



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER PAPER TIGER...

SchNEWS

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Issue 376

THE NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

i. Champion Aspirations for Human Dignity.
1 Choose OUR ENEMIES

ii. Strengthen Alliances, Defeat Global Terrorism and Work to Prevent Attacks Against Us and Our Friends.
2 BOMB THEM

iii. Prevent Our Enemies from Threatening Us, Our Allies, and Our Friends with Weapons of Mass Destruction.
3 BOMB THEM

iv. Ignite a New Era of Global Economic Growth through Free Trade.

DOCU-MENTAL!

"This is a time of opportunity for America. We will work to translate this moment of influence into decades of peace, prosperity, and liberty... We will actively work to bring the hope of democracy, development, free markets, and free trade to every corner of the world." From the recently published National Security Strategy of the USA.

We couldn't make it up if we tried, ladies and gentlemen. Last month, the Bush Administration released its new National Security Strategy of the United States of America. A document whose contents list included agenda items such as the obviously ironic, "Champion Aspirations for Human Dignity," the arrogant, "Ignite a New Era of Global Economic Growth through Free Markets and Free Trade," and the downright scary "Develop Agendas for Cooperative Action with the Other Main Centers of Global Power." The document also contained gems such as:

"Today, the United States enjoys a position of unparalleled military strength and great economic and political influence" (*and we will kill anyone and everyone who threatens this position*).

"We seek to create a balance of power that favours human freedom" (*and America*)

"We will defend the peace by fighting terrorists and tyrants" (*i.e. anyone who has the slightest criticism of America*).

"Free trade and free markets have proven their ability to lift whole societies out of poverty" (*and into our clutches*)

"The United States will work with individual nations, entire regions, and the entire global trading community to build a world that trades in freedom and therefore grows in prosperity" (*too much bullshit to even parody*).

"Freedom is...the birthright of every person—in every civilisation" (*as long as we get to dictate 'freedom to do what?'*).

"Today, humanity holds in its hands the opportunity to further freedom's triumph over all its foes. The United States welcomes our responsibility to lead in this great mission" (*and to cash in on all the profits that come with it*).

The Bush Doctrine

This idiotic new document is already being hailed as the new Bush Doctrine. But the idiocy contains an evil little twist. Included in the paper is a section titled 'Prevent Our Enemies from Threatening Us, Our Allies, and Our Friends with Weapons of Mass Destruction'. The section basically says that

the cold war strategies of 'containment' (preventing the spread of communism) and 'deterrence' (being so incredibly tough that no enemy could attack you without guaranteeing their own destruction) are no longer sufficient to guarantee US security. The US government now thinks it must reserve the right to use its overwhelming military might pre-emptively to attack and overthrow governments that it suspects of attempting to acquire WMDs, harbour terrorists, or contain any ill-will whatsoever towards the good ol' US of A. SchNEWS reckons that pre-emptivity (read: kicking the shit out of everyone before they can make a peep) has always been America's policy (Vietnam anyone?). It's just that now, they've put it down in black and white.

And what's the justification for this newly publicised strategy? That the terrorists and rogue states that threaten America aren't motivated by a rational power-lust like the USSR was, oh no. Instead they are of course driven by an irrational hatred of justice, liberty, and freedom. According to the Bush Doctrine, because the new enemies of the US are not just evil, but also mental, it can't be assumed that they will act as 'responsibly' as previous forces of darkness have. And this, supposedly, is what justifies the Bush Doctrine of pre-emptive strikes—rogue states' sheer insanity.

On this basis, the Bush administration reckons that they can justify upsetting the UN by officially tearing up the rulebook on when it's acceptable to bomb the shit out of people in other countries. The problem is that no one, not the US's allies, 'citizens' or even their secret service is ready to buy the argument. According to the director of the CIA, George Tenet, there is no evidence that the rogue state currently in Bush's sights (Iraq) has any immediate desire to attack Western populations. He argues, however, that the kind of pre-emptive attack that Bush and his cronies are pushing for "could trigger the very things [Bush] has said he's trying to prevent—the use of chemical or biological weapons". The Bush government might think they're powerful enough to rewrite the rules to justify their ambitions, but there's one rule that they would do well not to forget: playing with explosives makes you look hard, but if you don't know how they work, they just might blow up in your face. Tick, tick, tick...

For more ridiculous reading, see the full document at www.statewatch.org/news/2002/sep/nss.pdf

CRAP ARRESTS OF THE WEEK

For being Palestinian...

Last Friday nearly a hundred soldiers surrounded Iraq Burin - a small village near Nablus city. They were 'looking for terrorists' and 'suspicious Palestinian men.' For five hours 3 houses were repeatedly hit with rockets and bullets, families were evicted from their homes, belongings were smashed, and 16 men were arrested, tied up, driven 25 km to Huwara military base, interrogated, and then released. "Sorry," said the Israeli Defence Force. "We made a mistake."

War BRIEFS

Last week 160 people shut down the gates of US Air Base Lakenheath in Suffolk where about 30 US nuclear war heads are kept. www.lakenheathaction.org ** Some Americans don't agree with Bush!! Last weekend 87,000 protestors took to the streets across America to protest against war on Iraq. www.indymedia.org ** An anti-war group has squatted the former Brighton Peace Centre in Gardner St. Open day Saturday 12th, check it out! ** Demo outside Menwith Hill Spy Base. Sat 12th, 12-4 pm, 01943 466405 www.caab.org.uk ** Whose Terror? Speakers from three countries facing "War on Terror" state terror--Palestine, Iraq, and Columbia. Sat 12th 2pm Friends Meeting House, Ship St, Brighton. ** Films against economic sanctions and war on Iraq. Sat 12th from 2.30pm, Rio Cinema, Kingsland High St., Dalston, London. £4/£2.50 0845 458 2564 voices@viwuk.freeserve.co.uk ** Threat of War and Future of the Kurds public meeting. Tue 15th 7pm, Committee Room 10, House of Commons, Westminster, SW1. 020 7435 4547 Liberation@btinternet.com ** Why is the Anti-War movement ignoring Saddam's crimes? With Peter Tatchell. Tue 15th 7:30pm, Upstairs Bar, Rugby Tavern, 19 Great James Street, London. www.newhumanist.org.uk * Don't Attack Iraq March & Rally, Sat 19th 11.30am George Square, Glasgow. 0141 423 1222 scnd@banthebomb.org ** One SchNEWS reader has been getting their anti-war message across by adorning bank notes with anti war messages - not a bad idea. ** National day of action against the war, 31st October, see www.stopwar.org.uk 020 7053 2155. In Brighton, a critical mass is planned, meet 3pm, University of Sussex. At 5:30pm there's an action planned, meet at the War Memorial, Old Steine. ** Stop the War, Stop the City. Meet on the day after war is announced against Iraq. 5:30pm in Churchill Square, Brighton. Bring pots and pans!!

LULA-LA LAND

Yer on-the-ball SchNEWS is in downtown Sao Paulo this week to give you the lowdown on the man they call Lula ("The Squid" in English, it's short for Luiz Inacio da Silva).

This week, Brazil's Workers Party (PT), led by Lula, won an unprecedented 4-2 victory against the US-backed government team in the first round of the Massively Important Presidential Championships of Latin America. The PT almost doubled their seats in the Senate, and at the final whistle, with 46.4 percent of the vote to his nearest rival Jose Serra's 23.2 percent, Lula was just short of outright victory. In the second and final leg, to be played on October 27th, the scores are back to 0-0 with everything to play for.

In Brazil, Lula is as recognisable a name as Pele or Ronaldo. He became famous as the leader of illegal metalworker strikes that helped bring an end to the military dictatorship in the mid-1970s. He has run for president and lost three times since becoming co-founder, in 1980, of the Workers Party.

GOOOAAAAL!!! Lula opposes the Free Trade Area of the Americas, which he calls Bush's 'Annexation of Latin America.' He opposes Plan Columbia. He opposes sanctions on Cuba. He has the support of the landless movement in Brazil, Movimento Sem Terra. He promises to end endemic corruption by getting people not aligned to politics or business in on the budget-making decisions.

There's talk of an axis between Lula, Castro and Hugo Chavez in Venezuela, who foiled another attempted coup this week, timed to coincide with the Brazilian elections. With strong left gains in neighbouring Bolivia and Paraguay and elections in Argentina next March, Latin America's face could be unrecognisable from just 12 months ago, a complete rejection of the US-led free market reforms.

But however good all this may sound, Lula still may be foul. Because of his previous campaign defeats, Lula has changed much of his lefty tune this time around and many in the Workers Party are angry but, for the moment, are keeping schtum.

DODGY KEEPER!!! Despite being locked-up and having his 1970s rallies buzzed by army choppers, Lula has made friends with the military, suggesting the signing of nuclear non-proliferation treaties was wrong. He is also supporting a move by Embraer, Brazil's massive aircraft maker, to develop a serious fighter jet and missile programme.

OVER THE BAR!! Despite previously fighting on a platform of defaulting on Brazil's crippling \$260bn debt -- more than half of what the country produces in a year -- he now says they'll pay up. (But some people think he'll still default) Lula also says he'll work with the IMF and honour the new record-breaking \$30bn loan. Lula has also attracted a few dodgy new geezers including his vice president and running mate, Jose Alencar, a textile baron worth \$500M, from the centre-right Liberal Party. Seeing which way the wind is blowing, other business leaders have also backed Lula.

SchNEWS fought through the crowds last week at Lula's final emotional rally at the metalworkers union in the industrial suburbs of Sao Paulo, where he worked as a lathe operator and transformed the 100,000-strong union. "Everything that we have done until now hasn't been done to gain the Presidency, that is just a consequence," he told the crowds. "The most symbolic thing about me winning is that we will prove to anybody the truth of something that I said in 1979, which is that nobody will ever again be able to doubt the working classes." Does Lula deserve a Red Card? You make the call!

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DAFT TAFT

We thought that full-scale global war and U.S.-instigated regime changes the world over would be enough to keep George Dub'ya busy, but no. Now Georgie has to take aim at unions as well. For the past two weeks, in 29 major docks up and down the American west coast, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) has been locked out by their bosses over contract disputes that have been raging since last June. The meanie bosses, the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA), want to sack a large number of dockers and attack workers' rights. Understandably, the ILWU have been threatening to strike and recently did a work "slowdown," which led to the lockout. Enter our old friend George. Deciding that the union shouldn't be allowed to use the lockout time to work out a better contract with PMA, as the whole dispute was costing the US economy billions of dollars, Bush decided to call in the draconian Taft-Hartley Act. The Daft Act was passed in 1947 as an anti-union law. It commands both the employers and the union to return back to work under the conditions of the old contract for 80 days. The act goes on to call for fines and prison sentences for those violating the terms of the contract (i.e. striking or engaging in slow-downs). This part of the bill is aimed at workers and effectively breaks the back of the union for the 80-day period, leaving them open to whatever the abusive bosses can come up with, with no real way to fight back. The 80 days of the Taft-Hartley injunction also gets PMA through the peak shipping season and to the slowest time of the year, thus relieving them of any urgency to bargain once the 80 days are over. PMA loved the government intervention, but labour unions were furious that the president had once again acted in the interests of big business. "PMA will start alleging supposed slowdowns straightaway. Taft-Hartley gives them 80 days of free shots at the union and we expect the employers will be dragging us to court daily, trying to bankrupt the union and throw our leaders in jail," said ILWU president James Spinosa. "No one should be surprised by the turn of these events," Spinosa said. "Bush has always actively sided with employers against workers. This collusion between the government and the employers was planned well in advance." www.labournet.net or <http://sf.indymedia.org/>

Inside SchNEWS

A new Zine is now available to support Jeff 'Free' Luers, the US anarchist prisoner serving an amazing 22 years for burning a few cars. The zine called 'Let's Get Free' - includes writings for, by and about 'Free'. It's available for a donation of \$5. Proceeds of the sale will (after paying copy costs) go to Jeff Luers directly. From NA-ELPSN, POB 50082, Eugene, OR 97405 USA. naelpsn@tao.ca. www.spiritoffreedom.org.uk/prisoners/fc/freeze.html

Positive SchNEWS

Radical Routes is a network of over 50 small co-operatives who work together to support collective ownership of houses and buildings for groups working for radical social change. It also aids small worker controlled businesses involved in socially useful work, supports and promotes de-schooling and home education, and helps facilitate the development of radical clubs and social centres. Radical Routes members meet four times a year. The next gathering is Manchester 26th-27th October. On the 26th there's an afternoon of discussions open to non-members who want to find out more about co-ops and the work of Radical Routes. Bridge 5 Mill, 22a Beswick St., Ancoats, Manchester www.radicalroutes.org.uk, info@radicalroutes.org.uk 0161 224 4846

SchNEWS in brief

SchNEWS nearly 8th Birthday Party, with LADS, Miss C MC & Mama, Harry Diezel, Judge Trev and Jelly, 7-11pm, 14th, Albert Pub, Brighton. ** SchNEWS exclusive: we're the first to announce that **Noam Chomsky** speaks at St.Pauls Cathedral, 9th December as a benefit for the Kurdish Human Rights Project. Tickets £15/£8 will be snapped up quick, get yours from Hannah 020 7287 2772 ** **Gianfranco Fini**, the Italian Foreign Minister, well known fascist, and director of police operations at last years Genoa protests, is speaking in London on the 22nd. He'd love to see you!! Meet 8am onwards outside Claridge's Hotel, 53 Brook Street, London, W1 ** The offices of SHAC (**Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty**) were raided again by police last Friday. Five computers were confiscated and two people nicked. SHAC desperately need donations to replace the stolen property. Four other SHAC protestors, including a 70-year-old woman, have also been arrested in Kent and are on remand. SHAC, c/o Lynn Sawyer, 6 Boat Lane, Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 4BP. 0845 458 0630 www.shac.net/resources.html ** Sat 12th is a silent demo in **Cambridge** against the University's proposed primate research lab. Noon, Guildhall, Market Square 01223 311828 info@x-cape.org.uk ** 1000 students are expected for next months **Shared Planet Conference**, speakers including Mark Thomas and George Monbiot are hoping to inspire students to start campaigning for a better world. 2-3 Nov. Warwick University Arts Centre. £16 (incl. accommodation) www.peopleandplanet.org/sharedplanet ** There's a **European Social Consulta** which aims to build activist networks across Europe in Barcelona, 19th-20th October. Info www.europeanconsulta.org encuentro@consultaeuropea.org ** 18th October is **Media Democracy Day**, a day dedicated to the promotion of independent media. Events in London see www.mediademocracyday.org.uk ** Special Screening of **McLibel** Two Worlds Collide film, 8pm 16th October, Cinematheque, Coldide Street, Brighton.

...and finally...

What would you do if you'd got yourself a nice countryside pad with a sea view, but your neighbours, whose land your house is built on, keep making extensions that are reducing the price of your property? You could maybe move house, become more tolerant, or maybe even kill your neighbours!!

This last option may seem extreme, but for a family of badgers in Saltdean, East Sussex this is exactly what's going to happen. Residents in houses that were built on top of a badger sett have complained that the badgers subterranean extensions are undermining their foundations. And rather than look for alternative ways to cope with this problem, the Animal Welfare Minister, Elliot Morley, has granted a licence for the family of badgers to be killed under the 1992 Protection of Badger Act (Ummm). SchNEWS would like to suggest that a load of property developers out there be culled instead.

This Saturday there's a demonstration against the slaughter of the badgers at Saxon Close, Saltdean 10am- noon. www.geocities.com/wildlifeambulance/index.html

* The culling of badgers by the government in their long drawn out attempt to prove a link between badgers and the spread of TB in cattle is restarting in two areas of the UK. To get involved in stopping the culls contact 07773 572970 (Devon) or 07811 629846 (Derbyshire) www.badger-killers.co.uk

Disclaimer

The SchNEWS Doctrine warns all readers that we reserve the right to pre-emptively use our weapon of mass distraction against any bush-shit. Honest.