

# **The Anthony “Van” Jones Scandal: Who is Behind the Appointment of a Communist as Green Jobs Czar in the Obama Administration?**

**This is a special compilation of reports prepared by Trevor Loudon of the New Zeal blog and reprinted with special permission by America’s Survival, Inc. (ASI). Trevor Loudon broke the Van Jones story on April 6, 2009.**



**Anthony “Van” Jones**

**Trevor Loudon** is a New Zealand-based researcher and libertarian political activist, Trevor specializes in the often covert influence of left-wing groups on mainstream politics. His research on Barack Obama's socialist and radical ties gained widespread coverage in 2008 and was cited by National Review Online, Accuracy in Media, American Thinker, Frontpage Magazine, World Net Daily, the UK Spectator and many leading blogs and websites. He blogs at <http://newzeal.blogspot.com/>

He co-authored with America's Survival, Inc. President Cliff Kincaid the report, *From Arms to Education to Political Power: Return of the SDS and the Weather Underground*, and spoke at the March 12, 2009, ASI conference on "Justice for Victims of Weather Underground Terrorism."



**Trevor Loudon**

## Obama File 72 Obama Appoints "Former" Communist To White House "Green Job"

A few short years ago Anthony (Van) Jones was a Bay Area radical agitator-a committed Marxist-Leninist-Maoist, waging war on the police and capitalist system.



Today Van Jones holds a key position in the US government and has the ear of President Barack Obama.

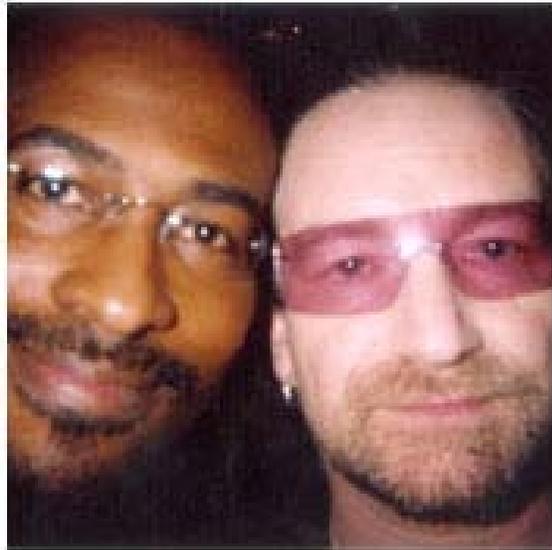
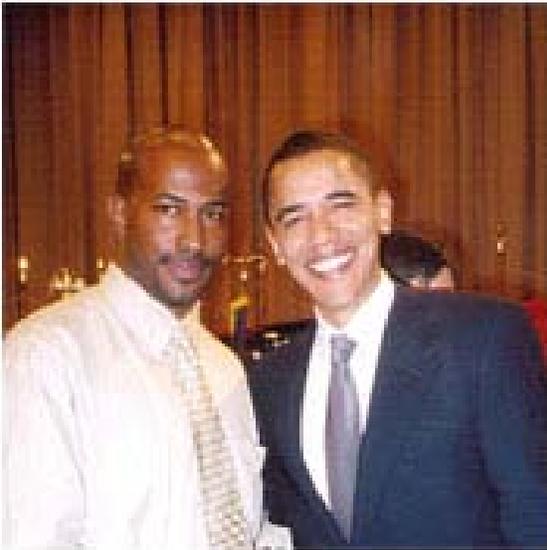
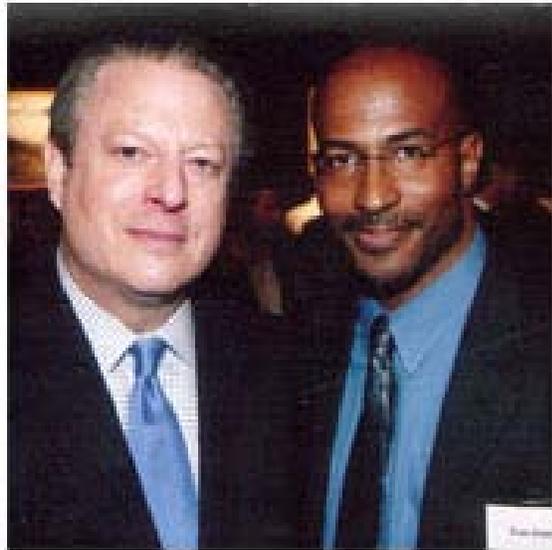
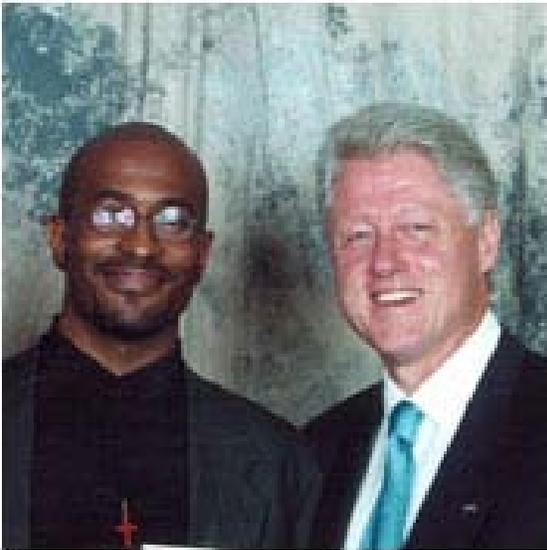
According to the [White House Blog March](#) 10th, 2009

*The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Chair Nancy Sutley announced yesterday that Van Jones – an early green jobs visionary -- will start Monday as Special Advisor for Green Jobs, Enterprise and*

*Innovation at CEQ:*

*Van Jones has been a strong voice for green jobs and we look forward to having him work with departments and agencies to advance the President's agenda of creating 21st century jobs that improve energy efficiency and utilize renewable resources. Jones will also help to shape and advance the Administration's energy and climate initiatives with a specific interest in improvements and opportunities for vulnerable communities*

*Jones is the founder of Green For All, an organization focused on creating green jobs in impoverished areas. He is also the co-founder of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights and Color of Change, and was the author of the 2008 New York Times best-seller, The Green Collar Economy.*



Today Van Jones mixes not with street level militants, but with the cream of the left "*establishment*".

But who is Van Jones? Has he really abandoned his communist beliefs?

Van Jones first moved to San Francisco in the spring of 1992, while studying law at Yale, when the leftist Lawyers Committee for Human Rights hired several law students to act as legal observers during the trial of policemen charged with assaulting Rodney King.

Not guilty verdicts in the King case led to mass rioting-which Jones joined in.

Arrested and jailed, Van Jones met a whole new circle of friends.

From the [East Bay Express](#) November 2nd 2005

"I met all these young radical people of color - I mean really radical, communists and anarchists. And it was, like, 'This is what I need to be a part of... I spent the next ten years of my life working with a lot of those people I met in jail, trying to be a revolutionary...I was a rowdy nationalist on April 28th, and then the verdicts came down on April 29th..By August, I was a communist."



The communist organization Van Jones went on to lead was called Standing Together to Organize a Revolutionary Movement (STORM).

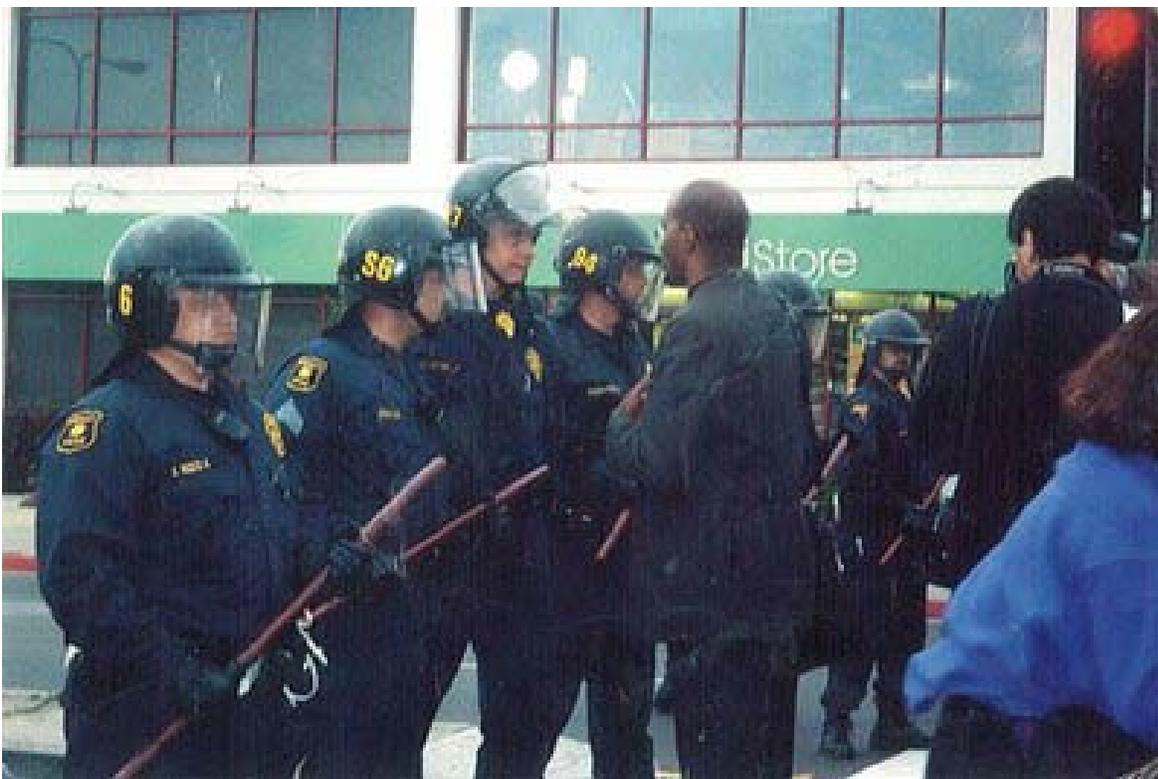
According to the leftist blog [Machete 48](#)

*Returning to Van Jones, with all the shimmer associated with a rising star, many forget that a man now advising the president was a member of a revolutionary organization in the SF Bay Area called STORM (Standing Together to Organize a Revolutionary Movement). Throughout the group's history, Van Jones was seen as a public figure within the Bay Area left and a leading member of STORM.*

*STORM had its roots in a grouping of people of color organizing against the Gulf War in the early 1990's and was formally founded in 1994. The group's*

*politics had a number of influences, but evolved towards what could be best characterized as third worldist Marxism (and an often vulgar Maoism). The group grew in influence until its disbanding in 2002 amid problems of internal dynamics and especially controversy around the leadership roles that members played in the youth movement (such as the fight against Proposition 21). Nearly the entire membership of the organization was staff members for various social movement non-profits in the Bay Area, many linked to the Ella Baker Center, which Van Jones steered.*

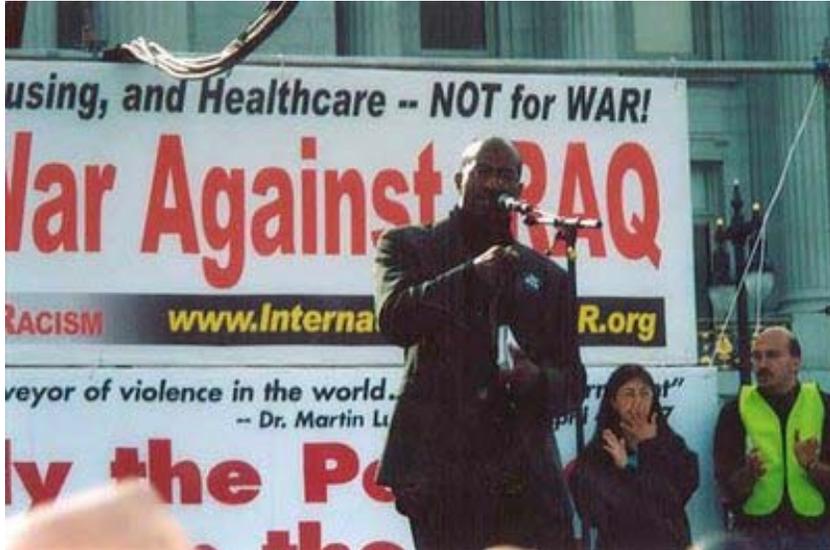
While never large, STORM was one of the most influential and active radical groups in the Bay Area, controlling numerous front organisations including Bay Area Police Watch, one of several anti police activities Jones was involved in.



*Van Jones right, "interacting" with San Francisco police*

Other STORM fronts included a Marxist training organization-School of Unity and Liberation (SOUL) and an unemployed rights group-People Organized to Win Employment Rights(POWER).

Jones and STORM were also very active in the anti Iraq War demonstrations of the early 2000s.



*Jones supporting International ANSWER-a front for the pro North Korean Workers World Party*

While way out on the left STORM also worked with "*mainstream*" communists.

Bay Area left identity Elizabeth (Betita) Martinez was close to Jones and helped "*mentor*" his Ella Baker Human Rights Center.



*Betita Martinez*

Martinez was a long time Maoist who went on to join the Communist Party USA breakaway organisation [Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism](#) (CCDS) in the early 1990s.

Martinez still serves on the [CCDS advisory board](#) alongside radicals such as Angela Davis, [Timuel Black](#) (a personal friend of Barack Obama who served on his 2004 Senate campaign committee) and musician [Pete Seeger](#) (who performed at Obama's Washington Inauguration Concert.

Martinez is also a [board member](#) of [Movement for a Democratic Society](#), the radical parent body of [Progressives for Obama](#).

Martinez and Jones worked together on several projects including attending a [Challenging White Supremacy](#) workshop which much impressed Jones;

*“To solve the new century's mounting social and environmental problems, people of color activist and white activists need to be able to join forces. But all too often, the unconscious racism of white activists stands in the way of any effective, worthwhile collaboration. The Challenging White*

*Supremacy Workshop is the most powerful tool that I have seen for removing the barriers to true partnerships between people of color and white folks. If the CWS trainings were mandatory for all white activists, the progressive movement in the United States would be unstoppable."*

They also both worked together with another STORM member Adam Gold on the [organizing committee](#) for anti Iraq War newspaper War Times.

STORM also had ties to the South African Communist Party, with three "core" comrades attending the SACP Congress in 1998.

STORM also [very much admired](#) Amilcar Cabral the late revolutionary leader of Guinea-Bissau and the Cape Verde Islands



*Amilcar Cabral right*

STORM may have learned about Amilcar Cabral from the SACP which also revered him.

A tribute to Cabral from the SACP's [African Communist, No. 53](#), second quarter 1973.

*"How is it that we, a people deprived of everything, living in dire straits, manage to wage our struggle and win successes? Our answer is: this is because Lenin existed, because he fulfilled his duty as a man, a*

*revolutionary and a patriot. Lenin was and continues to be, the greatest champion of the national liberation of the peoples."*

*These were the words addressed to the delegates attending the seminar on "Lenin and National Liberation" held at Alma Ata, capital of Soviet Socialist Republic of Kazakhstan, in 1970 by Amilcar Cabral, Secretary-General of the PAIGC, who met his death on 20th January 1973 at Conakry, Guinea, at the hands of a traitor, Innocenta Canida, an agent of the Portuguese colonialists who had infiltrated into the ranks of the movement three years ago.*

*These words reflect the revolutionary thinking and life-work of this utterly dedicated patriot, outstanding African revolutionary of our time and the father of the new independent sovereign State of Guinea in the process of birth. It was the cognition of the scientific theory of revolution, of Marxism-Leninism, to which he was introduced by his contacts with the Portuguese Communist Party during his student days in Lisbon which was to combine within him, in the words of the statement of the Central Committee of the South African Communist Party, "a deep understanding of the processes of the African revolution with an untiring devotion to practical struggle."*

Van Jones has named his three year old son Cabral-in honor of his hero.

Jones reportedly uses a quote from Cabral [in every email](#) he sends;

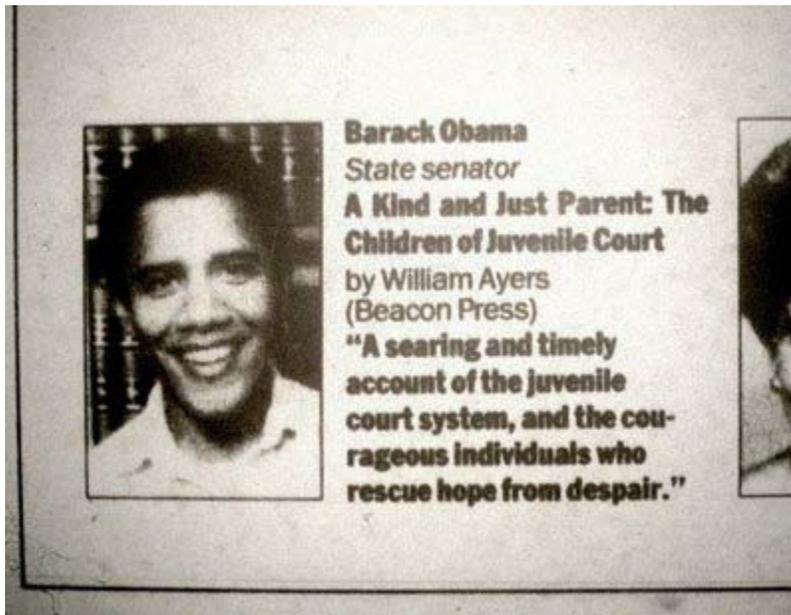
*"Hide nothing from the masses of our people. Tell no lies. Expose lies whenever they are told. Mask no difficulties, mistakes, failures. Claim no easy victories. . . . Our experience has shown us that in the general framework of daily struggle this battle against ourselves, this struggle against our own weaknesses . . . is the most difficult of all."*

Is Van Jones living up to that quote?

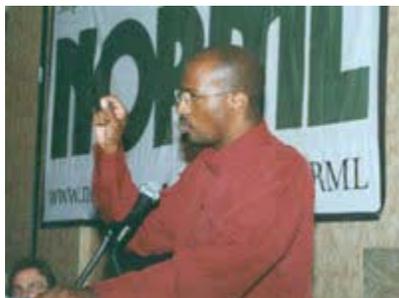
Is Van Jones hiding "*nothing from the masses of our people*"?

## Obama File 73 Weather Alert! Obama's "Green Jobs" Czar Linked to Former Terrorist Supporters?

During last year's presidential election, Barack Obama was quizzed over his connections to former Weather Underground terrorists Bill Ayers and Bernardine Dorhn.



Obama tried to downplay the significance of [his ties to the radical couple](#) and told America that their crimes occurred when he was only "*eight years old*".



Now it turns out that Van Jones, president Obama's newly appointed "Green Jobs" Czar (Special Advisor for Green Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation at the White House Council on Environmental Quality) may also have a little Weather Underground influence in his background.

While Jones is even younger than Obama, the connections may still have serious security implications.

Van Jones was, until around 2002, a leader of a [Bay Area communist sect](#) Standing Together to Organize a Revolutionary movement (STORM). It seems that Jones was also linked to or influenced, to some degree, by two former Weather Underground supporters, Bay Area activists Jon and Nancy Frappier.



Further more Jones was for several years very closely linked to another Bay Area activist Diana Frappier-very likely related to Jon and Nancy Frappier.

Bay Area lawyer Diana Frappier has been a leftist activist since she was at university in the early 1990s. While not an identified member of STORM, Frappier worked within the organization's "orbit" for several years. Jones and Frappier ran anti police organization CopWatch, then in 1996 set up the Oakland California based [Ella Baker Center for Human Rights](#);

*Diana has proudly supported the organization's growth from a small-scale operation of one full-time staff into a grassroots powerhouse...While she is not focused on the Ella Baker Center, she is operating a private community criminal defense practice, and serving on the boards of Bay Area non-profits Machen Center and TURF (Together United Recommitted Forever.) This San Francisco native is also a real estate broker, supporting activists and other members of her community to empower themselves through homeownership.*



The Ella Baker Center is named after little known civil rights firebrand Ella J Baker(1903/1986). Baker worked closely with communists for years including secret party member [Stanley Levison](#)-for many years the CPUSA's top money man.

Why did Van Jones and Diana Frappier name their center after Ella J Baker?

Here is one possible reason.

By the 1970s Ella Baker was involved with several far left organizations of the time including the Mass Party Organising Committee and the Puerto Rican Support Committee. Both groups were close to the Praire Fire Organizing Committee (PFOC), the "*legal*" support network for the Weather Underground.

PFOC-led by Bernardine Dorhn's sister Jennifer organized a large gathering conference in January 1976 in Chicago. The "Hard Times" conference was designed by the Weather Underground to unite the US far left into a new communist party.

The Black Panthers were invited as were the Socialist Workers Party, the Workers World Party, the marxist-leninist Puerto Rican Socialist Party, the Puerto Rican Support Group and the Mass Party Organizing Committee.

Below is a partial list of Hard times attendees taken from the 1982 book on the Weather Underground [Outlaws of Amerika](#) (p33).

**Persons Identified as Attending the National Hard Times Conference  
January 30-February 1, 1976  
(spelling based on phonetics)**

Ellen Afterman, PFOC, Chicago	Dennis Cunningham, NLG, Chicago
Danny Albert	Jim Dannon, Philadelphia PFOC
Miguel Alvarez	Ruth Dear, WWP
Rosa Alvarez	Nick DeFreitas, WWP
Robert Appel, PFOC	Mike Deutsch, NLG, Chicago PFOC
Ella J. Baker, MPOC & PRSC	*Jennifer Dohrn, PFOC National Committee
Joe Barnett, PFOC, Calif.	Kathy Dorsey, CLUW, N.Y.
Nancy Barnett (Frappier), Bay Area PFOC	Ted Dostal, WWP
Dick Becker, WWP	David Duboff, Center for Defense Information, D.C.
Alan Berkman, N.Y. PFOC	Kevin Duncan
*Vernon Bellecourt, AIM	Deb Dunfield, United Steelworkers
Arlene Eisen Bergman, Bay Area PFOC	
Barbara Bishop, San Francisco	

Note the names-Jennifer Dohrn PFOC National Committee, Ella J Baker MPOC&PRSC and Nancy Barnett (Frappier) Bay Area PFOC.

Could this be the connection?



Nancy Frappier may have been more than PFOC. According to the FBI's Weather Underground file she was associated with many WUO members and her car was parked outside the Weathermen's December 1969 "War Council" at Flint Michigan. In 1971 the FBI also observed Jennifer Dohrn visiting Frappier's home in San Francisco.

The FBI also suspected that Nancy Frappier travelled to Cuba in February 1970.

~~TOP SECRET~~

NANCY BARRETT FRAPPIER

NANCY FRAPPIER is a white female who was born on February 19, 1939, at Cleveland, Ohio. A long-time associate of many WFO members, FRAPPIER is now a national leader of the PPOC.

WFO/PPOC Affiliation

[REDACTED] advised during an interview with FBI Agents that a license number noted during the Flint Weatherman War Council held in December, 1969, was registered to the University of Michigan. Investigation conducted by [REDACTED] revealed this vehicle was charged out at this time to NANCY FRAPPIER.

On February 3, 1971, FBI Agents of the San Francisco Office observed JENNIFER DORN, sister of Weatherman fugitive BERNARDINE DORN, leaving the Berkeley residence of NANCY FRAPPIER.

[REDACTED] b1

Foreign Travel and/or Contacts

Records of the Passport Office, Washington, D.C., on March 2, 1970, reflected that the name of NANCY BARRETT FRAPPIER was on the passenger list for the Cuban ship "Luis Arcos Bergnes" which departed St. John, New Brunswick, Canada, on or about February 31, 1970, destined for Cuba.

~~TOP SECRET~~

Today Nancy Frappier works in health services in the Bay Area. Both Diana and Nancy Frappier [donate to the Berkeley YMCA](#).

Jon Frappier was also close to the Weathermen. Frappier's FBI profile claims that he was arrested during the Weathermen's "Days of Rage" rioting in October 1969 in Chicago and that he was also issued with a traffic ticket near the 1969 Michigan "War Council."

The FBI also allege that Frappier travelled to Guatemala in 1966 with future

Weather Underground member (and Bill Ayers's late girlfriend) Diana Oughton. The pair were accused of trying to contact Guatemalan guerilla's for the Students for a democratic Society Radical Education Project.

~~TOP SECRET~~

JOHN FREDERIC FRAPPIER

JOHN FRAPPIER is a white male who was born on April 9, 1939, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Long involved in SDS affairs in Michigan, FRAPPIER traveled to Chicago where he was arrested during the WUO "Days of Rage" riots during October, 1969. FRAPPIER is married to NANCY BARRETT FRAPPIER who has also been deeply involved in WUO activities and is presently a national leader of the PPOC. (See the section of this document on NANCY BARRETT FRAPPIER.)

WUO/PPOC Affiliation

JOHN FRAPPIER was stopped by Flint, Michigan Police for a traffic violation while driving in the vicinity of the site of the WUO "Flint, Michigan Wax Council" in December, 1969. (It is assumed that he was one of the WUO members attending this three day convention which lasted from December 27 to 31, 1969.)

Foreign Travel and/or Contacts

JOHN FRAPPIER and DIANA OUGHTON, both of the SDS sponsored Radical Education Project in Ann Arbor, Michigan, were in Guatemala in 1966 during which time they attempted to arrange liaison with Guatemalan guerilla groups on behalf of the Radical Education Project's Guatemala Project.

[REDACTED]

John Frappier went on to run the San Francisco office of the North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA)-a creation of the Weather Underground's parent organization Students for a Democratic Society (SDS).

According to website [La Nueva Cuba](http://La Nueva Cuba)

*NACLA was formed in 1967 after the Tricontinental Congress in Havana by individuals associated with Students for a Democratic Society(SDS).*

*NACLA said it was recruiting "men and women, from a variety of organizations and movements, who not only favor revolutionary change in Latin America, but also take a revolutionary position toward their own society." SDS leaders called NACLA the "intelligence gathering arm" of the radical movement. NACLA's published Methodology Guide recommends supplementing public source information by pretext interviews and phone calls, and NACLA has also planted or developed covert sources in government agencies and private companies...*

*Particular targets for NACLA information-gathering include companies supplying arms, anti-terrorist and police equipment to Latin America and Mexico; U.S. government defense, counter-insurgent and anti-terrorist programs; and oil, agribusiness, minerals and other U.S. companies with major Latin American operations.*

In the British edition of Inside the Company: CIA Diary, CIA agent turned Cuban intelligence ally Philip Agee admitted that Cuban government agents and Communist Party officials provided "special assistance and data available only from government documentation" and that NACLA staff "obtained vital research materials in New York and Washington, DC."

After NACLA, Jon Frappier went on to establish an organisation that has become the intelligence hub of the US left, the Oakland based [DataCenter, a](#)-"national progressive non-profit that provides strategic information & research training to communities advocating for dignity, justice & civil rights."



According to [a history](#) published on DataCenter's website;

1977

*DataCenter—an activist library and publication center—is founded in affiliation with the North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA) by Jon Frappier, Fred Goff, Loretta & Harry Strharsky and 40 dedicated volunteers.*

Further DataCenter activities included;

1979

*Establish Corporate Profile Project for clients such as United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations & customized research service for immigration attorneys representing Central Americans seeking political asylum.*

1980

*Publish press profiles, The Reagan File, on Ronald Reagan and his policies on labor, El Salvador, foreign policy, and military policy in Asia.*

1981

*New Right Project tracks the rise of neo-conservatism; Launch Right-to-know Project in response to censorship & growing restrictions on access to information; Monitor plant closures and layoffs; Publish press profile Toxic Nightmare for free distribution to leading environmental organizations*

1983

*Expand Search Service to include corporate accountability research to support community, labor, and corporate campaigns and political asylees from all over the world.*

Incredibly, DataCenter also admits to being an information gatherer for Cuban "*institutions*".

1991

*Launch the Cuba Project/Conexiones to respond to information needs of institutions in Cuba & facilitates information exchange between U.S. and Cuban colleagues for the next ten years*

Does that sound just a little scary?

Guess what? DataCenter also supports Van Jones and Diana Frappier's Ella Baker Center.

2002

*Celebrate our 25th Anniversary with a gala celebration honoring Youth United for Community Action, Southwest Organizing Project, and Ella Baker Center for Human Rights and Youth Force Coalition for their Books*

*Not Bars campaign;*

Jon Frappier now runs a Northern California security and investigation company-which leads into [this story](#).

Rag Blog contributor Michael D Nolan recounts that during a recent to Cuba he is guided around the the Island by Coqui (Pedro Enrique) Salazar.

*"Now 65, Coqui had a full mane of wavy black hair. As a young man, he fought with Castro in the mountains outside his native Guantanamo...a member of the student movement in Havana working to overthrow the Batista regime."*

It turns out that "Coqui" has a brother living in the US. Michael D Nolan offers to help track down the long lost Pedro Salazar.

*I sent a message to Jon Frappier, a detective friend in California, asking if he would search for a Pedro Salazar, or Pedro Eusebio Salazar, or Peter E. Salazar, living in northern California and born in the late 1950s...*

*Several days after our return to San Francisco, Jon came to my house. I cleared the paper clutter on the yellow Formica kitchen table so he could spread out lists generated by his online investigation. Among them was a Pedro E. Salazar, born in 1957, living on 21st Street in San Francisco with a phone number. We both agreed it was good bet.*

Sure enough the brothers are united. Jon Frappier got to make a Cuban family very happy.

What makes this significant is that the Rag Blog is associated with [Movement for a Democratic Society](#) (MDS)-which is the "adult" support group for the re-established SDS. MDS activists include Van Jones's colleague Betita Martinez and several SDS veterans (including former Obama educational colleagues [Carl Davidson and Mike Klonsky](#))plus several former leaders of the Weather Underground including Bill Ayers, Bernardine Dohrn, Jeff Jones and [Mark Rudd](#).

Rudd and another former Weather Underground member [Marilyn Buck](#) are listed as Rag Blog contributors. Buck apparently blogs from jail-FCI Dublin in California, where she is serving an 80 year sentence for her role

bombing the Capitol.

MDS is also the parent body of [Progressives For Obama](#).



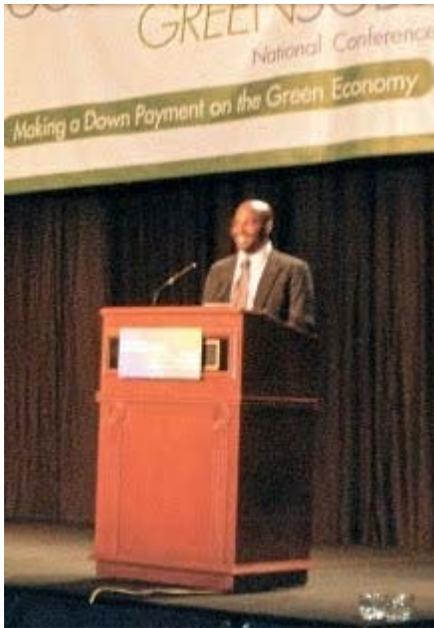
In 2005, Van Jones and Diana Frappier launched the Ella Baker Center's Green-Collar Jobs Campaign. This led to the establishment of the US's first "Green Jobs Corps" in Oakland.



In 2007, Van Jones announced a new national organization [Green For All](#) to take the Green Jobs campaign nationwide.

Diana Frappier [serves on the board](#) of Green For All. Jon and Nancy Frappier are [listed as donors](#) to the organization.

Obama File 81 Former Weather Underground Terrorists and '60s Maoists Nurtured Obama's "Green Jobs" Czar



Fox News has been focusing [much attention](#) lately on president Obama's "Green Jobs Czar" Van Jones' [hard core communist](#) background and [his ties](#) to the influential Apollo Alliance.

A grouping of Green, labor union and social "justice organisations", the Apollo Alliance has had huge influence on the Obama administration and has succeeded in getting Apollo founder and longtime board member Van Jones a job in the White House.

Van Jones helped found Apollo and served on [its board](#) until recently- alongside Gerry Hudson of Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), former Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) supporter Carl Pope and Joel Rogers-founder of the radical New Party-which [Barack Obama joined](#) in Chicago in 1995.

Despite its power Appollo is a relatively small organization on the ground with only [fourteen affiliates](#) nationwide-one of them being Van Jones' tiny Oakland California based Ella Baker Center for Human Rights.

The New York state Apollo Alliance Director is Jeff Jones.

According to [Apollo's website](#),



organization, the Weather Underground. More than that Jones was a founder and one of four key leaders of the organization with Mark Rudd, Bill Ayers and Bernardine Dohrn. Remember those names.

The Weatherman connection to Apollo is hardly surprising. I [revealed here](#) that Van Jones had links in San Francisco to two other former Weathermen supporters Jon and Nancy Frappier.

Jon Frappier's organization DataCenter worked closely with Jones' Ella Baker Center. Coincidentally Nancy Frappier attended a Weather Underground organized Hard Times conference in 1976, with the late Ella J Baker herself.

Jon and Nancy Frappier have both donated to Jones' later creation, Green for All.

Diana Frappier, believed to be a relative of Jon and Nancy has worked with Van Jones in Copwatch and helped Jones found and run both Ella Baker and Green for All.

Jon Frappier has [links to the Rag Blog](#), which lists among its contributors former Weather Underground leader Mark Rudd.

Van Jones was a leader of Bay Area Marxist-Leninist-Maoist organization Standing Together to Organize a Revolutionary Movement (STORM).

Mainly composed of young activists "of colour", STORM worked extremely closely with a grouping of older Maoists-mainly veterans of Line of March and the Venceremos Brigades to Cuba, most of whom in the early 1990's joined the Communist Party USA offshoot Committees of Correspondence (CoC).



*Betita Martinez*

Jones was very close to CoC activist Betita Martinez and her friend of thirty years Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. Martinez and Dunbar-Ortiz have worked together on countless projects in the Bay Area including supporting Van Jones' War Times-anti Iraq War publication in 2002. the pair are now both advisors to the [Catalyst Project](#), a Bay Area radical organization.

*:Our advisory board brings together long-time mentors and comrades who have supported our political and organizational development over the years.*

Van Jones and Martinez were [both involved](#) in a Catalyst Project "Challenging White Supremacy "workshop.

*:"To solve the new century's mounting social and environmental problems, people of color activists and white activists need to be able to join forces. But all too often, the unconscious racism of white activists stands in the way of any effective, worthwhile collaboration. The Challenging White Supremacy workshop is the most powerful tool that I have seen for removing the barriers to true partnerships between people of color and white folks. If the CWS trainings were mandatory for all white activists, the progressive movement in the United States would be unstoppable."*

*:-Van Jones, Executive Director of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights*

When former SDS and Line of March leader and Committees of

Correspondence member Max Elbaum released his book "Revolution in the Air: Sixties Radicals Turn to Lenin, Mao and Che" in 2002-Dunbar-Ortiz, Martinez and Van Jones contributed [these comments](#);

*: "In the many contentious interpretations of the volatile 1960s and their aftermath, one key element is virtually excluded: the independent Marxists who tried to develop a new collective revolutionary project... Finally, here is a book that tells their story, and mine.*

*: Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz*

*: Here is the first in-depth account of the New Communist Movement of the 1970s, from its roots to its demise, and finally we can understand why it inspired thousands of Americans at the time."*

*: Betita Martinez*

*: By unearthing a hidden history of radical US politics, Max Elbaum has erected an invaluable bridge between the generations. Finally, we have one book that can successfully connect the dots between the battles of the 1960s and the emerging challenges and struggles of the new century."*

*: Van Jones*

A book also reveals some connection between Dunbar-Ortiz, Martinez and Jon Frappier. Susanne Jonas the author of *The Battle for Guatemala: Rebels, Death Squads, and US Power* (Westview Press, 1991) [thanks Elizabeth Martinez... Jon Frappier, who first introduced me to Guatemala in 1967... Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, Richard Adams, Jorge Castafieda, Barbara Epstein....](#) for their help with the book.



*Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz*

Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz reveals on [her website](#);

*:Dunbar-Ortiz was also a dedicated anti-war activist and organizer throughout the 1960s and 1970s. During the war years she was a fiery, indefatigable public speaker on issues of patriarchy, capitalism, imperialism, and racism. She worked in Cuba with the Venceremos Brigade and formed associations with other revolutionaries across the spectrum of radical and underground politics, including the SDS, the Weather Underground, the Revolutionary Union....*

As a footnote to the same piece former SDS and Weather Underground leader Mark Rudd adds;

*:Roxanne Dunbar gives the lie to the myth that all New Left activists of the '60s and '70s were spoiled children of the suburban middle classes.*

In 2006 a group of activists from Democratic Socialists of America, Committees of Correspondence, Communist Party USA and former members of SDS and the Weathermen joined forces to create a new organization [Movement for A Democratic Society](#) (MDS).

Key figures in MDS included all four of the key SDS/Weather Underground leaders [Bill Ayers](#), [Bernardine Dorhn](#), Jeff Jones and Mark Rudd, plus several former SDS comrades who had rejected the Weathermen in the late 1960s to take the Maoist road to Revolution.

Dorhn, Jones and Rudd were all MDS board members as were former SDS leaders turned Maoist [Carl Davidson and Mike Klonsky](#) and unsurprisingly [Betita Martinez and Roxanne-Dunbar Ortiz](#).

Several MDS leaders have known or worked with Obama in Chicago- including Ayers, Dorhn, Carl Davidson, Mike Klonsky and Rashid Khalidi. MDS chairman and Committees of Correspondence leader Manning Marable [has written](#);

*What makes Obama different is that he has also been a community organiser. He has read left literature, including my works, and he understands what socialism is.*



*Mark Rudd, far left, Marable centre, black shirt, Jeff Jones second from right MDS conference New York January 2007.*

In early 2008 MDS board members Barbara Ehrenreich and Bill Fletcher Jr (both Democratic Socialists of America members), Tom Hayden (former leader of SDS) and Carl Davidson established [Progressives for Obama](#) to rally far left support behind the Obama campaign. Mark Rudd has endorsed the organization.

MDS/Progressives for Obama has taken a strong interest in who gets appointed to the Obama administration.



Shortly after the November 2008 election, Mark Rudd wrote a column in [The Rag Blog](#), to re-assure leftists alarmed at some of Obama's appointments.

*:If you're anything like me, your inbox fills up daily with the cries and complaints of lefties. Just the mere mention of the names Hillary Clinton and Lawrence Summers alone conjure up a litany of horrendous right-wingers appointed to top level positions.*

*:Betrayal is the name of the game.*

*:But wait a second. Let's talk about a few things:*

*:Obama is a very strategic thinker. He knew precisely what it would take to get elected and didn't blow it...But he also knew that what he said had to basically play to the center to not be run over by the press, the Republicans, scare centrist and cross-over voters away. He made it.*

*:Obama plays basketball. I'm not much of an athlete, barely know the game, but one thing I do know is that you have to be able to look like you're doing one thing but do another. That's why all these conservative appointments are important: the strategy is feint to the right, move left. Any other strategy invites sure defeat. It would be stupid to do otherwise in this environment.*

*:Look to the second level appointments. There's a whole govt. in waiting that Podesta has at the Center for American Progress. They're mostly progressives, I'm told (except in military and foreign policy). Cheney was*

*extremely effective at controlling policy by putting his people in at second-level positions....*

It will be no surprise to learn that [Van Jones was a Fellow](#) at the Center for American Progress.



Carl Davidson has been a huge fan of Van Jones and has pushed his barrow at every opportunity-just as he [pushed Obama's](#) in the 90s and early 00s.

In a March 2009 [The Rag Blog](#) review of Van Jones' book 'Green Collar Economy: How One Solution Can Fix Our Two Biggest Problems' Carl Davidson wrote;

*:It's time to link the newly insurgent U.S. Green Jobs movement with the worldwide efforts for the solidarity economy. Both are answering the call to fight the deepening global recession, and both face common adversaries in the failed "race to the bottom," environment-be-damned policies of global neoliberalism.*

*:That's the imperative facing left-progressive organizers with connections to these two important grassroots movements. It's even more important in the wake of the appointment of a key leader of one of these movements, Van Jones of "Green For All," to a top environmental and urban policy post in the Obama administration.*

*:"Green Collar Economy" was instantly a powerful voice in policy circles. It gained a wider and deeper significance in light of the financial crises that hit the fan soon after it reached the bookstores. Just as the voter revolt against*

*Wall Street helped lift Obama to the Oval Office, so too was Van Jones's urban policy monograph raised into a "What Is To Be Done" manifesto for deep structural reforms capable of busting the onset of a major depression.*

*:Where Van Jones' approach to both the green and solidarity economies most compels our attention is that he starts where the need is greatest, the millions of unemployed and underemployed inner city youth. The structural crises of neoliberal capitalism has long ravaged this sector of our society through deindustrialization, environmental racism and a wrecking ball approach to schools in favor of more prisons. To borrow from Marx, these young people are bound with radical chains, and when they break them with the tools suggested in Green Collar Economy, they free not only themselves, but the rest of us are set in a positive direction as well.*

*:But Green Collar Economy's core mass base remains a united Black and Latino community in close alliance with organized labor, the same engine of change that put Obama in the White House. And by asserting the interests and needs of that base, the green jobs and infrastructure proposals in Obama's stimulus package serve to drive the entire recovery effort in a progressive direction.*

Davidson also promoted Van Jones' vision at the Democratic Socialists of America run [April 2009 Left Forum](#) at Pace University in New York.

*:I had to quickly get to the next panel, since I was on it, and there was only about five minutes between sessions. "Building a Progressive Majority and Advancing a Vision of Socialism" was the title, and it was pulled together by my group, Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism, and chaired by Pat Fry, an SEIU staffer.*

*:I led off by presenting Van Jones's program for Green Jobs for inner city youth, but framing it as a larger structural reform project that could, if done right, unite a progressive majority and help get us out of the current crisis. At the same time, we had to unite a militant minority around socialist tasks, so I offered the solidarity economy movement and its projects as practical*

*examples of cooperative forms that could, within the capitalist present, point to a socialist future.*

There you have it--sextegenarian Maoists, unfulfilled Weathermen, socialists and communists are pushing their agenda in the White House through a mouthpiece they have promoted and nurtured over many years.



"Green Jobs" is a cover for increased socialization of the US economy--driven by a man who only seven years ago was an ultra militant San Francisco street communist.

Now hopefully, you have more understanding as to why Van Jones (and Barack Obama) hold the positions they do today.

### **Obama File 82 Exclusive! Obama, the Communist Van Jones and the Demos Connection.**

Why did President Obama choose a communist --Van Jones -- to be his "Green Jobs Czar"?

Why did Obama risk controversy by appointing a well known street radical to a senior position in the White House?



I have explored Jones' links to former Weather Underground supporters, '60s Maoists and the Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism [here](#)-connections both men have in common.

There is another connection however-one as yet untouched by either the mainstream media or the blogosphere.

In a September 26 2008 article, posted on the website of the radical [Institute for Policy Studies](#), two IPS staffers Phyllis Bennis and Chuck Collins posited 22 names they thought would make suitable appointments for an Obama administration.

Take note that this was several weeks before Obama was even elected.

Collins [recommended](#);

*Van Jones, of the Ella Baker Center, to direct the Commerce Department's new "green jobs initiative,"*

Nearly six months later, on March 10 2009 Van Jones was appointed "Green Jobs Czar" -or more officially Special Adviser for Green Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation at the White House Council on Environmental Quality.

So what's the connection here?

One organization unites Barack Obama, Van Jones and Chuck Collins- [Demos](#) a Fifth Avenue New York based think tank.



A little known, but highly influential organization, Demos is a key component of the "progressive" machine that brought Obama and the Democrats to power in 2008.



Besides being [Director](#), Program on Inequality and the Common Good, at the Institute for Policy Studies, Chuck Collins [works for Demos](#) as Director of the Tax Program -Business for Shared Prosperity.

Incidentally in the mid 1990s, Collins was one of several IPS people who helped organise the New Party-which [Obama joined](#) in 1995 in Chicago.

Van Jones serves on the [Demos Board of Trustees](#).

So where does Obama fit in?

According to the [Demos website](#);

*Demos began as a vision of Charles Halpern--then the president of the Nathan Cummings Foundation and a veteran non-profit entrepreneur. He*

*was troubled by the narrow conversation about America's future. On the eve of the 21st century, it seemed that America no longer had the imagination to tackle its largest problems and build a more just society.*

*Halpern set out to challenge the status quo with a new institution. He envisioned a dynamic hub for creative scholars and cutting-edge practitioners--an organization that combined ideas and action to chart a new set of priorities for America.*

*By 1999, Halpern had assembled a talented working group to develop Demos. Among them were David Callahan, a fellow at the Century Foundation; Rob Fersh, a long-time policy advocate; Stephen Heintz, Vice-President of the East-West Institute; Sara Horowitz, founder of Working Today; Arnie Miller, a leading executive recruiter; Barack Obama, then a state senator from Illinois; David Skaggs, a congressman from Colorado; and Linda Tarr-Whelan, an internationally recognized expert on women and economic development. This working group would eventually form the core of Demos' staff and Board of Trustees.*

The question here is obvious. Why would an obscure Illinois State Senator with a funny name be "cherry picked" to help set up a new "think tank" in New York?

All the others had track records: Heintz was even a member of the "prestigious" Council on Foreign Relations.

Why humble Barack Obama?

One possible connection was Obama's work in the early 1990s [leading Illinois Project Vote](#) and his strong connections to the radical community group ACORN.

Demos worked extremely closely with ACORN and its voter registration wing Project Vote on several projects.

In fact the three organizations could be said to be almost "partners."



*2005 report on Demos/ACORN/Project Vote motor registration project*

[Demos Fellow](#) Lorraine Minnite serves on the [Project Vote board](#).

Demos President Miles Rapoport was one of ACORN's most ardent defenders when the organization was accused of widespread voter registration fraud during the 2008 election.

Another possible connection is through the Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) itself.

The IPS website proudly lists Demos as a "partner" organization.



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[Code Pink: Women for Peace](#)

[Demos](#)

[District of Columbia Grassroots Empowerment](#)

[Project](#)

Several Demos personnel have IPS connections including founder "father of public interest law" Charles Halpern.

In the 1960s Halpern became corporate secretary to IPS. He began to attend IPS seminars and parties at the Institute and at the home of founder Marcus Raskin, where he mixed with radicals such as Paul Goodman and Ivan Ilich.

When Raskin and several other activists were arrested for conspiring to obstruct the military draft during the vietnam War, Halpern helped with their defence. Halpern even flew with Raskin to a meeting with the other defendants and their lawyers at the Greenwich Village home of radical lawyer and secret Communist Party USA member Leonard Boudin-father of future Weather Underground terrorist Cathy Boudin.

Halpern later served as as president of the left leaning Nathan Cummings Fund which was a significant IPS donor.

Several people around Obama have IPS connections including his Chicago mentor, former Congressman Abner Mikva.

In 1979 Don Rose, [a mentor](#) to Obama's right hand man David Axelrod served in the leadership of the IPS spinoff Conference on Alternative State and Local Policies, with Miles Rapoport.

The four founders of [Progressives for Obama](#)-Barbara Ehrenreich, Bill Fletcher Jr, Danny Glover and Tom Hayden all have IPS ties.

Ehrenreich is an IPS Trustee, Bill Fletcher Jr is an IPS Scholar, both are members of Democratic Socialists of America and both helped found the New Party.

Danny Glover chairs the board of IPS "partner organization" TransAfrica Forum and Tom Hayden is a long term IPS associate, going back to Conference on Alternative State and Local Policies days.

Even Saul Alinsky, the Chicago radical who's methods Obama learnt in his "community organizing" days was an occasional IPS lecturer back in the 1960s.

Seven years ago Van Jones was a San Francisco hardcore Alinskyite street communist. After hooking up with the Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism, Democratic Socialists of America, former '60s Maoists, Weather Underground supporters and Demos he managed to land a job in the White House.

Twenty two years ago Barack Obama was a Chicago Alinskyite "community organiser". After hooking up with the [Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism](#), [Democratic Socialists of](#)

[America](#), former ['60s Maoists](#), [Weather Underground supporters](#) and Demos he managed to land a job in the White House.

Could there be a connection?

### **Obama File 83 Obama's Man Van Jones-Many Roads Lead to Cuba, Communism**

Two big questions hang over President Obama's radical "Green Jobs Czar" Van Jones.

Is he still a communist?

Is he a security threat?



Many have assumed that Van Jones' commitment to communism ended when the organization he helped to lead STORM (Standing Together to Organize a Revolutionary Movement) dissolved in 2002.



Yet a 2004 treatise [Reclaiming Revolution: History, Summation, and Lessons from the Work of Standing Together to Organize a Revolutionary Movement](#) written and endorsed by a majority of former STORM members makes it clear that most ex STORMers are still committed to the revolutionary movement;

From page 49.

*When the last sixteen STORM members decided to dissolve, each committed as an individual revolutionary to helping this emerging trend continue to consolidate.*

*Some are building organizations in working class communities of color...Some are promoting revolutionary ideas. Some are developing revolutionary cadre...*

*Some are finding other ways to serve the people.*

Most former STORM members are still active in San Francisco or New

York. The STORM created or staffed organisations [Ella Baker Center for Human Rights](#), [POWER](#), [SOUL](#), [FIERCE](#), [War Times](#) and [Women of Color Resource Center](#) all all going strong and are still receiving mega-bucks from multiple left wing foundations.

All these organizations are still networked with former STORM associates such as Harmony Goldberg, Raquel Lavina, Maria Poblet, Adam Gold, Cindy Wiesner, Jason Negron-Gonzales, Mei-ying Williams or Steve Williams active in one group while serving on the board of another.

Most former Bay Area STORMers are working closely with cadre from the Communist Party USA offshoot Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism (CCDS).

Van Jones himself has long worked with people from the CCDS orbit including Betita Martinez, Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, Linda Burnham, Max Elbaum, Felicia Gustin and Bob Wing.

In February 2006, just over three years after STORM folded and just over three years before being appointed to his White House position, Van Jones was [keynote speaker](#) at a Committees of Correspondence fundraiser in Berkeley.

*The second annual CCDS and Kendra Alexander Foundation Banquet will take place on Sunday, February 19 at the Redwood Gardens community room in Berkeley with Van Jones, a pioneering human rights activist known as a steadfast opponent of police brutality and mass incarceration, as keynote speaker.*

*Jones is now working to create environmentally friendly, "green-collar" jobs for formerly incarcerated persons.*

*The banquet is titled "Towards Building a Progressive Majority" and benefits the Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism*

*and the Kendra Alexander Foundation. The Foundation was named in honor of the visionary leader of the Committees of Correspondence.*

Maybe Jones didn't realise he was addressing a Marxist-Leninist function?  
Maybe he thought it was a Rotary or PTA group?

Of even more concern are the close ties between STORM , the Bay Area CCDS, foreign communists and Cuba.



*Venceremos Brigadistas entering US from Canada*

According to "Reclaiming Revolution" page 37 several STORM members traveled to Cuba in 1999 as part of the notorious Venceremos Brigades.

*One of the most formative "political education sessions" of this period was a group trip to Cuba in the summer of 1999.*

*Several STORM members participated in the Venceremos Brigade to see and support one of the world's few surviving socialist states.*

*Members came back with a heightened understanding of both socialism and capitalism and a stronger commitment to red politics.*

As STORM seldom exceeded 20 members, it is very likely that Van Jones, as a leader of the organisation was on that, or another, Cuba trip.

Surely a good question for some enterprising journalist?

Three STORM leaders also travelled to South Africa in 1998 for the South African Communist Party conference.

It is worth remembering that the Venceremos Brigades were founded in 1969 by Students for a Democratic Society radicals [Carl Davidson and Tom Hayden](#).

*Davidson and Tom Hayden take credit for having launched in 1969 the "Venceremos Brigades," which covertly transported hundreds of young Americans to Cuba to help harvest sugar cane and interact with Havana's communist revolutionary leadership. (The Brigades were organized by Fidel Castro's Cuban intelligence agency, which trained "brigadistas" in guerrilla warfare techniques, including the use of arms and explosives.)*

Incidentally Hayden and Davidson were two of the five founders of a new organization in 2008-Progressives for Obama. Davidson has a [personal history](#) with Obama when they worked together in the Chicago New Party and in anti Iraq War activism.

STORM associate Mei-ying Ho traveled to Cuba with the 2004 Venceremos Brigade. Now married to another STORM associate Steve Williams, Mei-ying Williams is involved with the Women of Color Resource Center where she works with Linda Burnham and well known radical and CCDS leader Angela Davis.



Steve Williams, who has been to South Africa, Cuba and Venezuela, now runs POWER-People Organized to Win Employment Rights. He worked on the organizing committee of anti Iraq War magazine War Times with Van Jones, Betita Martinez, Linda Burnham, Max Elbaum, Felicia Gustin, Bob Wing and Adam Gold in the early 2000s.

In July 2009 Steve Williams represented POWER at the CCDS National Convention in San Francisco.

According to [Carl Davidson](#)-elected as one of CCDS's four new co-leaders at the conference;

*The panel featured responses to the "Democracy Charter" by Bill Fletcher, Jr., editor of Black Commentator, Michael Eisenscher of US Labor Against the War, Jacqueline Cabasso from Western States Legal Foundation, Frank del Campo from the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, and Steve Williams of People Organized to Win Employment Rights. Bill Fletcher, Jr. cast the Charter as a political and social guide for mass struggle."*

Jacqueline Cabasso is a Communist Party USA supporter, Bill Fletcher Jr is with Democratic Socialists of America and was with Davidson and Tom Hayden one of the five key founders of [Progressives for Obama](#).

The conference attracted several international guests;



*Helmut Scholz of Die Linke, Germany; Chris Matlhako of the Communist Party of South Africa, and Angela Davis of CCDS.*

*International guests included Chris Matlhako from the South African Communist Party and Marcos Garcia from the Venezuelan Embassy in DC gave a picture of protracted battles against neo-liberalism and their efforts to build and maintain unity on the left in their countries.*

*Helmut Scholz, a leader of Die Linke (The Left Party) of Germany, described the unity efforts between groups in East and West Germany that brought together its forerunner, the Party of Democratic Socialism, made up of the former East German Communists, and groupings of Left Social Democrats from the West. Their common task now, he explained, was making sure the burden of the capitalist crisis was not placed on the working class.*

*Jackeline Rivera, an FMLN deputy to the legislature of El Salvador, was warmly received. She revealed how, in their recent electoral victory, the*

*FMLN saw two left groups break away, and the national unity efforts that followed.*

*Solidarity messages to CCDS were read out from Cuba and Vietnam and "The Internationale" was sung.*

Carl Davidson is of course also a [big fan and promoter](#) of Van Jones' work.

Van Jones associates Linda Burnham, Bob Wing, Betita Martinez, Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, Linda Burnham, Max Elbaum, and Bob Wing are all veterans of the Venceremos Brigades or multiple trips to former East Bloc countries.

Jones' friend and ally [Betita Martinez](#) was an early Cuban visitor;

*In 1959, three months after the Cuban Revolution claimed victory, Martinez went to Cuba to witness a successful anti-colonial, socialist struggle. This trip to Cuba had a profound impact on her."*

*In addition to Cuba, Martinez later traveled to the Soviet Union, Poland, Hungary, Vietnam (during the war) and China to witness and observe how people were implementing socialism.*

Another close ally, Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz, worked in Cuba with the Venceremos Brigades and with other revolutionaries including the Students for a Democratic Society and its terrorist offshoot the Weather Underground. She also worked in London in the 1960s with the South African Communist Party controlled African National Congress.

Not to mention over a hundred trips to Nicaragua, mainly in Sandinista times.

There is also another Cuban connection that is possibly even more concerning.

When Van Jones ran the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, the organization was very close to another Bay Area institution-[DataCenter](#).



Founded by Jon Frappier, a [former supporter](#) of the Weather Underground Organization, Datacenter is essentially the intelligence hub of the US left.

The Oakland California based organisation *provides strategic information & research training to communities advocating for dignity, justice & civil rights.*"

According to a history published on [DataCenter's website](#);

1977

*DataCenter—an activist library and publication center—is founded in affiliation with the North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA) by Jon Frappier, Fred Goff, Loretta & Harry Strharsky and 40 dedicated volunteers.*

Further DataCenter activities included;

1979

*Establish Corporate Profile Project for clients such as United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations & customized research service for immigration attorneys representing Central Americans seeking political asylum.*

1980

*Publish press profiles, The Reagan File, on Ronald Reagan and his*

*policies on labor, El Salvador, foreign policy, and military policy in Asia.*

1983

*Expand Search Service to include corporate accountability research to support community, labor, and corporate campaigns and political asylees from all over the world.*

Incredibly DataCenter also admits to being an "information" gatherer for Cuban "institutions".

1991

*Launch the Cuba Project/Conexiones to respond to information needs of institutions in Cuba & facilitates information exchange between U.S. and Cuban colleagues for the next ten years*



DataCenter's ties to Jones' Ella Baker Center are close. Diana Frappier who helped Jones establish and run the Center is believed to be a relative of Jon Frappier.

Celina Ramirez worked as a Policy Director at the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, 2006 and in 2006-2007 served on the DataCenter board.

In 2002 DataCenter celebrated its 25th Anniversary with a gala celebration honoring;

*Youth United for Community Action, Southwest Organizing Project, and Ella Baker Center for Human Rights and Youth Force Coalition for their Books Not Bars campaign*

This is the environment Van Jones sprang from. These are his "roots".

Has Jones abandoned the values he held and the people he worked with up until a few months ago just because he now has more power, money and influence?

Working in the White House is (or should be) a high security job.

Van Jones now has access to all sorts of high level information and gossip.

He has President Obama's ear on economic and social matters that could dramatically effect the US economy and eventually US military power and security.

Let's just hope Van Jones has abandoned his core convictions and past associations in last 6 months shall we?

After all the Obama White House claims to have extensively vetted all appointments-so he must be OK.