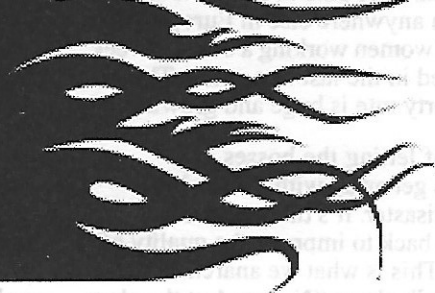


Scottish Anarchist



Stop the Killing!

Once again, politicians who have never had to face the horrors of war have ordered young working class men and women into combat. It's kill or be killed. And who are they to kill? Other ordinary people who have the misfortune to be the subjects of a "strong leader" who was put in power by Britain and the USA. The aim is to put in Saddam's place a different strong leader, more acceptable (for the time being) to the USA and Britain.

Yet again we are asked to applaud the "bravery" of politicians who send others to fight the wars they start. We are urged to "support" leaders whom not only failed to support our wishes, they treated us as children who simply could not understand the issues involved. That we listened to their assertions, lies and hypocrisy, understood them and rejected them is not considered a possibility.

Fuck them and fuck their war.

The United Nations has been brushed aside. The message for the future is that what the USA says goes. Saddam Hussein is a nasty piece of work, but he is just a convenient excuse for providing the world with an example of American power. This war is a lesson to everybody else that they'd better do as they are told. George Bush and co. are already planning future military adventures. Who will be next? Iran? North Korea? Venezuela? Protesters at home? Rebel workers everywhere?

One thing is sure, the only people who will not be "liberated" are those already under US supported regimes. People like the Palestinians and the Turkish Kurds — or the Iraqis when Saddam was supported and armed by the US and UK in the 1980s. Such states will violate human rights willy-nilly and be praised and supported by the Bush Junta and its poodle.

No war but the Class War

From the point of view of our rulers, this war has already had its successes. It has, for example, distracted attention from the class struggle at home, of the bosses' attacks

a BUSH - BIN LADEN PRODUCTION in
HYPOCRI-VISION!



"POWERFUL...EXPLOSIVE...RIPPING!" - UK PM Tony Blair.
"GRIPPING...COMPELLING...STAY HOME FOR THIS ONE! THAT'S AN ORDER..." - Office of Homeland Security.
"BEST PREMIERE THIS FALL! WE HOPE IT RUNS FOREVER!" - NBC 'Today'

against the rest of us. It has distracted attention from job insecurity, worsening working conditions, anti-social crime, unemployment, centralisation of power, worsening public services, and attacks on our civil liberties.

Two-thirds of the workforce are now earning less than the average wage, yet executives and directors enjoy massive rises. Inequality has worsened since New Labour came to office. Three

www.anarchistfaq.org

www.infoshop.org

www.anarchism.ws

quarters of UK workers work overtime, yet only one third are paid at overtime rates, worse than anywhere else in Europe. The number of women working a 60 hour week has doubled in the last two years. The child poverty rate is huge and growing.

Decades of letting the bosses and politicians get away with it have been proved a disaster. It's time we acted, time we fought back to improve the quality of our lives. This is what we anarchists mean when we talk about **"No war but the class war."** The best way to fight against imperialism abroad is by fighting against the bosses and politicians here. Solidarity is strength! If we support each other in our struggles for justice here, we can create a movement capable of stopping oppression here and abroad, and capable, ultimately, of ending all forms of oppression once and for all. If we don't resist now, Bush and Blair will continue to impose their reactionary policies both at home and abroad. Fighting against imperialism will help the struggle for liberty and justice at home - and vice versa.

Regime Change needed at home!

Anarchism is about liberating yourself. Nobody else can do it for you. Anarchists say the only way Iraq can be liberated is by the Iraqi people themselves overthrowing Saddam Hussein. Bombing the Iraqi people will not set them free. At worse, it will liberate them of their lives. At best, it will just change their masters.

Blair antics show the farce of representative democracy. We are patronised and our wishes ignored, while the media praises this as "good leadership." This war shows, yet again, that the state does not exist to represent the people but to control them in the interests of the wealthy few. How dare this elitist and hypocritical system talk about "democracy"!

This war is no accident. Its roots lie in capitalism and its need for more plunder. Its priorities are clear. \$900 billion plus a year is the world military budget. These resources could be used to make the world a better place. The Bush Junta budget shows its priorities, with over \$50 billion for war and a mere \$0.7 billion for

humanitarian aid. And while the UN has asked for \$1bn to save Iraq from a humanitarian disaster, a subsidiary of Halliburton (the US vice-president's old company) has been awarded a contract by the US army is said to be in the region of \$1bn. At home, Gordon Brown can find **any** amount of money for war but he cannot fund decent public services.

Any system that spends more on death than on living is a system whose days are numbered.

Only direct action can stop Blair's warfare state!

How can we stop war and the system that produces it? By taking direct action against that system, and by organising ourselves in doing so. By strikes, occupying buildings, reclaiming our streets, and so on. There will be plenty of authoritarian factions, Marxists and others, telling you "follow us, we will lead you in a disciplined way." Ignore them. Reject all would-be leaders. Even us! We can organise without politicians and leaders. We need the self-discipline of collective decision making and collective action, not the phoney top-down "discipline" of following the orders of a few leaders. That's what got us in this mess to begin with. It will never get us out of it!

We anarchists will be happy to co-operate with you in doing so, but won't be trying to set ourselves up as the "leadership" of the anti-war movement. Disobedience, direct action, and solidarity are the routes to both peace and freedom.

For anarchists, direct action and solidarity are the means to change the world, to create an organised society without bosses, bringing direct democracy to the community and the workplace. Only working class folk being in total control of their own struggles can create a society based on liberty, equality and solidarity. Real socialism can only be created from the bottom-up. By applying our ideals in the struggle today, we build the world of the future!

Published by a number of class struggle Anarchist groups in Scotland acting together. If you are involved in class struggle and/or the anti-war movement, or if you just want to wipe the smirk off Tony's mug, or if you want to learn more about class struggle anarchism, get in touch.

You can contact several different groups:

Anarchist Federation of Alba
PO Box 248, Aberdeen, AB25 1JE
www.afed.org.uk

GAIA (Glasgow Anarchists and Independent Autonomists)

Class War
glasgowcw@hotmail.com

Autonomous Centre of Edinburgh
17 West Montgomery Place,
Edinburgh EH7 5HA
0131 557 6262

Frequent Liar Miles

This war is not about the "liberating" the Iraqi people. This is clear from the long, long list of excuses Blair and Bush have dreamed up. First, Blair stated *"absolute evidence"* of Iraqi involvement in September 11th was required for war. None exists. Then it was weapons of mass destruction. Ditto. We were then told that al Qaeda had links to Iraq. More nonsense. Then Blair told Paxman that war would only occur if *"the inspectors - not us - have come back to the UN and said we can't do our job."* The weapons inspectors reported progress and asked for more time. They were ignored.

Finally, they came up with *"we're going to liberate the people of Iraq."* They failed to add *"from a monster we supported and armed, a monster we deliberately left in power in 1991 because the alternative was a popular uprising and people power."*

And they expect us to believe them!



"Nor is it enough to join the bourgeois pacifists, who proclaim peace among the nations, while helping to perpetuate the war among the classes, a war which in reality is at the bottom of all other wars."

"It is this war of classes that we must concentrate upon, and in that connection the war against false values, against evil institutions, against all social atrocities. Those who appreciate the urgent need of co-operating in great struggles . . . must organise the preparedness of the masses for the overthrow of both capitalism and the state. . . That alone leads to revolution at the bottom . . . That alone will give the people the means to take their children out of the slums, out of the sweat shops . . . That alone leads to economic and social freedom, and does away with all wars, all crimes, and all injustice." Emma Goldman