

# THE ANARCHIST



## CRITIC

Issue 76 June 2009.

We will try to produce this bulletin on a regular basis highlighting policies and events that influence our lives but are dictated by corporate institutions and governments beyond our control. If we, the ordinary people desire a world for all our children, we must resist, organise, and take control.

### REPRESSION CO. LTD.

Today we are seeing a growing trend towards the "privatisation of war, repression and security". Iraq and Afghanistan are the crowning glories of this free market trend, the armies of occupation are greatly supplemented by a shadowy network of private security firms who carry out many duties that, in previous times and other places, would be done by regular soldiers. The cost to the taxpayer for these mercenaries is usually hidden, and in most cases enormous.

In the free market capitalist world this sort of contracting out of security has extended to other fields besides military operations. For various reasons most governments favour these "quangsas" (quasi non-governmental spy agencies), one is their fundamentalist faith in the "free market" and the belief in the illusion that all things will be more efficient and cheaper if provided by private contractors. Of course another reason being that most politicians have friends in the private sector and it is a case of you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours. There is also the fact "competing" for such government contracts takes place in a political atmosphere that could only be described at best, as dodgy. As we all know, the sort of atmosphere surrounding government contracts is inevitably and massively corrupt. Ex-politicians and, in this case ex-soldiers and policemen nod and wink their way through their old friendships and connections to land the big fish of free government money, "free market competition" my arse. The pig trough extends its funnels like an octopus..

There is also the fact that these type of private contracts are far less open to public scrutiny and control. Hence the reason that these private security firms that are mushrooming are the new economic bubble in a corporate capitalist recession. The involvement of private security firms in public events has other implications besides just corruptly siphoning off tax payers money, least being accountability.

The fact that education and health are being privatised points to a future with a private police force and private prisons whose main concerns are the profits to its shareholders. We already have the private prisons, a private police force would just complete the monopoly and crime and incarceration becomes a big money spinner for the corporate world. Of course we do have an alternative, we can organise to take control our communities and build a society based on mutual aid and sustainability and destroy the Orwellian future that the corporate world has in mind for us.

### SOMETIMES THEY GET IT RIGHT!!



#### A BAD APPLE OR A ROTTEN BARREL?

John McDonnell MP, chair of Labour Representation Committee, said: "Increasingly, evidence demonstrates policing of major demonstrations has got out of control and specialist police units have been acting with virtual impunity.

It's an on going saga of errors, brutality and corruption within the police force and police forces across the world..

It has just recently been announced that a group of Metropolitan Police officers are under investigation on allegations of subjecting suspects to torture, (waterboarding, simulated drowning) there are also allegations that they fabricated evidence and stole suspects property. This follows on from the brutal death of Ian Tomlinson and hundreds of complaints of police brutality at the G20 demonstrations in April 2009.

Then there are the cases of innocent people being shot dead by the police, some with mental health problems and others for going to work via the London underground and another for having a Glasgow accent and carrying a coffee table leg.

Over in the US a 72 year old woman was stopped for doing 60mph in a 45mph zone, when she refused to sign the speeding ticket she was stunned twice by the the police officer using his taser. The old woman falling to the ground was recorded on video.

To all those who for some strange reason still think it is the odd bad cop, or the one rotten apple in the barrel, the crucial message they need to grasp is that these are not bugs in the system; *this is the system*, the barrel is rotten.

## **MER PISH FAE BAMPOT BUREAUCRATS**

Fresh from Culture & Sport and other Tendering fiascos, Glasgow City Council has tendered out all money advice from July 1<sup>st</sup>. Far from expanding advice this is leading to less advice, for the hard-pressed citizens reeling from the "credit crunch", loss of jobs and mounting debt.

Instead of individual grants to approved Advice Centres, we have a situation where the Council is giving the £9 million, over 3 years, from the Scottish Executive to 5 area based Consortia plus a central specialist/Legal fund, homeless provision and an advice helpline (to *Citizen Direct* not *The Samaritans!*).

Each Consortia will have to fund a "Development worker" on top of existing back room staff to deal with all the paper work. This will be at the expense of front-line services. The Consortia will hope to pick up additional advice posts from other sources, to help cope with an existing demand that sees queues outside Centres on drop-in days, and waiting lists for appointments at 4-8 weeks.

There is no extra money from Council sources, and Centres are closing or downsizing as a direct result.

In the South-West of Glasgow, the Consortia of 3 have excluded a community based Information Centre of over 28 years service, in *Ladymuir*, North Pollok. The Committee of local people running the project have been unable to attract alternative funds, and 4 staff are set to lose their jobs on 30<sup>th</sup> June. The funds to pay for increased bureaucracy, legal and monitoring costs are being paid for, from 3 front-line advice posts and one part-time clerical post sacrificed at the Alter of Bureaucracy!

Despite the usual buck passing and tea-and-sympathy the Politicians have been Nae use. They have come over as all powerless, in the face of the Senior DRS Management at 229 George Street advancing their crazy scheme. Between Quarter, and a Half of a Million has been paid out in consultancy fees to the likes of Blake Stevenson, by Steve Inch and his DRS balloons. Yet the Councillors rubber stamped it without a whimper at the appropriately named Executive Sub Committee in late April.

Now to cap it all the Council are worried that by setting up these new Consortia, the Inland Revenue is threatening to slap on VAT, where no such charge was made before against individual Charitable Advice organisations. This would mean huge cuts in advice services on top of those in this Tendering process.

It all amounts to Complete Pish, schemes dreamt up by Bureaucrats to the detriment of the punters. Can anybody be really surprised!

From *Mr Angry* of Craigton.



## **SCIENTOLOGY, MORE LIKE SCIENCE FICTION.**

Super god Hubbard has some advanced teachings that are not for the raw recruit but which relieve the effects of past-life trauma patterns that supposedly extend millions of years into the past. Among these advanced teachings is the story of Xenu (sometimes Xemu), introduced as an alien ruler of the "Galactic Confederacy." According to this story, 75 million years ago Xenu brought billions of people to Earth in spacecraft resembling Douglas DC-8 airliners, stacked them around volcanoes and detonated hydrogen bombs in the volcanoes. The thetans ( that's what is inside us all!!) then clustered together, stuck to the bodies of the living, and continue to do this today. Scientologists at advanced levels place considerable emphasis on isolating body thetans and neutralizing their ill effects.

WOW, billions of people in Douglas DC-8s and hydrogen bombs?? That must have been a helluva party.

I know all religion is, well to put it mildly, a wee bit far fetched, virgin births, walking dead, and people being turned into pillars of salt, but this scientology crap doesn't even fit in that category, it is simply poor science fiction, but becomes pure exploitation and extremely dangerous when pumped out to vulnerable and naive people as truth. These people should be exposed for what they are a money making organisation of the deranged.

## **INTERESTING HEADLINES.**

Partner of man killed by Met officers calls for investigation to be made public (*The Guardian*)

Inquest to be held at last into prisoner's death (*Rochdale Observer*)

Inquest opens into death at HMP Chelmsford  
Police apologise at inquest into death of Callum McLean  
Critical verdict into death in prison of Brendan Flynn  
INQUEST remembers Blair Peach 30 years on

We could fill this paper with such headlines. Remember the police are not there to protect you but to protect the state and the property of the wealthy.

## **THE VICIOUS MARRIAGE OF STATE AND CAPITALISM. OUR HISTORY- GEORGE SQUARE 1919.**

As the impact of the global financial and economic crisis hits millions of workers and workers everywhere feel the full impact of surging unemployment on their families and communities, now more than ever we need working class solidarity through grassroots union organisation.

Despite the formal recognition by governments of trade union rights, this year, as in the past, sees continuous and harsh violations of fundamental trade union rights. Countries where widespread anti-union practices have continued include: Colombia, Burma, Belarus, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Iran, Pakistan, the Philippines, Honduras and Guatemala. There are many other countries where interference in trade union activities have been reported, Iraq, Kuwait, Latvia, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Turkey, Venezuela, among others. Despite measures in some Middle East countries and Gulf States, migrant workers are still denied trade union rights in many countries. The situation of domestic workers, mostly women and migrant workers in the Middle East and the Gulf States as well as some African and Asian countries, is unacceptable. Companies continued to take advantage of poor legislation and weak implementation to undermine workers' rights. Here in the UK we still struggle under the anti-union legislation introduced in the Thatcher era.

In 2008, at least 76 labour activists were killed as a result of their actions for workers' rights. Latin America remains the deadliest continent for trade unionists with over 66 murdered. 49 Colombian trade unionists lost their lives (including 16 union leaders, 4 of whom were women), a 25% increase over 2007. Trade unionists were also killed in Guatemala (9), Honduras (3), Venezuela (4). In Asia, at least 6 murders were reported (Nepal and the Philippines), as well as 3 in Africa (Nigeria, Tunisia and Zimbabwe), 1 in the Middle East (Iraq). China still bans independent trade unions.

This year thousands of trade unionists and workers were dismissed for participating in strike actions or protests; thousands more were harassed or discriminated against and hundreds arrested. Denial and other violations of labour and union rights are common in export processing areas, for example, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Swaziland, Bangladesh, Kenya, Mauritius and Pakistan. Reports of assassinations, abductions, arrests and imprisonments, as well as death threats, dismissals, harassments, acts of discrimination and intimidation against trade unionists are widespread.

The ongoing globalisation of the world economy coupled with the financial and economic crisis puts pressure on labour markets, working conditions and workers' rights everywhere. Workers continue to be threatened by employers with relocation, outsourcing and downsizing, with inevitable negative consequences of their trade union rights.

New forms of employment relationships are also affecting fundamental rights. The use of bogus self-employment as well as subcontractors or labour agencies is increasing in industrialised and developing countries. Yet, millions of trade unionists and labour activists around the world continue to fight for workers' rights, sometimes at the risk of losing their own lives or livelihoods. Now more than ever we should remember, "An Injury to One is an Injury to All!"



A Glasgow protest that brought the troops on to the streets of Glasgow. It was then, and still is the largest military action by the British state against its own people. The day became known as Bloody Friday.

### **FREEDOM.**

In a representative capitalist democracy you are about as free as a free range chicken on a chicken farm, and we all know why they are there. How can you be free when you have no control of what is produced and for whom, no control over what happens to your environment and no say in what happens to what you produce? You are also forced to pay taxes to the state for it to spend as it sees fit, nuclear weapons, royalty, etc. Though they are supposed to be your representative, you can't tell the state, "you're fired, I don't like what you're doing with my money."

Under these conditions you are no more than a slave who lives an illusion of freedom. Under real freedom we all must have control of what we produce, why and for whom we are producing it and base it on a system of mutual aid, not profit for the few.

In any free society sustainability and the needs of the people are paramount. Deprivation and the fear of deprivation would vanish from our communities, profit for shareholder parasites would rot in the dustbin of history. This freedom won't be given to us by politicians, it can't be negotiated from the corporate world, it has to be taken through control of our work places and our communities.

**Quote:** "The love of liberty is the love of others; the love of power is the love of ourselves."

**William Hazlitt (1778 - 1830)**

### **STRENGTH IN NUMBERS---ORGANISE.**



**GET INVOLVED.**



Don't be shy,  
ann arky would like to hear  
your views, news, gripes and  
opinions, so drop a note to:  
annarky@radicalglasgow.me.uk

**Quote:** "As I grow older I see clearly and distinctly what is right and wrong in our way of life and how ridiculous is everything not achieved with one's own blood and one's own soul and everything not infused with love." -- **Marc Chagall**

**THE MARCH OF THE EXTREMISTS.**

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states; *"a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief is the highest aspiration of the common people"* It is a standard by which we can measure our own and others actions, can measure the country we live in and those abroad. Of course this declaration is not admired by all, Dick Cheney says it is "outdated", the Chinese government says it is "Western" and Robert Mugabe states that it is "Colonialist" In 1999 Saudi Arabia lead a group of Islamists demanding that it be re-written, they claimed that it didn't take into account the unique sensitivities of the religious. They issued an alternative Islamic Declaration of Human Rights, stating that you can only speak freely within the limits set by shariah law. It has been backed by the Vatican and a large group of Christian fundamentalists.

These bunch of Christian/Islamist extremists will always work in unison when it comes to restricting the individuals right to freedom. Control is the name of the game as far as the religious nut-cases are concerned, we must always resist their chains of dogma.

**YOU'RE BEING SCREWED!!**

After all that crap about the culture of greed being dead as the financial parasites pleaded for billions in public money to save their skins, we find they are still at it. Corporate tax-cheats still cost us billions. Tax avoidance by big business continues to cost the public billions according to an investigation conducted by the Guardian. The National Audit Office reported that in 2006 more than 60% of Britain's 700 biggest companies paid less than £10m corporation tax, and 30% paid nothing. Leading accountancy firms are charging £500,000 a time to invent tax-avoidance schemes.

We face cuts in social services and pour billions into their pockets, they pay-off thousands of workers and then cheat us on the tax front. Is this your idea of a fair and just system?

**FREEDOM**

Britain's longest running anarchists newspaper  
Established 1886---- Still fighting the system.  
www.freedompress.org----info@freedompress.org



**ANARCHISM ONLINE.**

[www.glasgowanarchists.org.uk](http://www.glasgowanarchists.org.uk)  
Glasgow anarchist's website.

[www.radicalglasgow.me.uk](http://www.radicalglasgow.me.uk)  
Local resource home of the Anarchist Critic

[www.iwwscotland.org](http://www.iwwscotland.org)  
Revolutionary trade union run by its membership.

[www.praxisglasgow.wordpress.com](http://www.praxisglasgow.wordpress.com)  
Libertarian socialist organisation building strength in communities and workplaces.

[www.libcom.org](http://www.libcom.org)  
Anarchist/libertarian/communist news and resource site.

[www.classwar.uk.org](http://www.classwar.uk.org)  
Militant anarchist group, publishers of the newspaper of the same name.

[www.freedompress.org.uk](http://www.freedompress.org.uk)  
The oldest British anarchist newspaper, going strong since 1886.

[www.anarchistfaq.org](http://www.anarchistfaq.org)  
Infoshop.org's Anarchist FAQ, details what anarchism is and why you should help it come about.

[www.solfed.org.uk](http://www.solfed.org.uk)  
The Solidarity Federation, British section of the International Workers' Association.

[www.katesharpleylibrary.net](http://www.katesharpleylibrary.net)  
Library of Anarchist history.

[www.citystrolls](http://www.citystrolls)  
Think of your City and make it happen.

[www.redpepper.org.uk](http://www.redpepper.org.uk)  
A radical independent magazine.

[www.akuk.com](http://www.akuk.com)  
Anarchist publications.

[www.schnews.org.uk](http://www.schnews.org.uk)  
Free alternative news site.

