

On May Day...

**end capitalism's
living hell**



build a socialist world



- **No to the US/ British occupation of Iraq**
- **For workers' solidarity against capitalism and imperialism**
- **For a socialist world free from war and terror**
- **For new mass parties to represent the real interests of working-class people**



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MAY DAY is International Workers' Day: a day when all workers' struggles are remembered and celebrated through solidarity and internationalism.

In the year since the last May Day demonstrations working people have risen up against their 'political masters' in a way that has not been seen for decades.

Standing up to the threat of imperialist war, hundreds of millions have protested across the globe. A significant section of those demonstrating were also protesting against the capitalist system of inequality, injustice and exploitation, which leads to war and terror.

Hundreds of millions questioned the threat to their lives from the policies pursued by Howard and Bush; modern-day colonial pirates who put the quest for cheap oil and a free rein for US imperialism above the safety and well being of the majority of the people on this planet.

Because of the colonial reconquest of Iraq, the world has become a less safe place where big business will attempt to continue its super exploitation of the working masses around the globe. Where will it all end? Who will be next on Bush's hit list of countries that stand in the way of US capitalism's plans to dominate the world economically and militarily?

The priorities of Bush and Blair's capitalist system - absurd to most of us - sees a world where nearly two billion people on earth do not have access to decent water supplies or adequate sanitation. This could be rectified at a cost of \$40 billion, less than half the \$90 billion it has so far cost to prosecute the invasion of Iraq.

Global wealth increased 17 times over in the 20th century but billions still go to bed hungry each night because they are forced by capitalism's brutality to live on

less than \$1 a day.

Because of imperialism's lust for greater markets and massive profits the 20th century saw endless conflict; over 200 million were killed in wars in the last century. Already, the 21st century appears to be shaping up the same way.

In response a new generation are rebuilding the tradition of May Day as a day where workers protest against the decaying, rotten capitalist system and campaign for a better world - in our opinion that means a socialist world.

TO MAKE a socialist world a reality requires the building of new mass parties representing working class people. These parties need to be anti-establishment, anti-war and anti-capitalist.

However, they need to be more than just against the old order. They need to be for a new socialist society. If only 10% of those who protested on 15 February 2003 were to join such a new mass party then that could mean 100,000 in Australia, campaigning to change the system.

Yet, that would be just the first stirrings and the potential for the growth of new parties, which are consistently anti-capitalist and fighting for socialism, is far greater.

Ten years ago after the fall of the Berlin Wall and the first Gulf War we were told socialism was dead or irrelevant. Now, tens of millions across the world are looking to change society and are rediscovering socialist ideas.

The anti-war protests of the last year have struck fear in the hearts of capitalist rulers in every part of the planet. Now our task is to turn that movement into parties that strikes fear into the heart of big business and capitalist politicians.

The Socialist Party is part of the Committee for a Workers' International (CWI) The CWI is organised in 36 countries and works to unite the working class and oppressed peoples against capitalism and to fight for a socialist world.

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