The Connecticut Coalition For Peace and Justice presents films on May 19 and June 9th

The Atomic Café
Monday, May 19th at 7:00 PM
Friends Meeting House
144 South Quaker Lane
West Hartford

The atomic bomb changed the world forever, and this wonderful film shows how Americans expressed wonder over atomic weapons and then suffered from the pervasive fear that America would be on the receiving end of a Soviet nuclear attack. Atomic Cafe is a brilliant compilation of archival film clips beginning with the first atomic bomb detonation in the New Mexico desert. The footage, much of it produced as government propaganda, follows the story of the bomb through the two atomic attacks on Japan that ended World War II to the bomb's central role in the cold war. Shown along with the famous "duck and cover" Civil Defense films are lesser-known clips, many of which possess a bizarre black humor when seen today, and it's easy to see why this film, which was produced in the early 1980s, became a cult classic sometimes referred to as the "nuclear Reefer Madness." Bellicose congressmen are shown advocating a freewheeling policy of nuclear strikes against China during the Korean War, suburban families are shown enjoying the comforts of their bomb shelters, and footage of a boy trying to bicycle to a bomb shelter in a "bomb survival suit" his father designed is priceless. Atomic Cafe is at once clever and poignant, a canny and offbeat look at a significant period in American history.

In 1923, Vladmir Jabotinsky – father of the Zionist right – wrote: "Zionist colonization... can proceed and develop only under the protection of a power that is independent of the native population – behind an IRON WALL, which the native population cannot breach."

From that day on, these words became the official and unspoken policy of the Zionist movement and, later, the State of Israel. Colonies, often referred to as "settlements," were used to solidify the Zionist foothold throughout historic Palestine.

Following the 1967 occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, more than 200 settlements and outposts have been built in these territories, in violation of international law. The Iron Wall exposes this phenomenon and follows the timeline, size, and population of the settlements, reveals how their construction has been a cornerstone of Israeli policy, and demonstrates how the Wall secures them as permanent and irreversible facts on the ground.

This documentary warns that a contiguous and viable Palestinian state is becoming no longer possible, and that the chances for a peaceful resolution of the conflict are slipping away.

The Iron Wall features interviews with prominent Israeli and Palestinian peace activists and political analysts, including Jeff Halper, Akiva Eldar, Hind Khoury, and others. Also included are eye-opening interviews with Israeli settlers and soldiers, and Palestinian farmers.

Also:
Last Friday of each month: Hope Out Loud Coffeehouse 7:30 PM at Alchemy Lounge 203 New Britain Ave Hartford (May 30th, June 27th, July 25th and August 29th)

Wednesday, August 6th 2008: Hiroshima/Nagasaki Remembrance: 6:00 PM, Hartford’s Riverside Park
Sunday, September 14th 2008: Seventh Annual Hope Out Loud Peace Festival: noon, Bushnell Park

For more information; visit: www.HopeOutLoud.org