

# Socialist ACTION

**BUILDING AN ALLIANCE FOR SOCIALISM**

## HANDS OFF LIBYA

The US Government, which has military bases in 69 countries and organises the worlds largest terror network, has again struck out at a country which refuses to be ruled from Wall Street.

Reagan and Thatcher claim the Libyan Government organises "terrorists" worldwide. They smear all Arabs (except for a King or two) as subhuman murderers. This also goes for the Palestinians, Angolans, Cubans, and Nicaraguans, for the FMLN and ANC.

Just as during the miners' strike when Scargill was presented as a mad-man and miners were "mind-less thugs" because they stood up to Thatcher and McGregor, Quadaffi and all Libyans are now getting a similar treatment. This is racism, and its being used to cover the real reasons for US and British imperialism's attacks on Libya.

In 1969 a military "Revolutionary Command Council" took power out of the hands of King Idris and the Libyan aristocracy. While remaining a capitalist government it carried out measures in the interests of all Libya's 3.6 million people.

Literacy is now 40%, primary education is universal and all education is free. A minimum monthly wage of \$500 covers most Libyan workers.

The Libyan Government nationalised 4 oil companies outright and took 51% of all the others. These were US and British oil companies. The British ex-colonial rulers have not forgotten this.

Libya also gives internationalist aid to those fighting imperialism. Libya gives support to anti-imperialist forces in Chad, Palestine, Angola Iran and Nicaragua among others.

Thatcher and Reagan have decided they must hit back. In the Philippines and Haiti they have just lost their puppets to popular rebellion. Egypt, South Korea and others now look less stable. The Contra mercenaries are being defeated in Nicaragua. The Duarte regime in El Salvador is being further isolated.

Reagan and Thatcher must make a decisive strike against the colonial revolution to defend their super-profits. The bombing of Libya is the result of this need to strike back.

Just as the Libyans offered international solidarity to the NUM during its year long stike, we must put our efforts to stopping any further escalation of attacks on those fighting imperialism for the right to determine their own futures.

The Thatcher Government has shown all those who were drawn into the "Hands Off Libya Committee" that we need to stand along side all those fighting imperialism.

Many people from the Pakistani community, Labour Party, CND, AAM, CASC, ISG and others responded to the call for action to these attacks. We must ensure that this hapens again - immediately there are further attacks.

Our ability to defend Libya from further attack depends on our willingness to organise. This defence of Libya can only be strengthened by the existence of other solidarity campaigns in Nottingham - Anti-Apartheid Movement, Central America Solidarity Campaign, Irish Solidarity Group.

We need to stand alongside all those fighting British imperialism.

Workers and Oppressed Nations of the World Unite !

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