

HUMAN RIGHTS NOW!

Newsletter of the Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute

<http://mcli.org>



SPRING 2004

HAYWOOD BURNS FELLOW FOR 2004

MCLI gladly welcomes Joel Feinman, first year student at the University of Arizona College of Law as our Haywood Burns Fellow for 2004.

He wrote: "The importance of international law, of the protection and advancement of basic human rights across every border, extending to every man and woman on earth can be stated simply: we live together in unity and with honor, or we meet our fates alone, with only divisiveness and fear as company. I look forward to my time at Meiklejohn because I believe these words to ring true. It is under the law that mankind will find peace -- not the law of conquest, or nationalism or reaction, but the immutable law of justice for all."

Thirteen law students applied for this one internship, from diverse backgrounds but each presented a strongly stated commitment to work on human rights law. Sarah Steadman, Dana Kaersvang, (Paula) Liu Yunge, D. Althea Rodgers, Scott Cavanaugh, Kate Egelston, Kevin Carolan, V. Wynter O-Banquet, Hawa Ghaus, Neda S. Emadipour, David Kloker, Dana Lossia.

We hope that they all keep in touch with us and that each has a chance to come to MCLI at some point in their student and later in their law practice years.

MCLI PRESENTS FIRST CLE in LA

MCLI will present its first Continuing Legal Education program on USING TREATIES TO WIN CIVIL LIBERTIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS CASES at Loyola Law School on March 4th. Prof. Ann Fagan Ginger will discuss 70 cases won in federal and state courts for civil rights litigants based on the UN Charter and three other human rights treaties ratified by the U.S.

She will also discuss how to make an effective complaint to the Office of Inspector General of a federal agency that is taking the wrong action or doing nothing.

For registration, contact Jim Lafferty of the National Lawyers Guild, which is sponsoring the CLE, at (323) 653-4510, or go to the MCLI web page: www.mcli.org.

"CHALLENGING" SEEKS A PUBLISHER

The new MCLI book for activists, lawyers and academics, "Challenging U.S. Human Rights Violations since 9/11" is almost finished and is searching for a publisher!

Part I. The Mobilization of Shame

describes the goals of this book and gives

- A Brief Startling Summary of Actions after 9/11
- What Has Been Missing in Government Actions
- The Real Score in the "War on Terrorism"
- From Reporting on AIDS and Mad Cow to Reporting on Habeas Corpus: why filing reports makes a difference

cont. on page 4

"CHALLENGING" PRIZE WINNER

MCLI is happy to announce the winner of its competition to send the most useful material for a Report to include in the new book, "Challenging U.S. Human Rights Violations since 9/11":

LANNY SINKIN of Hilo, Hawaii for the heartbreaking story of Beate (last name withheld) who was forbidden to re-enter the U.S. to visit her fiancé, Trevor Hughes, a veteran of the U.S. Navy and diplomatic corps. Beate, now a German national, was born in Pakistan.

To say that the choice was difficult is a vast understatement! All of the submissions were helpful and will be used in the book.

We want to thank everyone who participated in the contest or who contributed: Carol Ashley, Elfie Ballis, Barbara Deutsch, Cristian Fleming, Charles Gittings, Bill Goodman, Art Heitzer, Angie Haskell, David Oaks, Devin O'Keefe, Susan Prather, Jack Rendler, George H. Russell, Jeffrey Segal, and Dr. Harold Sweet.

Highlights in this issue:

- High Crimes & Misdemeanorsp.2
- The War Comes Homep.5
- New Forms of Activismp.7
- MCLI Next Generationsp.9

HIGH CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS

In California the City Council of Arcata has asked the House Judiciary Committee to investigate the conduct of the Bush Administration, and the City Councils of Santa Cruz and Berkeley have asked for investigations to determine if there was impeachable conduct.

Two campaigns for impeachment are indeed underway; one with 6 articles of impeachment by Professor Francis Boyle at the University of Indiana (www.impeach-bush-now.org), supported by the National Campaign to Impeach Bush, Cheney, Ashcroft and Rumsfeld, and the other with 17 articles of impeachment prepared by former Attorney General Ramsey Clark (www.votetoimpeach.org), supported by International A.N.S.W.E.R.

The National Lawyers Guild Bay Area Chapter has submitted a Resolution by Doris Brin Walker to the Conference of Delegates of California Bar Association asking the California Congressional Delegation to investigate representations by the Bush Administration used to justify the war in Iraq. The resolution follows, along with the body of the supporting reasons for it.

Resolved, that the Conference of Delegates of California Bar Associations urges California Congressional Delegation to commence a Congressional investigation of representations by George Bush, Dick Cheney, and the Bush Administration, used to justify war on Iraq and Afghanistan to Congress, the United Nations and to the people of the U.S. and the world, without a formal request for Congress to declare war.

Statement of Reasons

Existing Constitutional Law: Power to declare war belongs to Congress, Art. I, Sec.8. The President of the United States, the Vice-President, and all civil and executive officers, Senators, and Congress members must swear or affirm that they will support the Constitution of the United States. Art. III, Sec. I, Cl.8; Art V.

All treaties made under the authority of the U.S. are part of the supreme Law of the Land. Art.VI, Paragraph 2. The United Nations Charter, the Geneva Conventions and other treaties are thus part of the supreme Law of the Land.

The Problem

Congress and the public are entitled to a thorough, independent investigation to determine whether Bush, Cheney, and officers of the Bush Administration have led the U.S. into preemptive war against Afghanistan and Iraq in violation of the "Supreme Law of the Land," thereby violating their oath.

The Bush Administration, contrary to findings by U.S. and U.N. investigators, has made and continues to make false statements to Congress, the U.N., and the U.S. public accusing Afghanistan of responsibility for the 9/11 attack; accusing Iraq of possessing weapons of mass destruction that constitute imminent threat to the safety of the United States, its peoples, and property, and its interests at home and elsewhere in the world, which alleged threat they knew to be false or for which they knew they had no reliable evidence;

through procuring enactment of PATRIOT Act I and parts of PATRIOT Act II, to deprive U.S. citizens and legal residents of their constitutional rights;

authorizing direct attacks in Iraq on civilians, civilian facilities, and locations where civilian casualties were unavoidable, including the use of cluster bombs, designed to spread small explosive devices at substantial distances from the putative target.

The Administration's acts cause needless U.S., British, Iraqi, Afghan and U.N. casualties.

The Administration sent former Ambassador Joseph Wilson to Niger to investigate claims that Niger sold yellowcake uranium to Iraq. After Wilson announced absence of evidence to support the claim, a senior administration official feloniously disclosed that Wilson's wife was an undercover CIA operative.

Immediately after 9/11, dangerous levels of pollutants swirled around the World Trade Center; yet the Bush Administration's EPA falsely assured New York City residents and workers that the air was safe. This false assurance encouraged workers clearing the site and employees in the adjacent financial district to return promptly.

HUMAN RIGHTS NOW! Jim Syfers, Editor

MCLI, P.O. Box 673, Berkeley, CA 94701-0673 Telephone: 510-848-0599, Fax: 510-848-6008

E-mail: mcli@mcli.org Web site: www.mcli.org

MCLI human rights case histories at UC-Bancroft:

<http://Bancroft.berkeley.edu/collections/meiklejohn/project.html>

Draft Impeachment Resolution Against President ... Bush prepared by Prof. Francis Boyle, in memory of Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez, R.I.P. and H. Res. 86, 102nd Cong., 1st Sess., Jan. 16, 1991. (Some words have been abbreviated and duplications have been omitted.)

Article I: In the conduct of the office of President ..., Bush, **in violation of his constitutional oath faithfully to execute the office of President ...** and, to the best of his ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution..., and ... to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, has attempted to impose a police state and a military dictatorship upon the people and Republic ... by means of "a long Train of Abuses and usurpations" against the Constitution since September 11, 2001. This subversive conduct includes but is not limited to:

- trying to suspend the constitutional **Writ of Habeas Corpus**;
- ramming the totalitarian U.S.A. Patriot Act through Congress;
- the **mass-round-up and incarceration** of foreigners;
- **kangaroo courts**;
- depriving at least two U.S. citizens of their constitutional rights by means of military intervention;
- interference with the constitutional right of defendants in criminal cases to lawyers;
- **violating and subverting the Posse Comitatus Act**;
- unlawful and unreasonable searches and seizures;
- violating the First Amendment rights of the free exercise of religion, freedom of speech, peaceable assembly, and to petition ... ;
- **packing the federal judiciary** with hand-picked judges belonging to the totalitarian Federalist Society and undermining the judicial independence of the ... federal court system;
- violating the **Third and Fourth Geneva Conventions and the U.S. War Crimes Act**;
- violating the International Covenant on Civil & Political Rights and International Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination;
- **reinstitution of the infamous "Cointelpro" Program**;
- violating the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, the Convention Against Torture, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- instituting the totalitarian **Terrorism Information Awareness program**;
- establishing a totalitarian Northern Military Command for the U.S.A. itself.

In all of this ... Bush has acted in a manner contrary to his trust as President and subversive of constitutional government, to the great prejudice of the cause of law and justice and ... manifest injury of the people of the U.S.

Article II: U.S. soldiers in the Middle East are overwhelmingly poor, White, Black and Latino and their military service is based on the coercion of a system that has denied viable economic opportunities to these classes of citizens. Under the Constitution, all classes of citizens are guaranteed equal protection of the laws, and **calling on the poor and minorities to fight a war for oil to preserve the lifestyle of the wealthy power elite of the country is a denial of the rights of these soldiers.**

Article III: ... by bribing, intimidating and threatening others including the members of the United Nations Security Council to support belligerent acts against Iraq....

Article IV: ... Bush ... has prepared, planned, and conspired to engage in a massive war and catastrophic aggression against Iraq by employing **methods of mass destruction that will result in the killing of hundreds of thousands of civilians, many of whom will be children.** This plan includes the threatened use of nuclear weapons, and the use of such indiscriminate weapons and massive killings by aerial bombardment, or otherwise, of civilians, violate the Hague Regulations on land warfare, the rules of customary international law ... in the Hague Rules of Air Warfare, the Fourth Geneva Conventions (1949 ...), the Nuremberg Charter ..., the Genocide Convention, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and U.S. Army Field Manual 27-10 (1956). ...

Article V: ... From Sept. 2001 through Jan. 2003, the President embarked on a course of action that **systematically eliminated every opening for peaceful resolution of the Persian Gulf crisis.** Once the President approached Congress for consent to war, tens of thousands of American soldiers' lives were in jeopardy - rendering any substantive debate by Congress meaningless. The President has not received a Declaration of War by Congress, and in contravention of the written word, the spirit, and the intent of the U.S. Constitution has declared that he will go to war regardless of the views of the American people. ...

Article VI: ... Bush ... has planned, prepared, and conspired to **commit crimes against peace** by leading the U.S. into aggressive war against Iraq in violation of UN Charter Art. 2(4), Nuremberg .., Kellogg-Briand, U.S. Army Field Manual.....

VOTING MACHINE MACHINATIONS

Concerns over the security of electronic voting machines appear to be well founded as we learned from our correspondent Leroy Rockwell. Shortly before the Great Recall Election in California the Diebold electronic voting machines in 17 California counties were mysteriously implanted with electronic "patches". According to the Piedmont Post, officials noticed an unusually high number of absentee votes for a virtually unknown candidate for governor. The Oakland Tribune reported that the Diebold company has been given 30 days to explain the matter by the Secretary of State's Panel of Voting Systems and Procedures, meeting on January 15th. Evidently a similar instance of electronic "patching" occurred in 5000 Diebold machines in Georgia, also with some peculiar election results.

The California Secretary of State has mandated a paper record be produced by all electronic machines by 2006. For the forthcoming election in March of this year he has ordered at least seven security measures, including random testing of machines by experts on election day.

MCLI EDITOR MAKES PAGE 1

"From Professor to Protestor" is the page one Week End story in the *Sonoma Tribune* for Feb. 13, with a half-page picture of MCLI editor Jim Syfers sitting in front of books (not a computer screen). Prof. Syfers talked about retiring from his teaching at San Francisco State to work with MCLI as editor of "Human Rights Now!" and with the Sonoma Peace and Justice Committee and its weekly Peace vigil on Sonoma Plaza.

Syfers told the reporter that there are 33 lobbyists in Washington for every member of Congress, with only a handful on the side of peace and justice.

CHALLENGING...

cont. from p. 1

Part II What the People and Their Lawyers Can Do in the U.S.

- U.S. Office of the Inspector General
- U.S. Courts

Part III. What the Government Is Committed & Required To Do

- United Nations Human Rights Committees
- Organization of American States

Part IV Reports on Human Rights Violations now includes 140 Reports in 28 categories.

Part V. Text of Petitions, Resolutions, Ordinances

Part VI. Text of Laws Violated and Ignored.

Publication date is: Very soon.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Enclosed is a small donation for MCLI. ...As far as my activism goes (although I regard my musical life as contributing to peace and harmony) I am very busy with projects with several of my colleagues in France, Japan, India, and Russia re: Anti Nukes and anti-star wars. A book by my friend, J. Sri Raman ("Flashpoint," Common Courage Press, deals with the post 9-11 situation in India and Pakistan and the nuclear threat there.) is out any day now.... My Ukrainian friend Alla Yaroshinskaya and I are working on a Chernobyl project (2006 is the 20th anniversary). In October 2003, I spoke at a conference in Lyon, France -- Journees Desarmament Nuclaires. So I am still very busy, as we all are!

Best wishes, Sally Light

A card attached to a newspaper:

"FYI for your readers... Thanks for all the good work."

Enclosing a *Virgin Islands Daily News* Special Report on "Deadly Force", 44 pages published Dec. 30, 2003 on police misconduct leading to deaths and inhuman treatment in this U.S.-governed territory.

Dr. Patricia Cummins Angell

I have finished reading through the book you gave us on using the "new" civil rights laws. I should be able to add the new material to our website and write reviews that I promised last year. ...

Yesterday I had a conversation with a Fellow at the Center for Economic and Social Research - I suggested she get in touch with MCLI and with you. She is working specifically on the project of establishing the existing legal basis for the "Right to Health Care" here in the U.S. I hope to work closely and cooperative with CESR in this regard. We wish you the best,

Dennis Lazof, Director, Project EINO
www.EverybodyInNobodyOut.org.

"HOW TO USE 'New' CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS AFTER 9/11"

A teacher bought a copy, started using it in her classroom. Then she came in and bought 12 copies to give to all of her relatives for Christmas, including young nieces and nephews because "This may not seem exciting now but you will certainly want to have it later."

THE WAR COMES HOME

Across the nation school budgets are being slashed. The results are brutal. Yet the Bush Administration in 2003 "found" nearly two billion dollars for its "educational drive" to sell the military life to our teen-agers.

As you read this, platoons of recruiters equipped with the latest multimedia consoles are rolling into nearby junior high schools and high schools. Dressed in "sharp" uniforms, strong in their message, reinforced with spectacular sound and visual shows, the recruiters "inform" the youth of the certainties and righteousness of the life dedicated to the "service" of their country.

Backing them up are arrivals of huge, self-contained exhibitions (Military Adventure Vans: www.objector.org/recruiting-vans/army.html) equipped with simulators where the young people can experience the excitement of firing actual high tech weapons. They can realize what many were already introduced to in "America's Army" CDs. These expensive sophisticated computer "war games" are made available free at www.americasarmy.com (caution: you must affirm you are 13 or older), and encourages youngsters to play with other "soldiers" over the internet.

Teenagers are faced with many uncertainties. How to make a living? How to be admired? How to find a direction and purpose in life? In some neighborhoods they face an additional uncertainty -- how to stay alive.

On the one hand, public schools where young people have traditionally found their pathways to the future are weakened. The librarians, the arts, the career counselors and many other mentoring resources are dropped. On the other hand, recruiters are arriving with their smart, forceful, well-rehearsed message -- the military is the way out of uncertainty and lack of self-worth.

In this heavily-funded effort to steer young minds to the military and to its authoritarian mindset and hero-cult conditioning, this drive uses every tactic of merchandising and hard sell -- attractive promises of "GI-bill" education, "career paths" in the military, and choice of location. "Aptitude tests" seem to prove the targeted youth would do well in the military. And the prospect is pressured to "sign up" for the reserve forces and training (Delayed Enlistment Program or DEP) with the understanding that this "contract" will take effect when he or she turns eighteen. And as for a shooting war, joining the reserves has been portrayed (at least before 2003) as not actually like joining the active forces.

This carefully organized sales pitch to deliver a steady stream of compliant, trainable bodies to the war captains is especially impressive as it comes with the authority of the most powerful sector in the most powerful nation in world history. Besides, the PATRIOT Act and others give the armed forces access to lists of students, the right to recruit on campuses, and to have an office in some schools.

All the while, this authoritarian behemoth in the midst of a supposedly democratic setting feels no obliga-

tion to make good on any of the "promises" made by its recruiters. Even the very attractive-sounding Montgomery GI-Bill education offer is discovered on close scrutiny so hedged with limitations and exceptions as to be of little value. The recruiters who must fill quotas for their own advancement are even less obliged to full disclosure than is a used-car salesman.

Our culture is undergoing profound changes. Class distinctions between the super rich, the basic well-to-do and the marginalized two- and three-job workers have become sharply defined. And now we witness the creation of a fourth class, vulnerable to the "economic draft." Fighting the resource wars of empire becomes their only way out of the poverty cycle and drug-fueled wars at home. And so, another round of veterans, their once hopeful young minds and hearts blasted by unspeakable memories, is being added to those already in our hospitals and streets.

How we shall meet this degradation in our culture and its cynical "no child left behind" mantra is a profound question. Fortunately, two successful federal lawsuits opened the way to reach at-risk students. Groups opposed to war and suggesting alternatives to the military can also meet with students on campus. War Resisters League (www.warresistors.org), Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors (www.objector.org), Committee Opposed to Militarism and the Draft (www.comdsd.org), Center on Conscience and War (www.nisbco.org), GI.Rights Hotline (www.girights.org) and others have literature and programs (free for downloading or inexpensive to purchase) to help young people decide whether or not to accept the military and how to get out of the military when their minds have changed.

Many local activists are taking direct action by going into neighborhood schools, tabling at "career fairs" and being present alongside the recruiters to give the young people alternative information and life choices.

The resistance in Iraq will not end soon. U.S. domination of the oil resources of Central Asia has not been disavowed by Republicans or Democrats. Our troops are already based in Georgia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan. Further moves to militarize our youth must be taken as a given. There is now serious talk of reconstituting the nation's draft boards (http://archive.salon.com/news/feature/2003/11/03/draft/index_np.html). Helping young people make life decisions, especially between violence and reconciliation, is one of the most significant actions we can undertake, for them, for our nation and the peoples of the world.

Law offices can be very helpful in notifying young men that they can become Conscientious Objectors when they fill out the required draft forms at age 18. They can help members of the Armed Forces who become COs file the proper papers.

-J. R. Challacombe

PRESENTÉ

To Friends who found time to do their jobs, raise their families, help their communities AND work with MCLI! (Short biographies prepared by their families now going into MCLI archives.)

Anne Weymouth Deirup (1919-2003)

active in the PTA forever, and effectively. After marriage in 1937, she got her degree from UC-Berkeley in City Planning. In the 1950s she helped integrate Woolworth's in Berkeley. In the 1960s she helped convince the Board of Education to turn one segregated black junior high into an integrated 9th grade for all.

In 1960 when she was called before the House UnAmerican Activities Committee she told the Committee members:

"I consider the members of this committee to be dedicated people, and I would very much like to cooperate with this committee. But ...I'm even more convinced that you're dedicated to the destruction of the freedom of thought, the freedom to speak and of assembly and of association. You are dedicated to the preservation of white supremacy and of segregations and of lynchings.

"I, too, am a dedicated, principled individual, dedicated to the preservation of democracy, freedom of thought and association, equality and dignity, for all our people! I am dedicated to the promotion of better education for all of our children. And for peace!"

She declined to answer all of their questions.

Anne was a friend of Ann Fagan Ginger before and after MCLI began in 1965.

James Lerner (1911-2003)

born in a tenement house in Manhattan, young Jim heard about the Experimental College founded by Dr. Alexander Meiklejohn. He got what jobs he could in 1929 and made his way to the University of Wisconsin. He became a life-long friend of Meiklejohn, but could only afford to stay in school one year.

He went on to become National Youth Coordinator of the American League Against War and Fascism and attended the World Youth Congress in 1936 in Geneva, clandestinely going to Spain to cover the war against Franco.

Lerner became editor of the famous "UE News," sent to 600,000 members of the United Electrical Workers Union-CIO before the CIO expelled the UE and 11 other international unions for being too far left. UE is the only one to survive in 2004 as an independent union. (Fur & Leather and Mine, Mill survived by joining other CIO unions; ILWU survived, recently rejoined

the AFL-CIO. Farm Equipment Workers; American Communications Association; Food, Tobacco & Agricultural Workers; United Public Workers; and United Office & Professional Workers were really destroyed.)

Jim Lerner's work made him the first Labor Photo journalist, providing facts mixed with humor.

Mildred Schoenberger (1906-2003)

grew up on the Lower east Side. She earned her BA in Mathematics at Hunter College and started teaching in 1929. She experienced the hungers of the Depression. She saw the people organizing for jobs and Social Security, and peace. When she got a teaching job, she joined the Teachers Union in NYC. She earned her MA in Mathematics Education at Hunter in 1962 and taught Math there until she left for Berkeley in 1970.

In 1980, MCLI put on a symposium: "Are You Now or Have You Ever Been...?" A Critical Look at Matters of Conscience and the Body Politick" 750 people attended, spoke, had their remarks taped, transcribed and edited.

In 1987 MCLI published "The Cold War Against Labor" including "Teachers on Trial" by Mildred Schoenberger. She began with the haunting story of a Union teacher, summoned from her 4th grade classroom to face investigators from the NYC School Superintendent. She went back to the home she had shared with her deceased husband in nonliberal Staten Island and, seeing no hope, committed suicide.

Mildred ended her well-documented history with the court victory in 1982 when NYC paid nearly a million dollars to a handful of fired teachers who had persisted in their lawsuit for damages for being fired for their First Amendment activities.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Did you ever hear the story about the discovery by my late husband, Franklin Folsom, that the CIA was opening his mail to people in Moscow and how his lawyer sued them and got \$1,066. in damages for this abuse of his civil rights? I found the documents in his papers ... if you would like to see them I'll send you a photo copy.

Mary Elting Folsom

NEW FORMS OF ACTIVISM

What happened the last time you went to visit your Congressman or state legislator? Did you get a good hearing that might lead to **ACTION**?

When you walked out of your last "movement" movie or meeting, whether you felt uplifted or down-cast, did you feel that you had actually **DONE** anything about the terrible problem portrayed so well on the screen or by the keynote speaker?

Would you like to know just what **LAWS** people are talking about that you could start using in your political action?

Do you think corporations need to take **RESPONSIBILITY** for the tragedies they cause in communities when they lay off workers?

Four new forms of activism are being tried out in 2004 in Northern California and elsewhere.

LEGISLATORS:

One group made a list of 10 issues they wanted their Legislator to do something about and found one person prepared to discuss each issue. They made an appointment and presented the list at the beginning of the meeting and introduced the person assigned to each issue. The Legislator felt obliged to continue until each person had spoken. It soon became apparent to the Legislator (and her Chief of Staff) that the group was knowledgeable and quite serious. In turn, the Legislator gave the delegation more specific information on the obstacles she faced when she had dealt with the various issues.

Likely outcomes of this approach? Increased awareness of issues, opportunities and obstacles by both sides; improved comfort levels for future interactions stemming from personal introductions and face-to-face contacts; commitments to "next steps" and "action plans" with specific assignments.

MEETINGS:

Activists are taking a new approach to movies and lectures sponsored by peace & human rights organizations. While demonstrations and "crossing the line" are long-standing tactics, what about ending every movement event by standing up and proposing that that group, right then, adopt a motion calling for some action on the issue raised in the movie or presentation?

"I make a motion that we write a letter to Bush (or Senator So-and-So or the editor of the New York Times or ...) and say that "One hundred (or whatever number) of people gathered at (place to see the movie/hear the speaker So-and-So) urge him/her to take immediate action to (whatever ideas come out of the presentation) and that we send copies of this letter to: Pres. Bush, Attorney General Ashcroft, Defense



MCLI
Board
Member
**Yolande
Adelson**

Secretary Rumsfeld, and UN Secretary General Kofi Annan."

This approach turns the end of every gathering into a Town Meeting that takes some action on the issue, rather than simply educating or touching the emotions of each person.

TRAINING SESSIONS:

There are laws the U.S. Government has signed to enforce human rights and to outlaw wars that most organizations are not using in their work. Some NGOs are beginning to hold training sessions on the commitments the U.S. Government made when it ratified the UN Charter, which is a treaty and part of the "supreme law of the land" under the U.S. Constitution (Art. VI, cl. 2). Also International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Nuremberg Principles, the Convention Against Torture, and the Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

For materials, see Order Form on page 11.

LAYOFFS & DOWNSIZING:

What would happen if every corporation had to make a report to its stockholders and to the Secretary of State and to the city councils and public health departments where its workers live before it could propose large lay offs of workers or closing a factory?

The report would include: the percentage of profit expected from the closure (and reopening elsewhere in the U.S. or overseas); the income difference between the CEO and the average worker; the expected increase in suicides, domestic violence, admissions to mental hospitals, divorces, and school drop outs. This is based on statistics on the effects of increasing unemployment by one per cent in M. Harvey Brenner, a study for Subcomm. on Economic Goals and Intergovernmental Policy of Joint Economic Comm., U.S. Congress (1984) GPO Item No.: 1000-B.

NGOs would know what to do on publication of such a report in their community!

Send your comments on all four ideas!

DIRECTOR'S DIARY

Dec. 6: A strong MCLI Board meeting at MCLI. **Emma Dawley** brought her long-time friend, **Yolande Adelson**, who joined the Board as Emma announced her retirement from this activity, to spend more time with her grand daughters.

Dec. 7: **Jeff Melcher** and I made a wonderful trip to **Fresno** ... met with MCLI Alum **Howard Watkins** and old and new Friends of MCLI to celebrate the 55th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. I was happy to report it has become two treaties: International Covenant on Civil & Political Rights (signed & ratified by U.S.) and International Covenant on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights (only signed).

Dec. 10: A warm house party at **Mickey Tennenbaum's** for MCLI old and new friends.

Dec. 14: Presented **Human Rights Day** program at Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists.

Jan. 9: Welcomed **Janet Kobren** to her first day of turning piles of paper into neat **archives of MCLI**, NLG Chapters, cases and issues.

Jan. 13: **A day in Sacramento** with Social Justice Committee of Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists and **Assembly member Loni Hancock and Senator Don Perata**. (See page 7)

Jan. 15: Alameda **Supervisor Keith Carson and Green Peter Camejo** discussed what **we need to do differently** to be more effective in politics now.

Jan. 18: Joined in making up a skit to present at the **Western Workers Labor Heritage Festival**. Heard LA Safeway strikers describe the threat to all U.S. workers if corporations can cut medical coverage for union workers.

Jan. 22: Meeting of **State Bar Committee** of National Lawyers Guild to plan Resolutions for Conference on laws California lawyers should support and oppose. (See pp. 2-3)

Jan. 25: To Berkeley Citizens Action to decide on propositions to support in **March 2 primary**.

Jan. 28: To Hastings Law School for reception for students to meet **Public Interest Law** NGOs.

Feb. 3: Meeting with **Prof. of Law and Humanities of Northeast University of China** to

discuss his interest in how to fund nonprofit organizations working on human rights law. Quickly became apparent the Professor, born in 1963, had no knowledge of U.S. McCarthy period. Showed him FBI file on my activities (all 12 inches). His questions: "Why didn't you sue the FBI for violating your rights?" As to misreporting by NYTimes on National Lawyers Guild: "Why didn't you sue the New York Times?" Clearly the realities of U.S. civil liberties protections and litigation have not been translated into Chinese.

Feb. 7: **MCLI's first Training Session for Activists, Lawyers and MCLI Board members** followed by Board meeting. Exhausting/inspiring! The goal was to present "the laws" that are being violated or ignored by the Administration so that people can start using them in their work. A Richmond, CA **Firemen's Union member** wants to stop deep budget cuts in personnel and equipment that will make it impossible to put out fires. Others emphasized **severe cuts to schools and libraries, endangering our very culture**.

Pros. Leslie Rose and I talked about how to make effective use the UN Charter and three ratified UN treaties on local issues now .

For copies of the materials presented, use the Order Form on page 11.

Feb. 9: Watched MCLI Board member **Victoria Ashley** making her position clear on TV against all capital punishment after the U.S. Supreme Court declined to overturn the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals **stay of the execution of Kevin Cooper**.

Feb. 14: Interviewed by KPFA about Bush's failure to obey the **Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment & Balanced Growth Act** that requires Pres. to tell Congress how he will bring unemployment down to 3 % for adults and 4% for workers under 20 in his budget speech.

Feb. 19: **ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION** arrived, Robert McElvaine, ed. (Macmillan): 2 rich vols. of history & illustrations, incl. my National Lawyers Guild entry.

Feb. 24: Rally of Bay Area Labor 4 Peace & Justice at **Bechtel Corp. to protest "war reconstruction" contracts in Iraq**.

March 18-20: See you in **Sacramento! MCLI party** on Friday night (see back page.) On Thurs. 7 pm I will present "How Marxists Can Use the Law After 9-11" for the Marxist School in Sierra 2 Center, Green Room 279 - 24th Street. Call John Rowntree, (916) 446-4991 or info@marxistschool.org.

MCLI: NEXT GENERATIONS

Transitioning any organization into the next generations is a major task and MCLI is in the process of doing this monumental task. Ann and I keep hearing serious discussions from other organizations about how hard it is to keep the permanence and character of an institution while embracing the transition during this era. Progressive institutions are under attack by right wing political machines and not having a plan is deadly. **We have a plan and we need your help.**

Ann Ginger is retiring in 2005 and is clear about wanting to pass on this institute of Human Rights and Peace Law to a new generation continuing the work for peace and democracy. We want the work of the last 40 years to be remembered and continued.

Our three generational Board is working on this needed transition. We are jumping into the digital age with a new web site design, digital photos in our news letter, MoveOn.org listing the MCLI 11th ed. of the "Human Rights Organizations and Periodicals Directory", and increasing our use of e-mail as a means of organizing events. (To be included, send your e-mail address to: soula@mcli.org)

Help make this transition successful. **Please contribute to the New Director Fund.** Put NDF in the check memo or donate on-line with a credit card.

NEW TO MCLI ADVISORY BOARD

Welcome to the following excellent folks joining our Advisory Board: Marc Van Der Hout, Emma Dawley, Howard Watkins, Wes McGee, and Aileen C. Hernandez

!!HELP WANTED!!

MCLI needs your help ASAP. With Ann's retirement coming up we need to add more people to the volunteer staff. If you, or someone you know has these skills and can help with the following please call!!

Book promotion - Plan the director's trips - maintain our Filemaker Pro data base - Help with our computer network - Host an MCLI house party. Join our crew of activists at task.

LOOKING FOR DONATED COMPUTERS

We need newer computers. Our newest computer is three years old. A two year old computer would be like new to us.



Board Members Zipporah Collins and Pres. Steve Birnbaum at MCLI Board Meeting.

Putting International Law to Use Here & Now

MCLI held a training for use of International Law at the local, state and federal levels at Golden Gate University. Board member Prof. Leslie Rose and MCLI Dir. Ann Ginger spoke to activists, lawyers, and law students from the Bay Area.

Now we know the need is out there and MCLI will be conducting Continuing Legal Education classes and Trainings for Activists.

If you want to bring MCLI to your area for a CLE or Activist Training Session, please contact us. Also, see below for already scheduled events. Th., March 4 CLE in LA

Upcoming MCLI Events:

Fri., March 5 Party in LA (see back cover)
Sat., Mar. 6 Int'l Women's Day with WILPF, LA
Th., March 18, 7pm presentation in Sacramento (see page 8)
Fri., March 19 Sacramento Party (see back cover)
May 8 (Mother's Day for Peace) in Berkeley
June 11-13 in NYC
June 24 -28 in San Diego, CA

THANK YOU AMY ROGERS FOR A WONDERFUL WEB PAGE UPDATE!

Thanks to the dedicated volunteer work, skill and talent of Amy Rogers, MCLI debuted its new web page on Feb. 12th, Lincoln's B-day. All suggestions, correction, changes will be gratefully accepted! Send comments to webmaster@mcli.org

Note: All donors automatically receive the quarterly Human Rights Now! Subs without donation are \$15-\$25/year.

**FRIENDS OF MCLI WHO HAVE GIVEN GENEROUSLY SINCE DECEMBER '03
YOUR SUPPORT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

New Director Fund

Yolande Chambers Adelson • Jacquelin Pilar • Christine K. & Howard K. Watkins

Donations of \$1,000 or more

Yolande Chambers Adelson • Leslie Rose • Sally Rainer & Stan Brandebury

Donations of \$500 or more

Steven Birnbaum • Jeffrey W. Loo • Kazan, McClain, Edises, Abrams, Fernandez Lyons & Farrise Fnd •
Debbie & Mickey Tenenbaum • Pheobe A. Watts • Warren B. Wilson, Victorian Legal Center •
Holiday Inn Metrodome, Minneapolis MN for goods & services

Donations of \$200-499

Seth & Lorrie Chazin • Alvin & Rochelle Dorfman • Elizabeth Guarnieri •
Dana & Jesse Lehman • Laura Shaw Murra
(\$1,000 Law Intern Grant from Yolande Adelson, Steve Birnbaum, & Nancy Hormachea)

Donations up to-\$200

Wilbur Albright • Elaine Allen • Autodesk • Leo Baefsky • Alan & Ruth Barnett • Eugene Baron •
Aaron & Della Belansky • Charles & Leslie Berger • Gerald Bill • Fay Blake & H. Newman •
Lydia Blanchard • Miriam & Leon Bloomberg • Eleanore Bluestein • Blair Boyd & Kirsten Falke-Boyd • Madeleine Bratt •
Muriel & Allan Brotsky • Cynthia S. Brown • Elizabeth R. Brown • Gail Brown •
Mildred & Julian Chazin • Donnell Choy • Ruth Colburn • Stuart & Beverlee Cutler • Mario D'Angeli • Mike & Patricia
Devito • MacGregor Eddy • Ruth Fallenbaum • Jane Fehlberg • Herbert Fisher •
Solomon Fisher • Carla Y. Garrett • David Gassman & Patricia Seffens • Paul Z. Goldman •
William Gordon • Calvin Grigsby • Richard Grosboll • Samuel Handelman • Betty & Raymond Halpern • Liz Helenchild •
Leon & Ginette Henkin • Nancy Hormachea • Todd Howland • Joyce Huggins •
Jewish Community Federation of SF • Louis Katz & Judith Ganz • Brooks Katzman • Barbara Kessler • Candace
Kilchenman • Hanny Leitson • Leon Lefson • Sydell Lemerman • Marjorie Leonard •
Sheila Lichtman • Lee Liddle • Sally Light • Al Mangan • Ken McCarthy • Marcia & Victor McLane •
Wes McGee • Steve Metalitz & Kit Gage • Robert T. Miller • Mark S. Mishler • Edgar Monk •
Claudia Morcom • Kevin Morford • Jeanne Nunn • Diana Obrinsky • Nancy Rae Palmer •
Dorothy Patterson • Paul Peloquin • Jacquelin Pilar • Renee Potik • Vivian Rainieri • Alice Richards •
Ruth Roemer • Marcia Roth • Albert & Dorothy Rothfarb • S. Claire Rothenberg • Donald Sarason •
Joel & Donna Schaffer • Frances Schreiber • Marie Schutz • Harvey Schwartz • Celia Scott •
Susan Severin • Kathryn Smick • Francis Steadman • Marvin Stender • Laura Stevens • Maria Stevenson •
Kathryn & John Swackhamer • Constance de la Vega • Leonore & Theodore Veltfort • Pat Welch •
Lucile Wheaton • Lorelee Windsor • Stephen Wong • James Wynhausen • Viola Young • Elizabeth Zall

\$\$ EASY MONTHLY DONATION BY CREDIT CARD \$\$

Make your donations and pledges to Meiklejohn monthly by credit card. You now have the option to sign up once and make manageable payments. This makes it easier for you and the funding more predictable for our budgeting. Use the enclosed donor envelope to send us your info, or call 510-848-0599. It's easy!

A donation of \$25 per month not only gives you a sense that you are making a difference in the world, but you can get a gift copy of any of our published works. A full listing is available online at: <http://mcli.org/store>

MEIKLEJOHN CIVIL LIBERTIES INSTITUTE

MCLI publications that I want to order:

qty. amt.

NEW!

• **Challenging U.S. Human Rights Violations Since 9/11:** what to do about arrests, beatings, censorship, deportations, detentions without charges, disappearances, enemy combatants, firings, student visas, surveillance, library checks--all violate U.S. & UN laws. 400 pp. Pub.date Spring '04 *Pre-pub* **\$25.00** _____
+ postage & handling

• **Human Rights Organizations & Periodicals Directory: '03-'04.** *Individuals/NGOs:* \$55.00 _____
Libraries/Institutions: \$125.00 _____
Invaluable descriptions of 1,200+ groups, incl. internships, subject and geographical indices.

• **How To Use 'New' Civil Rights Laws After 9-11** The basic book on Exec. Orders, PATRIOT Act, FBI/CIA actions, for activists, lawyers, teachers, media. Full texts of U.S. Const., UN Charter, 8 ratified treaties, sample complaint, ordinance. (320 pp.) MCLI. Nov. '02. \$36.95 _____

NEW!

• **How To Use Human Rights & Peace Law Today. For MCLI Training Session** FREE _____

• **MCLI Issue Sheets** (Shadow Report) for 1st U.S. Report to UN Committee on Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in and by the U.S. ('01) \$12.00 _____

• **MCLI Issue Sheets** on U.S. Violations of **Convention Against Torture.** (1999) \$12.00 _____

NEW!

• **Socially Responsible Cities:** Nuclear Weapons Free Zone, Immigrant Rights, Human Rights Ordinance, Precautionary Principle, Resolutions against PATRIOT Act and war in Iraq. **2003 Edition**, revised & updated. \$20.00 _____

• **The Cold War Against Labor.** MCLI, reissued. (2 vols.). A rich anthology. \$10.00 _____

• **Carol Weiss King: Human Rights Lawyer (1895-1952).** By A.F. Ginger. (1993) **\$5.00** ~~\$10.00~~ _____

• **Nuclear Weapons Are Illegal: The Historic Opinion of the World Court & How It Will Be Enforced.** (14 judges' opinions) By A.F. Ginger. (1998) \$20.00 _____

• **Alexander Meiklejohn: Teacher of Freedom.** Cynthia Stokes Brown. MCLI, 1981. \$20.00 _____

Yes, I want to help: I am contributing \$ _____ to the New Director Fund

I am making a tax-deductible donation of \$500 \$250 \$150 \$100 \$75 \$50 \$ _____

I am subscribing to the *Human Rights Now!* Quarterly newsletter for 2004 (\$15-\$25)

Name (please print)	MCLI New Director Fund _____
Street address	Donation to MCLI _____
City	MCLI newsletter (\$10-\$25) _____
State	Book Total _____
Zip	Shipping/Handling: _____
Phone #	Orders up to \$39: \$10 _____
E-mail	Orders \$40 and up: \$15 _____
VISA / MASTERCARD	CA add 8.25% sales tax _____
Exp. Date	TOTAL AMOUNT _____

Make checks payable to MCLI. Send payments with order form to:
MCLI, P.O. Box 673, Berkeley, CA 94701-0673,
(510) 848-0599, Fax (510) 848-6008, mcli@mcli.org
 Order online at website: www.mcli.org
MCLI cases at UC-Bancroft:
<http://Bancroft.berkeley.edu/collections/meiklejohn/project.html>

The Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute
Human Rights Now!

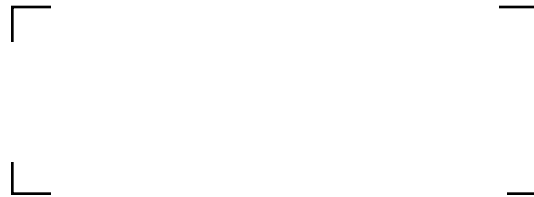
P.O. Box 673
Berkeley, CA 94701-0673
www.mcli.org



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Berkeley, CA
Permit No. 901

Return Service Requested

TIME VALUE!



MCLI CLE in LA

at Loyola Law School, Room 249

with Ann Fagan Ginger on Thurs.,

March 4th 7:40-9:40 pm.
(2 hours' credit)

For details, call Jim Lafferty,
National Lawyers Guild,

(323) 653-4510, sponsoring bar association.

and

PARTY FOR MCLI IN LA

Fri. March 5th, coffee and social hour
6:30 pm, program 7:30 p.m.

939 San Vicente Blvd., Santa Monica
with Ann & Yolande & Jan
at Jan and Jerry's Place

Seating is limited, please RSVP if possible:

(310) 458-7213



Please Renew Your Subscription Now for '04

We need your support to keep this information flowing.

Sending your \$15 - \$25 check helps to barely cover the costs of keeping this newsletter going.

SACRAMENTO PARTY

with AFG & MCLI Alums

Potluck dinner for MCLI

Friday, March 19, 6-8 pm

Southside Park CoHousing Common House
behind 330 T Street

Sacramento

Please RSVP to: Susan Scott

(916) 446-5066

