

### Mobilization for Global Justice

Washington D.C.

After the IMF/World Bank cancelled their autumn meetings in the wake of the terrorist attacks in the United States, the Mobilization for Global Justice called off their street protests and focused energy on a People's Summit which began on Thursday. The Anti-Capitalist Convergence and a newly-formed anti-war coalition are holding rallies, which began with 3 days of squatting actions during the People's Repo followed by a banner drop on Wednesday.

### Public-Private Partnership meeting disrupted

Dublin

Anti-globalisation protesters stormed a European PPP meeting in Dublin, attended by international corporate delegates and EU ministers of finance. It ended with 16 arrests after police baton charged a peaceful sit down protest outside. [http://uk.indymedia.org:8080/front.php3?article\\_id=13630&group=webcast](http://uk.indymedia.org:8080/front.php3?article_id=13630&group=webcast)

### WE ARE EVERYWHERE!

Third International Peoples Global Action Conference

Amidst a whirl of terrorist accusations and border controls, the third international Peoples Global Action (PGA) conference took place in Cochabamba, Bolivia. From this conference came a PGA call to action against the World Trade Organisation (WTO) summit in Qatar. Peoples Global Action calls on all grassroots social movements, community based organisations, trade unions, student organisations, indigenous peoples, farmers organisations, autonomous collectives and everyone who wishes to participate around the world, to carry out actions against the WTO during the next ministerial summit in Doha, Qatar, November 9th-13th, 2001. A Cochabamba declaration from Peoples Global Action was also initiated: read it at <http://www.agp.org>.

### Tafelsig Water War

Cape Town; South Africa

On September 27th, the Tafelsig district of Cape Town erupted into war as the town council cut off the entire community's water supply, and a movement local people built to fight eviction from their homes and police harassment faced live ammunition. However, the people of Tafelsig remain militant in their demand for basic services. The Premier of the Western Cape Province, Gerald Morkel, went on radio to say that the people of Tafelsig don't pay for water because they spend all their money in casinos. The real situation is that most families of 7 or more people in Tafelsig survive off a pension or disability grant from one family member - little more than R500 per month. [www.southafrica.indymedia.org](http://www.southafrica.indymedia.org)

### Stop Sweatshop work in Fields

Los Angeles.

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), largely Hispanic, Haitian, and Mayan Indian immigrants working in low-wage jobs throughout the state of Florida arrived on their last leg of a Taco Bell Mini Tour. Their aim was to raise awareness of the on-going boycott of Taco Bell, one of the fast food giants that buy cheap, high-quality US tomatoes, picked by thousands of Florida farmworkers who pick tomatoes at a piece rate that has remained virtually unchanged for over two decades. If Taco Bell were to voluntarily pay just 1 cent more per pound, and the growers would agree to pass that penny along to the picker, that one penny could almost double the picking piece rate overnight. [www.la.indymedia.org](http://www.la.indymedia.org) / <http://www.ciw-online.org/>

## offline

THE INDYMEDIA NEWS SHEET

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### YOUR LOCAL VOICE How to publish your own reports on the Indymedia UK Website:

**STEP ONE:** All you need to do is hit the 'PUBLISH' link on the frontpage ([www.indymedia.org.uk](http://www.indymedia.org.uk))

**STEP TWO:** Follow the instructions above the publish page form (they're easy to follow) - you have to enter some information about the report you're uploading - a title for your report and your name, which can be anything you like. There are also other spaces on the form for your email and telephone number etc, but you don't have to fill these in unless you want to. Then...

**UPLOADING TEXT:** If you are submitting a text report simply type into both the 'Summary' box and the 'Article' box, then hit the 'publish' button at the bottom of the form - that's it! - your report or video etc will now be added to the website.

**UPLOADING PHOTOS, VIDEO, AUDIO AND OTHER TYPES OF MEDIA DOCUMENTS:** Indymedia can cope with all sorts of multimedia content, so you can upload your own pictures or video etc. Simply provide a 'Summary' of what you wish to publish, then select the file from

your own computer hard drive using the 'Browse' button, then hit the 'publish' button at the bottom of the form - that's it! - your picture or video etc will now be added to the website.

**IT REALLY IS THAT EASY!** There are some guidelines covering what type of contributions are wanted, where to post details of forthcoming events, as well as information on how to get more involved in Indymedia if you like what you see.

**DON'T HATE THE MEDIA - BE THE MEDIA!**

## 11 things you should know about...

### THE COSTS OF WAR

1. Global military spending: around US\$780 billion a year, of which US\$121 billion is spent in developing countries. 1
2. The UN's Year 2000 Goals for Children, which call for an assault on poverty and underdevelopment through advancement in health, education, water, and sanitation could be achieved for US\$30 billion to US\$40 billion a year more than is currently spent. 1
3. Cost of one AGM-86B air-launched cruise missile: \$1 million
4. In the NATO bombing of Yugoslavia, 42% of the bombs dropped missed their targets, as did 30% of the smart bombs used. 3
5. The arms on sale in the bazaars of Afghanistan, northern India and Pakistan, are a legacy of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 and of the US pipeline of arms to the Afghan guerrilla groups. 1
6. Children are particularly vulnerable to landmines, and Afghanistan is one of the most heavily mined countries in the world, effecting children. 1
7. The number of deaths from wars and related causes has averaged around 400,000 per year for all developing countries, with little change between 1945 and 1992. 1
8. Approximately a third of the total number of export licences granted in the UK, from May to December 1997 were for small arms, light weapons and ammunition. Many went to countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. 4
9. "The world is awash in small arms... regional arms races will feed cycles of escalating conflict." Madeline Albright (Former US Secretary of State) The US is home to over half the world's legal small arms manufacturers, employing 16,770 people and shipping US\$ 2 billion worth of guns and ammunition in 1997. 5
10. In 1998, the UK licensed military exports to 30 of the 40 most oppressive regimes in the world. 2
11. The US government's General Accounting Office (GAO) estimates that "smart" bombs miss their targets 75 percent of the time. 6

Sources: 1 UNICEF, 2 CAAT, 3 Bulletin of the Atomic Scientist, 4 Saferworld, 5 Small Arms Survey, 6 (GAO, 1996).

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# Offline



Bypass the corporate media – get your news direct from the streets – [www.indymedia.org.uk](http://www.indymedia.org.uk)

## Justice not Vengeance

Around the world people have protested against the US and UK military attacks on Afghanistan

Tens of thousands of people joined a peace march through central London on Sunday 13th October, with the turnout seemingly taking everyone by surprise. Police had predicted only 5,000 marchers, while CND, the main organisers, had only expected 10,000. At the end of the day which saw Trafalgar Square fully packed, the police said there had been 20,000, while organisers, participants and the media put the figure nearer 50,000. The demonstration was made up of a wide range of groups, and an even larger number of individuals wanting to express their opposition to the warmongering.

While some media reported the march as a demonstration by fundamentalist Muslims and Christians, the truth was that a wide cross section of society was represented: peace groups, women's rights campaigners, Palestinian groups, pensioners, school children, veterans, medical workers, Wombles, Muslims, Quakers, gay activists, socialists, trade unionists and anti-capitalists.

The whole event was peaceful, with police taking a low key approach, while maintaining a large presence in the immediate area, including mounted riot police. Many side streets were closed off and over 60 vans full of riot police were posted



Crowds fill Trafalgar Square demanding justice with peace

in Whitehall and the surrounding streets.

At Trafalgar Square speeches were made by some of the groups involved, highlighting the concerns that have prompted people up and down the country to hold vigils, protests and anti-war meetings under the rough banner of Justice not Vengeance.

Kate Hudson, the vice-chair of CND said "We are sending a very clear message to Blair and Bush to say that they should stop the bombing now. They should take this opportunity to allow starving Afghan people to be fed. This is a marvellous opportunity to end this terrible conflict and bring the perpetrators of the terrible

crimes to justice through the auspices of the United Nations."

Coinciding with the International Day of Action against the Militarisation of Space, there were also protests held at Menwith Hill and Fylingdales, two bases used by the US for intelligence gathering and communications.

Following the success of the demonstration, CND and the Stop The War Coalition have called for another larger national demonstration on 14th November, while leaflets were handed out during the march advertising a Non-Violent Direct Action sit-down protest to take place in London on Sunday 21st October. **Continued on Page 2**

## WORLD REJECTS WAR

The international coalition against the war is growing, as people everywhere take to the streets

While huge numbers were marching in London, other countries have seen similar growing mobilisations by people opposed to the warmongering. More than 200,000 demonstrators gathered for a peace march in the central Italian town of Perugia, where anti-globalisation activists marched shoulder to shoulder with traditional peace groups despite the

accusations of planned violence. As in London, police sources had been spinning the line that anarchists may be intent on hijacking the march to turn it into a riot.

In Calcutta, India 70,000 people staged the biggest anti-war protest the country has seen.

In fact the last few weeks have seen protests and vigils all over the world. To

name but a few, there have been protests in Paris, over 50 German cities, Athens, Tokyo, Johannesburg, Austria, South Korea, Denmark and Belfast. Thousands marched in New York with a banner saying "Our grief is not a cry for war" while numerous US campuses have seen protests and vigils.

### Immediate Response

On the day that bombing began there were protests and vigils across the country. In London hundreds gathered outside Downing Street while a smaller group took to the streets before being

chased and dispersed by large numbers of police. The following day nearly 1,500 people gathered around Whitehall. 1000 people attended a vigil in Glasgow, and 200 marched to a Ministry of Defence building and several chained themselves to a balcony. There were also vigils and protests in Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Manchester, Bristol, Leeds, Nelson, Burnley, Bradford, Cardiff, Newcastle, Northampton, Sheffield, Luton, St Albans, Oxford, Watford, Brighton, Milton Keynes, Wolverhampton, Telford, York, Walsall, Newport, Birmingham, and Swansea. **Continued on Page 2**



Indymedia is an open network of information produced by groups and individuals, that address's the bias of main stream media. To report on actions in your own words visit the publish section of the IMC UK website at: [www.indymedia.org.uk](http://www.indymedia.org.uk)

Continued from front page

In the weeks before military action started there had been an increasing number of vigils for peace across the country. In London the first vigil outside Downing St called by ARROW one week after the attacks on the US brought together 500 people. A Stop The War meeting spilled out of Friends House with more than 2000 people attending, and a CND vigil protest called 11 days after the attacks on 22nd September was attended by 5000.

## Dublin

A loud but peaceful AntiWar gathering of about 300 people in Dublin marched to the American embassy to protest against the war. The demonstration was attacked by police and 2 people were arrested they were later released but charged with public order offences. [http://uk.indymedia.org:8081/front.php3?article\\_id=13994&group=webcast](http://uk.indymedia.org:8081/front.php3?article_id=13994&group=webcast)

## Brighton

20 protesters occupied an army recruitment office in central Brighton in an action against the war in Afghanistan, a banner said 'Sabotage the War Effort'. [http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article\\_id=13715&group=webcast](http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article_id=13715&group=webcast)

## Manchester

Four people climbed onto the roof of the BBC on the busy Oxford Road in Manchester with the aid of a long ladder and hung "Blair Broadcasting Corruption" from one of three flagpoles. Other banners included "uk.indymedia.org" "Destroy Imperialism not Afghanistan" "Truth - the first casualty of war" and "Stop Warmongering scum corporate media" in a protest about the medias manipulation of information surrounding the war and attacks on Afghanistan. [http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article\\_id=14141&group=webcast](http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article_id=14141&group=webcast)



# Independent Crisis Coverage

As the global political situation becomes ever more ominous, independent, web-based news sources are more important than ever

All over the world, people with access to the web are logging on to find information and ask questions, share emotions and reactions - in other words, conduct precisely the kind of human information exchange which most of the mainstream media fails to provide.

The newswires, here and on other IMCs worldwide, have been jammed with alternative analysis to the current situation, as have other independent and alternative news sites. A new section at [www.indymedia.org.uk](http://www.indymedia.org.uk) has been dedicated as a resource for the reports and analysis coming in from a rich variety of perspectives.

Like Indymedia itself this section can only work on a DIY basis. Help us decide what should be in it as it grows. Please send recommendations for links to [imcuk1@indymedia.org.uk](mailto:imcuk1@indymedia.org.uk) so that we can continue to expand it. The special web section is split into the following sub-sections:

### PEACE MOVEMENT:

Since September 11th there have been peace vigils, anti-war protests and discussion meetings across the world. Reports from participants are helping to show that there is resistance.

### CIVIL LIBERTIES + STATE REPRESSION:

The response to the attacks from many governments has been to immediately propose new draconian legislation that will attack civil liberties. As some politicians and commentators cite the anti-globalisation movement as a terrorist network post Genoa and post September 11, there is already evidence emerging that a clampdown is underway.

## Refugee Disaster Imminent

The military offensive launched against Afghanistan after the September 11 attacks in the US has already resulted in civilian deaths, and is turning a refugee crisis into a humanitarian catastrophe.

A wave of around 4m refugees fled Afghanistan a decade ago, when the US- and Pakistan-sponsored Mujahadin fighters overthrew president Najibullah's government. Even before the US strikes began, severe drought and the continuing civil war had forced an estimated 6.2 million Afghans to flee their homes, according to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Now the bombing has begun, Pakistan has closed its borders to refugees, and aid agencies have been forced out of Afghanistan. One of the main aid organisations in the region, the respected French medical group Medecins Sans Frontiere, described the US and British policy of dropping 37,500 one-day food bags into a country with millions of starving people as "a propaganda ploy." The UN has now sent food convoys through the Khyber Pass into Afghanistan, but there is little hope that this will alleviate the devastating effects of war and starvation on the Afghani population.

The war continues unabated despite reports that the alleged training camps of Osama Bin Laden have been abandoned. Military claims that most "smart bombs" hit their targets must be treated with scepticism - as the Gulf-war propaganda revealed - but more importantly, the lengthening duration of the offensive increases the likelihood of hitting civilian targets.

The Pentagon was forced to admit a "smart" bomb missed

### RESPONSES:

The depth of feeling created by the September 11th attacks has been significant, and so too has the discussion. This section highlights some responses by individuals and organisations.

### MEDIA CRITIQUE:

The first casualty of war is truth and blood sells. This section includes contributions about the corporate coverage so far and the role of the media focuses attention on the propaganda war.

### ANALYSIS AND BACKGROUND:

Analysis, comment, history, causes, and related issues.

### PEACE RESOURCES:

Indymedia Global Peace Section <http://www.indymedia.org/peace>  
Indymedia Peace Not War Section <http://uk.indymedia.org/index.php3?resist=peacenotwar&stance=peacenotwar>

### PEACE EVENTS AND PROTESTS - GLOBAL CALENDAR

<http://pax.protest.net>

### CND <http://www.cnduk.org>

### ARROW

(Active Resistance to the Roots Of War) Email list for people campaigning against US/UK military retaliation, and wanting to get involved. Send an email to: [Aftermath-11-September-2001-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:Aftermath-11-September-2001-subscribe@yahoo.com) Stop The War Coalition <http://www.stopthewar.org.uk>

### ZNET

Emergency Terrorism and War Section  
ZNet's huge archive of essays analysis and links - invaluable! <http://www.zmag.org/reactionsclam.htm>

its target in Kabul killing several people on October 12. A US military spokesman said: "We do not target civilians, and we regret any loss of innocent life." But these deaths could have been avoided if the US had accepted the Taliban's offer to either hand over Osama bin Laden if presented with evidence of his guilt, or to extradite him to Pakistan, an old US ally. The US claimed that the conditions were unacceptable, suggesting that the US and Britain are prepared to sacrifice civilian lives. Nonetheless, the corporate media has stuck to the line that President Bush had given the Taliban "a second chance." Even Clare Short, a member of Blair's cabinet, has called for the bombing to be "brought to an elegant end as quickly as possible."

The people of Afghanistan have faced extreme economic and social hardship under extremist Taliban rule. A leaked analysis from Whitehall suggests a reluctance to support the equally extremist opposition group, the Northern Alliance, paving the way for a US- and British-led international protectorate in Afghanistan.

The possibility of the US and Britain becoming isolated over their "war against terrorism" has forced them to engage in a serious diplomatic campaign. This involves inviting Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to visit London, sending US Secretary of State Colin Powell to India and Pakistan, and dispatching deputy prime minister, John Prescott, to Russia to bolster the ailing anti-terrorist coalition.

But the peace protests are gathering momentum across the globe and the increasing likelihood of further civilian casualties is likely to strengthen the anti-US feeling across the Arab world and beyond.

# Hackney Up For Sale

Britain's poorest borough is selling off communitiy centres to pay its debts

A poster in the room of a secretary's office in the town hall of Hackney reads, "If there's a light on at the end of the tunnel, switch it off"

Times are hard in the borough of Hackney as the local council desperately seeks to convince the government that they can run the council efficiently. Money is scarce and savings have to be made. For the first time since it's inception, intervention powers under the 1999 Local Government Act have been used to send five draft directions to separate departments in the council, one of which requested the council to "establish a new system of financial management within the authority". By doing so the local authority received access to money in the form of more debt.

Another draft direction said the council must "produce proposals for a review of property and accommodation management," leading the majority Labour council to take drastic measures in order to satisfy the government. One such measure has been to set up a 'property disposal programme' (PDP), involving the selling of council 'assets' in a series of auctions, being held by corporate property consultants Nelson Bakewell. Although this particular policy was not a secret, the amount of 'assets' for sale was, until a document was leaked from within the council, showing a list of 120 properties potentially in the firing line.

Since then there has been determined resistance to the PDP policy, and a local group has

started to take direct action, in order to raise public awareness. Their first step was to squat a disused broker's shop in Stoke Newington, temporarily turning it into a spoof estate agents, with pictures and text of many of the properties on the list adorning the windows for passers by to view. Further actions saw the same group occupy the head offices of the property consultants involved in the sales, closing down the accounts department for an afternoon. Most recently attempts were made to close down the first of the four publicised auctions, where twelve properties in Hackney were up for grabs.

These included a former Day Centre in Atherden Road, which was squatted by parents after being closed down by the council. Aided by the local community, who provided money for the squatters, the building was kept open for it's original use as a nursery, as well as other activities, including a small organic garden. Despite these brave attempts, the property, 'Lot 64' was eventually sold for £420,000, despite the determined efforts of two residents who disrupted the sale with false bidding, raising the price to £920,000 until the auctioneers realised what was happening. Currently at least 2,000 children are on waiting lists to get into nurseries in the borough.

The name of the group or person who purchased the property, and their plans for it, are unknown, but judging from the Nelson Bakewell



auction booklet the site could well be used for something altogether different; "Due to the predominance of residential accommodation... an Education use for the site is no longer required". One of the residents involved in these actions claimed "the council is selling off property which is not theirs, it belongs to the community...it's short term thinking, what are they going to do when all the assets are sold? They'll still have the debts". Large amounts have already been raised from the selling of 'assets,' but due to the property having to be made ready for sale the financial situation is becoming worse, the council's spokesperson explained. "Selling property is a short to medium term solution to the problem of getting cash. The re-evaluation programme is adding to our financial crisis this year. You start out at the beginning and you think right we're going to make £20 million but in reality we haven't seen it".

## Newsire Local

### Labour Party Conference

Brighton 30/09/01

Thousands of people demonstrated at the first day of the Labour Party Conference. Estimates on numbers range from 4-5000. Organised by several groups, including Globalise Resistance and Gatecrash Labour's Party, the demonstration gathered in a park space to protest against privatisation and other issues, with a strong anti-war focus. As the march was heading off, dozens of riot police moved into the crowd to make unprovoked 'intelligence led' arrests, dragging off Wombles and others. The march was heavily policed, with police conditions agreed by Globalise Resistance under "Section 12 of the Public Order Act 1996", and was filmed by a large number of police cameras.

### Blood Red Protest

Cardiff 06/10/01

A direct action in Cardiff saw the fountains outside the City Hall run red. Protesters dyed the water red, to symbolise the blood of the innocent civilians caught up in all wars, in particular the current crisis in Afghanistan [http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article\\_id=13326&group=webcast](http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article_id=13326&group=webcast)

### Fiesta for Life in the Docklands

London 11/09/01

The umbrella group Disarm DSEi together with Campaign Against Arms Trade (CATT) held a "Fiesta for Life against Death" in London's Docklands to shut down DSEi (Defense systems and equipment international), the largest government-backed arms fair in Europe. The main aim of the fiesta was to expose the shocking trade in weapons taking place there - an industry which costs world governments around \$780 billion a year. The protesters were angry that repressive regimes and warring African countries were invited to the Docklands for a spot of shopping, at an event being run by a private firm in association with the Ministry of Defence.

Richard Bingley, from CAAT, said: "The countries that are involved in this exhibition are countries that are involved in civil wars, external conflicts or are debt-ridden - the British Government should be more responsible. It is senseless to preach about debt reduction and development when on the other hand it is enticing countries to purchase hi-tech weaponry they can ill afford. It is somewhat ironic that the government

spends so much time promoting the need for verbal solutions in Northern Ireland yet find it acceptable to support weapons trading outside of the UK in other bloody conflicts."

### Deaf Recognition

Cornwall 13/10/01

Deaf protestors and supporters staged a march and road blockade for the recognition of British Sign Language(BSL) Deaf kids in Cornish schools are forbidden to learn or communicate in BSL. There were 4 arrests during a sit down. [http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article\\_id=14207&group=webcast](http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article_id=14207&group=webcast)

### Anti-McDonald's Day

Newcastle/London 16/10/01

To mark the 17th Worldwide Anti-McDonald's Day (16 October), Tyneside activists protested outside the Northumberland St McDonald's. They gave out free food and leaflets detailing McDonald's record of damage to the environment, promotion of junk food, and animal cruelty. In London pickets and demos were held outside McDonald's in the West End, Leicester Square and Whitehall. (see [www.mcspotlight.org](http://www.mcspotlight.org)) [http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article\\_id=14151&group=webcast](http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article_id=14151&group=webcast) [http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article\\_id=14224&group=webcast](http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article_id=14224&group=webcast)

### MOX Blocked

UK 05/10/01

The Government is being taken to court to prevent the controversial MOX plutonium plant at Sellafield from opening. Lawyers acting for Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace today filed papers in the High Court. The government had tried to bury the announcement in the aftermath of the attacks in the US. [http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article\\_id=13298&group=webcast](http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article_id=13298&group=webcast)

### State Watch

UK / Europe 02/10/01

In the wake of the attack on the World Trade Center, Statewatch criticises EU proposals to create a special EU wide para-military riot police force to counter anti-globalisation demonstrations. [http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article\\_id=13252&group=webcast](http://uk.indymedia.org/front.php3?article_id=13252&group=webcast)

### Legal Car Free Fun

CAR FREE DAY 22/09/01 Sep 27 2001

While peace vigils and anti-war protests were being held on Saturday 22nd, a lighter set of events were held in over 600 cities across Europe as part of the official Car Free Day. Streets large and small were closed by councils and opened up to local communities. Dozens of cities in Britain took part - see IMC website for reports from Brixton and Dublin, where an IMC reporter was arrested. Anti