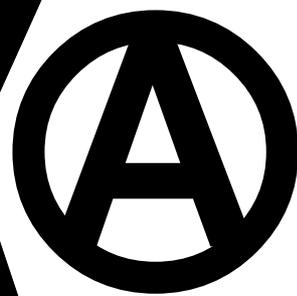


resistance

anarchist bulletin

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“Let them eat shrapnel”

...must be Bush and Blair reason for dropping cluster bombs and food parcels in Afghanistan. But opposition to the war is growing on the home front:

Anti-war movement

THE RECENT anti-war demonstrations in London have been the largest protests seen in the capital for years, with tens of thousands attending. There have also been many other demonstrations across Britain and around the world, all of which have shown the level of opposition to the war and, equally important, the fact that people are prepared to get out on to the street and voice their opposition.

For an anti-war movement to develop we have to understand the reasons for the large scale opposition.

September 11th and the media

After the attack on the World Trade Centre everyone had an opinion of some sort about it and what should be done as a result of it. The media, however, immediately started telling us all what we should be thinking and feeling. There was no subtlety whatsoever. We were all hit full on by a PR sledgehammer of the only 'acceptable' opinion. This, we reckon, got a lot of people's backs up.

The left diversion

The media have been so one sided the left wing establishment figure heads (Tony Benn, Arthur Scargill, Ken Livingstone, etc) haven't filled their usual role of providing a loyal opposition. This lack of space for any alternative, no matter how weak, could have been a big motivating factor for people to get out and speaking up for themselves.

Media friendly liberals and socialists of the CND and Leninist parties like the SWP have shown that their decline is sadly not yet terminal. Turning up at Hyde Park demonstrations is like entering a time warp and landing back in old leftie land. Tired old pacifist slogans have been dusted off and ludicrous nonsense about supporting the 'anti-imperialist' Taliban is on offer from the more deranged sects.



Although the marches are single issue demonstrations, there can be little doubt that a whole load of people there were motivated out of a reality that goes way beyond the "Stop the War" message of mass produced placards.

Recession

The recession is hurting a lot of people: layoffs, redundancies, wage cuts. The ruling class have used the September 11th attacks to justify an offensive against workers. Mass sackings in the airline industry that had long been planned have been rushed through. Capitalists are using the war to justify their re-structuring. An effective anti-war movement will be linked with workplace struggles.

Anti-capitalists

At the last demonstration the plod knew where the potential "troublemakers" were situated. The anarchists and other anti-capitalists marched together with a Samba band, which was escorted by a heavy police presence. At first it looked like the cops were going to attempt to separate off this block. This is something we need to be vigilant of, as well as that tried and tested tactic of the police provoking people in to kicking off in order to move in and isolate or arrest them.

As it turned out the splitting up of the anti-capitalist block was no bad thing. By mingling in with the rest of the march anarchists were able to spread the message of revolutionary opposition to the terror of capitalism, governments and religious bigotry to more people. Large demonstrations can be inspiring but we need to build against the war in all areas of life: at work, with friends and in our local areas. ★

All wars are terrorist

**BIN LADEN
BUSH
BLAIR**



Anarchist Federation
www.afed.org.uk
tel: 07946 214 590



GET STUCK IN!

This anti-war sticker and more are available for a donation from: London Anarchist Federation, c/o 84b, Whitechapel High St, London, E1 7QX.

DOMINANCE & SUBMISSION

THE CURRENT military adventure by the White House and its allies in Afghanistan and the anti-Islamic outbursts here in Britain requires anarchists to clarify their views.

Revolutionary anarchism is atheist. Anarchists have always rejected all authority, not least that of a mythical god. Islam in contrast is all about submission to such a nonentity. Muslims are essentially enslaved not to a god but to a set of bogus revelations found in the Koran. And, it is the task of Islam to ensure that all of the peoples in the world are similarly enslaved.

Modern, fundamentalist Islam seeks to destroy the gains of enlightened thought and replace them with the values of a religious leader from the seventh century. To the true Muslim, the words of the Koran are literal truth, valid for all peoples at all time.

Slavery is at least tolerated within Islam and half of humanity, women, are considered inferior to men. Women are subject to all sorts of disabilities, starting from the outrageously sexist assertion that men are their protectors and maintainers (Koran 4:34). Furthermore should wives be disloyal, husbands are ultimately instructed to beat them (ibid).

In legal cases women's evidence is considered less than men's, and in all social respects except for the family home, the women has inferior status.

Anarchists have always advocated sexual freedom. Not so in Islam where marriage is the only acceptable sexual relationship. For example, according to one Koranic verse, sex between unmarried people is punishable as follow: "Flog each of them with a hundred lashes" (sura 24:2). In Islam, homosexuality deserves even harsher punishment.

Islam enshrines inequality and promotes commerce (seventh century style that is). However, those with adequate means are required to give the needy 2.5% of their capital assets per year, hardly a massive wealth redistribution.

Given the Muslim view that the Koran contains the word of God, the severest punishment must be meted out either here on earth or in hell fire. There can be no tolerance for non-believers and a variety of other belief systems. To give up Islam is to invite the death penalty.

So, Islam is an enemy of all freedom loving people. Anarchism alone recognises the need to destroy all gods and replace them with human solidarity, freedom and equality. It is certain that, if given the opportunity, Islam would introduce another form of authoritarianism in Britain and across the globe. It must be resisted. ★

CELEBRITY PRAT OF THE MONTH

"Anti-capitalists are the same as Bin Ladens terrorists...similar aims to Al-Qaeda... enjoy the fruits – mobile phones, Nike trainers – of what they're protesting about" Clare Short, MP

THIS FROM the Woman who made her name railing against the tawdry tabloids use of page 3 girls. Now this same woman, turned warmonger with an overworked mouth, is more than happy for her boss (Blair) to cosy up to that same vile print-rags proprietor, Rupert Murdoch, in New Labours quest for popularity and votes; that is when the space can be spared between its pages devoted to celebrity nonsense and you guessed it, still page 3 girls. People who speak with forked tongue shouldn't give lectures Ms. Short. For the record, absolutely we oppose capitalism and aim to bring about its demise, you can depend on that. But we're coming from a



Short: Prat

position of class struggle, not one of religious fanaticism financed by Middle-East multi-millionaires whose wealth was built on capitalist exploitation. The people who armed, trained and set Bin Laden on his way, i.e. the US and the West, are infinitely closer to the Bin Ladens of this world than we could ever be. It is deliberate deceit to claim that anti-capitalists have anything in common with Al-Qaeda or anyone else of that ilk, including the Bush/Blair sheep like war coalition, who self righteously slaughter innocent people without feeling a tinge of remorse.

Our position has been the same since day one: No War but the Class War. Politicians and warlords are culpable, innocent men, women and children are not. If capitalist mouthpieces can't tell the difference we can: the ruling class are the *real* enemy. ★

FIGHTING AGAINST THE JAMAICAN POLICE

POLITICAL and social unrest continues in Jamaica as reported in **resistance** #25. Police incursions in to working class areas have met considerable resistance. In one case a rasta named 'Dread' was arrested for dealing ganja, until a crowd of people attacked the cops and set him free. Incidents like these imply genuine solidarity between people. This tendency is not limited to Kingston.

A few days later, again in Savanna-la-Mar, cops shot 23 year-old Junior Wright, in the back of the head as he ran from them,

POSTIES RESISTANCE

POST office workers are still fighting Royal Mail/Consignia plans to impose more work and shutdown militant delivery/sorting offices. The last few weeks have seen a series of wildcat strikes, mostly in and around London. Around 80 workers walked off the job in Acton, and workers at six other delivery offices came out in support. This is a fairly regular occurrence amongst Royal Mail workers: who says working class solidarity is dead?

Posties in Waltham Forest recently stuck two fingers up to bullying bosses by staging a wildcat strike. The action started in South Woodford with 35 workers walking off the job. They were followed by workers at Leyton sub district office who had their own grievances, which included racist abuse from managers, and the axing of the 9.30 am collection. This last issue has seen a number of wildcat strikes in East London. We can feel a bit of a storm brewing. Postal workers have shown time and time again that they are not going to take it lying down. Is another national wildcat on the cards? Watch this space. ★

killing him. Witnesses insist he was unarmed. They began rioting and continued for several days, smashing up two high street banks and blocking roads. When cops tried to move the blockades they were stoned.

The spontaneous, "illegal" solidarity shown recently by ordinary people leaves its participants in danger, but it is hard to see what course other than the co-ordination of such courageous defiance will change things for the Jamaican working class. ★

NO WTO



Korean Farmers protest against the WTO

ON 13th Nov demonstration against the World Trade Organisation meeting took place around the world.

20, 000 rice farmers protested against the WTO's plans to further open up South Korea's agricultural markets. Among the farmers demands was for the South Korean government to withdraw from the WTO, and to send surplus grain to starvation stricken North Korea. The farmers later stormed the headquarters of the Grand National Party and clashed with riot police.

And closer to home the newly formed Surrey Activist Group took to the streets. Email: saggymail@hushmail.com ★

UK - Bristol



Posted to www.ainfos.ca/en: "IN RESPONSE to the terrorist war being waged on the innocent people of Afghanistan, anarchists in Bristol have taken action against state and corporate property...the windows of the armed forces recruitment offices in the centre were graffitied with glass etching fluid "War of Lies", accompanied by a paint bomb and glued locks...a McDonalds was attacked; most windows smashed, anti-capitalist war graffiti and locks glued. It was shut the next day. Let "collateral damage" mean more property damage. No more capitalist war and terror. Sabotage the machine! To be continued..." "...6th November, Bristol...Starbucks cafe was smashed up, and forced to close the next day...the same night a Barclays Bank was spray painted ; Sabotage the war / no peace under capitalism. To be continued..."

UK - Nottingham



ON 13th of Oct around 20 people picketed the Armed Forces Careers Centre in Nottingham forcing the centre to close for the day. For more info Email: nottingham_af@hotmail.com

UK - Brighton



ON 2nd Nov about 20 people from Brighton Against the War occupied the Navy Unit at Sussex University. The occupiers barricaded themselves inside the building for several hours, hanging a banner from the window reading 'War I\$ State Terrorism!'. One of the university's daily demonstrations against the war moved to the outside of the building being occupied to give the occupiers support. A crowd of around 150 people gathered outside, chanting and handing out leaflets.

To contact Brighton Against the War email: nwbtcw@yahoo.co.uk or write to Brighton Against the War c/o Brighton Peace and Environment Centre, 43 Gardner Street, Brighton.

UK - Hereford



"ON 10th Nov, there was an anti-war rally in Hereford. It drew 100-150 people. We drew a lot of attention from passing shoppers. Banners and placards were held saying things like "Food not bombs" and "Stop the war!" On the 24th October a small number of anarchists leafleted the public calling for no war but the class war. The reception was generally good, apart from the squaddie in the Armed Forces Careers place we stood outside who was close to punching us when we tried to give him a leaflet!" For more info Email: dodgydeals@tesco.net

Ireland



"AT THE Irish national rally against the war at Parnell Sq. Dublin, the AF were there with stall and banner, along with over a thousand people. Irish **resistance** were considered quite a hit (man, even a nun took one!).

The SWP were to the right of us (as usual), and had hired a float and some Labour minister to speak on their behalf - not that their leader didn't speak...Christ!...the bloke didn't draw breath once.

Then came the usual desultory march up and down O'Connell Street, and round and round, and up and down the hill again, while the lefties bleated '2 legs good, 4 legs better', and preached again, saying 'Blessed are the cheesemakers'...or something like that."

For more info contact: Anarchist Federation Ireland, Tel: 07951 079719 or Email: ireaf@yahoo.ie

Turkey



ON 1st of Nov, Anarchist Platform demonstrated against war, poverty, and capitalism in Istanbul. With bread (symbolizing poverty) and black flags in their hands. Police attacked the anarchists and 58 anarchists were arrested; all beaten brutally, one was hospitalized because of a serious injury.

The demo started in the main campus of Istanbul University. Anarchists carrying the banner 'CAPITALISM KILLS IN WAR AND PEACE' started marching. While marching to the main entrance slogans, 'Capitalism kills in War and Peace!', 'Capitalist war mongers: oil giants and arm traders!' 'More patience more poverty! More patience more misery! It's enough, no more slavery!' were yelled.

When the anarchists reached the main entrance, they continued to yell the slogans and broke down the chained gate leading to Beyazit Square.

Greece



A DEMO was organised by anti-authoritarians and anarchists against the war. About 400 people marched to the main and most commercial streets of Thessaloniki with main slogan: "We take the streets against terror".

Yugoslavia



THERE was an anti-war demonstration organized in front of the US embassy in Belgrade. Around 20 people gathered in front of the police line, burned the US flag and started throwing things at the US embassy. Five of them were arrested but were later released. ★

Hastings drivers strike

40 Stagecoach bus drivers went on strike over pay during early November in Hastings. The drivers also picketed the Beaufort Road depot.

Aussie Wildcats

Australian air workers have shown the way to fight restructuring. 4,000 Sydney airport workers went out on a wildcat strike, rejecting Ansett bosses plans to layoff 16,000 fellow workers. Quantas workers refuellers and baggage handlers have shut down many flights by unannounced walkouts. Melbourne also saw fierce resistance, including the use of vehicles to blockade a plane that the New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark was travelling in. She was forced to use a helicopter to escape from angry workers.

General Strike in Serbia

Several thousand people across Serbia have taken part in demonstrations against a draft labour law that would freeze pay in state-owned companies. In Belgrade, up to 5,000 people attended a rally at the main government building. Demonstrations have also been organised in other cities. They are part of a general strike against the Governments plans to lower wages/conditions.

Russia

In the latest of a series of escalating disputes, including a wave of wildcat strikes, following the 1998 financial crash and ruble devaluation, workers at Ivanovo Mashzavod machine building factory went out on unofficial strike action.

Bypassing the Local and National Union Structures the workers won significant concessions, and are now facing the anger of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions (FNPR), who work hand in glove with the Kremlin. Many workers are rejecting the Unions and turning to forms of autonomous direct action such as armed occupation of workplaces, taking supplies from stores and refusing to pay for services such as gas and buses.

Mozambique strike back on

Aluminium plant workers at Mozal have gone back on strike after promises of no disciplinary measures for earlier strike action were not respected. Bosses and Unions hatched the deal to trick workers into returning without their demands being met, but as soon as workers realised what was happening a walkout developed.

Minnesota

More than 28,000 Minnesota state employees staged a walk out. With more than half the state workers on strike, government services shut down. ★

INSIDE INFORMATION

Eduardo Garcia

ANARCHIST prisoner Eduardo Garcia Marcias was released from Madrids Soto del Real prison recently. High court judges ruled there was no evidence to justify his continued detention. Eduardo sends thanks to all who voiced their support for his campaign over the last year.

Anti-war protesters imprisoned

IN 1999 during a demonstration in Rome against the NATO war in Serbia, a group tried to get to the headquarters of the ruling PDS party. The comrades were forced to stop at the beginning of the street as there was a security barricade there. The Rome special police falsely accused the three of using "violence consisting of an attack, also of throwing harmful objects, on the Forces of Order".

The accusation is false as the comrades stopped at the barricade without any offensive moves towards the police. On 6th Nov they were given sentences of 7 months imprisonment, plus 4 months for one who

was wearing a motorcycle helmet while the police aimed tear gas cannisters at the protesters heads in Piazza Venezia.

For more info email: meletta@aconet.it

American anarchist gets three years

ROBERT Middaugh was sentenced to three years in prison, charged with assaulting a police officers during the Mayday fiasco in Long Beach this year. The police rioted in reaction to an anarchist gathering. A "Reclaim the Streets" like action was planned with about 200 anarchists mostly dressed in black. During the demonstration a clash with the police took place which resulted in over 100 people being arrested.

Most of those who were arrested originally were all given basic charges of felony - "conspiracy to riot" and misdemeanor "failure to disperse." A handful of anarchists arrested, such as Robert Middaugh, faced more severe charges.

Most of those arrested from Mayday have pleaded out with a years probation and at this point six are still being tried. As for Mr. Middaugh's day in court, the Prosecutor threw everything they could at him with charges totalling 14 years and ten months. In addition, Middaugh was on pro-

bation relating to his arrest. During this incident he was charged with assault on a police officer and was given 'a strike' for this arrest. This added another 3 years to his prison sentence. Although some charges were to run concurrent, Middaugh was looking at 16-17 years in prison, plus another 'strike' against him.

The courts gave Middaugh a choice: either 17 years behind bars plus a strike or 3 years plus a strike. With no other option Middaugh took the plea bargain. When released if he is convicted of another strike, he is facing 25 year to life.

Please write to Rob Middaugh #6859467, PO Box 86164, Los Angeles, 90086-0164, USA. For more info contact: Los Angeles Anarchist Black Cross, PO BOX 3671, Anaheim, Ca, 92803 -3671, USA or email: LA_blackcross@hotmail.com or Blackcross@disinfo.net

New Address

BRIGHTON Anarchist Black Cross have moved their website, they are now at: www.brightonabc.org.uk

They also have a new postal address: Brighton ABC, P.O. Box 74, Brighton, BN1 4ZQ, UK. ★



Subvert and resist

Take precautions when going on demonstrations and don't take cameras, booze or drugs. If you're nicked give your name and address then say 'no comment' to any other questions.

DECEMBER: 1st: Essex demonstration against the war: 2pm Colchester War Memorial, Colchester High St. Email: peace@essex.ac.uk

5th: International strike of pupils and students against war. For more info Email: nonalaguerrelille@altern.org

8th: Radical Bookfair in Manchester at MERCi, Bridge 5 Mill, 22a Beswick St., Ancoats, Manchester M4 7HS 12-7pm. Email: ludred@hotmail.com or Tel: 0161 273 1736

10th: Stop Star Wars. Menwith Hill US Spy Base Contact: Womenwith Hill Womens Peace campaign, P.O Box 105 Harrogate, HG3 2FE. Tel: 01943 468 593

10th: A mass action to disrupt the smooth running of the war machine is being planned for at Northwood, the British forces command and control centre. Email: d10northwood@gmx.net

12th: Brighton Screening of Injustice Film, about deaths in police custody which the cops tried to ban Cinematique, Middle Street, Brighton 8pm. Tel: 01273 384300

15th: National march and rally against the War, Glasgow. Tel: 0141 423 1222.

JANUARY 2002: 26th - Prison Abolition Conference, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London. For more info or to help out send SAE to Prison Abolition Conference, BM Hurricane, London, WC1N 3XX

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Join the resistance

The **Anarchist Federation** is an organisation of class struggle anarchists aiming to abolish capitalism and all oppression to create a free and equal society. This is **Anarchist Communism**.

We see today's society as being divided into two main opposing classes: **the ruling class** which controls all the power and wealth, and **the working class** which the rulers exploit to maintain this. By racism, sexism and other forms of oppression, as well as war and environmental destruction the rulers weaken and divide us. Only the **direct action** of working class people can defeat these attacks and ultimately overthrow capitalism.

As the capitalist system rules the whole world, its destruction must be complete and world wide. We reject attempts to reform it, such as working through parliament and national liberation movements, as they fail to challenge capitalism itself. Unions also work as a part of the capitalist system, so although workers struggle within them they will be unable to bring about capitalism's destruction unless they go beyond these limits.

Organisation is vital if we're to beat the bosses, so we work for a united anarchist movement and are affiliated to the International of Anarchist Federations.

The Anarchist Federation has members across Britain fighting for the kind of world outlined above. For more info contact:

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