

**Merseyside
resistance
anarchist bulletin** *Free/Donation*



IRAQ WAR!

What Are You Going To Do?

The person pictured has been burned to death. The photo was taken in 1991 as this man, probably a conscripted soldier, was retreating from Kuwait City, back to his home and family, AFTER THE WAR. As he travelled back to the family he was forced to leave by Saddam Hussein, American pilots bombed him and thousands of other retreating soldiers and civilians, burning them all to death.



Blair and Bush tell us that the war they want to start in Iraq is all about freedom and ending world terrorism. They tell us that Iraq is a world threat. They want *you* to think that "Iraq" is the same as "Saddam Hussein". They want you to forget that any war in Iraq is going to kill thousands of Iraqi people. People. Like you and your family.

What are you going to do about it?

This is what Bush and Blair want you to forget:

- The bombing of the Al-Amiriya bunker, killing about 400 women and children. Here's an eyewitness description from a Western journalist: *"Nearly all the bodies were charred into blackness; in some cases the heat had been so great that entire limbs were burned off. Among the corpses were those of at least six babies and ten children, most of them so severely burned that their gender could not be determined. Rescue workers collapsed in grief, dropping corpses; some rescuers vomited from the stench of the still smouldering bodies."*
- British and American planes bombed civilian installations such as water treatment plants, schools, hospitals, power station. The Clark commission concluded that these attacks had violated the Geneva Convention which bans countries from attacking targets that the civilian population needs to survive.
- Approximately 1.8 million Iraqi civilians have died since the war because of US and UK actions. HALF A MILLION of these people were aged under five years old. The US Secretary of State said that she thought that 'the price is worth it'. Try and picture FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND mothers crying over their dead babies. Worth it?
- During the Gulf War, the US and UK dropped enough bombs on Iraq to equal seven Hiroshimas. Most of these were old fashioned, hopelessly inaccurate stupid bombs. Here's another Western journalist: *'After 20 minutes of carpet bombing, there would be a silence, then you would hear the screaming of children and people, and the wounded would be dragged out. I found myself trying to treat the injuries, but the state of people generally was one of pure shock. They were walking around like zombies.'*
- Two days before the end of the war, American soldiers were kept busy at night. They drove bulldozers and buried Iraqi troops alive in their trenches. Not one of these vehicles was under attack. It was cold-blooded murder. Who were the terrorists?

You are probably already against murdering innocent people in far away countries. You are probably against sending British soldiers to die and kill just so America can grab more oil. Should your MP say something?. Here in Liverpool, most MPs are Blairites or totally ineffectual. What Tony says is what they do. Tony listens to George Bush. George listens to the voice of US business. Nobody will listen to you..... UNLESS you DO something! In the AF, we believe that it's a waste of time trying to change things by lighting candles or writing to MPs. Our suggestion is that if you are opposed to mass murder and you feel you should do something, you should DO SOMETHING THAT IS HARD TO IGNORE.

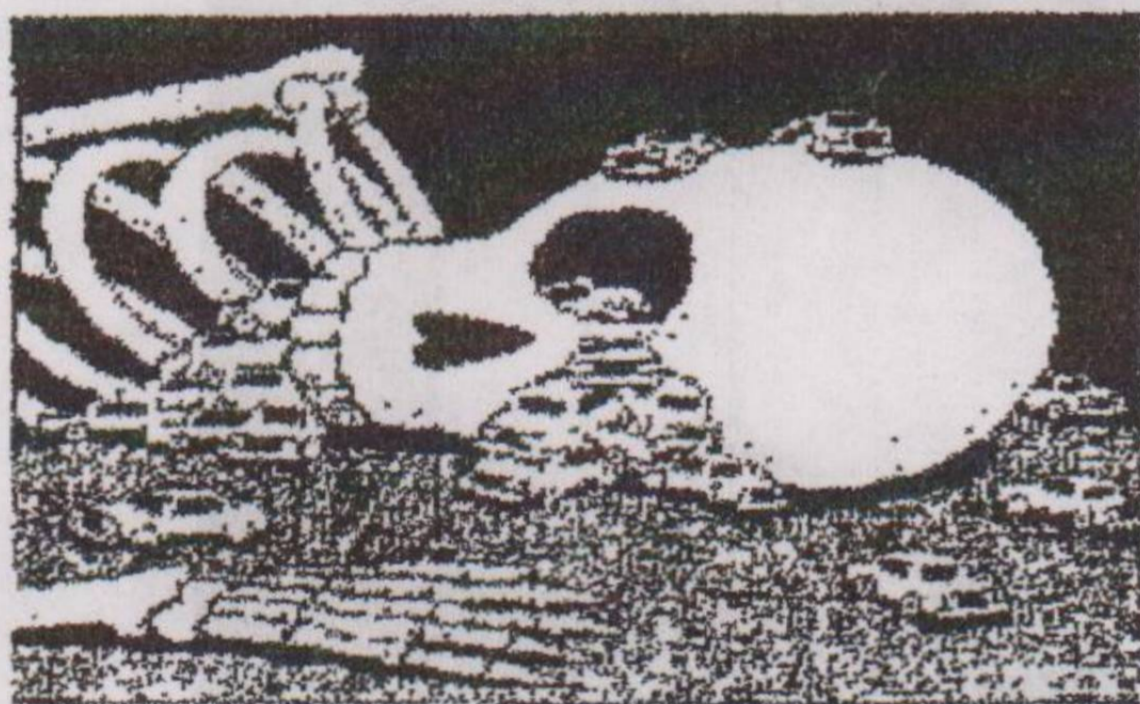
Show Your Anger! We are calling on the people to express their anger by civil disobedience. DONT go to work on the day of the war. GO to your local MP's house or office and protest. When you go back to work, TALK to other people who also disagree with this war. Put up POSTERS, call MEETINGS, BLOCK roads, PICKET army recruitment offices, WRITE your opposition on the walls, CONFRONT MPs at their surgeries. DONT let them support murder without feeling some heat in return. And we're harder to ignore if we act together.

PROLE POSITION

Fed up with Formula 1? Bored of NASCAR? Try the new sensation sweeping the world – **THE RAT RACE!** Just like motor racing, contestants in *The Rat Race* go round and round in circles without getting anywhere. But *The Rat Race* doesn't use cars! The bosses drive ordinary people instead, forcing them to compete against each other. Get a job! Work harder! FASTER! FASTER! Each year, as the competition gets more intense, contestants have to race faster and faster just to stay in the game. Watch how these machines drive themselves (to an early grave) through tight corners like recession and redundancy. As we race, we generate huge profits for the bosses – the ultimate pollution: greed, waste, display. Safety provisions are minimal and those who can't hit their targets go to the wall. Only a few get promoted to 'better' jobs, which often means we just have to race even harder! At the end our only reward is to be showered by the bosses with a warm, yellow liquid. It ain't champagne though!

The Rat Race

Dangerous. Expolitative. Pointless. The Ultimate In 21st Century Excitement



BUTCHER OF JENIN IN LIVERPOOL

Shaul Mofaz, the Israeli General (and new defence Minister) who directed the recent brutal assaults on Palestinian refugee camps and the occupation of Palestinian towns was in Liverpool recently. 30 protestors rushed to the Marriott Hotel in Speke where he was speaking at a fundraiser for the United Jewish Israeli Appeal, a shadowy charity with a base in Harold House in Childwall. The UJIA had tried to keep his visit secret as Palestinian groups have persuaded British police to investigate him for war crimes committed in the Occupied Territories and the Butcher has now fled the country. Jewish charity = Israeli murderer.

GREEDY BASTARD OF THE MONTH

Electricians union leader Derek Simpson only got his job when it was revealed that his rival for the post, Ken Jackson (Tony Blair's union lapdog) had tried to fix the election. His fixer, union official Charlie McKenzie, has announced he is to retire early but will continue to be paid for the next five years and take a £70,000 payoff, blood money amounting to £320,000! He will also keep his union-supplied car and in five years will begin to draw his pension largely paid for by the union anyway, a whopping £35,000 a year. Where has this money come from? From members subs, of course. People often ask anarchists why they support workers but not the unions. Do we really need to explain it?

CELEBRITY PRAT OF THE MONTH



Claire Sweeney, Brookside actress turned music hall 'diva', has reinvented herself as a 'Forces Sweetheart'. Following in the not-so-illustrious footsteps of Vera Lynn and, ahem, Geri Halliwell, the *Celebrity Big Brother* star will travel to the Middle East, providing masturbation inspiration for thousands of British servicemen. She will start her tour in Dubai and Oman, before 'entertaining' occupying troops in Afghanistan with songs from her debut album, the imaginatively-named *Claire*. Claimed Sweeney: "These guys are doing the most fantastic job for our country and the whole world. They are thousands of miles away from their families and loved ones and I just hope I can take a touch of home out to them." And she's right, of course. They **are** doing a great job for the bosses, helping take control of rich oil routes by force, protecting acres of heroin poppies and killing thousands of innocent, impoverished men, women and children along the way. What better opportunity to publicise her not-exactly-flying-off-the-shelf album than to prance about the desert wearing khaki? It seems Claire is just another vacuous celebrity mouthing the lies of the powers-that-be.

RAY GILBERT NEEDS YOUR HELP

After 7 years beyond his original sentence and 21 years served so far, Liverpoolian Ray Gilbert continues to rot behind bars for a crime he does not and will not admit to. He is being kept behind bars because he continues to plead his innocence to a crime he did not commit. It's a heavy price to pay. Ray needs help to challenge the continuing injustice and his campaign for release. He needs letters of support and packets of envelopes (8x4) so he can keep his campaign going. Any kind of aid would help: a few stamps, a postal order, whatever, especially books on Black history. Please help right an enormous wrong done to a working class scouser, punished by a state that hates to admit it was wrong.

Ray's address is: Ray Gilbert H10111, HMP Woodhill, HU6-CSC, Tattenhoe Street, Milton Keynes, MK4 4DN. To find out more visit Miscarriages of Justice at www.mojuk.org.uk

If you want to contact us, write to the Anarchist Federation, 84B Whitechapel High Street, London E1 7QX or visit our website www.afed.org.uk.

Accidental Death of An Anarchist.....

Dario Fo's *Accidental Death of An Anarchist* recently played the Liverpool Bluecoat, and like his other plays it mixes comedy with serious political comment. It is based on events in December 1969 when a bomb killed tens of people at a bank in Milan, Italy. The police immediately accused the anarchists of the bombing. Pietro Valpreda was arrested and during interrogations, and anarchist railwayman, Giuseppe Pinelli, 'fell' from a fourth floor police office window and died. The police said Pinelli committed suicide.

Later it was proved the anarchists had nothing to do with the bombing. After a long imprisonment, Valpreda was acquitted and released. It emerged that Fascist groups just like Britain's BNP were responsible for the bombing, aided by the Italian intelligence services (just like Britain too!). The bombing became known as the "State Slaughter". The song *Ballata Per L'Anarchico Pinelli* (translated below) tells the unofficial truth about what happened the night Pinelli died:

*That evening it was hot in Milan.
How hot, how hot it was.
"Brigadiere, open the window!",
a push ... and Pinelli goes down.*

*"Inquisitor, I told you already,
I am repeating that I am innocent.
Anarchy does not mean bombs,
but equality and liberty".*

*"No more humbug. Confess, Pinelli!
Your friend Valpreda talked.
He is the author of this bombing,
and you certainly are the accomplice".*

*"Impossible!", shouts Pinelli,
"A comrade couldn't possibly do that
and the author of this crime,
must be sought among the masters".*

*"Watch out, suspect Pinelli,
this room is already full of smoke.
If you persist, we'll open the window,
four floors are hard to do".*

*There's a coffin and 3,000 comrades.
We were clasping our flags.
That night we swore,
it won't end this way.*

*And you Guida, you Calabresi,
if a comrade was killed,
to cover a State slaughter,
this fight will just get harder.*

*That evening it was hot in Milan.
How hot, how hot it was.
"Brigadiere, open the window!",
a push ... and Pinelli goes down.*

This is the kind of thing that happens when you try to protest or claim your rights. You are ridiculed, arrested, interrogated, driven mad, imprisoned, sectioned, beaten bloody, killed or, like Giuseppe Pinelli, 'accidentally' thrown out of a fourth floor window. Our only defence against being killed one by one is collective action and class struggle. Its time to stop being victims and start fighting back. Get off your arses, and get involved!