 will provide general support to sustain ongoing work and strengthen movement building.

San Diego Military Counseling Project
PO Box 15307
San Diego, CA 92175
www.sdmcp.org

SDMCP is a startup organization initiated by members of the Peace Resource Center, The National Lawyers Guild – San Diego Chapter, the San Diego Coalition for Peace and Justice, and the Military Law Task Force in response to the increase in emotionally distressed and disturbed service members, the increase in the militarization of the San Diego community, and the increase in opposition to military activities. SDMCP, through its phone counseling services and walk-in locations, provides support in the form of document review, discharge information, and emotional support.

A RESIST grant of $3,000 will provide general support for counseling service members so that they know their rights, and support service members involved in individual and collective expression of opposition to the military action.

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☐ Enclosed is an initial pledge contribution of $______.

☐ Please automatically deduct my pledge from my credit card (below).

☐ I can’t join the pledge program now, but here’s a contribution of $______ to support your work.

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May 2004