

ATTENTION ACTIVISTS!

DENNIS KUCINICH'S H. RES 333, for the impeachment of Vice President Dick Cheney, has progressed to the House Judiciary Committee, after an attempt to table (kill) it was surprisingly rebuffed, thanks largely to a majority of Republicans, who apparently wanted to make the Democrats handle the hot potato with an actual debate and vote. The time is now to pressure members of the committee to take action on the resolution, and pressure members of Congress to join the 21 representatives who have joined Kucinich as co-sponsors. Check out www.impeachcheney.org, a good source of updates, links, and info on the bill, and Kucinich's own page at <http://kucinich.house.gov/Issues/Issue/?IssueID=3750>

•**SHAKE UP THE 2008 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION** by attending your primary or caucus in the winter/spring (in Colorado, the caucus is February 5th) to vote and speak on behalf of progressive, antiwar candidates! Democrats Dennis Kucinich and Mike Gravel have been strongly against the War in Iraq from the start, and Bill Richardson has pledged that he would withdraw all forces, with no residuals left behind. On the Republican side, Ron Paul has challenged Rudy Giuliani's ignorance of the role U.S. foreign policy has played in provoking terrorism, and has identified the occupation of Iraq as a "no-win police action." Join Red Pill members who are caucusing in Colorado for Paul and Kucinich, and take advantage of low participation in primaries, which makes the primaries and caucuses a unique opportunity for individuals to have a voice.

•**WEBSITE TO CHECK OUT:** A new website, www.911blacklist.org, takes on the issue of media complicity in spreading misinformation about, and aiding in the cover-up of, 9/11 and the "War on Terror." The goal of the site is to create a resource to help activists identify advertisers who support corporate media outlets like Fox News and CNN, and then boycott and pressure those advertisers with the goal of getting them to withdraw their advertising.

The site is looking for people to help by participating in the boycott, watching TV to help identify advertisers, and contacting those advertisers.

BE THE MEDIA!

State of Disunion

NUMBER OF
AMERICAN FEMALE
CASUALTIES
in Iraq so far:
100

NUMBER OF
AMERICAN
WOUNDED
SOLDIERS
in Iraq:
28,451

AMOUNT TOP
CONTRIBUTOR,
Google Inc. has
contributed to Ron
Paul's campaign:
22,250

NUMBER OF DAYS
Bush has left in office:
407

NUMBER OF ACOMA
INDIANS
that died in battle on
January 22, 1599, during
the Pueblo Revolt:
800

NUMBER OF
REFUGEES
from Iraq due to the
Iraq War:
4,000,000

TOTAL NUMBER
OF AMERICAN
CASUALTIES IN
IRAQ:
3,886

AMOUNT TOP
CONTRIBUTOR,
DLA Piper (lawyers) has
given to Hillary Clinton:
356,000

YEAR IRAN
is said to have ended
their nuclear weapons
program as reported by
a National Intelligence
Estimate:
2003

NUMBER OF
SPANIARDS
that died during
the same battle:
12

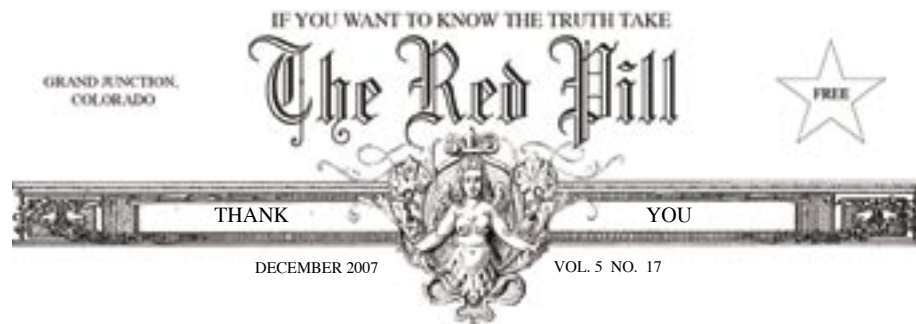
* Sources for the State of Disunion can be found at
www.gjredpill.org

CALL TO ACTION

The Red Pill is looking for volunteers: graphic designers, writers, poets, cartoonists, artists, and photographers are needed. Get your work published now. Help distribute The Red Pill in your community, church, and school: contact us at gjredpill@hotmail.com. You can also do your part to keep us in print by donating time, paper, film, copies, and of course money (it doesn't print itself).



The Red Pill is collectively produced by Grand Junction Alternative Media, with the aim of publishing stories and ideas that the mainstream media won't cover. It is distributed free, collects no advertising, and is completely staffed by volunteers. All materials are copy left, no rights are reserved.
PHOTOCOPY AND DISTRIBUTE AT WILL!



THE FIRST AMERICAN REVOLUTION

We all know the story of the American Revolution, right? Our Founding Fathers got together after being mistreated by the Crown and in 1776 declared independence from the English. What ensued was the first revolution to be staged in the Americas in which a people threw off the tyrannical rule of their oppressors, right? WRONG. Most Americans don't know the story of the true first American Revolution: the Pueblo Revolt of 1680. This was the first true revolution to be waged in the Americas, in which the American Indians of the various Pueblos of the southwest successfully managed to drive the Spanish from the region in a series of bloody battles.



The story of the Pueblo Revolt begins, as does the story of the American Revolution, many years before the actual events that define the Revolt itself. It begins near the coming of the Spaniards to the New Mexican region starting in 1540, led by Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, and the founding of settlements, including Santa Fe, around 1598 by Oñate and his expeditions. Contact was at first peaceful but wrought with suspicion on both sides. In 1599, the Acoma Pueblo was attacked by the Spanish, who killed 800 people, cut off a foot of every Acoma man 25 years and over, and sentenced all males aged 12 to 24 to twenty years of hard labor. If that wasn't enough to push the Pueblos to revolt, the Spaniards began to enforce throughout their settlements the encomienda system, which forced the Pueblos to "donate" food and other resources to support Spanish causes (i.e. missions, military, and civic institutions), and the repartimiento system, which basically enslaved Pueblo people in

Spanish households and fields. Together these systems closely resembled feudalism and the Indians understandably detested the practices, especially since these new ways disrupted the traditional economies of the Pueblos that had taken centuries to develop. In addition to these "slave" systems, the Indians were subjected to "reorientation" and "reeducation" of their culture to align them with "civilized" ways; their old religion and traditions were prohibited, and the Kachina dances – the most sacred of all Pueblo traditions and ceremonies – were specifically targeted starting in the 1660s. The tipping point, however, came in 1675

when New Mexican governor Juan de Trevino ordered the arrest of 47 Pueblo medicine men and charged them with sorcery. Four were eventually convicted and three of those were hanged while the fourth committed suicide before his sentence could be carried out. The 43 remaining medicine men were publicly whipped in the plaza at Santa Fe. One of these men was named Po'pay.

Po'pay was a medicine man from Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo (formerly San Juan Pueblo) and would eventually become the outspoken leader of the Pueblo Revolt. He became weary of seeing his people suffer and after the ordeal of being arrested and publicly humiliated, he vowed to spend the rest of his life fighting to drive the Spanish out of their lands. He knew that only extreme action could bring about this dream. He moved to Taos Pueblo and there began to plot the revolution to expel the Spaniards from New Mexico. Although the

"PUEBLO" ON SECOND PAGE

"PUEBLO" FROM FIRST PAGE

idea of the Revolt was kept secret (Po'pay went as far as killing his own son-in-law to keep it that way), eventually the plan spread to most of the Pueblos, with the exception of Isleta Pueblo in the south of the region (historians disagree whether this was because they were Spanish sympathizers or they simply did not receive the messages in time); even the sworn enemies of the Pueblo people, the Apaches, lent their support to the Revolt. Since language was a major barrier for Po'pay (all the Pueblos had developed their own linguistic systems), messages regarding tactics were painted on deerskin and distributed to the Pueblos. The planning took years but as the time drew near, Po'pay had messengers take ropes with knots tied in them to each of the nearly 70 Pueblos that eventually planned to participate. Each day the Pueblo or village elders were to untie a knot and when they had untied the last knot, they would then know that it was the day of the attack. The Revolt was not kept totally secret, however, and the Spaniards got wind of the planned rebellion, so instead of moving on August 10, as was originally planned, Po'pay began the Revolt on August 9, 1680. By the end of the day, over 400 Spanish, including at least 20 Franciscan priests who had been among the harshest on the Indians, lay dead. The rebels plundered homes, burned churches, and destroyed government documents. After several days of fighting and retreating, the Spaniards were driven far south into New Spain (Mexico). The unity of the Pueblos had made them strong and allowed them to defeat their oppressors. When the dust settled Po'pay declared himself governor over all the Pueblo people and forbade any trace of Spanish ways to be practiced in the

Pueblos. He even ordered the white man's crops, wheat and barley, to be plowed over and never planted again. Po'pay's seizure of power splintered the once-unified Pueblo peoples, and twelve years after the successful expulsion of the Spanish from New Mexico, they were able to return and once again take over the region. But for those twelve glorious years New Mexico would remain free of Spanish rule and cruelty.

Although eventually the Spaniards returned and reconquered the Pueblo people, their influence and reach over the Pueblos after the Revolt were severely limited: never again would they try to enforce the encomienda and repartimiento systems; the native religion, including the sacred Kachina dances, was allowed to be practiced; the Indians' land rights were duly recognized; and the Spanish even went as far as allowing the first "ambassadors" for the Pueblo Indians into their governmental systems. Because of this they were able to hold on to their traditions, religion, and languages, most of which still survive to this day. This makes the Pueblo peoples unique among American Indians. In these pueblos the church and the kiva (some of which date back to the time of the Revolt) coexist side by side in the plaza. In this way the Pueblo Revolt remains a success nearly 400 years later, so much so that a statue of Po'pay was recently dedicated in the rotunda of the capitol building in Washington, D.C., and resides in the National Statuary Collection. Indian children of the Southwest know the story well; their elders still tell this story as legend. It is time that the rest of America learns the truth and recognizes the Pueblo Revolt for what it is: the first true American Revolution.

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ARE YOU AN UNCONVENTIONEER? CALLING ALL MEDIA ACTIVISTS

Grand Junction Alternative Media is calling on volunteers to help with the tentatively-named Unconventioner, a daily newspaper to be published during the Democratic and Republican National Conventions in the summer of 2008. We are networking with activists across the nation interested in this project and we will be sending a general proposal out to volunteers for discussion via e-mail/listserv. If you are a writer, editor, photographer, artist/cartoonist, or know of any off-set printing facilities available in Denver and Minneapolis, or to otherwise get involved, contact us at gjredpill@hotmail.com. There will be several pre-convention issues, one for every day of both conventions and a post-convention issue. There is something for everyone to do. •

EVERY MONDAY • 5:30pm

A Voice of Reason, the local peace group meets to strategize local actions to end the war in Iraq.

For more info call 245-3720

Wednesday, January 2, 2008 • 7PM

Drinking Liberally Get together

Kannah Creek Brewing
12th and Walnut, Grand Junction, CO

MAMAPHILES #3: COMING HOME

—A ZINE REVIEW—

Mamaphiles, a collaboration by zine mothers across the country, was completed in November and is now available. This 73 page zine is number three of the Mamaphiles series and features, for the first time, a zine papa. "Coming Home" is the theme for this issue. Twenty-five writers explore what "coming home" means to them, and the subjects vary greatly, from



TRP FUNDRAISING UPDATE

For the past two weeks or so The Red Pill has been running a fundraising campaign in order to buy a new copier among other supplies. We've sent out mailers, sent emails, and spoke with people face-to-face.

We want to thank everyone who has been able to contribute and help out at this crucial time.

So far we've received about \$870, which puts us close to receiving an additional \$1000 worth of matching funds. After that, we are still about \$1000 short of the new copier we would like to purchase. You can find our fundraising video on YouTube at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DKx_LMmjpmg

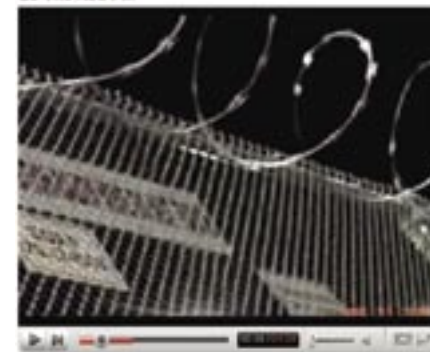
For those of you who haven't donated and would like to, check out our website at www.gjredpill.org. You can donate via PayPal on our Donate page. You can also mail donations to: Grand Junction Alternative

dealing with the loss of loved ones and new babies arriving, to traveling and healing the wounds of infidelity. The various stories let one catch a glimpse of what it's like to be in the shoes of another person.

This is a chance to read your favorite zine mama veteran or see what new mamas and new zinesters have to say about parenting and children. Two of the mamas, China Martens and Jessica Mills have both published books this year--*The Future Generation: A Zine-Book for Subculture Parents, Kids, Friends, and Others*, and *My Mother Wears Combat Boots: A Parenting Guide for the Rest of Us*, respectively. You can get them both at www.akpress.com.

To order a copy of Mamaphiles #3, send \$4 to P.O. Box 339 Grand Junction, CO 81502 or check out www.mamaphiles.com for more ordering information. •

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RED PILL LOCATIONS

You can pick up your copy of The Red Pill at the following locations: Planet 9, Heart of the Dragon, Third World Imports, Planet Earth, The Hot Tomato, Kleen Sting, Colorado Java, Himalayan Feeling, Contemporary Glass Works, Change Skateboards, Coffee Muggers, Triple Play Records, Pretty Things, Dream Child Entertainment.

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