

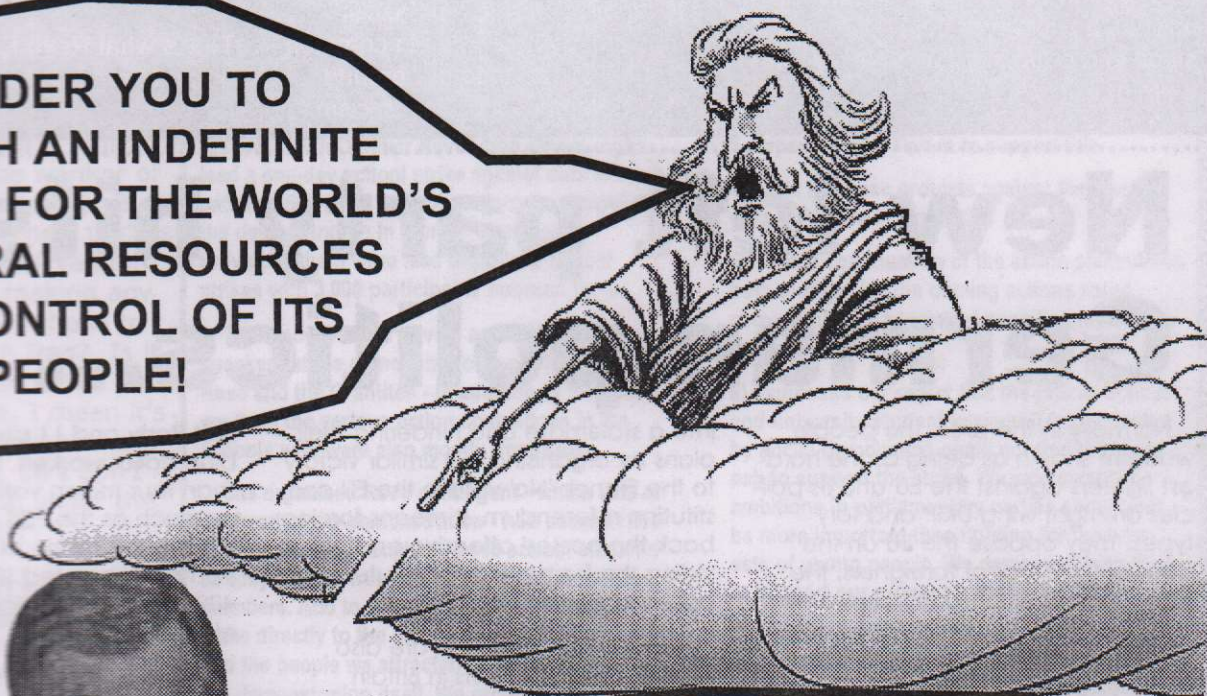
REVOLUTION

socialist youth movement

30P / DONATION

ISSUE 73

Bush reveals his fantasy...



I ORDER YOU TO
LAUNCH AN INDEFINITE
WAR FOR THE WORLD'S
NATURAL RESOURCES
AND CONTROL OF ITS
PEOPLE!



**SURE
THING
GOD!**

**...time for regime change in the
USA?? WE THINK SO!!!!**

A word from the Editor

The attempts to strengthen US, EU, British and other imperialists have left over a hundred thousand dead in Iraq, millions starving in Malawi and millions having their healthcare, pensions and education taken away from them in Europe.

But by attacking workers and the oppressed across the world capitalism also draws them into fighting back and organising. This can be seen in Germany in the growth of the Left Party (below), in Britain with the growth of anti racist campaigns (pages 6 and 7) and in Iraq with the growth of a resistance movement that is causing the US serious problems (page 11).

We certainly live in exciting times. When divergent movements against war, racism and neo-liberalism are coming together to oppose the present world order. Co-ordination and strategy are the key.

Anti deportation and anti fascist groups clearly have a lot in common and should work together around common demands against racism,

fascism and the causes of their support. Since the bombings they're also clearly linked to the anti war movement and all these struggles have the shared responsibility to fight together.

But co-ordination on its own isn't enough. The European Social Forum shows this. Despite getting the movement together it has failed to deal with the reason why people have to fight against racism, poverty and war: capitalism. What is needed in all areas of struggle, and in the ESF in Athens next spring is unity, but unity with direction. And a direction towards victory means fighting for the overthrow of capitalism and a socialist world.

That's what Revo is all about - read on and find out more!

New left party hits German politics...

Normally in the press the people who are shown as being as the hardest fighters against the EU and its policies are right wing UKIP and Tory types. They oppose the EU on the basis of their fear of foreigners, the protection of British capitalism over European capitalism and their hatred of 'bureaucratic' state intervention into the affairs of business.

This hasn't been the case in Germany where in the recent elections the Left Party won 8.7% of the total vote and blocked Schroder from power forcing the SPD (the German version of the Labour Party) into an awkward coalition with the CDU (the German Tories) which looks set for stalemate from the outset.

So, what has all this got to do with the EU? Just as Blair and the Labour Party have been cutting pensions, healthcare and education in Britain, Schroder and the SPD have been carrying out similar attacks on the working class in Germany. Schroder's 'Agenda 2010' was his plan to do to Germany what Thatcher did for the UK - slash public spending, cut taxes for the rich and attack the unions. This is part of an EU wide offensive by the bosses.

Sections of the working class in Germany forcing the SPD and CDU

into a stalemate and hindering their plans by organising is a similar victory to the French 'No' vote in the EU constitution referendum. It means forcing back the bosses' offensive and providing the framework for a future fight against capital.

The German elections are also important for Socialists in Britain because they show that a break by sections of the working class away from 'their' traditional party can take place and have successes. Not only that, it also shows that fighting along class lines and that what isn't needed is a party of the middle class or the friendly capitalist (eg. Lib Dems, the Green Party and RESPECT).

The large vote for the Left Party expressed a conscious wish to break from the SPD's policy of doing the bosses dirty work by a substantial section of workers. The Left Party brought together the PDS (ex-Communist Party from East Germany) and the WASG, a group largely made up of former Social Democrat and trade union bureaucrats in an electoral alliance.

The party's strong showing came from the votes of the unemployed, workers, pensioners and sections of the youth. According to polls around 23 per cent of the unemployed voted

Left Party and 11 per cent of the blue-collar workers. It received more than four million votes, almost twice as much as the PDS received in 2002. About one million of the new Left Party voters voted SPD in 2002 - 430,000 had abstained in the previous elections.

Good, but the Left Party faces problems. The PDS and the Trade Union bureaucrats backing it are not in favour of ending capitalism, only in reforming it. Many of the PDS are in coalitions with the SPD in some regional governments carrying out the same neo-liberal policies that thousands flocked to the Left Party to oppose.

If the Left Party is to build on this electoral success and keep up the fight against neoliberalism in Germany it needs to fight around socialist demands: nationalisation of industry, high taxes on the rich and job creation with no loss of pay. It also needs take its fight past the ballot box and into the workplace and onto the streets. If it becomes a fighting, militant organisation of the working class it can be a force to be reckoned with in every area where the working class is struggling; it can be a pole of attraction to workers and the oppressed in Germany an inspiration to workers across Europe.



WHAT A WANKER!

Ok, not a particularly radical choice, he could be wanker of the month every month! But the Toxic Texan has now told us he seeks divine intervention from God before making any big decisions. So who is to blame for invading Iraq? Is it God or Bush? Sounds like a bit of a cop out to me, I mean it's not as if invading Iraq had anything to do with, oh I don't know, loads of OIL under the ground?!

Here is what Bush said to the Palestinian delegation in 2003 at 'peace' talks.

"I'm driven with a mission from God. God would tell me, "George, go and fight those terrorists in Afghanistan." And I did, and then God would tell me, "George, go and end the tyranny in Iraq ..." And I did."

God made me do it! Well that makes it ok then! What a great excuse!

American singer Bright sang it best in his song 'when the president talks to God'
"When the president talks to God

Does he fake that drawl or merely nod?

Agree which convicts should be killed?

Where prisons should be built and filled?

Which voter fraud must be concealed

When the president talks to God?"

AUSTRIAN REVO SHOWS THE WAY!



Austrian Revo on the march!

On the 19th October Revolution others organised a one-day school strike against cuts in education. 1.500-2.000 school students participated in the demonstration in Vienna. In two other provinces there were also organised school strikes with 3.000 participants between them.

The mood was very lively and militant. The speakers at the demonstration were from ASt, Revo and the Grantites - in addition to the speakers from the various action committees in the schools who were also mostly from Revo.

The organised Revo contingent - which was at the head of the demonstration - had between 250-300 people. We brought 130-140 school students directly with us from the schools where we have members. Add to this the people we know who came directly to the demonstration meeting point and the people we attracted to our contingent at the demonstration itself. We grouped our contingent around three banners that we've made and had two drums which some music students played to keep the mood lively.

Our contingent was a very good combination of spontaneous, lively, militant mood and tight organisation.

At the end we marched into the university, occupied a big room and held a brief meeting. We presented two resolutions which were both adopted. We had to cut short the meeting since the university bureaucracy threatened to call the police to evict us (plus the packed room was full of people who'd been on the go for over 4 hours!)

Our resolution basically said the following:

- 1) Explains the relation between the education cuts and capitalism,
- 2) Stresses the need for mass strike actions of school students, university students and young workers.
- 3) Calls for a mass school and university strike against the education summit of the European Union on 16./17. March 2006 and calls on the

European Social Forum to support this

4) Calls for mass protests against the Bush visit in Austria in June 2006

5) Calls a continuation of the action committees both to organise the coming actions listed above and to fight against specific problems in the schools.

6) expresses our regret that the official school and university student leaderships (dominated by social democracy) could not find the stomach to support the strike. We said careerist ambitions in parliamentary parties should not be more important than fighting for the interests of young people. We demanded from them to support our proposals for future action.

The whole day was a harsh defeat for the young Social Democrat bureaucrats. We could not resist the temptation to take photos of their grey faces standing on the sidelines and their "intervening contingent" of 5-6 people holding 2 banners. Before this they had used all bureaucratic means to sabotage our strike. At one school the former school student representative (and Social Democratic functionary) tried to chase us away each time we leafletted the school. Once she even called the vice-director of the school to kick us out. On the day before the strike the official school student union warned the school student representatives in the schools that the strike is organised by "violent, left-wing extremist groups".

This strike was a big success for us. Never before have we been the leading force in organising a protest of such a size or had such a huge, organised contingent. This success was not so much the result of a good intervention on the day itself but of months of hard work. It was great to see it pay off so spectacularly.

See you on the streets,

Revolution Austria

What is it?

Climate change theory is the belief held by some scientists and environmentalists that the Earth is heating up. This is caused by human made gases such as Co2 being released into the atmosphere which in turn traps the suns rays and heat. This causes inconsistent changes in the Planets weather and eco system. A stark example is the melting of the polar ice caps, which raises the sea level and has the opposite effect of cooling the planets temperature in some parts of the globe. In other places it leads to massive floods, an increased rainfall and heat stress. The average temperature of the planet has increased by nearly 1 degree centigrade over the last 100 years. That might not sound like much but it is a big deal for the icebergs. Also if we reach 2C change by 2050 then it will cause irreversible damage to the planet. Some scientists even claim that 3 degrees by 2070 would mean much of the planet becoming uninhabitable.

That sounds bad.

Yup! There is some debate over how bad it is, but generally there is a new consensus amongst scientists that global warming is happening and that it has the potential to radically alter our planet. At best causing more extreme weather patterns and at worst making the parts of the planet uninhabitable.

So what are we doing about it?

Well if by 'we' you mean the international community (that would be the world leaders) then not a lot! They signed something called the Kyoto protocols a few years back which were a bit lame, giving corporations all kinds of opt outs regarding pollution. The worst thing about it is that the world number 1 polluting national, the USA refused to sign it!

Why did they do that if Climate change is as bad as you say?

Because the US is driven by its business interests (as all capitalist countries are). This has quite a crude logic to it, what is good for business is ok, what is not good (like reducing fossil fuel emissions, spending billions of dollars on cleaner energy and less polluting methods of production) is bad. The US cannot afford to loose profits, it is the nature of capitalism that you make as much cash as you can, as quick as you can and you don't care who you step on to do it.

Can't someone force the US to act?

Who? How? Is Germany going to threaten to invade or something? Obviously not. The only thing that will force change is ordinary people taking matters into their own hands and building a mass movement internationally that can force the hand of the American capitalists.

Environmentalism?

The trouble with 'green' politics is that it does not see the system beneath the corporations that pollute. They are in favour of corporations behaving more responsibly but they won't do this unless they are forced too. That means workers, who have a class interest separate from the bosses, have to organise

to fight for pro-environment reforms. But, environmentalist politics doesn't see this class difference and therefore end up having tremendous illusions in the 'good will' of the CEOs.

So what do you say?

You cannot be a green without being a red, in other words significant environmental change will only come about through social change. That means removing the profit motive from society, putting industry in the hands of the workers to control production, use the latest technology even if this is initially needs to be heavily subsidised. If workers are in control we can make factories cleaner and move over to renewable and cleaner forms of energy production. So, we need to link the fight for a clean environment with the class struggle against the bosses. That means mass working class action - lets make it happen.

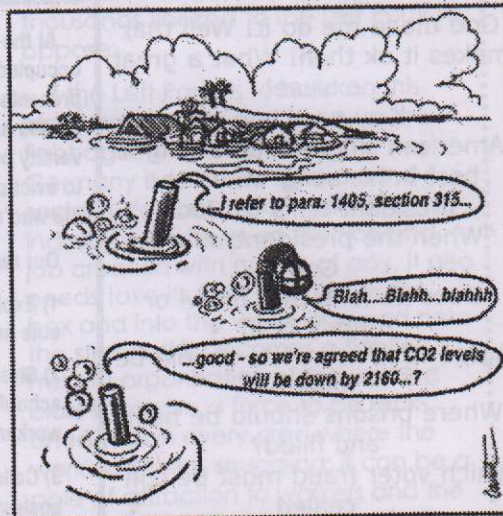
Stop Climate Change!

Join the demonstration on December 3rd

December 3rd is the Saturday midway through the "MOP" (First "Meeting of Parties" to the Kyoto Protocol) Climate Talks in Montreal, 28th November-9th December. The London Demo is part of the International Day of Climate Protest with climate demos planned all around the world from Montreal to Japan.

Help create a global wave of protest to press for the urgent action we need to prevent the catastrophic destabilisation of global climate. Join the demo in London that assembles at 12.00 pm in Lincoln's Inn Fields (nearest tube Holborn). Join Revolution contingent - look out for the revo flags! The march will culminate in a rally outside the US Embassy.

Protest organised by the Campaign Against Climate Change



World leaders meet to discuss climate change. From top to bottom; Jaques Chirac, George Bush and Tony Blair

What's so "natural" about the recent disasters?

As Revolution goes to press another hurricane is battering the Gulf of Mexico this time called hurricane Wilma. It is the third such hurricane to ravage the same area in the last three months - a series that began with hurricane Katrina; now infamous for the shocking events that followed (see box). In Pakistan an earthquake that measured 7.6 on the Richter scale has left just over 50,000 people dead. These events come just ten months after the Tsunami crisis in south east Asia that took 200,000 innocent lives.

For all our technology it seems we are still totally at the mercy of nature. But does it have to be like this and what role does our society play in making these events worse?

The answer is a pretty big one because it's always the poorest sections of society who suffer the worse affects of these crises. In Pakistan those who lived in homes they had made themselves out of corrugated iron didn't stand a chance. In the aftermath those who couldn't afford to



Left behind: the black urban poor in new orleans

get medical help are the ones most prone to getting tetanus.

As disaster in New Orleans showed this isn't just limited to the poor nations of the global south. In the richest country in the world poor people, overwhelmingly black, were left to die as they couldn't afford to leave the city when the call for the evacuation came. The state authorities had even closed all the bus routes meaning that only those with access to cars could

actually leave.

The absolute outrage this caused meant that when Hurricane Rita struck weeks later the Bush government did mount a serious relief operation. And, as the richest state in the world it was obviously capable of doing it effectively. This just wasn't the case with countries like Pakistan and Indonesia who rely on aid from the rich world to carry out their relief operation.

The aid given is woefully inadequate and doesn't even target the poorest most marginalised people. The total aid given after the Tsunami crisis to Indonesia, the worse affected country, amounted to just £7 billion.

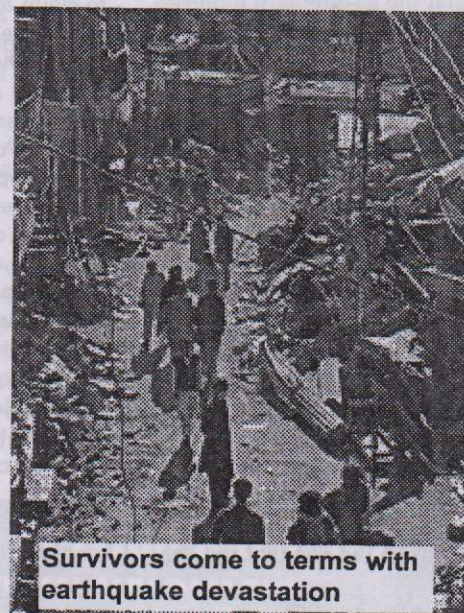
This may seem a lot but remember the US government spends £700 billion annually on its military budget and, on top of this, is spending £3.1 billion pounds a month on the Iraq conflict. Imagine the difference these amounts of money could make in Indonesia? What's even worse is that a recent report from Oxfam showed that it was the landowners and businesses that were benefiting most from the little aid that was going into Indonesia with poor people left to suffer.

This is because the rich western nations put capitalist economic development that pursues profit at the expense of bringing clean water, housing, free healthcare, well funded education, and jobs to the world's poor. Both the debts owed by the poor nations to the rich and the aid the rich offers them are both effectively used as weapons that force poor nations to open up their economies to super exploitation by multinational firms like Nike. One of the many conditions of this 'investment' is that the multinationals pay little of no tax back into these economies.

In a world ravaged with these class divisions between worker and boss, rich and poor it's impossible to see these natural disasters as just an

inevitable part of life. The technology exists today to build strong, earthquake resistance housing, to protect our coastlines from flooding and to withstand the worst affects of hurricanes.

The problem is that capitalism puts profit before need. Its always market interests that come first. We must oppose this in all the areas recently affected by these natural disasters and fight for a massive programme of public works organised through democratically convened mass meetings



Survivors come to terms with earthquake devastation

of the working class movement. We need to build international solidarity with the workers movement in countries like Indonesia that are fighting against the market programme.

Revolution group in Indonesia will be doing just that. Send them your messages of solidarity and a donation. Together we need to build a society that renounces capitalism and is based on common ownership of production where we democratically plan how to utilise our shared resources. That means a revolution against the exploiters of Exxon, Nike, Microsoft and co.

The Blair government is a thoroughly racist government. Since it came to power in 1997 it has, under pressure from the right wing press, vilified refugees coming to this country fleeing poverty and political repression. Its war on terror has created a climate of fear for people of Muslim background. This has aided the growth of Britain's biggest far right organisation - the British National Party. Revolution is fighting back against racism and fascism in Britain taking part in protests against the far right, for refugee rights and against racist attacks over the coming weeks and months. Read on, get active and get involved!

DEFEND REFUGEES! STOP DEPORTATIONS!

The many anti-deportation campaigns present at the demonstration in defence of the Sukula family in Bolton shows that their case is not an isolated one and that there is an urgent need for a co-ordinated, sustained campaign against all deportations and the racist immigration laws that the government imposes.

On September 10th, Revolution activists were among 50 or so people who gathered in Manchester for a Northwest solidarity and planning meeting hosted by the National Coalition of Anti-Deportation Campaigns. The day was striking for the fact that the majority of attendees were asylum seekers, running their own campaigns and standing up for themselves against the repressive immigration laws that are designed to keep them out. While individual campaigns are both good and necessary, it was clear on the day that the con-

tinuous attacks on asylum seekers by the government and the media require a mass movement in defence of asylum seekers and against the racist lies about them.

The 2004 Asylum and Immigration Act is the latest in a raft of attacks by the government on refugees and the right to claim asylum. So determined are they to appease the likes of the Daily Express and get rid of as many asylum seekers as they can, that section nine of the act removes all state support for failed asylum seekers, even going so far as requiring councils to take children into care - separating children from their parents in order to use them as a bargaining chip. The government is also stopping its practice of granting leave to remain to students to allow them to finish their courses. This is a direct attack on the

right to education and the principle that all students should be treated the same no matter where they are born.

On November 19th, demonstrations have been called in Manchester and London under the slogan "Stop deporting children and students". It is important that these demonstrations are as big as possible, for us to show solidarity with young people who are victims of the media witch hunt against asylum seekers, and to build a movement that can challenge the laws that cause destitution for those fleeing terror.

The demo will be followed by a Young People's Forum at Manchester Town Hall, where young activists from across the North will be discussing ideas and planning action!

In the new year a national

conference of anti-racist groups, asylum seeker support groups and anti-deportation campaigns in opposition to the Asylum and Immigration Act is planned on the initiative of activists in the Sukula campaign. This should be a big step towards a campaign to defy the asylum laws, and make section nine history - see you there!

**BUILD
FIGHT
AGAINST
RACISM
THE FA**

Revolution members were amongst the hundreds of people who marched in Bolton on October 1st against the threatened deportation of the Sukula family.

The Sukula family face deportation to the Democratic Republic of Congo which has been torn apart by years of civil war. They are also guinea pigs for the government's 'Section 9' of the Asylum Act which allows the government to separate the six children from the parents in order to further push the family to go back to the Congo where they will face persecution, poverty and violence. Hundreds gathered in Bolton on October 1st to defend them against deportation.

Hundreds march to defend Sukula family in Bolton



The demonstration started amidst the wind and the rain at the school where some of the Sukula family go. But the

foul weather wasn't enough to dampen spirits as people gathered around banners from Trade Unions, anti racist campaigns and political groups to listen to speeches against Britain's racist immigration laws and in defence of the Sukulas.

We then marched through Bolton singing anti racist chants ("Deportations no way! The Sukula family must stay!", "No borders, no nations, stop deportations" and "Immigration's not a crime, down with Section 9!" amongst others) until we got to Bolton town hall where there were more speakers and a lively rally.

STOP THE BNP!

The British National Party is Britain's largest far right organisation. It is an incredibly racist party that fights for an all white Britain and where it has grown it has terrorised Asian and black communities. But the BNP aren't just racist, unlike other right wing parties, they are a fascist group which means it aims to take power by using street violence to establish a dictatorship.

The BNP are growing out of the increasing racist climate that this Labour government and the right wing press have created through their attacks on asylum seekers and, the racism whipped up against Muslims, after September 11th, the Iraq war and the recent bombs in London.

In the last few years the BNP have sought to shake off their violent fascist image and gain respectability as a purely electoral party.

This has meant a retreat from marches and street sales but still wherever they have grown racist attacks have gone up dramatically. All undercover investigations into the party continue to show they are thoroughly fascist on the inside. In a recent Channel 4 documentary Mark Collet, a senior member in Leeds, was shown saying he would

rather have lived in Hitler's Germany than today's Britain. In next June's elections West Yorkshire is its major target area for winning seats and it will stand in every constituency in Leeds and a number in the Bradford area.



It is kicking off its campaign this Autumn with two street protests in the space of one week. This signals a potentially dangerous return to open street activity by the BNP.

The first is outside Leeds Magistrates Court where its leader Nick Griffin is on trial for incitement to racial hatred. The following Saturday November 5th the BNP is holding a national demonstration in Keighley, West Yorks.

Anti-fascists from across Leeds and the north are building mass protests to confront them and get them off our streets.

Revolution argues within the movement and takes action wherever we can to enforce a no platform policy - this means we want to deny the BNP any right to organise in our society by building mass action. We do not believe an organisation that wants to abolish democratic rights, terrorise ethnic minorities and break up the trade union movement should have their freedoms respected. Join us and build the fight back.

**STOP THE
BACK
AGAINST
SM AND
R RIGHT**

STOP THE BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY IN LEEDS!

As BNP leader Nick Griffin faces his court appearance for incitement to racial hatred BNP thugs will gather outside to protest. Anti-fascists are working to build a massive counter-protest at Leeds Magistrates Court 9 - 12am November 2nd. Followed by Unite Against Fascism rally at midday in Millenium Square.

STOP THE BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY IN KEIGHLEY!

As the BNP hold their national demonstration join the anti-fascist protest. Assemble at Keighley Town Hall at 12 noon, Saturday 05 November.

New pamphlet available from REVOLUTION!

Arm yourself with the ideas to defeat racism and fascism in our society by reading this new pamphlet we've produced. It includes articles on the dramatic rise of racism in Britain under this warmongering government, proposals on how we can put an end to racism and the BNP and much more. Download a free copy at www.worldrevolution.org.uk, or for a hard copy send 50p to Revo, BCM 7750, London, WC1N 3XX or buy one from your local revo seller.



Lessons of Chile:

On 11 September 1973 the head of the Chilean military, General Pinochet, launched a military coup against the Popular Unity government, its Socialist President Salvador Allende and the Chilean masses. Supported by the CIA, the army acted swiftly. Within hours workers' and student leaders were rounded up in Santiago football stadium and over the coming days and months, tortured and murdered by Pinochet's military junta. Allende, who had placed so much trust in the military, was killed by Pinochet's henchmen. Felipe Hernandez, a socialist activist told how workers heroically resisted the coup:

"Several of the armoured tanks tried to smash through the barricades, but because the street was narrow and crooked, they made their way slowly. For the next half hour or so they contented themselves with spraying the whole area indiscriminately with machine-gun fire. Dozens and dozens of our people were killed or seriously wounded in the few hours of resistance. Others however still continued to blast away at the enemy."

Pinochet ordered the army to execute any workers who resisted arrest. All opposition was drowned in blood. All political parties were banned and a military dictatorship with Pinochet as president installed. Hernandez, like thousands of others was eventually

challenging capitalist rule. Despite Allende's adherence to 'Marxism' this government was what Marxists call a popular front government - an alliance of workers' and bosses' parties in which the workers' parties agreed not to fight for their interests in the name of unity.

The socialists and communists argued that the first task was to build a strong 'national' economy. They argued this required an alliance with the 'progressive' Chilean bourgeoisie. In the future, once this 'democratic' and sovereign government had been established, then the workers could have their socialism.

But the workers and peasants were not prepared to limit their goals. Peasants refused to wait for government decrees that compensated the rich landowners - they seized the land for themselves. Workers began to organise in the factories, demanding the government intervene when bosses laid off workers, drove down wages or closed factories.

The Chilean bourgeoisie feared that the masses were growing in confidence and organisation. Such a movement had to be stopped before it went too far. The imperialists, in particular the US, refused loans to the government and attempted to put an embargo on Chilean copper exports.

The bosses' courts ruled Allende's reforms illegal. In June 1971, the Comptroller of the Republic, a powerful government official, ordered the return of a textile factory that had been nationalised to its owner. In 1972 the bosses stepped up their offensive. An economic crisis was developing across Chile. Inflation stood at 100% and hoarding and speculation by distributors and shopkeepers caused widespread shortages.

In October the bosses' opposition declared Allende's government illegitimate and launched a truck owners strike (funded by the US) to bring the country to a standstill. The bosses were now openly sabotaging Allende's government. What was the response of the Socialists and

Communists? They appealed to the bourgeois opposition and turned to the military to restore 'order', placing 13 provinces under martial law.

But the military and its officer caste, pruned from the families of the Chilean bourgeoisie and trained by the USA, would never bring the bosses to 'order'. Only the workers and peasants could do that - and they did. They met the bosses strike with a wave of occupations. Workers' regional committees - the Cordones Industriales - spread across Chile. They organised the transport of food and materials and defence against the bosses fascist thugs. Committees of housewives opened the supermarkets, requisitioning food and distributing it amongst the poor. The workers were developing their own forms of revolutionary organisation and control.

After this militant response, the bosses were on their knees demanding negotiations. At this point a decisive revolutionary lead-



Allende (n white) and Pinochet on the right. Never trust the Generals!

caught, imprisoned and tortured in a concentration camp. He survived. Others didn't. Over the next decade thousands of workers, socialists and communists 'disappeared'. Hundreds and thousands of Chileans were forced into exile.

These tragic events could have been avoided. Millions supported Allende's government and were prepared to fight to defend it. But the politics of Allende and the Popular Unity government proved incapable of defending the workers and peasants from the bosses and their military state.

In 1970, Allende was elected president of Chile, supported by the Popular Unity Coalition (UP). This was a coalition of the Socialist Party, the Communist Party and a number of small bosses' parties. For the workers and poor peasants, the election of Allende signalled a victory against exploitation and poverty.

Within the first year, the government gave some land to the peasants, increased wages by 35% and nationalised Chile's copper mines. Copper was crucial to the Chilean economy, but the industry was owned and controlled by US multi-nationals who systematically ripped off the Chilean masses.

However, the Popular Unity government had no intention of real-

REFORM...

ership could have smashed the bosses' system once and for all. The Cordones Industriales could have taken over the running of the factories and expropriated the bosses' land and factories and demanded the cancellation of debt repayments. In the face of fascist violence and the army revolutionaries would have organised workers' militias and lead an urgent campaign amongst the rank and file of army to win them to the side of the workers and peasants. In short, a revolutionary party would have prepared the workers for a revolutionary civil war.

This was not the strategy of the Socialists and Communists. Instead they invited the army into the cabinet! The Socialist Party Minister of Agriculture declared:

"The armed forces enter the cabinet to preserve the institutional system which the hottest heads in the opposition wish to destroy. In this way they help assure the conditions for the program to advance."

They believed it was possible to use the army and the capitalist state to protect their government. This was because they believed

it was possible to use parliament to build socialism through peaceful and legal means. These leaders had learnt nothing from history. Every struggle against capitalism has shown that the civil service, the legal system, the police and the army all serve to defend the property and power of the bosses. As soon as their wealth and interests are threatened, they will mobilise this state apparatus to smash any militant opposition. That is why Marxists argue that only a revolutionary struggle to smash up this state, armed and lead by the working class is capable of defeating the capitalists. This is the real difference between reformists and revolutionaries.

Allende was so busy looking for allies amongst his enemies that he turned his back on an army of millions of workers and peasants who had the means to break the rule of capital. Instead of arming the workers, he gave more power to the military generals. Instead of supporting the workers and peasants occupations against the bosses, he declared them illegal. The government was so desperate to reassure the bourgeoisie that they were not a threat, that in January of 1973, the Communist Minister, Milas put forward a plan to return 123 occupied enterprises to their owners! The Cordones Industriales blocked this legislation through determined resistance.

After a failed attempt to oust Allende in the elections of March 1973, the bourgeoisie turned to the army. The events over the past months had shown that while Allende posed no threat, the workers movement did.

The workers knew that the army were preparing a coup. Army raids against trade union and left party headquarters were increas-

ingly used to intimidate workers. In August a group of sailors and petty officers after opposing coup preparations and informing the Popular Unity parties, were arrested and tortured.

The workers were demanding arms and yet Allende and his government did nothing. When the coup came the workers were unarmed and powerless to resist. In the words of a worker Filipe Hernandez, who survived the coup:

"Allende, in many ways, was a father to us. We never had a President who was not only respected because of his high office, but who was actually loved by at least half of the population. But many of us feel that Allende made a big mistake when he would not give arms to the people to defend themselves against the possible coup. Allende argued, and so did many of his advisors, that by giving arms to the people the putsch would have arrived even sooner. He thought that we would have never had a chance, even if we would have had rifles and machine guns, standing up against an army that had cannons and bombers. He thought hundreds and thousands of us would have been massacred. But I felt that I

would rather have died fighting than become a prisoner as happened to me."

The greatest tribute we can give to Filipe and the millions of workers who have fought and died in the struggle for socialism is to learn the lessons of Chile - only a revolutionary party, clear in its goals and determined to lead the workers to revolution can ensure that we rid the world of Pinochets once and for all.

"Some students light a fire in the street out of the leftover banners and the next thing I know, we are all running like hell away from the 'guanacos' (lorries that launch sewage water with great force) and the tear gas bombs. It's all frantic and confused; I can't see much 'cos I've got a scarf over the lower part of my face to protect me from the tear gas, which is like breathing a cloud of white pepper."

Helen, an East London student, gave this account of a student demo in Valparaiso, Chile last May. 190 students were violently arrested, beaten up and released late at night. This, Helen was told, was just routine brutality against a demo.

The students were protesting against the "Ley Marco", the ending of state funding for universities. This is part of Pinochet's legacy. Chile is a training ground for radical cuts in welfare and education. So, expect Britain to follow suit!

This picture also exposes the lie that Pinochet must be released in the interests of "democracy". The police and the army still tower menacingly above Chilean society. Pinochet will be protected. The best form of solidarity with the Chilean students is to demand Pinochet's immediate extradition to Spain.



Thatcher sold Pinochet's regime lots of weapons. We wonder what he used them for?

...OR REVOLUTION?

Pro-choice demonstration attacked in Australia

Dear comrades in the UK,

At a recent demo for reproductive rights in Melbourne three pro-choice activists were attacked during a protest outside a fertility clinic.

Campaign for Women's Reproductive Rights (CWRR) protesters picketed for the second consecutive month outside the Fertility Control Clinic in East Melbourne, where pro-life activists stage a regular monthly demonstration.

The clinic is the site of the fatal shooting of security guard Steven Rogers on July 16, 2001 by anti-abortion protester Peter James Knight, who is currently serving 23 years for his murder.

Three protesters suffered head injuries, concussion, cuts and bruises after being attacked by two people about 11am (AEST).

She said the pair had walked through the protest yelling antagonistic, sexist and homophobic comments.

I was attacked and pulled down to the ground my hair.

We don't think the attackers were part of the pro-life group who normally protest at the clinic - a group who call themselves the 'Helpers of God's Precious Infants'.

We assumed it might happen sooner or later but we were certainly not expecting when it did happen.

We won't let ourselves be intimidated by this violence and will carry on the protests.

Greetings
Michelle, Revolution Australia

McOccupation Campaign continues in Sweden

Dear comrades,

This Saturday REVOLUTION in Stockholm organised the second action in a series of five propaganda events outside McDonald's restaurants in Stockholm. In the build up for today activists have

LETTERS



been postering two universities and also a secondary school where we have a member. We are still a small number of contacts - however being optimistic about the potential for drawing in contacts up for the following three actions still remaining. We are already planning the mobilisation in schools.

After having a quick preparatory meeting we went outside the restaurant carrying our banner and handing out leaflets to passers-by and customers. Our activists turned directly towards people passing asking them to read about McDonald's support for an imperialist occupation which has already killed more than a hundred thousand Iraqis and bombed cities like Falluja, Haddita, Al Qaim and at the present, the city of Talafar. Here the imperialist troops have used (and keep using) a "sophisticated" tactic of devastating terror. They close all entrances to the cities and then start with heavy bombardment specifically targeting electricity, water, hospitals and school buildings. In Falluja last year the imperialist army burned down to the ground 70 per cent of the city! At the same time the regime of the occupation has criminalised the trade union movement not affiliated to the imperialist plan.

The McOccupation campaign is a very good assistance to a discussion with people about the multinational companies' attempts to increase their profits through low wages, poor working conditions and anti-union measures (McDonald's is a famous case). There is a clear connection between this agenda and the support of the company for imperialist occupation in Iraq! In Iraq, unionists are being criminalised if they do not belong to the state-controlled, that is controlled by the occupiers and its puppet ministers, unions.

Indeed, reactions were rather good. Some people stopped by to have a chat, some expressed their sympathies and said that they are going to read the leaflet. Lots of customers were given the leaflet on their way in or out the main

entrance. Of course this was in itself a provocation and after some 20 minutes a boss of McDonald's came out. She didn't really ask about what we were actually doing, she just told us to get away with our banner (directed into the windows for the view of those eating). We replied politely that we are well aware of our democratic rights and that they have no right whatsoever to tell us to go somewhere else. The boss told us she would call the guards. Lucky for us the guard who came out some 5 minutes later was not up for any real fight about it. We explained the purpose of the campaign for him, he didn't bother too much but he was obviously satisfied with not being able to move us and went inside again! Even though we were able to hold our ground the confrontation as such shows that McDonald's have no respect for democratic rights. This is the third time in three visits that the company have either confronted us themselves or been threatening to call the cops.

revolutionary greetings
Gunnar (REVOLUTION Sweden)

And is launched in two other countries...

Dear comrades,

Revolution groups in Australia and Germany have taken up Swedish Revolution's call to protest against McDonald's role in supporting the occupation of Iraq. Actions have now taken place in three German cities and in Melbourne.

Internationalism in action!

Wladek Flakin

Who's next in the 'War on Terror'?

October 15th saw the US/UK coalition's deadline for the next phase of their project of economic and territorial domination in Iraq. The draft constitution was put to a referendum of the Iraqi people, under the similarly un-democratic conditions that saw the country 'elect' a puppet government earlier this year.

Before you even consider the lock-down conditions enforced in the run-up to the vote on



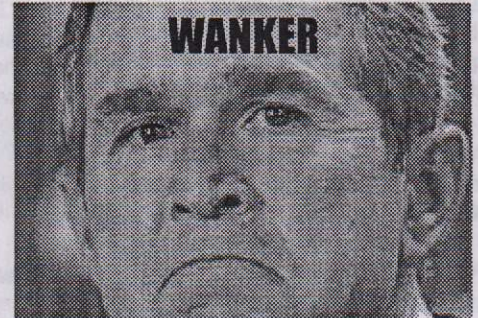
the constitution, (people kept in their houses, increased troop numbers on the streets, areas where ballot boxes were not provided) one look at the document shows us that its federal nature seeks to divide ethnic groups in Iraq, not unite them.

A federal government, based on 'autonomy' for different strands of Iraqi makes the national, democratic planning of Iraq's infrastructure and economy an impossible task for the 'elected' government. The reality of a federal state in which all 'sides' in Iraq are able to argue the case for the people they represent is a forum which creates political stagnation and conflict between the US approved representatives of different factions in Iraq. Of course, this is exactly what the imperialists want, as it creates an unstable situation they can use to justify continuing military and economic control in the area

The name of the game for the imperialists in Iraq is not democracy, but de-stabilisation, and this doesn't stop at the Iraqi borders. Recent months have heard stern words from the US and UK governments on Iran and Syria. A UN report released in the last week has accused Syria of direct involvement in the assassination of ex-Lebanese Prime Minister Rafek Hariri, and has led the US to call for 'direct involvement' in its wake. This is the latest in months of veiled threats by the US to intervene further in other countries in the Middle East. As well as this, the on-going media saga concerning Iran's nuclear capability (or lack of it) is repeatedly bought up as a serious threat to middle eastern stability.

The question on some people's minds is 'Will the US invade Iran and Syria?' Arguably the answer to this question is no, for several reasons. Firstly, the imperialists are not in control. With the military death toll having now reached 2000, and attacks on US/UK troops increasing by the day, no amount of violent repression will change the fact that both countries' armed forces are stretched to the limit. Secondly, the Iraqi resistance is growing. To take military action against another country in the Middle East would act as a catalyst for the Iraqi resistance, and cause the spread of anti-imperialist resistance across the whole area. The third and final reason is that

it is not necessary for the US to broaden the front of their war in the middle-east. In the same way as they did in Vietnam, the US are trying to draw in the populace and governments of surrounding countries into the black hole of Iraq by politically de-stabilising the entire region through support of different governments and factions. Their support for Lebanon over Syria is just one example.



The only way that instability will end in the Middle East is if the US, UK and their allies leave. The only way that will happen is if they are defeated. Until then we welcome instability in Iraq. We support the right of people in Iraq to make every day of the occupation a nightmare for the imperialists and their stooge government. We oppose all ethnic divisions between Sunnis and Shia that are fostered by the occupying forces. Instead of ethnic divides the whole people of Iraq should be fighting together against the common enemy: imperialism. If the working class come to the head of this movement then the future in Iraq needn't be one of exploitation but one of Socialism.

'Anti Terror' Police Attack Strikers in France

Is the state a neutral force in the battle between the bosses and the workers? Clearly not!

When Corsican workers went on strike a few weeks ago to protest against the privatisation of the state owned Ferry Company (Which would have meant the loss of 400 jobs on the island) they boarded the empty ferry and sailed it out to sea. A day later elite French anti terror police used helicopters to storm the ship, arrest-

ing the workers. This caused solidarity strikes in Marseille and Corsica, seamen and dock workers blockading the ports to protest against the use of 'anti terror' police against workers.

The French government, which retains Corsica as a colony, ordered in the elite cops again, backed up by the army. There have been massive demonstrations in Corsica in response to this and when striking workers in France marched the theme

of solidarity with the dock workers in Corsica was a big one.

But what does this show us? It shows that rather than trying to help solve the workers problems and negotiate with the company to let them keep their jobs the state resorts to strong arm tactics. As the revolutionary Fredrick Engels said; 'bodies of armed men in defence of the property of the ruling class.' That pretty much sums up the cops!

Profiting from Student debt

The reality of being a student in the 21st century is fees, debt and privatisation. Corporations are increasingly dictating campus life as they sell us debt at the freshers fairs and buy out the university halls. In Manchester, Opal, that already has a track record for providing poor services at high costs. Has put in a bid to the tune of £20 million to run student halls. Jarvis, who are best known for being responsible for the maintenance failures that led to the Potters Bar train crash, have also put in a bid.

As students spend more and more of their loans on paying market prices for services and facilities that used to be free or heavily subsidised the only people benefiting from it are the universities and the corporations.

Universities have adopted the neo-liberal idea that state funding isn't the way forward and they must attract private investment to be able to compete 'in the market' that higher education has become. A clear example of this is how the government are now streamlining money to Unis that do corporate research and away from those that specialise on teaching alone.

It's not just universities that are privatising and not just students that are falling victim to market forces. New Labour has unleashed an onslaught to privatisation during their time in power continuing the 'Thatcher legacy'. From air traffic control to the postal service and schools. Workers from all these sectors are resisting this change and it's important that university and school students link up their struggles with the

workforce and recognise the wider attacks being undertaken in the name of 'competitiveness'.

The average student debt has risen from £1.89 billion to £13 billion since the introduction of fees in 1998 and stands to increase far more once top-up fees are introduced in 2006- which are estimated to take the average graduate debt up to £33,000. The same corporations that profit from students on campus are those that will profit from their education once they graduate. There is an average of 32.9 applications for every graduate position, and all graduates are aware that many of their friends are unemployed or working low-paid, unskilled jobs and struggling to deal with their debt.

As fees rise taxes for the rich remain at a record low. Corporation tax has been cut by 23% and the top rate of income tax has been slashed by 43% since 1979. The argument that the Labour government cannot afford to pay to improve the universities is not only untrue but covers for the Labour government's extensive attacks on the working class and the easy ride it gives the rich.

It should be the corporations that pay for fees and maintenance grants through tax! What students need is a fighting NUS that will argue this position and back it up with necessary industrial action. It should expand to properly unionise school and college students and link up their struggles with the trade unions. It is by doing this that workers and youth will be able to survive the Labour attacks on the gains that working class have made over the last hundred years.

WHAT WE STAND FOR

The Independent on Sunday got it right in an "expose" of REVOLUTIONs involvement in organising May Day 2001. It said: "REVOLUTION wants to build a revolutionary socialist mass movement and overthrow capitalism." Exactly right. We are opposed to capitalism and the misery, alienation, war and environmental destruction it creates.

We fight all forms of discrimination and oppression, whether on grounds of sex, race, nationality or sexuality.

Capitalism is a global system, so we have to fight it globally. We want to smash the borders and divisions of nations and move forward to a truly global and united humanity, without bigotry, war and class division. We stand shoulder to shoulder with our sisters and brothers in the Third World struggling to break free of the trillion dollar debt, the IMF, WTO and NATO.

We are socialists - we want to abolish capitalism and replace it with a planned economy. But we do not believe that the capitalist elite will allow their wealth and privilege to be voted out of existence. We believe it will take force to take the power and property away from the few and redistribute into the hands of the many - that means a revolution!

REVO wants young people to participate in radical politics and organise themselves. Young people can be very radical and militant, the anti war movement proved that. They should take a lead in the movement that will shape the struggle for the future.

We believe a mass movement must be built based on the support of the majority of the people - the working class. It is the working class that produces all the wealth in this society. The working class has no interest in keeping capitalism going. Only the working class has the power, the size and the traditions of organisation to bring this rotten system crashing down.

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