

"SHOOT THE FUCKER"

On 23 September 1996, Diarmuid O'Neill was shot and killed by cops in house in West London. As he lay bleeding to death a cop stood on his head and then dragged him down two flights of steps out of the house, leaving him on the ground outside and denying him life saving medical treatment for 1/2 an hour. Not surprisingly Diarmuid died. Initial media coverage claimed there had been a gun battle in a house that was being used as a bomb factory and an "IRA suspect" had been shot. The mainstream press had a field day, The Daily Mirror's headline, which carried a picture of the bloody steps, was "Don't cry for him. He was going to blow up the Channel Tunnel Tomorrow." The Met Police enthusiastically supported all this misinformation, until they conceded that Diarmuid O'Neill was unarmed, no weapons or explosives were found in the house and the only shots fired were by the cops. So what happened then? Lets start with the briefing just before the raid, when cops were shown a film of the aftermath of the Canary Wharf bombing and a video of an alleged cache of weapons. They were whipped into frenzy, given guns, CS gas and then let loose in the house in Hammersmith. A transcript of the surveillance tape of the raid reveals that the police fired massive quantities of CS gas into the house (so much so that four days after the killing forensic cops still had to wear gas masks), all the men inside the house had surrendered and Diarmuid was struggling to open a door when he was initially shot. As Diarmuid lay bleeding on the floor one of the cops can be heard clearly to order an officer to "shoot the fucker", which he duly obeyed. No wonder the cops preferred the media version of events that day.

The shooting was referred to the Police Complaints Authority (PCA) who then took 2 1/2 years to complete their inquiry and then a further 6 months for the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) to conclude that despite police lying about the events of that day there is insufficient evidence to prosecute! The O'Neill family and the Justice for Diarmuid O'Neill campaign are in disbelief that the PCA & CPS have reached this decision despite a post-mortem clearly showing "that Diarmuid was shot when he was seen and known to be unarmed repeatedly" and are calling for Jack Straw to set up an Independent public enquiry. Help change Jack Straws mind by faxing him direct on 0171-273-2190 or for more info; Justice for Diarmuid O'Neill Campaign, BM Box D. O'Neill, London WC1 3XX justicedoneill@btintnet.com Tel; 0181 749 2588/0411 784 110

COPS CATCH NAKED FUNGUS

Zoe "Fungus" Weir decided to strip against the Strip at Cedar's Wood, a protest camp at the construction site of Manchester Airport's second runway. Zoe took off all her clothes (save her boots) and attached her head to a treehouse with a bicycle lock. Zoe's action delayed the eviction of the camp by five hours, and three bailiffs had to climb the tree and cut the lock with hydraulic cutters. The runway's completion is now 18 months behind schedule due to wet weather, the protests, and mysterious breakages of construction equipment. The woods are National Trust land, that are facing the chop because they apparently interfere with radar transmission. As SchNEWS went to press the second protest camp at nearby Arthur's Wood still has approximately 40 people in treetops and tunnels. The protesters anticipate eviction in the next few days, and are asking for supporters to come up for the weekend and for a solidarity action on Monday morning. They also need food and climbing gear. Call Vanessa at 0797 480 3732.

Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (e.g. 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Ask for "Originals" if you can make copies. Post free to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

Tel/Autofax: +44 (0)1273 685913 GET IT EVERY WEEK BY E-MAIL: schnews@brighton.co.uk

SchNEWS in brief

After 2 **asylum seekers** were seriously hurt trying to bust out of Campsfield Detention Centre, Group 4 guards told detainees that their injuries would "stop others escaping." Maybe if a Group 4 guard was horribly maimed it would stop other psychos from joining the firm... ** Don't forget **Anti-McDonald's Day** happening all over the globe on Saturday October 16th. For leaflets contact McLabel Support Campaign: Tel 0171 713 1269. www.mcspotlight.org. For the Birmingham event - meet 12 noon outside M&S in the High St. 0961 810 356. **

Disabled Action Network will be demonstrating outside the Royal National Hospital, Bedford Way, London (nearest tube Euston) on 27 and 28th Sept as part of the 'Free our People' campaign. They want to stop disabled people being sent to nursing homes and institutions, and instead be able to live in the community with adequate support. Meet each day outside the hospital 9.30 am **

Campaign Against the Arms Trade is celebrating its 25th anniversary with a party at Union Chapel, Compton Terrace, London N1 (Angel Tube). Guests include comedian Mark Thomas, John Pilger, Jeremy Hardy and lots more. It's on Saturday 9th October, doors open 7.30 pm £10/7.50 conc. More details and tickets in advance 0171 281 0297 ** Talking of **Mark Thomas**, he's got a new show on Channel 4 every Tuesday 11.05 pm. Essential. **

SchNEWS' favourite mass-murderer **Gen Pinochet** is back in court on Sept 27 - meet 10am at Bow St magistrates to let him know what you think of him, or 7-9pm Parliament Sq every Tues & Thurs to find out what's going on. Contact: Chile Cmte Against Impunity 0171-261-9578. ** Protest against the genocide of Arizona's **Navajo** Indians, forced off their land to make way for coal mining and 'resettled' in the world's 2nd most radioactive site (after Chernobyl...). Meet 12 noon Oct 2nd outside US Embassy, Grosvenor Sq. **

THE REBEL ALLIANCE

Brighton's forum for direct action groups meets upstairs at The Hobgoblin, London Rd, Wednesday 29th Sept, 7pm. PLUS Screening of June 18 film.

LUMBERHACKS LOG-ON

Among the various horrors on the agenda for the Seattle WTO bash, is the Global Free Logging Agreement - a plot to scrap all controls on the environmental disaster that is the logging industry. Logging companies really aren't very nice to people either - just ask any of the 'displaced' indigenous peoples of the Amazon, or for that matter, greenies in Canada. Activists in British Columbia have been camping out in the woods trying to stop the Interfor logging co from destroying the local rainforests - so the firm sent around 100 psychotic lumberjacks who burnt down the peace camp, smashed all the equipment, and attacked the 7 protestors there, hospitalising 3 of them. Clearly, the Free Logging Agreement needs attention, so come along to Seattle for the festi. Contact: No to WTO 2343 NW 100th Seattle WA 98177 USA www.tradewatch.org or sssoriano@igc.org

* Nasty logging company Boise Cascade (see SchNEWS 225) has been banned from any further logging of the Boise Forest. OK, so the case was brought by the Idaho Sportsmans Congress, which was worried about "severely reduced hunting and fishing opportunities." After the ruling, ISC boss Ron Mitchell said "sporting folks of Idaho can breathe a sigh of relief." OK, the wildlife is probably less chuffed, but then, as Hunter Ron sez, "The real issue is, should we allow private corporations like Boise Cascade to continue trashing our public forests at taxpayer expense?"

Inside SchNEWS

John Bowden is a life-sentence prisoner who, since his conviction in the early 1980s, has campaigned vociferously for the rights of all prisoners. In the early 1990s he was one of the main organisers of a series of radical debates at Long Lartin. He has also been involved in direct action protests of many kinds, including a work-strike at Perth prison and a high-profile seige at Parkhurst. John is currently in the segregation unit at Long Lartin prison. On 6 September, John joined another prisoner who was already on dirty protest. He and between two and four others have been on it ever since, and is now on hunger strike as well. The water in the cells has been turned off. There have been no routine visits by doctors, Boards of Visitors or governors. John has been repeatedly threatened by prison officers and is denied sleep by them hammering on his door and turning the lights on and off. He has no access to the telephone and none of his letters are being sent out, although letters do appear to reach him. All supporters of prisoners' rights reading this are therefore urged to send cards and messages of solidarity to *John Bowden B41173, HMP Long Lartin, South Littleton, Evasham, Worcs, WR11 5 TZ. Send letters of protest to the governor at the same address or fax them on 01386 832834. Or tel: 01386 830101.*

more briefs

Any **pregnant mums** will be pleased to hear of Green Baby, a new Islington shop with a wide range of green kiddie stuff, including "everything to take the millennium baby sustainably into the next century, from real nappies, to organic toys" and, no doubt, tie-dye babygrows and junior yogurt-weaving kits... ** If you're worried about **fluoride** in the water coming to a town near you, get along to a public meeting on Wed 6th October 8pm at Willesden Library, 95 High Rd., Willesden Green Tel 0181 902 5949

...and finally...

This weeks Greenwash Award goes to...

By using solar energy to drive the petrol pumps in 15 new service stations, BP/Amoco recently received an award (not for irony, but the Millennium Products award). After buying up many alternative energy companies, the oil giant is now the worlds largest investor in solar power. The Centre for Alternative Energy told SchNews, 'we can't imagine the global and political agendas involved in their (BP's) investment in solar energy'. Neither can we. Interestingly, last year, worldwide revenues from oil and gas producing activities fell by 24% (to \$124.6bn) so you might naively assume these companies are switching their focus to sustainable energy. Er, not quite - capital spending on oil exploration and development in the same year increased by 5% (to \$83bn) making the money invested in buying up a few (or even several) sustainable energy companies look like small beer. The burning (oil) question is - will BP/Amoco endanger the price of a barrel of oil by bringing in competing sustainable energy sources that are environmentally friendly, or keep them suppressed until oil is less abundant and profitable? Just ask the government, who recently approved oil contracts for developments off St Kilda- Britains only natural World Heritage Site, 100 miles off the Scottish coast, ranked alongside the Galapagos Island and the Great Barrier Reef. St Kilda's marine life is one of the most diverse ecosystems known whilst puffins, fulmars and gannets are among around a million breeding seabirds nesting in the island's cliffs. We're anticipating another greenwash award after they stick a duck-pond on top of the oil rig. **disclaimer**

SchNEWS warns all readers to get down the pub for last orders before last rites. Mine's a double. Honest