

BLOOD MONEY TRAIL

In the world today most people know that corporations will do just about anything to make a dollar and sell a product, but most people don't know to what extremes these companies will go. When Adolf Hitler came to power, his programs of execution and genocide against the Jews, Slavs and other people were given a big boost by a little company based in the United States called International Business Machines.

Thanks to IBM, Hitler was able to categorize and execute millions of people across Europe. Whenever you see a surviving Holocaust victim with a number tattooed on their arm, that number is a testimony to the two or more IBM workers that were stationed at every camp. Whenever you think of the efficiency that the SS had in locating, finding, and deporting millions of pre-screened and selected individuals, that was actually the work of a New York-based corporation sending millions to their deaths based on a punch card system that they invented and maintained for the Third Reich. What's even more amazing is the fact that this corporation was never punished by anyone until 2004 when five gypsies sued IBM for their role in the genocide of millions of men, women and children.

Even today, though our world is fraught with examples of atrocities that are done with the compliance of corporations trying to make a buck. In the Sudan, have you ever wondered how half trained militias and warlords are able to afford the weapons necessary to continue their wholesale slaughter of millions of Christians and Animists? Have you ever thought it odd that these heartless bastards can afford to purchase Mig-29s and other aircraft in a country where the average income per year is only 200 dollars?

Well obviously the Sudan sits on a very large reserve of oil, and multi-national corporations have been lined up since the 80s waiting for their chance to dip into the oil profits. Just as with IBM and the Nazis, the janjaweed militias are able to commit horrendous acts of violence with the assistance of those who base life solely on profit alone.

In East Timor, after independence from Portugal, up to 25% of the population was executed by the Indonesian military. In some areas, entire villages of people were herded into school buildings which were then burnt down. East of the capital on Areia Branca Beach, thousands of women were rounded up and shot and dumped into the sea. Because of this slaughter in 1976, The Phillips Group signed a deal to develop the oil fields in East Timor. In 1977, with U.S. made military air craft, Indonesia began slaughtering the civilians of East Timor on an even larger scale. Immediately afterwards, Phillips, Exxon, and Indiana Standard Oil signed development rights worth 100 million dollars.

In Iraq, Armenia, and other countless countries across the world, violence on a scale and horror that most people can't even imagine is being committed with the aid of capitalists selling morals for a dollar. Halliburton, United Defense, Siemens AG, Exxon, General Electric, and a list of about 100 other corporations have killed for profit. Whether you are forcing starving farmers in the third world to buy your patented seeds, making the nuclear triggers for every nuclear weapon in the United States or inventing a card punching system for the Nazis, corporations kill. It's just not often that their boards and stock holders think of the lives lost instead of the money made. •

State of Disunion

NUMBER OF BARRELS Southern Sudan produces a day: 500,000	NET AMOUNT OF OIL REVENUES in Sudan in 2005: 773,150,000
NUMBER OF PEOPLE in the world considered refugees by the UN: 22,000,000	NUMBER OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (not including economic reasons) worldwide: 25,000,000
NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT IDENTIFY as Native American (in America): 6,000,000	NUMBER OF REGISTERED tribal members: 1,200,000
ESTIMATED NUMBER OF NATIVE AMERICANS before 'discovery' of the Americas: 112,000,000	AMOUNT OF DOLLARS Phillips Petroleum invested in the East Timor oil fields: 1,400,000,000
APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF people killed during The Holocaust (including non-Jews): 11,000,000	APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF SUDANESE that have died as a result of conflict since March 2003: 181,000

CALL TO ACTION

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ACCIDENTAL GENOCIDE?

In this anniversary of Columbus' "discovery" of the New World, we hear a great deal of debate about the genocidal intention of the Europeans toward indigenous populations in North and South America. Many point to the effect of genocide that coincides with the arrival of Europeans as proof of the genocidal intention of the Europeans. Others rise to the defense of the European conquerors by suggesting that the genocide was the effect, not the intention of the invaders. Regardless of who is right, the indigenous are still dead. Intentionality is difficult to prove in the best of circumstances, and few admit to genocidal intentions. We may never solve such a dispute, but that does not mean we can't reflect on the mechanisms of genocide to learn how to avoid the "unintended" consequences of genocide.

There are the obvious mechanisms of genocide such as military conquest exemplified by the Wounded Knee Massacre in 1890, and the Sand Creek Massacre right here in Colorado. The intentions of these actions are made less ambiguous when a militia commander from Denver is quoted as yelling, "Kill them all, nits breed lice". Not much gray area there, but you don't have to lead a military charge to commit acts of genocide to the indigenous population of North America, a genocide that continues to this day. Here are a few other ways the United States has participated in the genocide of the first nations of this continent.

DISEASE — small pox has killed far more of the indigenous population than any military charge.



STARVATION — forcibly removing a population from their homeland and traditional means of feeding themselves is a pretty effective way to eliminate them through starvation. Over 1/3 of the Cherokee population forced off their lands in Georgia and Alabama to march the "Trail of Tears" toward Oklahoma died in route. Let us not forget the attempts to starve the Sioux by destroying their economic base with the wholesale slaughter of the buffalo herds.

SPIRITUAL — As a minority religion, Native American beliefs have often been the subject of government denial from the refusal to recognize the claims of sacred space on Mt Graham in southeast Arizona to the banning of the ghost dance. From the conversion campaigns of Christianity to the denial of the right to consume the sacrament of peyote in Employment Division vs. Smith.

LANGUAGE — The native languages were suppressed in the BIA schools that waged a war on the minds of young Native Americans after they were kidnapped from their parents and sent to these schools.

CONFINEMENT/SPATIAL DEATH — The confinement of Native Americans in the American gulag system known as the reservations contributed to the demise of a resistant spirit from the Nez Pierce to the Apache. Most reservations were not selected because of their connection to traditional homelands, but assigned to the indigenous populations because they were seen as ugly or wastelands.

GOVERNANCE — Traditional forms of political and social organization were banned in the name of spreading democracy through the 1934 Indian Reorganization Act.

POVERTY — The highest unemployment rates in the country can be found on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota (80%). The decaying infrastructure on these reservations is legendary and pervasive.

DEATHS BY DEFINITION — indigenous populations have historically been defined in opposition to Western values. They have been labeled "Savage," "uncivilized," "wild," "hedonistic," "lazy," "welfare cases," "drunken," and even "cannibals"

In short, we have denied them everything we agree is part of being human in the Western world. This "accidental" genocide has been systematic and one of the greatest human rights violations in history. If we continue to deny their humanity through techniques listed here, then actual genocide is an afterthought and the living are already dead. •

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“THE” HOLOCAUST?

What do you think of when you hear the word “holocaust”? Do you think of “The” Holocaust automatically, the one that killed 5.8 million Jews? Chances are very high that you do. But did you know that Hitler also killed 5 million non-Jews, mostly Slavs, Gypsies, and Catholics? The well developed Holocaust mythology does a good job of persuading the world that only Jews were killed at Auschwitz, and that they are the only travesty worth mentioning.

But history shows that there have been many genocidal incidents in the 20th century, and some even earlier. For example, Russia killed over three million German civilians in the last three months of World War II. Turkey killed one and one half million Armenian civilians in just six months in 1915.

Our recent generations have not heeded the call of “never again.” In just two months in 1994, 900,000 Tutsi were killed by Hutu tribesmen in Rwanda. During this short but incredibly bloody

season, 350,000 Tutsi were dismembered by Hutus, who cut off legs and arms of innocents with impunity.

The big numbers don’t always tell the whole story. Between 1979-81, over 165,000 East Timorese were killed by Indonesian troops, with American assistance. This tiny country had only 600,000 total residents, so the genocide killed fully 25% of the population.

But for big numbers, look to the Belgian Congo, from 1891-1911. Approximately 9 million Congolese were systematically slaughtered. Be honest; have you even heard of these tragedies? We certainly don’t see them represented in our history books.

No history of genocide is complete without mentioning our own dark past in the United States. 3.9 million natives were killed from 1850-1900 alone. Triple that figure and you can include all the destruction from the time of the pilgrims on, not counting the sheer numbers of Natives who succumbed to new diseases or who died in territorial prisons.

Let’s not forget the African slaves, forcibly transported to America. Ten to twelve million slaves died aboard slave ships in the dreaded middle passage. How many were starved or beaten to death on plantations during slavery’s brutal and ugly reign in America? We will never know.

These numbers do not include all the genocides of history. At least one more hidden holocaust deserves mention, though. Approximately 8.5 million non-Christians were executed during Europe’s burning times.

So, the next time someone talks to you about “The” Holocaust, you ask them which one they are referring to. The Jewish Holocaust did occur, and it was horrible. However, when we use the phrase “never again,” we must not limit it to include only Jews. It’s already been broken several times over. •



**EVERY
THANG’S
GONNA
BE ALL
WHITE**

Every Sunday • 6PM

Weekly Vegan Dinner. We’ll cook the main dish. Please bring a vegan side dish, dessert, or drink. Dinner starts around 6:30PM. *The Confluence Collective (1450 Elm).*



Every Friday • Noon

A Voice of Reason holds a lunch hour peace vigil to end the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. *At the intersection of 12th and North.*

FEELING THE EFFECTS OF COLONIALISM

The migration and displacement of people around the world is fast becoming a global issue. Today, more people are moving across borders (or in the case of internally displaced persons, from rural to more urban areas in their own country) than ever before in history. This issue is at the forefront of U.S. politics in response to increased immigration from south of the border.

When we look at who is migrating (for reasons other than recreation) the majority of those folks are moving from the poorer rural areas to cities, or on a larger scale, from the underdeveloped countries to the developed countries—from the Third World to the First World. For example, today in China those moving from rural to urban areas number around 80-100 million people. To look at this issue without taking into account the complex history of colonialism is to overlook those very events in which we are experiencing the backlash today. Many of the underdeveloped nations were exploited heavily during the colonial era by the developed nations. Now these folks are looking for a better life, since the option of staying where they are at is less desirable than leaving. The United Nations distinguishes migrants and refugees—refugees being those who are fleeing persecution. Migrants aren’t seen as being in danger, but their reasons for leaving are just as much a need and a desire to survive.

People leave their countries or homes for a variety of reasons, and one cannot pin point one reason alone. War, lack of economic opportunities, health, environmental problems, and social (in)stability are just a few of the reasons people migrate. In the United States, there are approximately 8.7 million illegal immigrants. Immigration from Mexico and other countries south of the U.S. can be attributed mainly to economic considerations. After the implementation of NAFTA in 1994, it has been more difficult to maintain a sustainable existence in Mexico. People cross the borders in hope of finding better economic opportunities to support their families.

Instead of using funds to alleviate some of these reasons for migrations, governments seem more willing to spend more to deal with migration or displacement after the fact. Governments aren’t asking crucial questions as to why so many people are moving around. Immigration quotas and other legal restraints on immigration are merely

band-aids for the larger problem of the home country’s inability, for a variety of reasons, to meet the needs of their population. It is getting more difficult for those crossing borders as the influx of people create pressures on those countries in which people are migrating to.

It seems that the main underlying issue in the migration debate is instability. When people are unstable in economic, social, health, or environmental situations, they will do what is necessary to create stable conditions for themselves and their families. Today, war is a defining feature of the instability of many countries. Millions of people have fled the violence and death that war wreaks on nations and people. Over forty armed conflicts are taking place today and about half of those are major conflicts. About 92 percent of armed conflicts since the ‘50s have taken or are taking place in developing countries.

The effects of a capitalist economy have been devastating to many countries. Structural Adjustment, a program of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, was implemented to alleviate the rise in poverty. This program has backfired in many of the countries in which it was implemented such as Poland and the Philippines. In the capitalist system, profit is always number one. If one is not continuously increasing profit every year, they are failing as capitalists. The division between rich and poor is ever increasing. This system does not work for the People. It benefits the few at the expense of the masses.

It is up to the world community to address this issue on multiple fronts. The developed countries need to take responsibility for much of the concerns around migration and allocate money to prevent the need for migration in the first place. When communities and nations are stable, less migration takes place. There needs to be a global response to deal with the effects of disease, war, and environmental factors plaguing the developing nations. Focusing on education, health care, and developing economic opportunities in developing countries can do much to alleviate migration. This can put the First World on the path in righting the wrongs wrought on the Third World during colonialism and the subsequent effects of forced capitalist ideologies and practices. •



Saturday, October 7 • 9:30PM

A punk and metal show featuring Angelic Deficiencies and Bastard Trash (From Denver) will be held at the *The Confluence Collective (1450 Elm).*



Wednesday, October 11 • 7:30PM

Grand Junction Alternative Media’s Documentary Series #3 presents, “Zapatista”

Saccomanno Lecture Hall, Mesa State College