

RESISTANCE!



There's Blood On Your Hands As Well

So far the War On Iraq has cost the lives of up to 8,000 Iraqi civilians and as many as 40,000 Iraqi soldiers, mostly conscripted victims of two ruthless madmen: Bush and Saddam. Who is responsible for this carnage?

Tony Blair: Liar, Murderer, Thief

It is now clear that when Tony Blair visited Washington in September 2002, George Bush told him he was going to war with or without the UN, and with or without Britain. Tony Blair had a choice: he could either stand up, be counted and oppose the war – as France, Germany and Russia did – or he could kowtow to the 'special relationship' and act as America's dog, barking at anyone who opposed the rush to war. We all know what he decided. As the Hutton Inquiry has revealed, everybody in the intelligence services, the MoD and No.10 knew that Iraq was no kind of threat to the West or its immediate neighbours but Tony Blair insisted that the case for war be made in the September dossier we have heard so much about. He made it himself, in Parliament and in the media, at every opportunity he could. And Blair used the entire apparatus of his odious regime to make the case for launching an unnecessary and illegal war which he knew would maim and kill thousands of innocent people. He has blood on his hands and should answer for it.

The Stink Of Corruption

But why did all those well-meaning, upright civil servants go along with it, the rational intelligence analysts, the publicly-minded hacks and politicians? The people we trust to govern us wisely and in our best interests? The answer is because they are none of these things, they are none of them fit to govern, only to rule and rule us in their own interests. These men – and they are mostly men – are all rich and powerful. Wedded to the use and abuse of power, contemptuous of you, the people, the poor dumb saps who pay your taxes and get peace of mind – and slavery – in return. They gave the orders to produce the lies to write the dossier to sell to the other politicians, the media, the people, to make the case to go to war. They did it because they like to push people's buttons, they like being in charge and because we let them they get away with it. They too are long-range murderers, hiring mercenaries we call the British Army to do their killing for them. The stench coming out of the Hutton Inquiry is the smell of corruption, the fetid slime that people like Alistair Campbell leaves on anything he touches. They have blood on their hands and should answer for it.

The tragedy is that we, the people, carry on believing that such people are basically decent, that they care or that they can govern us so much better than we could govern ourselves. Blair's government will fall soon but you will go straight out and elect another one. Is that all you want?

People Like You

More and more people are now saying they oppose the war, that they wish it had never happened. People like you, perhaps. A lot of people protest "But how could we know, we trusted the government, we believed Tony Blair, its not our fault". Yet there were hundreds of thousands of people actively opposing the war, marching through the streets, organising petitions, handing out leaflets, arguing, persuading, demonstrating. You saw us and you turned away. You walked past and spat in our faces, waved your fists, your faces contorted with anger and contempt. You looked away, shrugged your shoulders, held up your shopping bags to show you were too busy to care. You stared blankly at our banners, hurried past our protests, cheered when the police moved us on. When war started you gloried in it: "Kill 'em all!" you said. "Serves 'em right", you sneered. "Kill the Pakis!" you cried. Lets face it, we've got used to caring only about ourselves, preferring to leave everything else to men and women who are as corrupt and morally deficient as any government in history.



You listened to the politicians, the preachers, the pundits and teachers. You listened and you *believed*. What you didn't do was think. You didn't ask yourselves why. You didn't want to know who was pulling the strings. You didn't care what happened to a far-away people you thought deserved what they were getting. You didn't wonder what kind of 'freedom' the Iraqis would be forced to accept. Or who would profit from it. You stood back and let it happen. You cheered the soldiers out and mourned the coffins home. You applauded when they stopped showing the broken bodies and maimed children at tea-time, you wanted video-games not severed limbs. When the history of the war is written, what will you say you did? **There's innocent blood on your hands too. How does it make you feel?**

You see we can't escape our own responsibility for the thousands of people who died in Iraq. We elect the governments that go to war. We pay the taxes that buy the weapons. We praise the young who volunteer as patriots and the soldiers who die as heroes. Until we demand an end to government, armies and war, we have no-one to blame but ourselves.

CAPITALISM

Its A Mad, Bad World

Capitalism is bad for people and the world but we go on voting for it year after year. For most in the West, our cage is fairly comfortable. So if some people dash themselves to pieces against the bars or are 'shot trying to escape', well that's their problem isn't it? Our world really is a jungle, increasingly filled with creatures driven mad with despair and hunger. So long as we let it happen, our world will continue to be a terrible place to live.

CHILDREN DIE IN SUICIDE LEAP

"A South Korean woman struggling with a huge credit-card debt pushed two of her children out of a high-rise apartment window then jumped with her youngest child in her arms. The four deaths....underscored South Korea's rising credit card debt. The media have reported robberies and kidnappings spurred by the debt. A spokesman said the incident occurred while the woman's husband was from home working as a labourer."

Debt in Britain is 130% of average household income

TESCO TESTS SPY CHIP TECHNOLOGY

Supermarket chain Tesco has admitted testing controversial technology which tracks customers buying certain products in its stores. The tags trigger a CCTV camera when a packet is removed from the shelf. Manufacturers want to go a step further and tag each individual product, enabling them to track customers as they move from shop to shop. That information can be traded to other retailers or even passed to the government to follow you around wherever you go.

But then if you're not guilty of anything, why worry?

HUNTING FOR BAMBI

"If you enjoy the feeling of wet paint splattering against your naked body (frankly, who doesn't?), you'll love Hunting For Bambi. The hot new 'craze' in Las Vegas sees fully-clothed gentlemen getting their kicks firing paintballs at women clad in nothing but a pair of trainers. Hunting For Bambi is "every man's sexual fantasy come true" said a clinical psychologist".

The fastest-growing parts of the entertainment industry are strip-and lap-dancing clubs. After all, it's a job any woman can do, isn't it?

MOTHERS FOR SALE

Feminism's dirty secret is the racist exploitation of millions of dark-skinned women as nannies, cooks and maids. The successful Western woman stands on the shoulders of an army of domestic slaves, unseen and underpaid. The traditional roles of women, rejected in the West, are "now being filled by wickedly-treated other mothers. Their love is bought, they give everything to the children and yet they are often sacked on a whim." Capitalism exploits every last drop of blood of the weak, wherever they are, whatever they have to sell. Servants are the latest style accessory as the rich get richer and the poor do what they can and as they're told.

Is this why we are born, to be someone else's slave, to clean up their mess for a fiver an hour?

YOUR ARMS, MY FOOT

A little Iraqi boy has both arms blown off in the war, is a nine-day wonder in the press, treated like royalty and whisked to Britain for specialist care and new arms. A black woman in Berkshire has her foot amputated and is told the hospital only provides white prosthetics free of charge. Get her a journalist, quick!

Our NHS, or just another private business?

Capitalism: You vote for it every year and you pay with the rest of your life

Iraq Warmonger In Liverpool Soon

The Merseyside Stop the War Coaliton has learnt that David Blunkett and his Home Office team are visiting Liverpool on September 10th. They will be starting their day in Norris Green, probably at the Boot Estate. Blunkett et al will be pushing the line of clamping down on anti-social behavior and how people in the area are 'benefiting' (yeah, sure!) from regeneration investment. As one of Blair's leading warmongers and xenophobes, Blunkett needs to be met and confronted, good style. The Stop The War Coalition are calling a protest on Sept 10th and are hoping for a big turnout on the day from trade unionists, asylum campaigners, tenant activists etc. Bring your banners, whistles and whatever else feels right. For more details contact Stop The War at merseyside@stopwar.org.uk See you there!



September 27th

Our Chance To Get Rid Of Blair

Plans are being laid for demonstrations throughout the country – and especially London – to protest the continuing occupation of Iraq and the systematic rape of the country by US corporations working for the occupying powers. This is our chance to let Blair know he is not off the hook and that there IS a price to be paid for the bloody mayhem he has inflicted on the world. Watch for details in the usual places or go to Merseyside@stopwar.org.uk. We can kill this government dead with a massive turnout. Buy your coach tickets early and buy often.

Councils Clamp Down On Basic Freedoms

You've probably wandered past the anti-war stalls in the city centre, the regular picket against the occupation of Palestine outside Marks & Spencer's. The freedom to protest, whatever our views, is one of the things we think makes Britain better than the rest of the world. What you may not have heard about are the campaigns of harassment inflicted on such protests by local authorities, including our own. Standing in the street is 'obstruction'. Handing out leaflets 'littering'. Shouting slogans is 'public disorder'. Now 2 people in Manchester have been summonsed to appear in court for obstruction and flyposting by the Council's Licensing Department, trying to protect the commercial interests of a major corporation. M&S is being picketed locally. How long before arrests start happening in Liverpool? Iraqi freedom? We could do with some here!

Interested In The Anarchist Federation ?

The AF is a federation of individuals and groups who share anarchist communist ideas, support the class struggle and oppose capitalism

The AF publishes a monthly newsletter, *Resistance!*, and the next 12 issues can be had for £4.

You can visit our website www.afed.org.uk or engage in debate with us at <http://flag.blackened/wwwthreads>
Or write to us AF, 84B Whitechapel High Street, London E1 7QX