



# SILENT BUT DEADLY

“As a Native American, every time I see the American flag I feel the same way I imagine Jewish people must feel when looking at the Nazi flag. The American flag is a flag of oppression and genocide. Because that’s what America is built on — from the very beginning when the first European settlers landed in North America, it has been a country built on blood.” *Rod Coronado, Native American activist, speaking in Brighton last week.*

“It’s really not a number I’m terribly interested in.” *General Colin Powell, when asked about the number of Iraqi people who were killed by Americans in the 1991 Desert Storm campaign (200,000 people, incidentally)*

September 11<sup>th</sup> is an anniversary. And if you’ve watched too much telly or read too many newspapers this week, you may have been fooled into believing that September 11th is only the anniversary of one tragedy, in one nation. But it’s not. On the same day in 1973, Salvador Allende, the socialist President of Chile, was killed in a violent, American-sponsored coup, led by General Augusto Pinochet. Pinochet’s rise to power, dreamt-up and orchestrated by a Red-paranoid CIA and Mr. Henry Kissinger, began nearly twenty years of military dictatorship that led to thousands of deaths and countless incidences of oppression and torture. 30,000 people were massacred in the weeks following this other September 11<sup>th</sup>, as Pinochet tried to wipe out an entire layer of society who had identified with the left. Even in exile, many who had associated with the Allende government (or were vaguely perceived as some sort of communist threat) were assassinated by Pinochet’s secret service. And all of this sponsored in the name of Freedom and Democracy.

So when we’re having a minute of silence for the people who died in the Twin Towers, why not a minute of silence for those who died at the hands of Pinochet’s CIA-sponsored death squads? Or while we’re at it, we could have a minute of silence for the people of the Congo, also subjected to a military dictatorship thanks to the CIA assassination of evil lefty Patrice Lumumba. Or how about Cambodia, which deserves at least two minutes of silence when one considers that America (and Britain) backed Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot to the tune of \$85 million in his genocidal rampage which killed nearly 2 million Cambodians. Or what about a few minutes of silence for Nicaragua, where in 1936, the American National Guard helped Anastasio Somoza to establish and maintain

a family dynasty which would rule over Nicaragua for the next 43 years. While the National Guardsmen, consistently maintained by the US, passed their time with rape, torture, murder of the opposition, and massacres of peasants, as well as less violent pursuits such as robbery, extortion, contraband, running brothels and other government functions, the Somoza clan laid claim to the lion’s share of Nicaragua’s land and businesses. Love that Freedom & Democracy, don’t ya?

The problem with this list is that it could go on and on — Brazil, Guatemala, El Salvador, Ecuador, Uruguay, the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Haiti, Iraq, Iran, Laos, East Timor, Grenada, Greece... All of these and more are countries who have suffered from oppression, torture, starvation, and death at the hands of American “intervention,” whether it takes the form of bombs, sanctions, or our personal favourite, CIA sponsored military regimes. As ex-State Department employee and author William Blum writes, “An American holocaust has taken place... So great and deep is the denial of the American holocaust that the deniers are not even aware that the claimers or their claims exist. Yet, a few million people have died in the American holocaust and many more millions have been condemned to lives of misery and torture as a result of US interventions extending from China and Greece in the 1940s to Afghanistan and Iraq in the 1990s.”

“I will never apologise for the United States of America - I don’t care what the facts are,” said President George Bush Sr. in 1988, when the U.S. Navy warship Vincennes shot down an Iranian commercial airliner. The plane was on a routine flight in a commercial corridor in Iranian airspace. All 290 civilians on board the aircraft were killed.

“What might be the effect upon the American psyche if the true-believers were compelled to witness the consequences of the past half-century of US foreign policy close up? What if all the nice, clean-cut, wholesome American boys who dropped an infinite tonnage of bombs, on a dozen different countries, on people they knew nothing about - characters in a video game - had to come down to earth and look upon and smell the burning flesh?” From the book “Killing Hope: U.S. Military and CIA Interventions Since World War II” by William Blum... For more info on Blum’s books: [www.thirdworldtraveler.com/Blum/KillingHope\\_page.html](http://www.thirdworldtraveler.com/Blum/KillingHope_page.html) or [http://members.aol.com/bblum6/American\\_holocaust.htm](http://members.aol.com/bblum6/American_holocaust.htm)

## CRAP ARREST OF THE WEEK

For ‘wanting to blow up the Olympics’ ... Yep that’s right, that’s one of the things 19-year-old Sherman Austin, the creator of “Raise the Fist” an anarchist/independent media website, is being accused of. This “imaginative” accusation came after his arrest while trying to “carry out his plot of mass destruction against the World Economic Forum”, i.e. attend a demo outside of the WEF summit. Finding no real evidence to back up these claims, the desperate feds are charging him with two lesser felonies and he’ll be sent away for 4 years if found guilty. <http://raisethefist.com>

So while George Bush Jr. demands that the world observe a minute of silence for the dead and injured civilians of September 11<sup>th</sup>, the 290 dead Iranian civilians of 1988 didn’t even get an apology. Neither did the nearly 8,000 Afghani civilians who have died in the last year as a result of U.S. led air strikes in Afghanistan, a campaign appropriately titled “Enduring Freedom.”

And while we’re on the subject of bombs, it might be interesting to note that since the Second World War, the US government has bombed 21 countries: **China** in 1945-46 and again in 1950-53, **Korea** in 1950-53, **Guatemala** in 1954, 1960, and 1967-69, **Indonesia** in 1958, **Vietnam** in 1961-73, **Congo** in 1964, **Laos** in 1964-73, **Peru** in 1965, **Cambodia** in 1969-70, **El Salvador** throughout the 1980s, **Nicaragua** throughout the 1980s, **Lebanon** in 1983-84, **Grenada** in 1983, **Bosnia** in 1985, **Libya** in 1986, **Panama** in 1989, **Iraq** in 1991-20??, **Sudan** in 1998, **Former Yugoslavia** in 1999, and **Afghanistan** in 1998 and 2002.

To the best of our knowledge, none of the victims of bombings in these countries have ever received any apologies, memorial funds, or commemorative minutes of silence. Yes, it is a tragedy when 3,000 people lose their lives on a single day as the result of madmen. But it is also a tragedy that takes place in many countries around the world on a daily basis, often times as a result of the madmen in Washington. And when this fact is not acknowledged, anniversary observances of September 11<sup>th</sup> sound hollow at best, and grossly hypocritical and offensive at worst. As one American activist told Schnews, “If we had to observe a moment of silence for all of the victims of American foreign policy, we’d be silent for the rest of our lives.”

[www.geocities.com/americanterrorism/](http://www.geocities.com/americanterrorism/)  
[www.users.bigpond.com/nlevine/thearchive.html](http://www.users.bigpond.com/nlevine/thearchive.html)

## Organ Play

Next Saturday (21) people will be marching to the Home Office to protest against xenotransplantation - the transplanting of animal organs into humans. Two years ago the High Court, following legal action by research company Imutran, put a stop to a report written by Uncaged entitled 'Diaries of Despair'. The report exposed the negligent and cruel research methods used by Imutran, a subsidiary of the biotechnology giant Novartis. Research mostly involved the transplantation of hearts and kidneys from genetically-engineered pigs into macaque monkeys and baboons caught in the wild. In some of the most horrific experiments, Imutran researchers implanted hearts from transgenic piglets into the necks of baboons. One of these primates was observed holding the transplant, which was 'swollen red' and 'seeping yellow fluid', for most of the last days of its life. Animals are often 'sacrificed' - jargon for being killed - both as a direct result of the experiments and due to sloppy lab practice. A baboon quickly got the chop when scientists discovered, mid operation, that the pig's heart it was supposed to receive was still in the freezer.

Imutran, who have used thousands of pigs, monkeys and baboons in their five years of research, claim to be on the verge of conquering the problem of 'organ rejection' - where the immune system sees the 'new' heart or liver as a foreign object, and attacks it. But the documents tell a different story. In one experiment, two baboons, who suffered 'hyperacute' organ rejection and quickly died, were left out of the published results which had claimed success. In another, the animals were pumped full of immuno-suppressant drugs to make sure their bodies didn't reject the 'new' parts.

Many scientists are worried about the safety of xenotransplantation itself. They believe there is a danger that putting bits from one species into another could easily trigger new and unheard of diseases. While scientists routinely screen transplant organs for viruses, they can only screen for those they know the existence of. And there may be many viruses which lie harmless and undetected in pigs but which could kill humans. Pigs are known to contain certain viruses closely related to human ones that cause blood leukemia.

An obvious alternative to cross-species transplants would be a decent diet and improved living standards for everyone. It would also make more sense if everyone just used 'Opt Out' donor cards instead of what we have at the moment. People would have to carry an 'opt out' card to show that in the event of their death they didn't want certain or all of their organs to be used, as is the case in some other European countries.

The march next Saturday starts 12 noon in Temple Place, Central London. 0114 272 2220 [www.xenodiaries.org](http://www.xenodiaries.org)

## Taking the peace

The Brighton Peace and Environment Centre, North Laines' own radical book and re-usable nappy shop, is closing this weekend due to rising rents. BPEC will be moving to temporary office space, from which it hopes to attract new volunteers and funding by dropping the bit about peace cos it just doesn't sell. If you can help in the search for new premises, or want a say in BPEC's future, e-mail them at [info@bpec.org](mailto:info@bpec.org). With the Peace and Environment Centre closing, pick up your copies of SchNEWS from Infinity Foods in North St.

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## SchNEWS in brief

\*\*Radio 4A, Brighton's Premier pirate station is back on the airwaves this weekend 107.8 FM across Brighton and worldwide on [www.piratetv.net](http://www.piratetv.net) \*\* There's a noise demo outside HMP Frankland, Brasside, Durham this Saturday (14) 2-4pm in support of four prisoners who are on a 'dirty protest', and are 'down the block' (in segregation/solitary confinement) at Frankland. 07944522001 [nicki.rensten@prisonersadvice.demon.co.uk](mailto:nicki.rensten@prisonersadvice.demon.co.uk) \*\* John Pilger's new documentary, 'Palestine is still the Issue', is on ITV next Monday (16) 11pm \*\* From sinking Icelandic whaling ships to burning down fur industry buildings, Native American Rod Coronado has engaged in militant and uncompromising direct action which eventually led to prison. Listen to his engaging stories in Sheffield next Monday (16) at the Showroom Cinema, Pater Noster Road; Manchester (17) at Briton's Protection Pub, Great Bridgewater Street, 8pm; Leeds (19) Woodhouse Community Centre, Woodhouse Street 7pm \*\* People are urgently needed at the Lappersfort protest camp in Brugge, Belgium which has just been given its eviction notice. Protestors are trying to prevent the destruction of a green oasis in the city by a new motorway bypass and industrial zone. For directions call 0032 494 59 14 67 [lappersfort@ziplip.com](mailto:lappersfort@ziplip.com) \*\* Volunteers are needed to help with the Reclaim The Future event happening the weekend 20-22 September, everything from cooking to building work to help on the Saturday. Call 07931 560 569 [rtsparty2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rtsparty2002@yahoo.co.uk). They are also looking for old Reclaim The Streets/direct action exhibition materials e-mail [maxsvoboda@hotmail.com](mailto:maxsvoboda@hotmail.com) if you've got any stashed under your bed \*\* No Sweat, the anti sweatshop group, are asking people to get their kit off during the Nike Fun Run in Richmond Park on Sunday 22 September. Meet at Barnes train station 9am. 07979 046 219 Email [yesgaryjarvis@hotmail.com](mailto:yesgaryjarvis@hotmail.com) www.nosweat.org.uk \*\* A massive campaign has been launched to stop Redditch Borough Council giving the go ahead to an animal carcass incinerator in the village of Astwood Bank. The incinerator would be next to the village school, with the chimney 100 yards from the kids' playing field! The incinerator would burn up to 1 tonne of animal carcasses per hour, 24 hours a day. [www.abai.org.uk](http://www.abai.org.uk) \*\* Villagers in Kingskerswell, Devon are fighting a dual carriageway proposal and 600 new homes [www.kingskerswellalliance.org.uk](http://www.kingskerswellalliance.org.uk) \*\* A McDonalds in Linkoping, Sweden was recently completely burnt down by animal rights activists \*\* An anti-fascist phone tree is being set up in Brighton in response to the lack of opposition to anti-Islamic fascist demonstrations which took place in London on Wednesday the 11th. Call 01273 540717\*\* Battersea and Wandsworth TUC are holding a demo outside Balfour Beatty Offices at 130 Wilton Road, Victoria next Monday (16) 9am to coincide with the launch of their report 'Corporate Killers in Wandsworth'. The report, which focuses on the deaths caused by casualisation, is being launched at the Bread and Roses in Clapham at 7pm the same evening. Speakers include Bob Crow and Mark Thomas 020 8682 4224 \*\* After development plans were stopped by local protests 4 years ago (SchNEWS 203), Bromley Council has again fenced off part of Crystal Palace Park with unsightly 2.4m high wooden hoardings and are preparing to sell it off. Local opposition is organising and a candle-lit vigil is being held on the 21st Sept from 7.30 - 8.30pm near Crystal Palace Parade beside the fence (you can't miss it!). [savcrystalpalacepark@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:savcrystalpalacepark@yahoo.co.uk) \*\* "Battle For Chile" video showing, Sept 15, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London, 2pm,

## Positive SchNEWS

Having successfully fought off government plans to build an airport on their land, farmers in the Mexican town of San Salvador Atenco have now declared the town the first 'autonomous municipality' outside of Chiapas, electing a people's council and seizing all government vehicles trying to enter the area. This is the latest episode in an uprising that began on July 11, when the government tried to violently suppress a protest organised by farmers against the airport proposals. The residents of Atenco responded to police clubs, tear gas, and bullets by burning police vehicles, barricading the national highway, and taking 13 government and police officials hostage. The result was a five-day stand off between residents and the authorities, which ended in the government releasing all prisoners they had taken during the protests and abandoning their plans for the new airport (see Schnews 367).

Since their victory, residents have made the town a no-go area for police and federal authorities. Their declaration of autonomy is the most recent expression of a new unwillingness on their part to allow the Mexican government to dictate the organisation of their community. The 'people's council', described by the town's former mayor as 'frankly illegal', is seen by residents not as an attempt to withdraw from Mexico, but as an effort to decide for themselves how to meet their communities needs. "They try to scare people off with the word 'autonomous'", said one resident, "but what it means is that the people's will is respected. It doesn't mean we want to close ourselves off. The people are just going to decide how to police the town".

## Lode of crap

Rio Tinto, one of the world's biggest mining corporations, has pulled out of plans for the Jabiluka uranium mine in the Northern Territory, Australia. The mine is in the ancestral homeland of the Aboriginal Mirrar people and would have contaminated huge parts of their land which is also part of Kakadu National Park, a listed World Heritage Site.

Since uranium was first found there in the early seventies, the Mirrar have been fighting to stop mining on their land. The struggle escalated in 1998 after the government reversed long-standing environmental policies permitting new uranium mines to be built. A protest camp then sprang up, blockading the site for several months and resulting in hundreds of arrests. This, along with constant acts of sabotage on site and pressure on the government from UNESCO (UN environment quango) and the World Heritage Organisation, forced Rio Tinto to pull out of Jabiluka. [www.jag.org.au/](http://www.jag.org.au/)

## ...and finally...

We at SchNEWS Towers are facing meltdown! We're staring at ground zero as all our support staff leave us for better jobs in the City, sun themselves in tropical climates, or leg it from the bailiffs, leaving the remainder of us drowning in deadlines, emails and uneaten biscuits.

So we are looking for new volunteers to pen some articles, help with our mail-out and do a bit of desk top publishing. Rates of pay are crap but the fringe benefits make up for it (honest). To make sure you don't miss this opportunity of a lifetime call our hotline now -- 01273 685913.

## Disclaimer

SchNEWS warns all readers about the world's most lethal weapon of mass destruction - our greed. Honest