



PMB 214 • 1001 Cooper Point RD SW Suite 140 • Olympia, WA • 98502 • U.S.A.
Tel: 360-754-1990 Fax: 253-276-0084 E-mail: chair@cwis.org

Dr. Rudolph C. Ryser
Chairman of the Board

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World War and the Fourth World

A Public Forum

Draft Radio Script

The panel of four is seated on a small stage in front of an audience.

7:00pm----- *The four panel members are seated on the stage two on each side of the moderator who sits in the middle. Each member has been clipped with a microphone.*

MODERATOR

I am Rudolph Ryser, Chair and Executive Director of the Center for World Indigenous Studies and this is the March 11, 2002 edition of Fourth World Dialogue.

For this broadcast our subject is World War and the Fourth World. Are Indigenous nations becoming targets of the War on Terrorism? Are Fourth World nations the enemy of the state?

To answer these and other questions we have as my guests on this Edition of Fourth World Dialogue some of the leading observers on the subject. My guests include four distinguished observers and analysts from the fields of anthropology, cultural geography, international politics and law.

To my left is Dr. Richard Griggs, a cultural geographer and writer of essays on the settlement of disputes between indigenous nations and states particularly in Africa from which he has just returned to the United States after six years working with the Zulu, the South African Government and other

indigenous nations and officials concerned with the resolution of disputes between the Hutu and Tutsi in Rwanda and Burundi. Dr. Griggs is the author of numerous essays on conflict resolution involving Fourth World nations. He is the author of the well known National Geographic map entitled "The Regions of Europe" which documents for the first time in modern times the more than 130 indigenous nations of Europe.

To my far left is Dr. David Price, an Associate Professor at St. Martin's College in Lacey, Washington where he teaches courses in anthropology and social justice. Price studied anthropology and intellectual history as an undergraduate at the Evergreen State College. He received his AM from the University of Chicago, and Ph.D. from the University of Florida. He has conducted cultural anthropological and archaeological fieldwork and research in the United States and the Middle East. He is the author of "Atlas of World Cultures: A Geographical Guide to Ethnographic Literature." Duke University Press will publish his next book. In this upcoming volume Dr. Price documents US governmental attempts to suppress academic freedom. His new book is entitled "Cold War Witch Hunts: The FBI Persecution of Activist Anthropologists".

To my immediate right is David Martinez, an attorney, journalist, poet, and political activist born in the Philippines. While in law school he organized indigent farmers on his island of Negros against sugar barons and politicians seeking to seize the farmlands. He passed the bar in 1970, taught law and provided legal advice to indigenous peoples in the Philippines and settlers. After denouncing the martial law declarations of the Marco's government in September 1972 Mr. Martinez was immediately arrested and jailed. After two months in jail, he escaped to Malaysia and was there incarcerated for three months before being repatriated to the Philippines. He was listed on the "Top 30" most-wanted of the Marco's government before that government collapsed. He has served as the Director for Refugee Affairs of the Movement for a Free Philippines and he has served as the editor of Asian American News in Southern California. Mr. Martinez is now the Secretary-General of ASIN – the Alliance for Separate and Independent Nations – Philippines about which we shall learn more in our discussions.

To my far right is Dr. Steve Niva, professor of international politics and Middle East studies at the Evergreen State College. He writes regularly for Middle East Report and is an Associate at the Middle East Research and Information Project in Washington, D.C. Dr. Niva has lived and worked in the Middle East and has spent time in the occupied Palestinian territories, where he has focused on popular resistance to the Israeli military occupation. He published several articles immediately following the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon in US newspapers and journals abroad including Common Dreams, the Jordan Times, the Middle East Times of Cairo and the Globe and Daily Mail of South Africa.

Welcome to the broadcast all of you.

7:04-----

On the morning of September 11, 2002 four commercial airlines were commandeered by a sophisticated commando group and converted into lethal missiles aimed at the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon in Virginia and an unknown third target. Nearly three thousand people were killed instantly and the twin towers of the World Trade Center were destroyed utterly while the Pentagon building suffered serious damage. The fourth missile failed to reach its target.

So far, since September 2001 it appears that in addition to the deaths of 3000 people in New York and Virginia as a result of commando raids and more thousands of civilian deaths in Afghanistan, Palestine, Israel, Somalia, and many other countries...the main people suffering from this war are Fourth World peoples—noncombatant civilians.

7:06pm-----

1. WHAT ARE FOURTH WORLD NATIONS—INDIGENOUS PEOPLES—AND WHERE ARE THEY?

7:16PM -----

2. During the months since the beginning of the American War on Terrorism the United States government and other governments including the Russian Federation, China, Morocco, Spain, Israel and India have intensified attacks on indigenous nations like the Chechens, Uygurs, Polisario, Ezkudi, Palestinians and the Naga; and the United States government has opened new battles fronts after Afghanistan where indigenous nations like the Pashtun and the Hasara have taken a substantial hit in the Republic of Georgia where Abkhassians, Ossettians and Chechens are being described as terrorists and in the Philippines where the Moro are characterized as a terrorist group.

a. IS THIS "WAR ON TERRORISM" BECOMING A WAR BY STATES ON INDIGENOUS NATIONS?

7:22PM -----

b. IS THE BUSH DECLARED WAR ON THE "EVIL ONES" AS HE SAID, BECOMING A PRETENSE FOR THE DISREGARD OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ATTACKS ON INDIGENOUS NATIONS OR ARE THE ATTACKS IN THE PHILIPPINES, GEORGIA, YEMEN AND OTHER PLACES JUSTIFIED?

7:32PM-----

c. WHAT ARE THESE NATIONS DOING THAT MAKE THEM TARGETS FOR STATE INITIATED COUNTER TERRORISM?

7:42PM-----

3. When Usama bin Laden said publicly on 12 October 1996 in a declaration of jihad, "It is the duty now on every tribe in the Arabian Peninsula to fight jihad and cleanse the land from these Crusader occupiers" he spoke to the peoples who have been under

the domination of the Saudi family for more than fifty years. He urges the tribes in the Arabian Peninsula to defend themselves against the Saudis and other governments who would sell the wealth of the land and their souls for money and recognition from the United States of America.

- a. DOES THIS SUGGEST THAT BIN LADEN SEEKS TO USE TRIBES IN THE MIDDLE EAST TO OVERTHROW GOVERNMENTS LIKE SAUDI ARABIA, IRAQ, AND OTHERS, AND IS THE US GOVERNMENT WAR POLICY TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ROLE OF TRIBES AS GEOPOLITICALLY STRATEGIC INTERESTS—AND WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF TRIBAL PEOPLES BEING ENCOURAGED TO OVERTHROW A STATE GOVERNMENT?

7:54

4. The United States' War on Terrorism began with bombings of the government of Afghanistan in October and at that time the Bush Administration asserted that the war was aimed at those who committed terrorist acts against the United States and those who harbor the organizations that employ terrorism as a tactic of politics. The movement and organization called Al Qaeda was initially described as the perpetrator of the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Five months after the commando attacks in September the War on Terrorism is extending well beyond Afghanistan and the Al Qaeda with American forces now taking positions in the Philippines, Yemen, the Republic of Georgia and more organizations like the Tamil in Sri Lanka and the Basque in Spain being specifically targeted. US Treasury Secretary Paul H. O'Neill was quoted in the February 27, 2002 New York Times as saying "Our crackdown on terrorists is blind to nationality and origin. It's a net being cast on all terrorist parasites that threaten our allies and our national security."

- a. WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO SECRETARY O'NEILL'S STATEMENT?

- b. WHEN SECRETARY O'NEILL CASTS HIS WIDE NET TO THOSE WHO THREATEN NATIONAL SECURITY, WHAT COULD THIS MEAN IN THE PHILIPPINES, IN THE CAUCASUS, IN KURDISH TERRITORY, IN PALISTINIAN WESTBANK AND GAZA, IN NORTHERN IRAQ OR IN BASQUE TERRITORY IN NORTHERN SPAIN?

7:59-----

5. Some observers have suggested that while there is a legitimate reason to organize counter terrorism measures inside the US and abroad, the incidental consequence of these measures extends US military presence to many more localities around the world and in, especially regions of the world where petroleum resources are just now being developed and will likely become available to the United States if it provides secure control in these regions. Some of these localities include Afghanistan, which can provide a pipeline south from the oil rich reserves of the Caspian Sea. Oil reserves in the South of the Philippines and shipping lanes in southern Philippines are another area. Malaysia and the island of Sumatra in Indonesia are

another area still. Virtually all of the oil reserves are located in Fourth World territories or pipelines will have to go across Fourth World territories.

8:00-----

- a. IS THERE A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE WORLD WAR, THESE NATURAL RESOURCES AND FOURTH WORLD TERRITORIES?

- b. WHAT CAN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ACHIEVE BY ITS CURRENT COURSE OF ACTION IN AFGHANISTAN, YEMEN, PHILIPPINES, SOMALIA, CAUCASUS, KURDISH TERRITORY IN IRAQ, INDONESIA AND BASQUE TERRITORY IN SPAIN?

8:05-----

Thank you all for your comments and analysis of this important topic. Now it is time to take a few questions from the audience. Earlier we passed among the members of the audience question cards, which I now have in my hand. The first question is

8:15-----

That is all the time we have for this edition of Fourth World Dialogue. Until next time thank you and good-bye.

Applause and program black out.

Time 1 hour 15 minutes.