

THE ANARCHIST CRITIC.



Issue 95 October/November 2011.

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.

ARE WE COUNTING OUR DEAD AND INJURED??

Across the developed world the call is for "austerity cuts" wage cuts/freeze, pension cuts, redundancy. The social services for the ordinary people are being decimated, education, health care, libraries, all being dismantled. It is even being discussed in the mainstream media, but what they will not say is that this is an all out war against a particular class by another class. This is the rich and wealthy class taking from the working class to protect and enrich themselves, they call it a financial crisis, and you have to pay. It is time to realise this is a real war, it is time to call it by its real name, class war. People will die, it may be from the cold, (can't afford to heat their homes in winter) it could be from health problems, (proper care service just not there). Like all wars though, there will be many more injured than killed and the injuries can be from malnutrition, to mental health, to losing your home. However one of the greatest casualties will be the hopes and dreams of an entire generation of young people. Their potential trashed in the name of finance, their tomorrow sacrificed on the alter of finance. This is a brutal war, and like all wars it is a war for resources, (money, power and control), like all wars it is an unnecessary war. Like all wars, you lose if you don't fight back with more determination, organisation and solidarity than your enemy. We all know who that enemy is, it is the corporate capitalist system, and until we defeat that we will continue to lose our people to this brutal onslaught.

Of course the parasites at the top of this pile of shit, could not wage this war without having their troops on the street. We see their troops around us every day of the week and they will swing into action when ever you try to resist their masters attacks. They are there under the guise of protecting the public and preventing crime. That translates into, protecting the system, keeping you in your place so that the status quo remains intact.

THE MARCH OF THE MIGHTY DOLLAR!!

As the dollar empire gets into a frenzy to attack Iran, we can look around the Middle East and see that there are only two countries, with any resources, left, that are not under the heel of the dollar empire. One is Iran and the other Syria, there used to be four that included Libya and Iraq, but the last two have been sorted out. If you are not in the dollar club, you're are labelled evil, corrupt, repressive. Of course you can get away with these qualities if you happen to be in the dollar club, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain for example. America may be waning, but it is not giving up on its attempt to control the entire world. Any country that doesn't allow the dollar to dominate their economy is deemed to be evil and has to be converted to the faith of the mighty dollar. Once it has the whole of the resource rich part of the Middle East under its dollar dominance, Africa is the next battle ground. It is a continent rich in a multitude of valuable resources and America will do its damndest to see that the other empires, China and Russia don't get the biggest bit of the pie.

We in the West will rush in and FREE the African people from their evil, corrupt and repressive regimes and replace them with nice friendly dollar worshipping leaders. Of course to do this it will employ thousands of our young people to shed their



blood as the dollar marches forward slaughtering those we are freeing. Call it what you will, imperialism, corporatism, corporate capitalism, corporate fascism, all of them would fit. What you can't call it, is democracy at work.

NATO - A MODERN DAY RED CROSS!!!

When reflecting on Libya there is an opinion I hold with many others, and it is an opinion that I don't think can be voiced too often. Simply put, it is that NATO most certainly, is not a humanitarian organisation. Nor should anyone hold any illusions that the West will put itself out for the benefit of any Middle Eastern people. The Libyan episode cost those involved, not forgetting the deaths and injuries, billions of pounds, at a time of a financial crisis in those countries, why? Why the Libyans, why not the Syrians, Bahrainis, and how about the Saudi regime, probably one of the most repressive regimes in the area. Can't we step in to protect Palestinian civilians from the continuing Israeli onslaught? It is all about resources and oil is a mighty big resource in today's world, and NATO is the corporate world's hit squad.



WHY AM I AN ANARCHIST.

Why am I an anarchist? Well ask any anarchist and they will probably come up with a thousand or so answers. In today's world there is so much wrong and it is all down to man made systems. Yes there are natural disasters, but with true human un-costed, co-operation we could alleviate most of the misery from them, and in lots of cases we could prevent human suffering with proper planning, but cost prevents that. However we can't get away from the fact that most human suffering is from man made systems. Wars are part and parcel of the corporate capitalist system, hunger could be prevented, but in a capitalist world cost is the governing factor. In most cases disease can be eradicated, but cost is a hindrance. The corporate capitalist system of profit puts lots of answers to human suffering out of reach, it's not that we don't have the answers or the resources, it is simply that the corporate world can't make enough profit from that particular area. Why should human health and welfare be at the mercy of some corporate body's shareholders? A system based on mutual aid and co-operation would bring unimagined benefits to mankind. So why don't we destroy this man made, profit first system, and replace it with a needs based system that will see to the needs of all our people?

LIKE IT OR NOT, YOU ARE INVOLVED IN SOCIETY, YOUR ONLY CHOICE IS HOW!

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AMERICA- LAND OF THE FREE!!!

America, the most developed capitalist country in the world, land of the free, opportunity and plenty?? Well the figures on the ground don't paint that picture.

Land of the free-- According to a recent study America has more than 2.3 million people behind bars, and leads the world in both the number and percentage of residents it incarcerates, leaving far-more-populous China a distant second. This is costing state governments \$50 billion a year plus a further cost to the federal government of \$5 billion each year. These figures are on the rise year by year. **Land of Opportunity---** Unemployment in America is running at 13.9 million, approximately 9% of the population. According to recent figures, 49.1 million, approximately 16%, are classified as poor. The figure for 2010 for those who have accessed emergency food programs more than twice was 5.6 million, 4.8% of all households. Approximately 50% of American workers have an annual income of less than \$25,000.

Land of Plenty--- The figures for 2010, classified the number of households in food insecurity as 48.8 million, approximately 17.2% of the population. In households with children the figure was higher, 20.2%. According to government figures more than 16 million low income families paid more for rent and utilities than the federal government said was affordable. Another very disturbing figure for a so called civilised country, more than 46 million Americans have no form of health insurance.

From a report by "World Hunger Education Service" *"There are, we believe, three main causes of poverty in the United States: poverty in the world; the operation of the political and economic system in the United States which has tended to keep people from poor families poor, ---"*

America is also seen as the consumer capital of the world, but even that doesn't hold water. Recent figures show that 40% of all consumer spending in America is done by the 5% richest section of the population.

America, the richest country in the world, has a government debt of \$10.5 trillion, spends 4.7% of its GDP on defence, twice that of China, and in spite of that massive debt managed to pour over \$1 trillion of borrowed money on its adventures in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This is claimed to be the country at the pinnacle of capitalist development? Is this the society to which we are meant to aspire?

INSEPARABLE PARTNERS - CAPITALISM AND WAR.

Can you think of a year when the capitalist world has been at peace? It has been continuous wars from regional conflicts, illegal invasions to world wars and back again. War is part of the capitalist system, it fights over resources and markets and the fodder is the ordinary people. Wars create wealth for some and misery for most, but under capitalism, they are endless. The last ten years has seen death and destruction on a massive scale in Afghanistan, the obliteration of Iraq and the smashing of the Libyan infrastructure. The arms industry has grown fat on this mountain of misery, the oil corporations have gained immensely, and the construction giants have made fortunes, but the ordinary people have borne the brunt of all this misery. Now we are looking at Iran. If we want peace on this planet we have to get rid of the capitalist system, there is no other way.

No matter what the Western imperialists say about the regime, we should never lose sight of the fact that Iran has vast oil and gas reserves, and that more than any human rights or nuclear energy worries is the real reason for the Western corporate world's interest in Iran.

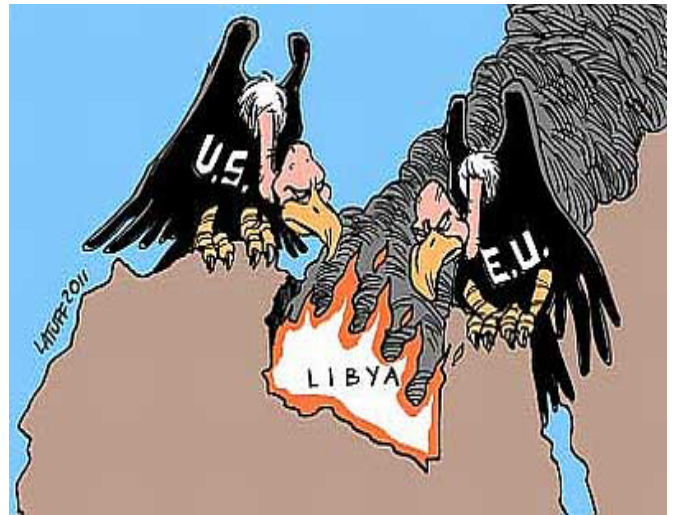
An appeal from Stop The War at stopwar.org.uk

Recent reports that the MoD are drawing up plans for military action against Iran are deeply worrying. Any attack on Iran would risk a wave of destruction across the Middle East. The West is justifying tightened sanctions and an increasingly aggressive posture with a series of vague claims that Iran is trying to protect its nuclear reactors and defying sanctions.

These claims are about as convincing as those used to justify the attack on Iraq. Meanwhile the US is sending more troops, warships and arms to the region. All this as they remain silent about the well documented strengthening of the Israeli nuclear arsenal, the only one in the Middle East.

Stop the War has produced a statement calling on the British government to scrap any plans for intervention and to pledge to take no part in any military action against Iran. Go to

<http://bit.ly/uFpHHL>



THE SPOILS OF WAR.

It certainly didn't take them long. Literally one day after the gory images of Muammar Gaddafi being dragged, kicked and stabbed through the streets of Sirte were broadcast worldwide, the announcement was made. It seems it was what everyone was waiting for. Some newspapers even called it "the starting pistol".

Britain's new defence secretary, Philip Hammon, announced that British companies should "pack their suitcases" and head to Libya to snap up lucrative reconstruction contracts.

It all sounds disturbingly familiar. Think of the American companies streaming into Iraq to aid the "reconstruction effort" after the invasion.

If there was any doubt, this modus operandi may soon define what seems no more than a new form of neocolonialism in the Middle East. American, Nato (or both) armies will destroy your country under the guise of ushering in democracy, and Western companies will assume the lion's share of contracts to build it up again.

And with Libya's National Transitional Council having already announced it would "reward" those countries that were in its corner during the "revolution", it's anyone's guess who will be the biggest of the war profiteers.

Whereas in the past Gaddafi's Libya was only dealing with China, Russia and Italy, the playing field has now been levelled, in a manner of speaking. Though it has portrayed itself as having had only a "back-room" role in toppling Gaddafi, the United States wants to be the number-one oil buyer from Libya, to compensate for its decades of deprivation of Libyan oil. There can be no doubt that in due course we will see that the US will want a far bigger cut of Libyan oil supplies than it is currently letting on.

This part of an article taken from;
STOP THE WAR COALITION.
Stopwar.org.uk

GET IN TOUCH.



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

GET INVOLVED.

ANARCHISM ONLINE.

www.glasgowanarchists.org.uk
Glasgow anarchist's website.

www.radicalglasgow.me.uk
Local resource home of the Anarchist Critic

www.iwwscotland.org
Revolutionary trade union run by its membership.

www.praxisglasgow.wordpress.com
Libertarian socialist organisation building strength in
communities and workplaces.

www.libcom.org
Anarchist/libertarian/communist news and resource site.

www.classwar.uk.org
Militant anarchist group, publishers of the
newspaper of the same name.

www.freedompress.org.uk
The oldest British anarchist newspaper, going strong
since 1886.

www.anarchistfaq.org
Infoshop.org's Anarchist FAQ, details what anarch-
ism is and why you should help it come about.

www.solfed.org.uk
The Solidarity Federation, British section of the
International Workers' Association.

www.katesharpleylibrary.net
Library of Anarchist history.

www.citystrolls
Think of your City and make it happen.

www.redpepper.org.uk
A radical independent magazine.

www.akuk.com
Anarchist publications.

www.schnews.org.uk
Free alternative news site

www.indymediascotland.org
Scotland's alternative news site.

www.edinburghanarchists.noflag.org.uk
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JARROW, - 75 YEARS ON!!

Just recently a group of young people repeated history. They marched to London on the anniversary of the Jarrow hunger march. Like those who marched before them 75 years ago, they were asking for jobs. What they seem to have failed to grasp is that it didn't work then and it will not work this time.

The face of capitalism doesn't change much, sometimes some of the people under its yoke can smile, but mostly, at best, it is a struggle. The struggles of the past are not separate from the struggles of today, it is the same struggle, it just wanes and intensifies. Today we are facing its more brutal stage with massive cuts to the social fabric of our society and thousands in each country being made redundant.

This is not new, we have been here before, the system has a history of hunger marches and soup kitchens. There is of course always a pool of unemployment in the system, it helps to keep wages down, but today however, the pool is a sea. What we are seeing today is a generation of talented and bright young people being dumped on the waste heap. They have no hope of ever reaching their potential, no chance of ever earning a decent living, no matter how many degrees they have worked hard to get.

Those who are advocating reforms to improve our conditions should look at the history of the system, it doesn't change, it will always function for the benefit of the parasites greedily milking it for all they are worth, that's capitalism. After several hundred years of a system that creates poverty for the many and unbridled wealth for the few, we should now realise that it can't be fixed, it has to be scrapped and something better built in its place.

Get rid of the reformers and bring in the demolition squad, and then we can start to create the society we want. One that sees to the needs of all our people, a system based on mutual aid and co-operation, a community based society that works in federation with all other communities built on sustainability, one that will see all our young people flower to their full potential in free association with all others.

