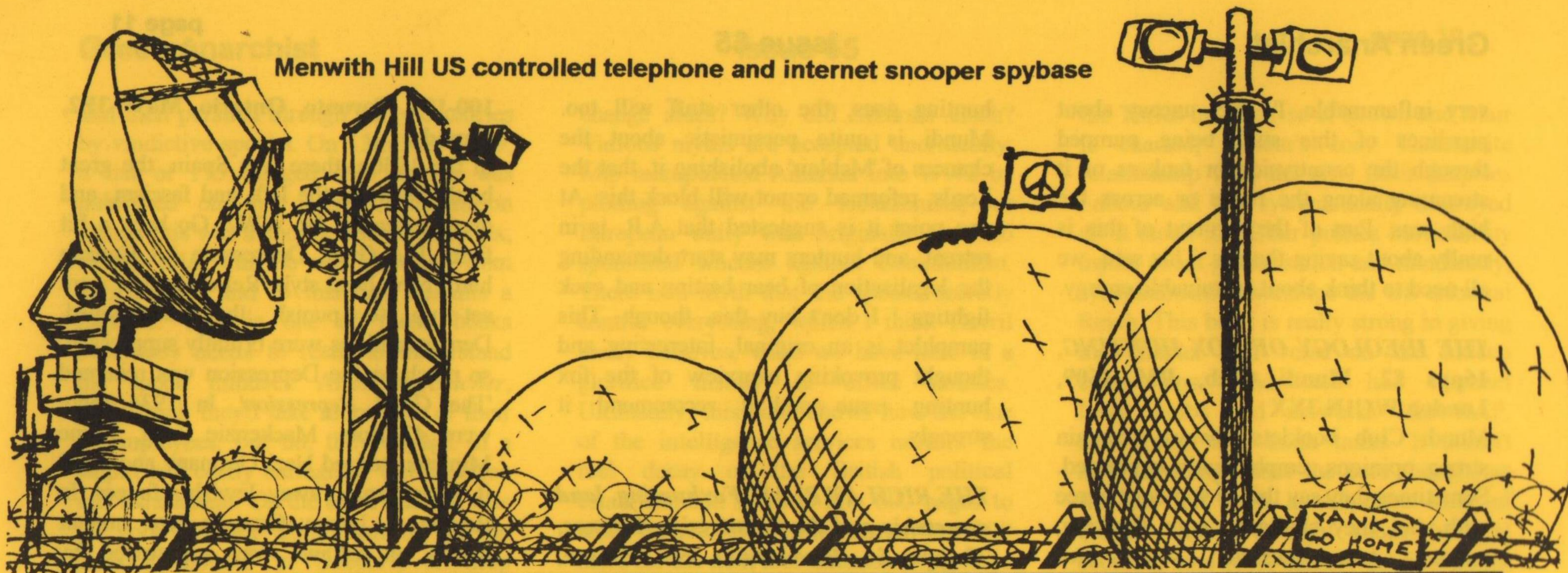


GREEN ANARCHIST

Issue 65

Price £1



Menwith Hill US controlled telephone and internet snooper spybase

The fallacy is to believe that under a dictatorial government you can be free *inside*. Quite a number of people console themselves with this thought, now that totalitarianism in one form or another is visibly on the up-grade in every part of the world. Out in the street the loudspeakers bellow, flags flutter from the rooftops, the police with their tommy-guns prow to and fro, but up in the attics the secret enemies of the regime can record their thoughts in perfect freedom - that is the idea, more or less.

Why is this idea false? I pass over the fact that modern dictatorships don't leave the loopholes that the old fashioned despotisms did; and also the probable weakening of the desire for intellectual liberty owing to totalitarian methods of education. The greatest mistake is to imagine the human being is an autonomous individual. The secret freedom which you can supposedly enjoy under a despotic government is nonsense, because your thoughts are never entirely your own. Philosophers, writers, artists, even scientists, not only need encouragement and an audience, they need constant stimulation from other people. It is almost impossible to think without talking. Take away freedom of speech, and the creative faculties dry up.

George Orwell, *As I Please*, Collected essays Vol III, pp 132-133

How it might be ...

Two million people protested on the streets of London, perhaps the largest protest ever seen here. 200,000 people marched in Glasgow. Many others protested all throughout the world. It was really important to be there, to make our opposition visible. But Bush and Blair ignored it all. Our objections did not stop the US War Machine. At a deeper level, is the protest movement relevant? Some parts of it perhaps are, some are not. The criteria to judge it is *effectiveness*. Disaffection rises, but how do we turn it into something positive? As the large protests indicate, we are not that far from success, but how do we move from here, today, now, towards a large, coherent protest movement with enough clout to make effective interventions in social and political processes? How do we move from there, up to the point where we ourselves set the agenda? A large part of what has happened since the 11th September is that the entire agenda has been deflected. Even society itself has been deflected. Yet faith in the state is the lowest yet. The elections show widespread disaffection, with around 80% not participating. Small parties like the Greens or hospital campaigners can even win a few seats, but no one believes this will really change anything in the town halls. The downside of electoral abstention is that small parties like the BNP also win, as seen in Burnley and the Midlands. It is important to oppose this, but we do this by offering a real and positive alternative, as a matter of altered facts within peoples' lives. The mainstream parties and the mass media presently try to use the threat of the BNP as another mechanism of agenda deflection, but racists in the Labour Party, for example, are also to be opposed. Rather than get drawn in to electoralism, we need to be building our large social movement on the ground, in reality. This is not easy, but it is the only thing that will work. We need to rethink our organizations, our goals, our networks, our motivations, our support. We live in a totally saturated propaganda environment, and this can only be countered through a massive, grass

roots social movement. This would render all the media lies, political parties and power structures irrelevant. We would then be able to by-pass the state and corporations by forming our own political, economic, cultural and social networks of activity and support. The system must be rendered redundant. Try to think what it is going to take to pull this massive activist network together. We are all needed at the work-face.

Solidarity

Sitting here, you get a good overview of the many campaigns and groups. When we understand *solidarity*, we realise that all our various problems - social justice, the environment, globalisation, GMOs, government, bureaucracy, animal liberation, urbanization - all connect. We can get to our massive social movement by working to connect and network together. We must start to

How do we move from here towards a large, coherent protest movement with enough clout to make effective interventions in social and political processes? How do we move from there, up to the point where we ourselves set the agenda?

create all this from what we already have.

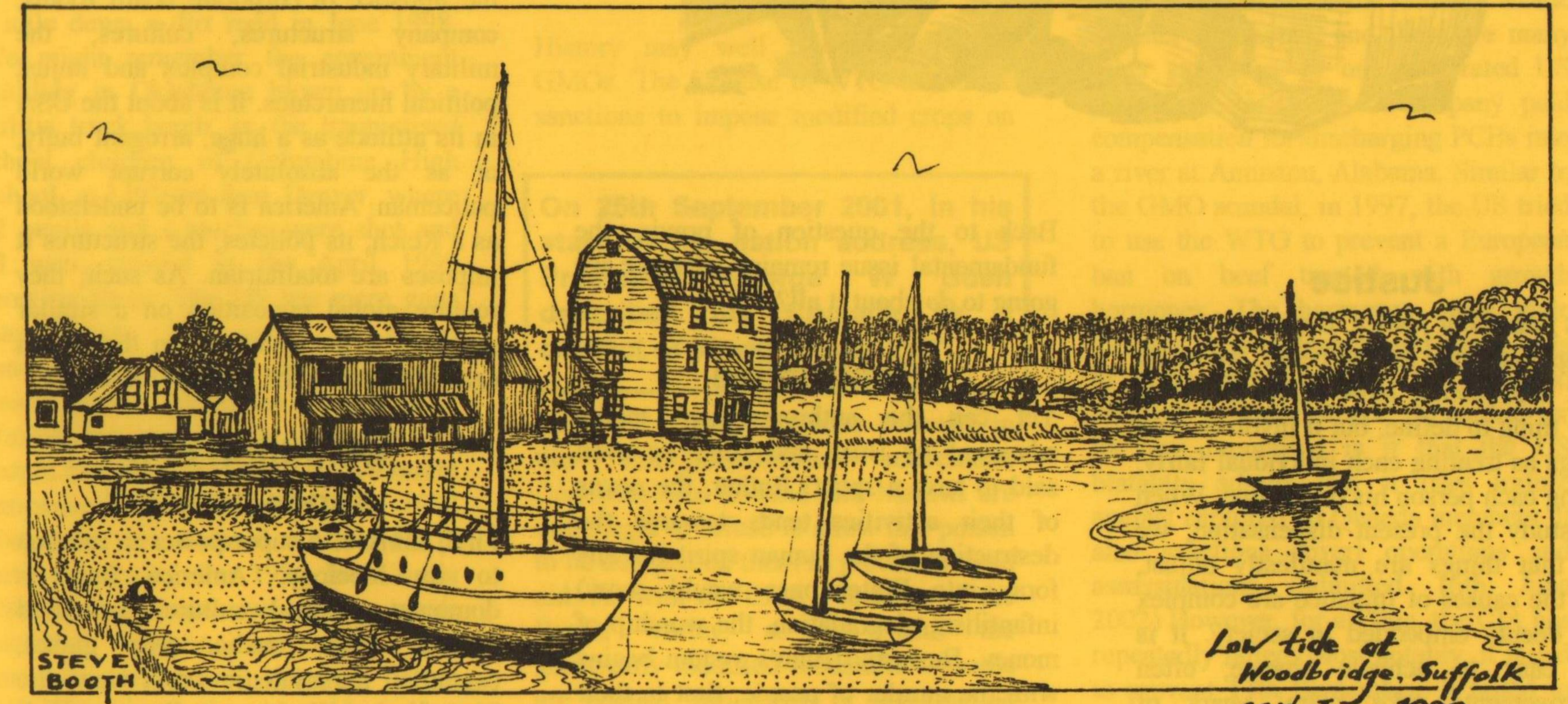
Eventually, (and this is not easy) the small puddles will become one vast sea. Now, there are many problems with the movement and ways in which it copies injustices in the wider world. If we cannot put our own house in order first, we do not stand a chance of putting injustices right outside us. We need to build a protest movement with integrity, with moral force. All good initiatives should be acknowledged as such, and thoroughly supported, so that the full weight of the movement is thrown behind them. People are pig sick of Blair and all his lies. They need to see the alternative, come to believe in its possibilities. Yet, it is a fundamental fact which

we must acknowledge and put into effect, that the people will not support groups built on exploitation of people, on lies, vicious hierarchies, or on making futile gestures.

Effectiveness

Political success boils down to three things: (1) The number of people active and involved. (2) Facilities, equipment, money. (3) The quality of activity, and how this either evades or addresses the particular problem. This is how we begin to build public support, popularity and involvement. This is how we find the Road Map to Anarchism. We need to think through why with so many people protesting, and with something like 86% of the public against the Iraq war, the movement made so little impact. The numbers were there, but the activity had no impact. People just got on their buses and went home. On the other hand, we should never forget the effect of *shock* and *awe*, of wonder. The 1998 Birmingham G8 protest, 18th June, the WTO protest in Seattle. Our movement should become a place of fun, with a clear sense of purpose, drive, and progress being made. Nothing succeeds like success. It is true that the criticism of America made in the rest of this magazine is also a criticism of the protest movement for accepting the deflection of the political and social agenda into this Imperialistic Crusade. Other stuff like global warming, third world debt, social justice, gmos, have been lost in the process. We need to put our mind and imagination into finding effective ways of setting our own agenda. Anarchism may be the new super-power, but we are a long way short of exercising that capacity, and of realizing that potential. We lack commitment, discipline, we lack concentrated fanaticism, self-coordination. On the other hand, our vision and purpose are catching. We need to spread outwards with our excitement, our joy. Freedom itself is unstoppable, because what we have is so much better than the authoritarian hell hole being created by Bush and Blair. Start to see the vision, take hold of it, work towards making it a reality.

Steve
Steve



Low tide at Woodbridge, Suffolk
22nd June 1989

JUSTICE, and the IMPERIAL CRUSADE

This issue concentrates on America and its imperialistic attempt to dominate the world. Some may think this is about wars in the Middle East, CIA interference in Indonesia or Latin America; but it also takes the form of an insidious cultural conflict being fought out on every high street, TV and cinema screen, and in *YOUR* hearts and minds. In a war where images count, the place of Woodbridge in Suffolk can serve as exemplar here. Everything peaceful and decent about what we stand for could be seen here. Historically, this area is well known for the Anglo-Saxon burial mounds at Sutton Hoo. The Medieval town became rich because of the wool trade with Holland. Napoleonic Martello towers still guard the coast. A few miles away, Snape Maltings and Aldeburgh hold their music festival and have a particular association with the composer, Benjamin Britten. Some of the most ancient English forests can be found at Tunstall. Yet, carved out of these woods were the huge American airfields of Woodbridge and Bentwaters. During the Cold War, as was much of East Anglia, this area was over-run with Americans. Similar problems also currently apply to Harrogate and the Menwith Hill telephone and internet snooper base. To align ourselves with America is to support infinite injustice, absolute corruption. This necessarily leads to the call to rid ourselves of their puppets, like Blair. As with Woodbridge, so too with many other places. US contamination spreads out, and it will take decades to remove it. The clean up is pending

FIRST: REJECT AMERICA

The USA is an imperialist, colonialist reich. It is hell bent on spreading its power, culture and economic pattern across the entire planet. As the sole super-power, in terms of orthodox global power politics, America appears unstoppable. Therefore, orthodox politics is a dead end, and other ways of thinking, outside the mainstream, are required, a cultural and social revolution. Anarchism. The US is imposing its totalitarian *diktat* through armed force. It may thereby antagonise other powers, China or the EU, or it may weaken internally because of its criminality, but we cannot bank on these. We cannot oppose oppression with oppression. We need something else. We can think of many negative images of American power; burned villages, napalmed children, raised cities, poison weapons, pollution, scientifically engineered plagues,

corruption, hypocrisy and cover-up. The massacres in Mazar I Sharif and Sheberghan, Afghanistan will doubtless find their successors in Iraq. The US renegs on treaties, like Kyoto and the biological warfare convention, and interferes in other countries' politics. It imprisons Muslim terror suspects without trial or the protection of the Geneva Convention, at Camp X-Ray in Cuba. The culture of McWorld is crass and materialistic, meanwhile people in the third world starve, as the debt mountain grows. Yet, the clock is ticking, as oil resources are used up. In order to address the many injustices perpetrated by America, we first need to reject their culture, and rid ourselves of their lap-dogs like Blair. TV is one important vector of US cultural contamination - break out of the loop, switch it off. Consumer boycotts are another way of fighting back. The battle is primarily cultural - we must break away from our psychological

dependence. There has to be a moral mobilisation against them. It is likely that Radical Islam will develop its opposition to America, and that the US Crusade against Islam will intensify. There is no way off the escalator for Blair the Poodle. Have no doubt that more 11th September terror attacks will be used against the US and its vassal states. All of this reinforces our need for a really strong radical protest movement, capable of breaking loose of this totalitarian war agenda, and of showing positive alternatives, and building a better tomorrow. America is death. Bush and Blair's war axis leads only to the graveyard. To support America is to connive in your own annihilation. We cannot accept America, we must tear ourselves away from its horror. We must discover who we are for ourselves, we must find our own agenda, culture and life. America is fundamentally unjust, its influence is coercive and pernicious, it must go.



Justice

Let's talk about justice. If we really want things to change for the better, we really start with justice. Now justice is not an easy thing to define, but it involves such things as treating each individual fairly, giving each person his or her due. When we study the present dispensation, we see that things are manifestly unjust, and the causes of injustice are complex and deeply embedded in society. It is not easy to achieve change; often improvements take many years of patient work. Justice encompasses such things as the fight for civil liberties and a free society, the campaign against Third World Debt, for economic and social equality, our call to care for the environment, and against the injustice of globalisation. Where have these themes been advanced these last three years? In this new dispensation, society has become more unjust, more hell-bent on destroying itself and the planet. Justice and environmental themes become of less and less significance.

Sickness

We need to question ourselves again as to our objectives and our methods. In his 1911 essay on the social democratic movement, Karl Barth contrasts the *aims*, (as opposed to the *methods*) of the Socialists, with those of Jesus Christ. The aims are understood to be the same, but the methods differ. The sickness is spiritual. If we look at the abject alienation of the North American correspondents in (for example) *Adbusters* magazine, we can see something of this sickness and alienation. The political and aesthetic cult of Primitivism is another aspect of this. Postmodernism, in exactly the same way, Primitivism and Postmodernism show the human spirit turning inwards and devouring itself.

Back to the question of praxis, the fundamental issue remains what are we going to *do* about it all?

Destructive

Yet can the anthropological model advanced by Bush and Blair be even said to have a spirit? Rather, the nexus of their activities tends towards the destruction of the human spirit (as any foray into Waterstones would show) infantilism, degradation, the worship of money. Bush and Blair's system begins with the murder of people, first in their souls and then in their bodies. Their agenda encompasses the physical destruction of the environment, up to and including the wiping out of even the most basic requirements for life on the planet. The Iraq war is but another phase, but there *is* worse to come.

Permanent, artificially created crisis

The present US inspired Great Crusade and the example of the war against Iraq drive the point home. The more any fair

America is a Reich; the policies and structures it imposes are totalitarian. Thus, they require global opposition similar to, or greater than that given against Hitler or the Soviet Union.

minded analyst studies the situation, the more he or she must come to the conclusion that the centre of injustice, the cause of perhaps 70% of our problems, is America. In the Cold War, the US was counterbalanced by the USSR. The two super-powers were rivals, the one acted as a restraint on the other. Now, Soviet Russia is gone, there is no brake, and US free market capitalism runs rampant across the globe, leaving a trail of the dead, dying and impoverished behind it.

Infinite, systematic injustice

This is not about the people of America as such; although it is high time that more of them opened their eyes to what is going on, and took action against it. This is not primarily about the people, save those who act as its arms and legs or minds, or the spending decisions of its mass of supporters. More, it is about the injustice of corporate board rooms, company structures, cultures, the military industrial complex and unjust political hierarchies. It is about the USA in its attitude as a huge, arrogant bully, or as the absolutely corrupt world policeman. America is to be understood as a Reich; its policies, the structures it imposes are totalitarian. As such, they require global opposition on a similar scale to, if not greater than that given against Hitler or the Soviet Union.

Definition of a super-power

First, think of a super-power in relation to its ideology. America has its dominant political culture, expressed through mass media, this global, capitalist, imperialistic world view, the 'New York / Washington Consensus'. It is this which is imposed when the man from the IMF comes a' calling; free markets, abolition of import controls and the protection of local economies, the privatization of public utilities, imposition of low corporate taxes, abolition of health and safety protection for workers; that whole Enronization agenda, subordination to the casino economy. This warps markets, and strengthens US economic clout. If countries refuse to cooperate, there is always the US military-industrial complex to back up their *diktat* with force. A super-power also has a global reach through ICBMs, satellite intelligence, Menwith Hill type telecommunications interception.

Good versus Evil

On 25th September 2001, in his state of the nation address, US President George W Bush described his Crusade as a conflict of 'Good versus Evil'. The conflict is pitched at the highest possible level, in metaphysical terms. However, the US is incapable of taking into account its own evil character.

Disturbing Images

For many of us, the archetypal images of US foreign policy are taken from Vietnam: US GIs shooting pigs and setting fire to villagers' grass huts with

Zippo lighters, a terrified man being shot in the head at close quarters, a young girl running away from a cloud of bursting napalm. More recently, it might be the chained, hooded and orange suited humiliated Taliban and Al Qaeda members behind wire mesh fences at Camp X-Ray. If we search for images of US society we might think of the death of James Byrd in Jasper, Texas, the black man chained up to a pick up truck and dragged for more than a mile down a dirt road in June 1998. We might remember the government building in Oklahoma blown up by a militia truck bomb, or the traumatised school children of Columbine High School, at Littleton near Denver, where 12 pupils and a teacher were shot and 23 were injured in the April 1999 shooting spree. The US has more guns than people. The image of scared Americans on garage forecourts, and closed schools during the October 2002 Washington sniper crisis is another. 12 people had been shot by 21st. We might remember the corruption of June 1972 Watergate, or Colonel Oliver North testifying during the 1986 Iran-Contra hearings. Perhaps we have more mundane images; of obese and immobile Americans slumped before their TV sets, or of corporate logos; but the defining image of America, and everything it stands for in the intensity of its commitment to freedom, democracy and the truth, is the grainy Kodachrome frame taken from the 1963 Abraham Zapruder film where President Kennedy is clearly shot in the head from the *front*.

Atrocities

The understanding gained from this is that America equals violence. America equals racism. America equals corruption, America equals lies. The book, *The River* by Edward Hooper [Penguin 1999, ISBN: 014-028377-3] convincingly to my mind, shows that Aids spread as the result of a US experimental polio inoculation project in the Congo during the late 1950s. Dr

Mengele used human subjects in his experiments, so do the Americans. There is no moral difference between the two. In 2001, 3.1M people died of Aids, 610,000 of them children. 68M are projected to die in the next 20 years, 29.4M in sub-Saharan Africa. For a moment ponder the magnitude of this US crime against humanity.

Genetically Modified Chernobyl

History may well repeat itself over GMOs. The US use of WTO and trade sanctions to impose modified crops on

On 25th September 2001, in his state of the nation address, US President George W Bush described his Crusade as a conflict of 'Good versus Evil'.

other countries is common currency in the anti-globalisation movement. Countries like Zambia and Malawi are quite right to refuse to allow this poison to be dumped on them as pretended food aid. As with the CHAT vaccines of the Ruzizi Valley, so too with the genetically modified foodstuffs - people are conned, threatened or blackmailed into participating in huge medical experiments, the consequences of which are by no means certain and may prove massively fatal.

Experiments

During the Cold War, biological warfare tests were carried out in US suburbs, on criminals, or in poor black city estates. In 1961, during 'Operation Flower Drum', the US Navy deliberately sprayed nerve gas on some of its own sailors on the USS *George Eastman*. In claims later disputed, *Time* magazine stated [June 15th 1998] that in September 1970, nerve gas was used in Vietnam. Similarly, in 1990-91, NAPCS anti nerve gas tablets given to US soldiers are believed to have caused 'Gulf War Syndrome'. The effects of the

tablets have caused ME type symptoms, cancer, birth defects in offspring, and more soldiers have died from this than were killed in the war itself. Radiation from depleted uranium shells may also be a factor. Around Basra, where DU shells were fired during the 1991 Gulf War, there has been a 6 fold increase in cancer rates.

Cancer and Torture

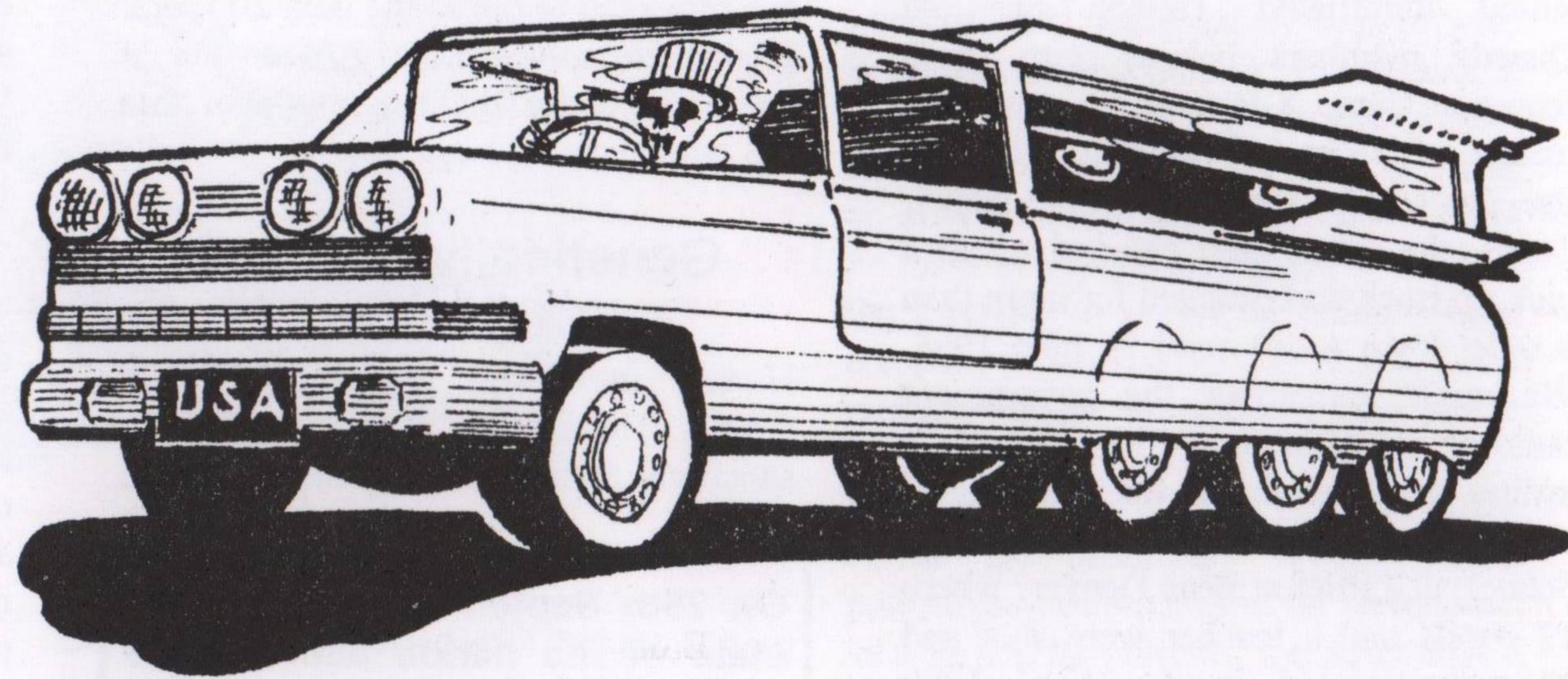
We are all aware of the Union Carbide disaster in Bhopal, and there are many other examples. In one celebrated US court case, a chemical company paid compensation for discharging PCBs into a river at Anniston, Alabama. Similar to the GMO scandal, in 1997, the US tried to use the WTO to prevent a European ban on beef treated with growth hormones. The hormones cause male toddlers to grow breasts and young girls to begin menstruating. They are also believed to cause cancer. So careful for its own reputation is it that the US blatantly admits that it uses torture against captured Al Qaeda members. It also sanctions covert operations and assassinations (admitted 16th June 2002) However, for all this, the CIA has repeatedly failed: Most notably, it failed to prevent 11th September. It failed to anticipate the 1998 East Africa embassy bombings, or the 1990 Iraq invasion of Kuwait. The CIA failed to warn of the 1982 Falklands invasion, 1973 Arab-Israeli War, the 1979 collapse of the Shah, and the May 1998 Pokharan India nuclear test.

Mass Murder

One of the reasons why the captives revolted at Mazar I Sharif, Afghanistan [November 2001] was that the CIA used torture. In a massacre reminiscent of the SS, of 470 imprisoned in the fortress, only 86 survived. What has been given much less prominence was the way 4000 prisoners were crammed into truck containers, and taken on from Qata i Zeini to Sheberghan Prison for further torture. They never arrived because the



men suffocated. Now that picture of the white helmeted US MPs standing behind the dock at Nuremberg is well known. It is all very well capturing people like Milosevic and putting them on trial at The Hague. Less so for corporate friends of the US like Pinochet, who in the 1970s sanctioned the mass murder of leftists and the torture by electrocution of nuns. On 1st July 2002, US planes killed 200 people, when they bombed a wedding party in Afghanistan. We see no realistic prospect of America ever being tried for its many crimes against humanity, for obvious reasons, because on the same day as they bombed the wedding, they opted out of the International War Crimes Tribunal. Oh yes, they can dish out their 'justice', but they cannot take it. More than anyone else, the US needs our scrutiny.



Treaties torn up

Some believe 11th September caused the US to tear up its treaty obligations, like Kyoto. Not so. On 25th July 2001 it reneged on the germ warfare treaty. The World Trade Centre catastrophe merely accelerated a process already in motion; whether over the Ballistic Missile Treaty, air pollution regulations (June 2002) trade sanctions against Rochefort Cheese or Aran knitwear, or a steel trade war (7th March 2002) The US cannot be trusted.

Internal interference

Back in 1989, working where they could have no legal jurisdiction, and were not welcome, FBI operatives combed the streets of Lockerbie, the fields, hills and woods of the Scottish borders, looking for 'evidence' of the bomb which brought down the Pan Am airliner. As Zakrani says, there are no frontiers, no limits, no scruples in what the US does. From funding anti left stuff in Britain back in the 1950s, to bankrolling Ted Heath's pro-Europe campaign in 1970, from an attempted bio-assassination of Patrice Lumumba, September 1960, interference in Indonesia in the 1960s, or Latin American death squads in the 1970s-80s, all the way through to threats to cut aid to Bolivia if Evo Morales was elected (18th July 2002), the US cannot stop interfering. The CIA conducted pre-emptive covert ops in Angola, June 1975. 'It was our policies which caused the destabilisation. Kissinger was determined to challenge the Soviet Union although no vital US interests were at stake.' [Robert Hultslander, CIA station chief, *Independent*, 5th April 2002, p18] In November 1996, Frederic Whitehurst,

an FBI scientist began to blow the whistle on the FBI's falsification of evidence. Two scientists, Tom Thurman (investigating Pan Am Flight 103) and Roger Martz (World Trade Centre 1993 and the Oklahoma bombing) were among those implicated. We have seen a similar indifference to the truth recently, when innocent Bristol businessman Derek Bond was arrested in South Africa on FBI say so (22nd Feb 2003). How many others, Camp X-Ray Al Qaeda suspects, drug dealers, terrorists etc have likewise been falsely accused? With the 'justification' for war based on a plagiarised students' thesis, is it any wonder?

Friendly fire

We may have gun battles in the streets of Karachi to capture Ramsi bin al Shaiba / Derek Bond. We may have drug addict US troops killing British soldiers in Afghanistan or Iraq - Part of

With the USA there are no frontiers, no limits, no scruples...

Tony Blair's 'acceptable blood price' I suppose. On 8th May 1999, the Chinese embassy in Belgrade was bombed. Tomahawk missiles frequently fall in the wrong country. On 3rd July 1988, the USS *Vincennes* shot down an Iranian civil airliner, 290 innocent people died. Orwell-like, there is often a abrupt change of allegiance, so that weapons supplied to Saddam become illegal weapons of mass destruction, or the US built Osama cave hideouts at Tora Bora become 'enemy' strongholds.

McWorld Marches On

In their postmodern infatuation with corporate symbols, the superficial angst-vendors see criticism of the logo

as the panacea for all ills. 'When the wise man points to the stars, the fool only sees the pointing finger'. It is true that the prototype of the modern corporate logo is the swastika. This must not blind us to the reality of what is going on. When we see the outrageous corporate satire in the 'McAfrica Burger' sold in Norway, one of the world's richest countries, it is only rational to feel angry. (Aug 2002) Another aspect of this are those huge cruise ships sailing round the world, the rich come to gawp at the poor, or disgorge their passengers into exotic sited heritage centres and identical shopping malls. The *Freedom* ship for example, 1317 metres long, accommodating 400,000 people, a huge floating tax haven. There is something grotesque about this.

Third World Debt

There is a huge gap between rich and poor, and this is widening. 1.3B people live in absolute poverty (less than \$1 per day). 70% of these are women. 840M suffer from malnutrition. After the 16th May 1998 human chain demonstration round the Birmingham G8 summit, \$100B of debt was supposedly written off for 36 countries. However, less than 20% of unpayable debt has been cancelled. It was a mere PR stunt. Aid and debt relief though, are used as weapons to impose US market conditions. A typical US multinational has more money than many third world countries. Weapons, cigarettes, pesticides and US culture are foisted on the Third World, to keep the US capitalist pot boiling.

Clash of symbols

At times of tension, corporate symbols become focal points for attack, as with

Oiling the Axle of Evil

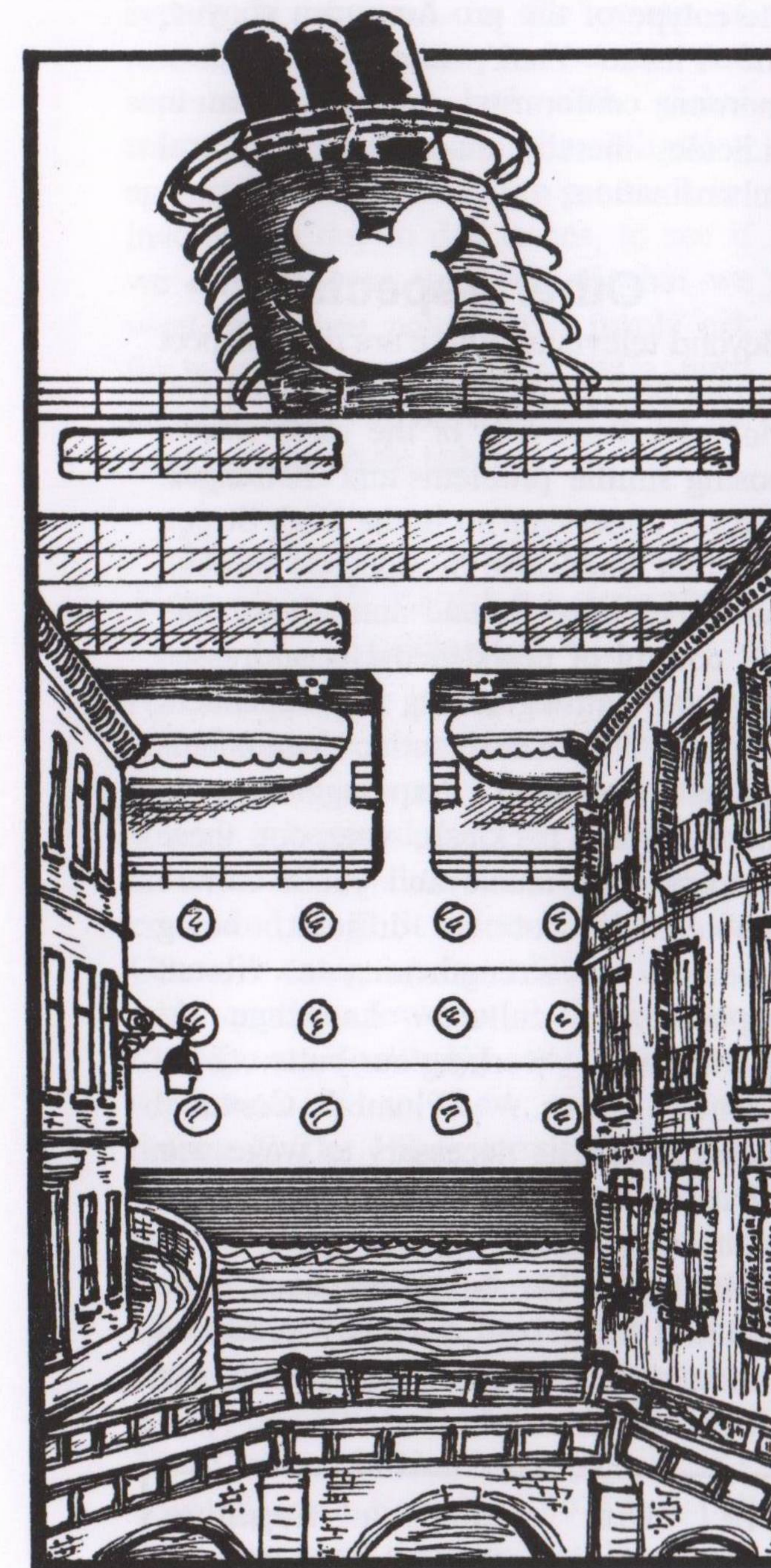
As oil reserves are eaten up, the crisis of control over this fundamental resource will intensify. Hence Bush's policy of expansion in Alaska. Iran and Iraq together make up one fifth of total world reserves. Current reserves were put at 140.4 thousand million tons [2001] Consumption per year runs at 3452.2M tons, giving oil until about 2040. During this period, the effects of global warming and conflicts driven by the need for oil are certain to churn over the world political structure. If Afghanistan and Iraq are really about oil, the need to link the oil found in Kazakhstan to the Indian Ocean with a pipeline gives us a clear explanation. Iran next. Similarly, the Baku / Ceyhan pipeline could provide another route to extract oil from ex-Soviet Central Asia, and puts into context European moves to admit Turkey.

The 'Path of Action'

'In the new world we have entered, the only path to peace and security is the path of action'. This sounds like a pronouncement by Adolf Hitler, about to invade Poland, but in fact these words were spoken by US President George W Bush, in his National Security Strategy, Sept 2002. The evil of America is clear.

The conflict is cultural

It becomes increasingly obvious that to assert justice, we have to rid ourselves of the US. To do this, we must start



Venice Menaced

the Planet Hollywood restaurant bombing in Cape Town (28th Aug 1998). In August 1999, French farmer Jose Bove celebratedly demolished a McDonalds restaurant. Three months later, the Seattle anti-WTO riots pitched in against Starbucks and Nike. On 19th April 2000, Breton nationalists bombed McDonalds, killing worker Lawrence Turbec. Sometimes oppositional attention switches from symbols to journalists, the killing of Daniel Pearl, 21st Feb 2002 is one example here. In the Middle East, there is a strong boycott against US goods. In response to the Seattle style mass protests, the WTO, G8, IMF etc have taken to meeting in inaccessible places, Qatar in Nov 2001, or the G8 in Kananaskis, Canada, 26th June 2002. This does not in any way lessen the completely evil character of their decisions. The death of Carlo Giuliani in Genoa is one aspect of this. We can take the December 2001 Enron crash, the biggest corporate collapse in history, as emblematic of their dishonesty.

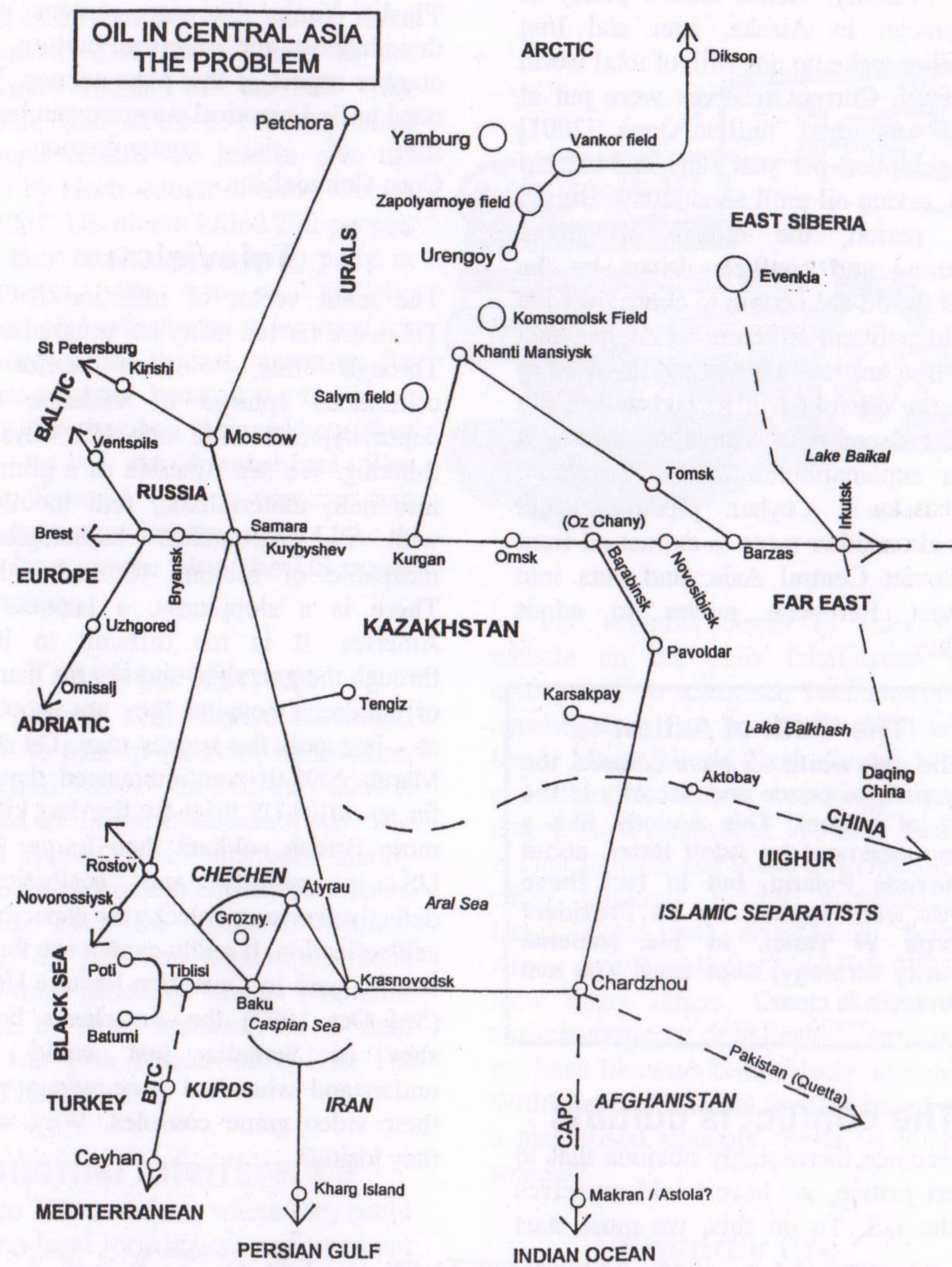


SEARCHING FOR THE ROAD MAP TO ANARCHISM

with culture. US world domination would not be possible, were it not for poodles like Blair assimilating themselves to American objectives. The 'Plastic Yanks' likewise, morons who thoughtlessly ape American culture, are another aspect of this phenomenon. We need to find practical ways we can break free of the contamination of Coca-Colonialism.

Television

The main vector of infection is TV. There are far too many US programmes. Through this, viewers suffer a continuous splurge of violence and depravity, and slide into US ways of thinking. We see America as a glimpse into hell; materialistic, foul mouthed, with its marionettes pathologically incapable of relating to each other. There is a sloppiness, a laziness to America. It is too difficult to look through the gun sight and see the market or childrens' hospital they are shooting at - just pull the trigger man. On 31st March 2003 it was announced that so far so-called US 'friendly fire' has killed more British soldiers than Iraqis. The US is morally and aesthetically defective because it lacks the capacity of self-reflection. It really cannot see that it itself is evil. In 'Operation Restore Hope' (3rd Oct 1993) the Americans being shot in Somalia just could not understand what had gone wrong with their video game consoles. Why were they losing?



stereotype of the pro-American copyist, the 'Plastic Yank', emphasizing their moronic conformity, exposing them to ridicule, thereby discouraging cultural subordination.

Other Aspects

Beyond television, there are other aspect to this problem. Clearly advertising and Hollywood are part of the same nexus, posing similar problems and challenges. We see Americanism in the High Street, and this could also be opposed through consumer boycotts and anti-advertising. US control of news media is addressed through strengthening independent media. We need active campaigns against political lap-doggism, to marshal the backlash, vote out these puppets. The music and youth culture problem is not so difficult, being attacked by strengthening a vibrant oppositional culture. Language is another area - 'working our butts off...' - 'Center Parcs...' 'Plumb Center...' 'Lootenant'. It is necessary to wage war on all American idioms, spellings and pronounciations. Lastly, US technologies, like Microsoft, need to be replaced with better, locally produced variants. The conflict is cultural, but also economic.

We must create a negative stereotype of the 'Plastic Yank', emphasizing their moronic conformity, exposing them to ridicule...

Because they're not worth it

The fact France has the moral courage to stand up to the US and veto the war plan at the UN sets an example. France protects its own language. Some of this opposition there comes from the Greens, eg Noel Mamere's *Non, Merci, Oncle Sam* book. That France can have a robust movement demolishing McDonalds shows that resistance is possible. If one can be free, the rest are without excuse.

Protest movements

So what of the anti-globalisation movement? How effective might this be in fighting the US? There are several ideologies or forces opposing America: Europe, Islam, Asia, Nationalism - but we would not necessarily wish to be associated with them. We need to be clear about what we want; such things as justice, morality, equality, freedom, democracy, free speech. We want water, sewage, health care, education for

everybody, an end to the waste of resources. We want concerted and serious action to deal with global warming. We want a moral mobilisation against the US. We need to get stuck in, involved in day to day issues, to see if we can get even that 1% of what we want, and then politely but firmly ask for more and more, incrementally, until one day, when we have earned it, we are working the whole bakery.

The Tortoise and the Hare How the US might be defeated militarily

America needs to be shunned culturally, and rejected economically. It may be undermined internally, especially if it suffers a heavy defeat, or through the effects of totalitarianism, violence, crime and drugs. It is inevitable that the US will enter into a military conflict with another power - Radical Islam, China, or (unlikely) the European superstate. If so, how could it be defeated? The US is strong on hi-tech weaponry but weak in that politically it cannot tolerate large scale casualties over a sustained period, as in Vietnam. US military actions have been short, sharp Blitzkriegs. When they have taken heavy casualties, (Lebanon, 241 dead 23rd October 1983) Beirut (April 1983, 63 dead), or in Somalia (1993) they pull out. Americans dropping bombing from B-52s against third world peasants are one thing, they are not so good at face to face combat, and prefer to use proxies. In recent times, it has yet to face an opponent equal to the task. In war, the US is a hare, the opponent(s) who will beat it must be more like tortoises.

Hi v Lo tech

Star Wars, global positioning satellites, stealth planes - US weapons are increasingly technological, therefore comparatively fewer, more expensive. A high tech support infrastructure is needed. Sophisticated weapons tend to fail in extreme weather - rifles jam in the Arctic, computers fail in sand storms. Adversaries with low tech mass produced weapons might not be so limited. In a US simulation, an army using simple wire based field telephones beat an attacker using sophisticated communications. Its enemies can fire against the US from many different angles, but the US only made 22 Northrop stealth bombers.

Balance of capacities

One simple weapon which would go a long way to addressing the balance of air power in modern conflict would be a simple, reliable third world mass

produced portable missile capable of downing US helicopters. Until missiles to knock down satellites, including TV transmitters, are developed, taking out their GPS, spying and propaganda capacities, the contest will always remain unequal. One day, these machines will become realities, and then the US will begin to suffer.

Continuous Crusade

Unconventional warfare will give the US's opponents a slight edge, but there can be no substitute for the development of straightforward military capacities. People look to the 11th September 2001 as though it broke open a new paradigm, however it was really the logical extension of previous trends. The *Pax Americana!* Under this Imperial, Crusading US dispensation, we can expect more acts of terrorism, as the enemies of the US increase. Crashing airliners into skyscrapers may be one form of unconventional warfare. Some forms are over rated; chemical and biological attacks eg, or 'dirty bombs'. On the other hand, who could imagine the effect of several nuclear bombs delivered to coastal US cities like San Francisco, New York or Washington in slow moving midget submarines?

External and Internal Troubles

We can outline future developments. The most obvious possibility is that the US could get drawn into a major Middle Eastern conflagration. Oil would certainly be a factor in this. Suppose the Islamic world drew together to fight the US in Syria, Iran, or Libya. Perhaps they might join in a NATO style defensive alliance. This war might involve nuclear weapons. A sustained conventional war would be bad enough though. The US might then withdraw into isolationism. The second possibility is a major Middle East war involving Israel. There is a strong chance that this would quickly go nuclear. The third possibility is US Imperialism takes it into conflict with China, or Europe. Its aggressive policy towards North Korea might spark a nuclear exchange. Fourth: an intensification of Radical Islam, along the lines indicated, resulting in a new phase of hyper terrorism. Pakistan already has the bomb, but suppose nuclear weapons from there or the former Soviet Union fell into the wrong hands?

The conflict might be precipitated by an American atrocity. The US might release a 'dirty bomb', ICBM or Sars

type plague during the Haj in Mecca, or such an incident might appear to be the work of America, but the backlash would unite the entire Islamic world against them. A terror attack on America, coupled with an oil shortage might bring a serious stock crash. We all remember how just a few short days of petrol crisis emptied the supermarket shelves back in September 2000. The US, riven with internal disputes, corruption, crime, drugs, demoralization and the crisis of faith in corporate structures, might break apart or lose its way, along the lines of the collapse of the Soviet Union. How quickly something seemingly all powerful can disappear. In this situation, the radical protest movement has a duty to keep on presenting our positive alternative, to show everyone that another, better world is possible.

Agenda Deflected

Since 11th September, questions of social justice, the environment, civil liberties, and everything else we hold dear, have been squashed. Surrounded with propaganda, our agenda is swept aside. American style 'democracy' is "one dollar, one vote". The war against terror is the health of the reich. Just think of all the contracts for rebuilding Baghdad, as with Belgrade before it. Our task must be to assert our demand for justice, freedom, liberty, and a proper respect for the animals and for the environment. Certain aspects of our movement have crumbled away to dust. This struggle for justice and freedom implies that America must go.

Positive things we need to do to break free

Without the demise of America, the people of the world are going to be condemned to permanent suffering. Does the anti-war movement, and whatever follows it, have the stomach for taking the fight forwards? Two million protesters on February 15th did not stop the war. The conflict is first cultural, with the need to break away from US TV and films, or advertising. Politically, pro-US components need to be rejected and shunned. The struggle then needs to widen out into economics, through passive boycotts, and active measures to discourage the sales of US goods. We need to develop our own identity, break free of this psychological dependence on the US. As a first step, we need to expose US cultural symbols to derision and disdain, initiate consumer boycotts. From there the conflict will necessarily broaden and deepen. This is the struggle we face.

Active Campaigns

One of the reasons why there is so much Yank crud on TV is cost. Therefore we should find ways of making US programmes more expensive. Suppose a political campaign demanded import surcharges on US stuff, or objected to some common feature, eg the use of guns. It might be possible to organise consumer boycotts of US products, or boycotts of goods advertised in close proximity to US shows. They understand the language of money. We need a whole paradigm shift. It might happen gradually, or with a sudden jolt. Imagine a strong backlash against America. Think about Image USA inc. Why do people buy into this? It is a kind of escapism, an optimism, not held up by facts. How do we tarnish the positive image? How do we undo the 40 years of brainwashing? If the image is Hollywood the reality is an unspeakable ugliness. Focus on this. Import

surcharges could be used to finance better British TV shows and films. We need to take away the wish to watch the US crud. 30 second ads exposing their negative and destructive character ought to be shown - slowly at first, spaced out, but building, building, building all the time. Obviously we must get rid of all the depressing British soaps, and create a more positive and dynamic image of ourselves. It is a matter of overturning that psychological dependence on the US. It is a matter of public opinion, image, positive alternatives, and creating practical campaigns to put pressure on TV bureaucrats and politicians. In some ways such a campaign could be like the anti left wing stuff in the 1950s and 60s. It might be like a co-ordinated letter writing campaign. It might have slogans and stickers. We could build a data base of pro-American figures. Such a campaign would need to create a negative

Reviews

DEMOCRATISING GLOBALIZATION: THE LEVERAGE of the TOBIN TAX, Zed Books, 7 Cynthia Street, London N1 9JF. ISBN: 1085649-871-9 by Heikki Patomaki.

The idea of 'Tobin Tax' is to "throw sand in the wheels of the financial markets" by taxing international currency speculation. \$1,500 B/day whistles through the markets, a 0.5% tax on this would be more than the developed world aid budget. The tax would be collected by individual nations. OECD countries would keep 30% for themselves, poorer countries 60%, the rest of the revenue thus generated would go to a UN style 'Tobin Tax Organization' (TTO) which would invigilate collection, sponsor projects and try to balance out the bad effects of global markets.

Two Stage Proposal

The tax was originally proposed back in 1972, by James Tobin, Yale Professor of economics. Thereafter it was shelved, only to be periodically dusted down in the wake of some crisis or other, brought on by the financial markets or IMF. The Tobin Tax idea runs completely counter to the UK / USA free market orthodoxy (what Patomaki terms the London-Wall St-Washington consensus) and so stands little to no chance of implementation. In its original form, Tobin suggested it would have to be international, and the purpose was to bring stability by acting as a damping mechanism. Interest in the tax revived in the wake of the 1997-8 Asian 'Tiger Economy' meltdown. Patomaki advocates a two stage approach. In phase one, 30 states amounting to 20% of the global currency markets sign up to it. Patomaki suggests that these be drawn from the progressive Nordic countries, plus others like Argentina who have been burned by the markets / IMF etc. Canada and France have also expressed an interest in the proposal, various NGOs, charities, and ATTAC, a lobbying body, has been established. If the EU or Japan could be persuaded to sponsor it, this would be a big step forwards.

Sliding scale

Initially, in the first stage, the tax would be set at a low rate, but then, the heat on

the lobster would gradually be increased. The intention is not to penalise holidaymakers or *bona fide* international trade, but short term currency speculators. These incur a higher rate of tax, on a sliding scale, and during crisis conditions, eg like George Soros' assault on the ERM, the rate becomes punitive. During the last phase, countries outside the 'Tobin Tax Zone' (TTZ) are invited to join, the assumption is that one by one, most of them will do so. In the first phase, the tax would essentially be on trial, to try to iron out the various loopholes.

Global Panopticon

Transparency in bank transactions is needed, which implies an extensive and total network of financial surveillance and licencing. Punitive rates will then be set against transactions involving tax havens and offshore centres, which will help leverage in non compliant countries. Once the idea gets critical mass, countries will eventually be forced to join the TTZ. Patomaki describes a bi-cameral governing structure, with representatives of governments on one side, and representatives of NGOs on the other, chosen by lottery, the 'House of Democracy' side having limited capacities of veto. [p203]

One of the unresolved paradoxes of this book is that Patomaki claims Tobin Tax increases national sovereignty, but, at the same time ties the nations more tightly into a binding, world-wide authority.

It is suggested that \$1 -2B /yr be used to finance about half of the UN's activities, thereby setting it free from the 'one dollar - one vote' principle of American hegemony. Patomaki, rightly in my opinion, is critical of US, UN and IMF attempts to suppress discussion of the Tobin tax idea; the sacking of Boutros Ghali, suppression of a UNDP book on the tax, and also the Stiglitz, Ravi Kanbur cases. [pp 175-180] Ultimately, however, Patomaki believes that the UN is (probably) beyond reform, and that the TTO will ultimately become the new de facto world authority.

Moral Authority Undermined

What are we to make of all this? It is certain that the markets are responsible for a great deal of harm in the world. The gap between the rich and the poor is widening. The casino economy encourages short term speculation against long term investment. Patomaki is doubtless correct that the IMF and World Bank institutions only make things worse, and impose their Thatcherite 'restructuring' packages on crisis racked Third World economies, to the detriment of the people, and bringing forwards the next crisis. The free market is certainly a mechanism for reinforcing US hegemony. Yes, something has got to be done about this, but is the Tobin Tax the right something? One of the unresolved paradoxes of this book is that Patomaki claims Tobin Tax increases national sovereignty, but, at the same time ties the nations more tightly into a binding, world-wide authority. It seems to me that the political structure proposed will suffer from similar problems to all such political structures - horse trading, power blocks, corruption, nepotism, megalomania, centralisation, excessive bureaucracy. The increased capacities of surveillance and the essentially coercive character of its recruitment methods through blackmail do not auger well for the future of the Tobin Tax. The road to hell was ever paved with good intentions. The postmodern, non-judgemental moral relativism of the acceptance of corrupt and oppressive regimes into the fold is also a problem. [p202] Faced with the near impossibility of implementing the tax, the temptation is to encourage countries to join at any price, simply to get the numbers up, but this undermines the moral authority of the proposal.

Out of the Frying Pan ...

Though the markets undoubtedly deserve a good kicking, increasing the power of international authorities can never be a good idea. I can imagine a whole range of objectors queueing up with 'out of the frying pan into the fire' type arguments against the Tobin Tax. Patomaki even envisages a watered down version of the proposal being *beneficial* to the markets. More to the point, giving this sort of power to an untested and untried

supra-national body is a recipe for disaster and will draw the corrupt and megalomaniacal to it like ants round the jam pot. There is also an element of anti US / UK thinking here, which is understandable. However, the alternative is also bad. Imagine the nightmare of a Tobin Tax Authority under EU control?

Tackling poverty through real action

Personally, I do not believe that international bodies can ever make a real difference. There are other possible measures though, which involve governments taking unilateral action to curb, decouple or isolate financial markets. It is really a matter of their gaining the courage to isolate America. Supplies of credit to the markets could be cut off, short term speculation could be regulated or made a criminal offence. The buying and selling of foreign currencies could be regulated or licenced. The casino must be shut down, yes, but we also need to change reality. Individual countries, or charities need to decide on real projects to attack poverty, and put real effort, resources and economic clout into clean water for example; feeding people, education, the aids crisis, human rights, fair trade, housing, malaria eradication, tsetse fly, river blindness elimination. The aggregate of thousands of such small projects would eventually change things for the better. This implies real effort on the part of those making them, a massive mobilization of people and resources. The fact that states are incapable of this, while ready enough to wage pointless wars ad nauseam is part of the anarchist indictment of the state, of course. Practical projects are a direct matter, unlike the Tobin Tax proposal, which is a second order activity. The developed world needs to turn aside from the essential selfishness and insanity of the markets. This implies a massive change of culture. Everyone should read this book to inform themselves of the detail of the Tobin Tax. Ultimately though, I believe it is unconvincing. In my opinion, with its advocacy of a new global taxing authority, the Tobin Tax is essentially a well meaning, but deeply sinister proposal.

Steve Booth

FROM HERE TO SUSTAINABILITY - POLITICS IN THE REAL WORLD - Ian Christie and Diane Warburton (eds), Earthscan, 120 Pentonville Road, London, N1 9JN

First, what is really good about this book is its factual approach, with tables and panels showing the rise of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere or the widening gap between rich and poor. This book has a breadth of approach because it has input from many different NGOs and charities, forming the 'Real World Coalition'. The Scandinavian countries exceed the UN recommended aid target of 0.7% GDP, but the UK, at 0.23% (1999) is well below. OK, so in general intention this book is well meaning and the factual side probably cannot be bettered, but where this book will not stand the test of time is in the naive hope it places in New Labour to somehow pick up on the green agenda or introduce democracy, Freedom of Information, etc. Just like Robin Cook's "ethical foreign policy" (remember that?), it ain't gonna happen. The sense of anger is lacking, there is a total reluctance to condemn. Maybe it is pitched at New Labour bureaucrats, maybe it will help salve their consciences by offering Kyoto and Agenda 21 type greenwashy palliatives. Ultimately, it is waiting for the governments to take action, but as we all know, they'll be waiting a long time. Which is a pity, because there was a lot of really good stuff in this book.

TOTAL SURVEILLANCE: INVESTIGATING THE BIG BROTHER WORLD OF E-SPIES, EAVESDROPPING AND CCTV, by John Parker, £10:99p, Judy Piatkus Publishers, 5 Windmill St, London, W1T 2JA

The ghost of George Orwell stalks Millbank. It's all about Echelon and Menwith Hill, RIP, CCTV, dataveillance, mobile phone tracking, bugs, phone taps, back door encryption keys, hackers and cyber terrorism. This book is a good general introduction and overview to these topics. Menwith Hill just hovers up everything in the ether and passes it across to the NSA at Fort Meade, Maryland. Nowhere is safe from it, no-one is safe - from some Russian army general telephoning his mistress, to Princess Diana and 'Squidgegate'. They've always been at it; back in the 50's J Edgar Hoover rushed to telephone Desi Arnaz to tell him his wife Lucille Ball was pregnant, even before she could. Several points come to mind here, though. This book takes the spooks own word on what they are doing too easily, viz MI5 aren't looking at subversion (p166) or they

allegedly can't track hackers (p 284) or the supposed lack of public concern (p294) over all this. From this distance the US govt paranoia about teenagers shutting down power systems or firing ICBMs looks like over reaction. Bugs like Melissa admittedly cost money, but are not the end of the world. Computers just not working due to normal faults, software bugs etc cause much more disruption, but nobody is calling out the CIA or National Guard. A sense of proportion is needed. This said, the surveillance satellites and CCTVs are really bad. The militant opposition of a strong civil liberties movement is desperately needed, but in my opinion will not happen so long as 'Liberty' exists in its present form and stifles the agenda. This book does not pay much attention to the fightback, except for those Australian hackers who attack paedophiles. (p 252) I'm waiting to see all those surveillance technologies turned against politicians and corrupt businessmen, fixing their dirty deals, spin and smear campaigns in plain sight on the www in real time. Imagine that, a global Watergate tape every day! It's already happened to Jo Moore and Dan Corrie. Let's see some more of this.

So overall, this book is a good read, and a worthwhile over-view of this topic.

THE BIG BREACH: FROM TOP SECRET TO MAXIMUM SECURITY, by Richard Tomlinson, £9:99p, Cutting Edge Press, 7 Albany Street, Edinburgh, EH1 3UG

Interesting book this. Richard Tomlinson was born in New Zealand, studied engineering at Cambridge and MIT, and travelled. Bored with his job as a Mayfair management consultant, he joined the Territorial part of the SAS. Then at the age of 27, he joined MI6. He was sent for training at Fort Monckton near Gosport in Hampshire. Passing this, he ran a fake press agency to recruit spies in Russia, help a rocket launch expert defect, and worked in Belgrade and Macedonia. MI6 were reportedly planning to kill Slobodan Milosevic in a Geneva road tunnel by firing a strobe light at his chauffeur. Seems a familiar story. Working in Bosnia, then on Iranian chemical smuggling, Tomlinson was peremptorily sacked from MI6. There then followed years of persecution after he tried to get an employment tribunal up against them. After emailing about his book proposal to an Australian publisher, he was jailed,

Briefers - stuff we would like to have reviewed in more detail but hadn't got the space ...

Merseyside Resistance from the Merseyside Anarchist Federation is a 2pp freeshet. It reports on the case of Ray Gilbert, a Toxteth man jailed for a murder he denies. US Black Panther Robert King Wilkerson was jailed for 27 years, but now campaigns against US racism. PO Box 350, Liverpool L69 6EE *Speed The Plough* is a peace movement newsletter, reports the October blockade at Faslane, Woodwoose 4 at Newbury. Trident Ploughshares, 42 Bethel Street, Norwich, Norfolk NR2 1NR *Close Down Nottingham Racecourse*. 40,000 greyhounds are killed off each year, dogs are kept in the dark in horrific conditions. Support the campaign group to stop this cruelty. PO Box 6931, Nottingham NG1 4WB.

The Cunningham Amendment. Every one a little gem, hand printed on vellum parchment, with quirky, humorous and outright bloody amazing stories, articles, satire, commentary. 1005 Huddersfield Road, Bradford BD12 8LP Continuing with the northern theme, because up here there is a fair sized and well roaring northern anarchist grouping striving to do good stuff. More of potential at present is *Northern Voices*. Haven't seen one of these out yet, but this is a prospective northern mag equivalent of the now late *Raven* quarterly. Deserving of your support, so send substantial donations to 46 Kingsland Rd, Rochdale OL11 3HQ *Boycott Blackpool Zoo*. 'Lonely, confined, unable to fulfil their potential, zoo animals display disturbed behaviour such as pacing, rocking, fighting, eating their young and self harming or are passive, lifeless and miserable'. A good local campaign. Blackpool ARG, PO Box 42, Blackpool FY1 3FF

and then pursued through many countries by vindictive spooks. On 13th May 1999, a list of 115 alleged MI6 agents was published on the internet, Tomlinson claims this was a spoiler operation by six, shortly after this he was expelled from Switzerland, and to this day remains a fugitive. This is one of those books everybody needs to read, to understand the spook mindset. After *Spycatcher*, you'd think they'd take more care of their ex-employees, but no, they engage in a stupid and costly barrage of victimisation and harassment. On the other hand, it was all good fun for Tomlinson to spy on innocent houses in Gosport, or drop people like Albert Constantine [p 195] when they were no further use to him. He should not be so surprised when MI6 did the same to him.

MI6: FIFTY YEARS OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS, Stephen Dorril, £14:99p, Fourth Estate, 77 - 85 Fulham Palace Rd, W8 8JB

Stephen Dorril will be known to GA readers as one time co-editor of *Lobster*. This book is a long, convoluted history of mainly Cold War spook ops, blow by blow, country by country, acronym by acronym. The same culprits turn up again and again, same tactics - recruiting ex Nazi collaborators, war criminals, to get behind the Iron Curtain. Ex SOE types train cloak and dagger private armies, but the infiltrators are often infiltrated, the Soviets using double cross networks. Dorril plays down Philby, stressing internecine emigre politics and tunnel vision by MI6 analysts. Nascent guerrilla groups in post WW2 East Europe did not enjoy real support, and the Cold War did not turn hot enough to use them. We see the usual gamut of spook tactics including disinformation, Zinoviev style forgeries, rigged elections. Much of this was inept, a great deal of it sheer evil; the interference in Greece, doomed infiltrations into the Baltic states or Albania, the allegation that a Jewish refugee ship was sunk. The problem with this is that its breadth is a hindrance. Each episode can only be treated at a superficial level, and Dorril's work depends on earlier literature. His previous book, 'The Silent Conspiracy' suffers in the same way. This long [Robin] Cook's tour through Acronym Reich looks impressive, but suffers from the necessary lack of real depth imposed by the urgent need to move on. Important questions are not asked: Why did General Vlasov

change sides? Why did Sikorski crash? Various myths are accepted uncritically; MI6 manipulated America into WW2 by plotting against the Isolationists, or European unity was originally an MI6 sponsored wheeze against Communism. There is a myth that the spooks secretly control everything, which I think Dorril really believes, what we have here is a glorified history of office politics. Ultimately, this book shows how the rise of the intelligence services mirrors the real decay of the British political establishment. It takes him 600 pages to reach Suez (1956) which leaves just 200 more for the next four decades. The closer to the present, the faster and more superficial it gets. All the opera cape and gaslight fake politics about Intermarium and the Promethean League masks the important point that this is essentially *their* version, the one they want you to believe. Like their new Vauxhall Cross HQ, it owes a good deal to Busby Berkeley. In and out, round and twist; the groups and plots create a shape viewed from above. If Dorril is cast as Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers could be the aptly named Mrs Dangerfield. Spin's the thing, in order to spot the dogs that don't bark, you need to know where the dogs are. Chinook helicopter crash? Princess Diana? This book should be understood in the light of MI6 having to recast itself in the post Cold War NWO era of 'avowal', mafia crime, drugs, super terrorism and Terry Farrell HQs. One of interest to really committed spook spotters, but not for the general reader.

THE RISE OF NEW LABOUR. Robin Ramsay, £3:99p, Pocket Essentials, 18 Coleswood Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 1EQ

This tackles several myths against Labour; it was the Heath government, not Labour, who caused the 1970s inflation; MPs who subsequently defected to SDP helped to vote in Michael Foot as Labour leader to undermine it. This book charts the 'Atlanticists' - US sponsored Labour politicians, and how many of these puppets who accepted freebie courses in USA later became key players in New Labour. Thatcher was heading for a fall in 1982, manufacturing was being massacred, but then along came the Falklands, Labour split, and people like Bill Rodgers (US tendency and pro-Europe) went off to form the SDP, destroying Labour's electoral chances for the best part of a decade, helping to keep

the Tories in. The rise of Brown and Blair is charted, Labour's cosy Thatcherite relationship with the city. Blair despises Labour and has systematically destroyed all it stood for. Blair pushes inevitability myths about globalisation and mindlessly, sycophantically worships the US criminal Reich. This book is really strong in giving the chapter and verse on the hidden connections; fundraisers like Michael Levy, clubs and networks like BAP, Bilderburg, and think tanks. It doesn't have anything about the cure though, so we are left with a shapeless kind of despair. Robin is right about the 'real economy' and jobs, against the City being nothing but froth, but it needs to go further than this. Best the disenfranchised socialists organise themselves, and campaign on positive social issues at the grass roots, and quickly, for if they do not get engaged with people in a positive way, binding together the community in solidarity and mutual support, people like the BNP will soon enough draw people into negative stuff like racism and division. All in all, this is a good primer on the chapter and verse details of how Thatcherite Tony captured control of Labour.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE CASE FOR HYDROGEN - Mike Koefman, Hydrogen Energy Association, 22a Beswick St, Manchester, M4 7HR

From the 1896 warning by Swedish scientist Svante Arrhenius, atmospheric carbon dioxide has been associated with climate warming. Scientists at first thought the effect would be beneficial.. By 1988, the UN established the IPCC. By 2000 AD, scientists mostly concluded the growing carbon dioxide overload is dangerous. As far back as 1974 hydrogen was suggested as an alternative. In 1923, J B S Haldane proposed using wind power to electrolyse water. Rudolf Erren built a hydrogen engine in 1928. Hydrogen is clean, the water vapour it gives off becomes rain. It can also be created using solar power arrays set up in deserts or Third World Countries. Carbon dioxide has gone up from a pre-industrial 280 ppm, is currently around 370, and is projected to rise to 450. We need to *suppress* carbon emissions, replace fossil fuel with renewable energy resources. 100 Sq Km of solar panels in a desert could supply 1 Gigawatt. Do we buy into this though? It is well meaning and needs looking at, but anyone who has studied the history of airships knows hydrogen is

very inflammable. I'd feel uneasy about pipelines of this stuff being pumped through the countryside or tankers of it streaming along the roads or across the high seas. Part of the sub-text of this is really about saving the car. This said, we all need to think about sustainable energy.

THE IDEOLOGY OF FOX HUNTING, 16pps £2, Mundi Club, BM 4609, London WC1N 3XX

Mundi Club booklets always contain strong opinions, emphatically expressed. Sometimes they say things you don't agree with, but they challenge your thinking, making you reassess your own assumptions. Hostile people say they're 'vegan fundamentalists' but in my view these are some of the strongest publications going in the green movement, and what makes them particularly good, is their emphasis on *facts*, materials collected from a wide range of sources over years. Mundi here make a link between hunting and organic 'pharming' and believe there has been a rightwards shift in the green movement, with mags like *Ecologist* supporting hunting and fuel protesters. I haven't noticed this rightwards shift in the wider movement myself - opinions anyone? The Countryside Alliance is seen as a threat, along with eco sell outs like Lord Melchett, Greenpolice fuhrrer, and Charles Secrett of FoE. It is inter-generational, with the stasis of pre-war gentry and Lords dragging society down into the morgue, the post-war generation now taking over and moving greenwards / rightwards, Charles Windsor as exemplar. Fox hunting is sustained with lies and the suppression of facts about its true character (the killing of fox hounds, cubbing, and the lie that foxes don't suffer.) The section about the double standard (p 9) of police and prosecutorial inaction against beef blockaders and the oil refinery protesters - imagine the state repression if this had been animal rights! is particularly good. They have a solid class analysis. "Hunting is linked to a wide range of other animal exploitation issues, and given that it is pursued by a specific class, is also linked to all the political issues generated by that class.". It is a bastion of feudalism, elitism, privilege, and a litmus test for other issues like the abolition of the monarchy and the fight against nepotism and oligarchy. It is tied up with the decline in respect for experts (vivisection and the Alder Hey organs scandal eg) If fox

hunting goes, the other stuff will too. Mundi is quite pessimistic about the chances of 'Mcblair' abolishing it, that the Lords, reformed or not will block this. At one point it is suggested that A.R. is in retreat, and hunters may start demanding the legalisation of bear baiting and cock fighting ! I don't buy this, though. This pamphlet is an original, interesting and thought provoking overview of the fox hunting issue and I recommend it strongly.

THE RICH AT PLAY: Foxhunting, land ownership and the Countryside Alliance, 75 pps, £4, Revolutions Per Minute, BM Box 3328, London WC1N 3XX

This is an important and timely book. After the law banning foxhunting was passed in Scotland the question becomes will Blair or won't he in England? Overall, I think this one is more optimistic than the Mundi pamphlet, though likewise RPM put no faith in the insincere smarmy plastic Thatcherite jackal. Again, the emphasis is on facts, particularly the *real* history of foxhunting, and 'Who owns Whom?' analysis of links between the Countryside Alliance and business. If 84% of towns and cities oppose it, the countryside is not so far behind on 77% (Gallup, 1997) RPM, like Mundi, see it as a barometer issue. Prince Charles, Vestey, Sir Christopher Bland, the Dukes of Northumberland and Westminster, McAlpine, and Persimmon Houses all fund the CA [p49] Professor Caroline Tisdall, ex *Guardian* (know thine enemy!) "Would die in a ditch to defend foxhunting." Rightly, RPM understand foxhunting as a class issue, but it is much more than this. The upper class, understanding what is at stake, have put aside their differences and thrown their weight behind the CA. Their claim to be about more than just foxhunting is ably exposed as hollow here. If the CA is also about protecting countryside, why do developers back it? Without the window dressing of other issues, their base constituency would be that much smaller, their real agenda seen as barren. More to the point, this excellent little book finishes with a call for people opposing it to likewise unite and fight against foxhunting. We need to mobilise.

THE MILITANT TRADITION, CANADIAN VOLUNTEERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES. Insurgence, 2 Bloor St, W Suite

100-184, Toronto, Ontario, M4W 3E2, Canada.

In the 1930s, there was Spain, the great battle between the left, and fascism, and dress rehearsal for WW2. Go back a bit first. The Great Depression hit Canada hard. New Deal style 'Relief Camps' were set up to punish the unemployed. Demonstrations were brutally suppressed, so much so the Depression was renamed 'The Great Repression'. In 1934 there were 43 riots. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister, toured Nazi Germany and liked it, later turning away Jewish refugees. In Regina, a Jarrow Crusade type hunger march on Ottawa was suppressed by RCMP, and turned into a riot. When the Spanish Civil War started, in July 1936, young Communists and leftists did not need much persuading. 1500 Canadians joined the Republicans. About 700 survived. Ford, General Motors, and Studebaker supplied trucks to Franco. Working class people from many countries came to join the International Brigades. The Canadian unit was named the Makenzie-Papineau Battalion, (the Mac-Paps). In July 1937, they fought at the battle of Brunete, west of Madrid. At the end of 1937, they were in Teruel. In the spring of 1938, a guerrilla team liberated 300 prisoners from the fascist fortress at Motril. Germany, Italy and Portugal sent soldiers, planes and artillery. By March 1938, the Republicans were in retreat. Political divisions and in-fighting among the Republicans weakened the fight. In Sept / Oct 1938, the Internationals had to leave Spain, the war was lost. Afterwards, volunteers were blacklisted. With the start of WW2 the Canadian CP was proscribed and some veterans interred. This is a great little booklet, with pictures, first hand testimony and historical background. Well worth reading.

PEOPLE NOT PROFIT, issue 6, free. 96 Bold St, Liverpool, L1 4HY

Liverpool free sheet, with 'The worlds on fire Global Round Up.' "Pensioners freeze to death, poverty gets worse." Best article for me was one on council corruption, creaming off Euro-regeneration money. The local press is accused of collusion. Even OLAF, the European fraud unit, is investigating the Rowewalks scheme. The Liverpool Vision Quango did not have a single local person on it. The GDP of Liverpool has fallen, despite millions of pounds being put in. A good local newsletter.

Notes from the Borderland, Larry O'Hara's up and coming parapolitical magazine. Articles about Liza Manningham Buller, MI5 boss, UFO dirty tricks, £4 from BM 4769, London WC1N 3XX Campaign For the Accountability of American Bases. Peace movement newsletter about Menwith, Fylingdales, Son of star Wars and other installations, Well good. 8 Park Row, Otley, West Yorkshire LS21 1HQ. *Now or Never*. Class War type Norwich anarchist newspaper with nice line in humour, and a bright future ahead. PO Box 487, Norwich NR2 3AL. *Guide to Public Order Situations*. Booklet about police tactics in protests. Basic rituals won't have changed since the Romans, but the specifics here in this book are almost certainly out of date. One for readers not doers. Dept 29, 255 Wilmslow Rd, M14 5LW.

North of the M25 and produced in the Midlands, starting up geographically where Freedom left off, is *Total Liberty*. A Journal of Evolutionary Anarchism, £1 from 47 High Street, Belper, DE56 1GF For a Buddhist / New Agey newspaper, get *Positive News*. All you need is Om... Ever wondered what happened to the Natural Law Party? Everywhere peace and light are taking over, the sun shines, flowers open, universal brotherhood / sisterhood and overall niceness is breaking out, as we trip trip lightly down the garden path. No 5 Bicton Enterprise Centre, Clun, Shropshire SY7 8NF. *Watching the Detectives*. Punk fanzine outwardly, but inside good info on political police, surveillance stuff. Weird detailed stuff about cop ops in Luton and Milton Keynes, report on some Fort Benning style spook-cop academy in Leicestershire and other stuff. *Network 21*. Ecologist style mag, Greenpeace in Nepal, Rare Armenian flowers conservation, wind power. The Conservation Foundation, 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR