

# AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL



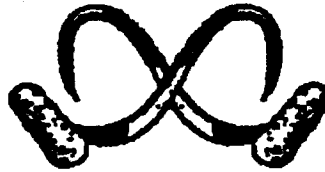
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## The China Trade Question and the Struggle for Democracy

By DEL CASTLE

According to recent press reports, textile imports from China have risen 67 percent to 31,131 containers in the last year in the Port of Seattle. In other words, Chinese clothing is flooding the U.S. market.

According to The Seattle Times, Terry Laggner "analyst for the Washington Council on International Trade said she has seen statistics that imported clothing has dropped retail prices by about 6 percent."

And furthermore, "Some U.S. clothing manufacturers report the domestic industry has lost 26,000 jobs this year because of low-cost imports from China." . . .

"Also" the article continues, "while economists argue that all parties win under free trade, some workers in the U.S. garment industry aren't winning."

So goes the story under globalization, WTO, IMF and the World Bank. The U.S. is falling behind China in the world economic picture.

The question then arises: How can Bush and the neo-cons, free traders and Iraq empire builders expect to win when we are falling behind as a world economic power? Another little note along this line is that of our delinquent educational record. It has been reported that while China graduates engineers, mathematicians and scientists in the hundreds of thousands each year, the U.S. graduates them in only thousands. We can't keep ahead of China on the

world stage, we can't win in Iraq, we can't keep jobs at home, we can't take care of the victims of Katrina and Rita, and we're pretty sure that Bush doesn't know one end from the other. Right now something is hitting the fan and it doesn't smell like roses.

In face of this deep quandary facing our future, the powers that be are debating how to proceed. They have two choices: One choice is to maintain profits by clamping down on dissent as things continue to get worse. If wages and living standards continue to decline and opposition and dissent continue to increase in the streets, in the unions and democratic forces opposed to dictatorship, their answer is to clamp down in some form of dictatorship.

The other choice is to blunt dissent by making concessions that strengthen jobs, increase living standards, support democratic forces and promote the general welfare. That choice was made at the time of the New Deal during the Great Depression. That decision helped save the system from rebellion and fundamental systemic change - socialist revolution was avoided. Which choice will they make this time? The answer is complicated by the question of whether the second World War was what brought concessions through better living standards and reduced the threat of revolutionary change rather than the New Deal. In other words that time around war was the solution to the problem of revolutionary

**The China trade Question**

*From page 1*

threat. But this time war is not solving any problem; it is only making things worse.

On that basis, if war is not the solution, the first choice (oppression) is the likely way out for the powers that be. It would take the form of some American version of fascism, not the old Hitler-Mussolini form of open dictatorship and force and violence with storm troopers and military pomp and glory, but something more in the way of mind control. They feel they have enough control, with financial and power pressure over all forms of the media to make it work.

Can they succeed? Ironically, Osama bin Laden is helping Bush bring about destruction of democracy. Do they both want the same thing? Bush's Patriot Act which allows secret searches and seizes in violation of the U.S. Constitution; plus secretly jailing and detainment of anyone at any time without any public notice or court of law appeal starts a slow, illegal invasion of democratic and privacy rights. If bin Laden pulls another strike on our country, Bush will have another opportunity to clamp down on democracy. This scenario of partnership between bin Laden and Bush can become the greatest irony of all time. The difference between the two is that bin Laden is an open enemy of democracy at home and elsewhere. When the world recognizes the confluence of evil between Bush and bin Laden the cat will be out of the bag. Bin Laden strikes from outside, Bush bores from within. The people will see how far Bush and bin Laden will go in partnership to destroy democracy. One might ask how come Osama bin Laden is still on the loose?

Can the Bush plan for destroying democracy at home succeed? It is chancy. The decision may be easy, but its implementation isn't. If Bush can't do any better than he has done in Iraq, Katrina, Rita, the Blame blunder, budget irresponsibility, they're not likely to succeed.

In addition the massive worldwide opposition to Bush's destructive policies, a beginning internal split in the right wing Republican camp, The continuing downward spiral in Bush's approval rating, and the unprecedented political education of the masses now taking place, all point to the development of a populist movement that can save democracy and the future of the world.

Make your choice and make democracy live!

*Final Dispatch*

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**The Monster Container Ship**

It is reported that apparently container ship size knows no limits. If we can recall the days before containers took over, only a few containers could go top side on what were called Alaska bound "lollypop" vessels because the shape of the few stanchions rising up from deck to signal container placement had lollypop shaped tops. From there, under M&M we rapidly progressed to 6,000 container vessels to what has now become the MSC Texas which carries 8,238 - 20 foot containers. The MSC Texas is only 36 feet shorter than the largest cruise ship, the 1,132 ft Queen Mary 2. "inside the ship's massive hold, containers lie stacked nine levels deep. On deck, multicolored steel boxes sit in neat rows, rising six containers high into the air." reports the Seattle Post Intelligencer.

"So gigantic are these ships that only three U.S. ports - Long Beach, Oakland and Seattle - can handle them. They can't even fit into the Panama Canal.

"Though many marvel at its size, the MSC Texas doesn't represent the limits of what shipbuilders can do. On the horizon are ocean carters that are 25 per cent bigger, capable of hauling 10,000 - 20 foot containers."

We wonder how much bigger can they get? If they continue enlarging, fewer and fewer ports will be able to berth them. In addition, it might be asked what happens if global warming continues to raise sea levels? While that may help accommodate megaships with more draft available, what happens if the bridges to be passed under become too close to sea level for them to pass?

In addition, if the port of Tacoma, as indicated above, is unable to accommodate megaships where will it end up in competition with Seattle for tonnage rates?

### Port of Tacoma's Growth

The Port of Tacoma is growing by leaps and bounds. According to The Seattle Times "Tacoma nearly doubled , to 525 acres, its land for unloading the giant container ships that now carry most of the world's goods. . . .

"All six of Tacoma's container terminals have expansion options that would add an additional 100 aces if fully developed."

"Tacoma's three new terminals - its largest expansion ever -echo booming Asian trade that is bringing jobs to Tacoma. The port says more than 43,000 "family wage" jobs in Pierce County are connected with its activity, up from 28,000 five years ago."

Tacoma's expansion . . . will help it handle a record 2.2 million containers this year and 2.4 million next year, according to port forecasts.

"The port figures it has capacity to handle 3.3 million containers in 2007, without buying additional land. In five years, the port expects to be actually handling that many containers a year."

Meanwhile, how is the Port of Seattle doing?

"The Port of Seattle said . . . that new vessel services, larger ships and improved marine terminals are expected to bring another record year for shipping cargo volumes. As of May, cargo containers moving through the facility had increased 27 percent, compared with the same period last year, according to the port. In 2004, 1.78 million containers, measured in 20 foot equivalent units, had passed through the facility."

Is Tacoma surpassing Seattle? From the figures, 2.2 million containers in Tacoma compared to 1.78 million in Seattle, it looks like Tacoma is winning the tonnage race. Whether Seattle will ever reach or surpass Tacoma in the next few years is doubtful because Tacoma has acreage to expand and Seattle doesn't. But both are dependent on increasing Asian imports which may not continue the way the world is today.

**ILWU/PMA**  
**Alcohol/Drug Recovery Program**  
 Available to all  
 Actives, Pensioners and their Families.

Contact; Donnie Schwendeman  
 Puget Sound & Washington Area Rep.  
 3600 Port of Tacoma Road Ste 503  
 Tacoma, Washington 98104  
 253-922-8913 - Fax 253-922-8956  
 E-mail - DSchwendemanILWU@aol.com

### The Banana Dock

By PARKER JOHNSTON

I first worked the bananas in the early 50's. We still had a 9-hour day and it was a tough job. The stalks were about 4 feet tall, you and your partner would grab a stalk, get in, step and off to the gantry that never stopped or broke down. Every time you delivered a stalk to the gantry you had to walk a little farther for the next one. When the ship came in it was cool in the hold, to keep the fruit from getting ripe. The cold also kept the snakes, spiders and critters from being active. But as it warmed up they woke up and when they did they were usually in a bad mood. So we had a lot of sightings and a few bites. After working a day and a half we must have walked 15 miles, it felt like 25 miles. The fruit would then go to conveyor belts and then to refrigerated rail cars. Every other car would have a gang in it. The first gang would take every fourth stalk and walk into the rail cars no partner like in the hold. The next gang would take every third stalk and so on. The last gang had to take all the stalks and some how the last gang got the biggest stalks. (Life is not fair) Then in the 60's the fruit was shipped in boxes. This made the job faster, but then they cut the manning. (Automation) It was still hard work with less people. In about the 70's they went south to L.A. and the old banana dock became part of Terminal 5 and APL stacks containers there. That's what us old timers call the good old days. Actually the good old days are right now, with that pension check coming in every month.



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### UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

Margaret Levi  
Jere L. Bacharach Professor of International Studies  
Department of Political Science  
July 9, 2005

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

David Olson, our beloved colleague and the inaugural Harry Bridges Chair in labor Studies, is retiring from the University of Washington. after 31 years. He will continue to be active in the academic, labor, and political communities of the region, but we are eager to use this turning point in his life to recognize his long years of service to us all. We are pleased to report the establishment of the David J. Olson Endowment in the Department of Political Science to provide support for students doing scholarly work on state, regional, city and labor politics. While the Department of Political Science will administer the, fund, it will do so in close collaboration with the Harry bridges Chair and The Center for Labor Studies.

An endowed fund is permanent, a way to continue to recognize quality work by students in precisely those areas in which David has so long been involved. It is also, most importantly, a way to recognize David's considerable achievements and contributions. An endowment ensures that UW students will forever remember and be influenced by Professor David J. Olson.

Thanks to an initial donor, whose contribution has been matched by the University, the endowment now exists. With that contribution and extant pledged, we have raised approximately \$20,000 already. Our goal is to reach \$50,000 by the end of the calendar year

We are turning to you, friends of David Olson in the labor community, to help us reach our goal. Please contribute as much as you can to this important aid to students and continuing memorial to David. We've attached a contribution form, and we are happy to meet with you or talk with yo about what you can do and how we can help you do it.

Sincerely,

Margaret Levi  
Professor, Political Science  
Harry Bridges Chair Emeritus

Stephen Majeski  
Professor and Chair, Political Science

#### **Seattle ILWU Pension Club, Minutes of August 1, 2005.**

"M/S/C: That we support the David J. Olson Endowment. That we ask readers of the Rusty Hook to send contributions to us and we will consolidate and pass them on to the University of Washington from our organization."

## David J. Olson Endowment Fund

In support of students doing scholarly work on state, regional, city and labor politics.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_ Other

Make check payable to: **University of Washington  
Foundation** For: David J. Olson Endowment.

### Make check like this

Date _____		18-0308/3380
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Memo	<b>David J. Olson Endowment</b>	_____

Send Check and this completed page to:

Seattle ILWU Pension Club  
3440 E. Marginal Way S.  
Seattle, WA 98134-1132

## Announcement From the Bridges Center for Labor Studies

On October 15, 2005 at the University of Washington Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies (HBCLS) annual awards celebration, we honored Ted and Doris Hansen. We held a signing ceremony for them to finalize the creation of the Theodore L. and Doris M. Hansen Endowed Fund in Labor Studies. Their generous gift will total \$100,000 by December 31, 2006. The interest from this money is dedicated to the HBCLS Discretionary Fund. Once fully funded, each year the Hansen Endowment will generate approximately \$5,000 for the Center's discretionary fund.

The Hansen Endowed Fund in Labor Studies is being created to honor the memory of Theodore Hansen, the late father of Theodore L. Hansen. The elder Mr. Hansen began working on the Seattle waterfront in 1922, working continuously right up to his death in 1965. His son, Theodore L. Hansen, started working part-time on the Seattle waterfront while still in high school, from 1943 to 1945. He began working full-time in 1955 and retired in 1989 after 35 years of service. Ted and Doris Hansen are native Washingtonians and lifelong residents of West Seattle.

Yogi Berra said:

### "The Future Ain't What it Used to Be"

By DEL CASTLE

**Part 1** Let's look at that future.

The first thing to be noted is its forked. We are at a turning point requiring us to make a choice of forks. One fork, sponsored by Bush corporatism leads to "12 more years of antiterrorist warfare" as predicted by Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense, and all its consequences in terms of lower living standards at home, more tax cuts for the rich, more national indebtedness to foreign countries, more threats of environmental destruction, more corruption, more political, economic and social confusion, all of which threaten democracy. And we can include military incompetence unless we resort to weapons of mass destruction. And that is not entirely guaranteed if push comes to shove in a world gradually being submerged in whirlpool of irresponsibility.

After that, take a deep breath and look at the other fork -the left, or blue fork, if you will. The left fork leads to all the things the overwhelming majority of the

public, both here and abroad knows we need First, the opposite of above, a higher living standard all around. That means a free union movement released from government antiunion laws and regulations, a vast, much needed public works environmental and infrastructure repair program that would provide millions of jobs at good wages, a firm commitment to worldwide peace through empowerment of the United Nations, social welfare programs that guarantee a livable life for the less fortunate and elderly among us, a thoroughly full democratic commitment to racial, gender and minority equality, laws to curb corporate power and corruption, a much needed strengthening of public education at all levels including college level at no tuition, a thorough commitment to scientific principles as the only proven path to truth about reality and our relation to it, relief from credit card greed, a right to leisure and creativity. More issues could be mentioned, but the above are enough to present the overall idea.

You may say the left fork is all well and good but how do we make the turn? The answer is at hand, but making it is the hard part. The answer is a fundamental change in the whole system., economic, political and social. No easy task as revolutions of the past have so tumultuously shown. The old system fights tooth and nail and in a thousand ways to preserve the status quo.

We could say just pass the necessary laws, change the old and enforce them. That would be possible if our political system weren't so corrupt. Moneyed lobbyists, obsolete congressional rules and foggy media distortion leaves that path pretty well closed off.

*(Continued next issue)*

## CORRESPONDENCE

From KEN FIELD Seattle, WA

Here's a donation of \$100.00. I really enjoy the RUSTY HOOK and thank you guys for your good work.

KEN FIELD Local 52

Thanks KEN for your donation and continued support.

From TANK NELSON Morro Bay, CA

TANK sends us \$20.00, his monthly article and extras. We appreciate all you do TANK keep it up and thank you from all of us at the RUSTY HOOK.

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### CORRESPONDENCE

From JOHN FISHER Seattle, WA

A very welcome \$200.00 donation to the RUSTY HOOK.

We all thank you JOHN for your continued support.

From PATRICK SULLIVAN Reno, NV

PATRICK sends us a little note.

I'm a little tardy in getting this (\$35.00 for dues and \$105.00 for the HOOK) donation to you. I want to express my gratitude to the ILWU for my quality of life. I retired in 2002 and then moved to Sparks/Reno, Nevada in 2003. I come back every summer to visit the city I grew up in and to see my friends. It's a great life.

PATRICK SULLIVAN #56660

Thank you PATRICK for your donation and kind words.

From ROBERT EVERITT Ocean Park, WA

Thank you ROBERT for the \$75.00 donation to the RUSTY HOOK and we all thank you for joining the PENSIONERS CLUB. Way to go ROBERT!

From ROCKY CARROLL Aberdeen, WA

A donation of a walker, adjustable chairs and foot or leg braces. Thank you ROCKY for the donation and anyone who has a need for any of these items please contact the PENSIONERS office.

From BETTY FARNAN Renton, WA

This is long overdue, many thanks for all the benefits I have received. I am very grateful and give thanks. JIM believed in this union and always gave his full support.

BETTY FARNAN

Thank you BETTY for the note and the \$150.00 donation.

From MICHAEL SISTI Seattle, WA

You guys are special. Thanks – keep up the good work.

We all thank you MICHAEL for the \$100.00 donation and we will keep up the good work.

From the UNITED FARM WORKERS OF AMERICA Sunnyside, WA

We The UNITED FARM WORKERS OF AMERICA appreciate your donation and through this letter we thank you for all the items and clothes that you have delivered to us. The donations have been a great help to our members.

Thank you very much for your attention and your help to this community.

Sincerely,

ALEJANDRA PASAYE

Service Provider UFW

From LUIS CASTILLO Miami, FL

Thank you fellows for the good job you are doing for the PCPA. Here is a \$100.00 donation you can use where needed. President Bush is occupying Iraq to establish a democracy, but he doesn't know that Iraq is a Muslim country and they do not believe in democracies. Lots of money and the lives of American soldiers are spent without any practical result.

This is all for now, have a nice time in Seattle and like always se despide your brother.

LUIS CASTILLO

Thank you Luis for the letter and the \$100.00 donation.

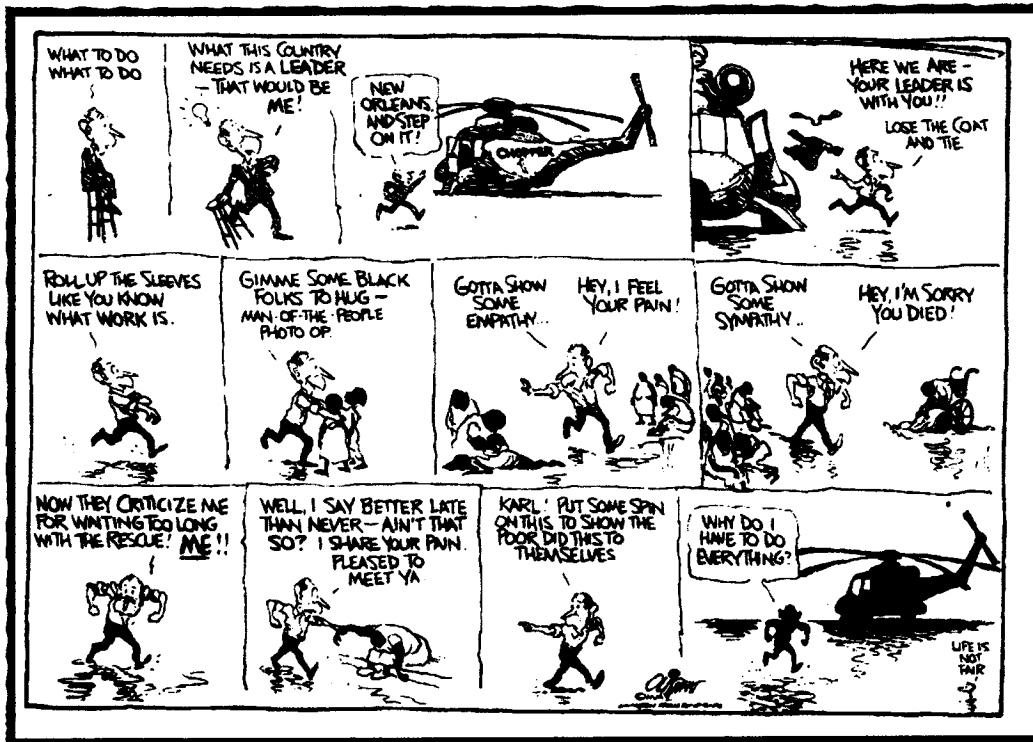
From ED HEPOKOSKI Renton, WA

I'm sending you \$100.00 for next year's dues and assessments. If there is any money left please use it for the office kitty (\$44.00). I am not feeling very good but I get up every morning and make coffee and help my wife fix breakfast. I am able to drive to the store and doctors appointment. I'll try to get up to the Hall for one of the meetings before year's end. Give my regards to all my fellow pensioners.

As ever,

ED

Thank you ED for the note and the hundred dollars.



## Seattle ILWU Pension Club

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