

07:05:200907:05:2009

Letters

[home](#) ■[contact](#) ■[action](#) ■[weekly worker](#) ■[respect the unity coalition](#) ■[european social forum](#) ■[theory](#) ■[resources](#) ■[what we fight for](#) ■[programme](#) ■[join](#) ■[search](#) ■[communist university](#) ■[links](#) ■[our history](#) ■

October theses

Labour Party. I have been a member of the Labour Party all my adult life. Since May 1 1997, however, continued membership of this party has unfortunately meant printing my own membership card. Any card which omits reference to the party constitution - in particular, clause four, paragraph four - is invalid. My own card restores this feature. Anyone in need of a replica should immediately print one and sign it.

New Labour. No member of the Labour Party should be expected to pay their membership subscription to an alien party. New Labour is such a party, committed ideologically to Thatcherism and guilty of embroiling our armed forces in an illegal war.

Electoral fraud. On May 1 1997, New Labour assumed office by means of electoral fraud. At no point in that election (or in any subsequent one) has New Labour dared place its own name on the ballot paper. Only 'the Labour Party' has ever appeared. By masquerading as Labour, Tony Blair secured electoral victory for New Labour and correspondingly for the capitalist class. We won the election but they took the power.

Treason. No soldier, sailor or airman should be expected to lay down his life for an illegal war. Any order which violates international law constitutes an act of treason against the crown. Any politician, commissioned officer or other person suspected of high treason is to be placed under immediate house arrest.

Human rights act. The human rights act applies to all humans. This includes service personnel. All such personnel have the right to join a trade union affiliated to the Trades Union Congress. Any order from a commissioned officer which violates your human rights is invalid and may be judged a treasonable offence.

Labour government. In view of the fact that it assumed power by electoral fraud, New Labour lacks constitutional legitimacy. The current New Labour government is not only incompetent: it is also criminal and illegal. Gordon Brown, Peter Mandelson and Alistair Darling in particular should be placed under immediate arrest. Where the police fail to act, it is legitimate to make a citizen's arrest.

New Labour's greatest crime is its treatment of our brave soldiers fighting an unwinnable war in Afghanistan. Why should the working class be expected to provide sons and daughters to die in a hopeless cause?

Al Qa'eda and the Taliban. Instead of waging an effective war against Al Qa'eda and the Taliban, George Bush, Tony Blair and now Gordon Brown have

Fighting Fund Pleased enough?

After September's near miss we must ensure we achieve the £1,000 target for October's fighting fund - plus a bit more.

We've got off to a good start, with £126 coming in through extra standing order donations alone in the first week of the campaign. These are new or increased SOs over and above what we had at the beginning of the year. Amongst them are £30 from SM, £20 from MH and £12 from SB.

In one-offs, we had a very nice £25 from comrade JR, plus two £20 cheques from DS and CT. Comrade AH sent an extra fiver with his subscription, while DB did the same via PayPal. The only other internet donor was KT, who gave us £20 using his credit card via the website.

In all, we have £221 after the first week. However, as I say, we need to make up the September £75 shortfall, so we have quite some way to go. And, as always, if just a tiny proportion of our internet readers make a small contribution, we will walk it. Unfortunately, though, we normally get just one or two donations a week from this source out of the thousands who read us online.

Last week there were 15,847 of them, for instance. We are pleased they are interested in what we write, but are they pleased enough with the *Weekly Worker* to help us raise the money to keep producing it?

Robbie Rix

■ [Click here](#) to download a standing order form - regular income is particular important in order to plan ahead. Even

done everything conceivable to alienate the people of Afghanistan and consequently to lose the war. The puppet government installed in Kabul is a government of warlords, drug-dealers and gangsters. It uses bribery, torture and rape as routine instruments of policy. Without backing from the United States military, the regime would not survive a day. Indiscriminate bombing of the countryside is no way to run a country or win a war. What is needed is an internationally coordinated *people's war* against Al Qa'eda and the Taliban. That way, we can win.

£5/month can help!

■ Send cheques, payable to *Weekly Worker*, BCM Box 928, London WC1N 3XX

■ Donate online:

[Make A Donation](#)

As I write these words, Britain's top commander in Afghanistan, brigadier Mark Carleton-Smith, is announcing to his troops: "We're not going to win this war." His recommendation is that we now sue for peace: "If the Taliban were prepared to sit on the other side of the table and talk about a political settlement," according to our brave brigadier, "then that's precisely the sort of progress that concludes insurgencies like this." Is he saying that there is no alternative to the defeatist policy of opening 'negotiations' with the likes of Osama bin Laden? To the troops who have fought so courageously in this disgusting imperialist war - and who have seen so many of their comrades mutilated or killed - such talk will have about it the whiff of treason.

Instead of opening negotiations with global terrorism, our task is to *defeat* it. Break with American imperialism! Break with finance capitalism! Stop invading other people's countries! Stop stealing their oil! Respect international law! Stop supplying arms to warlords, drug-dealers and butchers in league with the enemy! Arm the working class! Defend women's rights! No violence! All weapons to be placed under the control of women's anti-rape militias! That way we can win - not just in Afghanistan but across the globe.

History teaches us that defeat in a major war constitutes the gravest possible threat to the stability and constitutional legitimacy of the regime or regimes held responsible. Among other consequences, the criminally defeatist words of brigadier Mark Carleton-Smith may already be testing the loyalty of our troops. Was it for this pitiful outcome that they were asked to fight for their country and die? If Queen Elizabeth feels unable to sack the criminal politicians who got us into this mess, perhaps she should make way for her flaky and eccentric son. Or - since he is so flaky and eccentric - maybe she should hand over directly to Charles's eldest son?

All this is their problem: I don't really care. For all I know, the next king could turn out to be my crazy brother, Kevin Plantagenet, or my Druid lord and master, the anti-roads protester Arthur Pendragon. Whoever is our let's-pretend sovereign, what matters is that the populace is in charge. To our current lords and masters, we say: end this collusion with the enemy - or make way for those who will!

Capitalism. Global capitalism has collapsed. It's dead, gone and should be spoken of in the past tense. Or, to put it another way, 'E's passed on! This parrot is no more! He has ceased to be! 'E's expired and gone to meet 'is maker! 'E's a stiff! Bereft of life, 'e rests in peace! If you hadn't nailed 'im to the perch 'e'd be pushing up the daisies! 'Is metabolic processes are now 'istory! 'E's off the twig! 'E's kicked the bucket, 'e's shuffled off 'is mortal coil, run down the curtain and joined the bleedin' choir invisible! *This is an ex-parrot!*

I end with an important announcement. The mother of all Halloween parties will take place on the evening of October 31, 5pm to midnight, outside Lehman Brothers at 25 Bank Street, London E14 (see www.graveyard.at). We will be 'Dancing on the Grave of Capitalism'. Don't miss the revolution. Be there.

Chris Knight
Radical Anthropology Group

Worker buyouts

With regard to the articles, 'The poverty of greed' and 'Anti-big business does not equal pro-socialism' ([October 2](#)), and especially given recent 'occupied factory' movements and the bailout fiascos, shouldn't worker buyouts be put forward as a minimum demand (instead of the current CPGB programmatic demand on nationalisations)?

The mechanism for this would be similar to forced buyouts of homes for 'development', in that businesses closing down in part or in full would have to sell to the government, which would in turn 'bail out' workers by transferring the purchased assets to them, should they