



Police thugs enforce "democracy" near Downing Street earlier this month

'Democracy' - another stick to beat us with!

It was bad enough, for those of us who have seen through the lie of so-called "democracy", to be constantly told we had some kind of moral duty to participate in the electoral farce.

But no sooner had it all finished, than the state was announcing yet another raft of repressive new laws - supposed "anti-terrorism" measures using this very same fake "democracy" as a justifying device.

It seems that it is lining up something called an "extremism disruption order" which would give the police powers to apply to the high court for an order to limit the "harmful activities" of an "extremist" individual.

The definition of harmful is to include a risk of public disorder, a risk of harassment, alarm or distress or creating a "threat to the functioning of democracy".

The technique is Orwellian and essentially simple. The system declares itself to be a democracy and therefore anyone who opposes the system is anti-democratic!

This is much the same as declaring yourself to be God and that therefore anyone who challenges your absolute authority is working on behalf of Satan!

The UK is only "democratic" in that the state uses the device of apparent "democracy" as a mask to conceal the control and exploitation of the population that it carries out on behalf of the business mafia.

The desire for freedom is part of human nature and with every new generation of young people that desire is reborn on the streets.

There was an encouraging spirit of defiance to the protests in London just after the election, which can be expected to carry over to the protests against the state opening of parliament on Wednesday May 27 and the anti-austerity protest starting outside the Bank of England on Saturday June 20 (*for links see online version of Acorn 9*).

However, we must not lose sight of the bigger picture.

It is undeniably true that the new government are "Tory scum" and that the neoliberal measures packaged under the "austerity" label must be resisted.

But our real enemy always remains in power regardless of the spectacle of sham "democracy" - it is the death-cult industrial capitalist system itself.

Liverpool police laid siege to occupation

A month-long rebel occupation in Liverpool came to end on May 13 after police laid siege to the building and corporate media waged a smear campaign against the occupiers.

In the words of one of those involved in the Love Activists' occupation of the former Bank of England site in Castle Street: "The bank of love were sheltering, feeding, clothing and supporting 60 homeless people every day before the police turned up and created a siege". He added that the Liverpool Echo was "not reporting the stuff Merseyside police have stolen from us. I have no shoes, coat, phone, card, passport, money, camera, house keys. I was released with only a t-shirt and pants."

According to the Infantile Disorder blog site (infantiledisorder1981.wordpress.com), the cops starved out the vast majority of occupiers before moving in to arrest the remaining five. The local media's smear campaign was "aimed at reducing the massive public sympathy for the occupiers", it added.



The city centre occupation in Liverpool



The international black bloc in Milan on May 1

Milan's Mayday mayhem

A thousand-strong black bloc hit Milan on Mayday, as the traditional workers' day march was expanded by opposition to the Expo 2015 World Fair in the Italian city.

Videos show streets transformed into what looks like a war zone, with masked protesters targeting banks, cars and other symbols of industrial capitalism in clouds of tear gas.

For full report, photos and links see the online version of Acorn 9.

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The French state is restarting its persecution of radical activists from the village of **Tarnac**, accused of sabotaging a high-speed rail line seven years ago. Three of them are facing trial on charges of "terrorism". They are also alleged to be part of the Invisible Committee writing collective. One of them, Julien Coupat, told the press this month: **"These people should know that we are not going to sit back and do nothing, that we would rather unleash the fires of hell than let them trample all over us – and that we are not alone!"**

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Anti-fracking activists from across the UK will be converging on Lancashire on Tuesday June 23 for a big demo. Two planning applications for the UK's largest ever fracking tests are due to be heard in Preston. Coaches are being laid on from many areas.

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Indigenous people in Canada have rejected a massive bribe from the oil industry to allow a gas export terminal on ancestral lands. The Lax Kw'alaams people in British Columbia spurned a 1.15 billion Canadian dollar package (\$319,000 each) in a unanimous vote against the hideous industrial project, declaring: **"This is not a money issue: this is environmental and cultural"**.

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Netpol (Network for Police Monitoring) is trying to raise £2,500 to pay for 500 special face coverings to distribute to protesters: "We want to encourage a shift in attitudes so that the wearing of face coverings on protests becomes normal and commonplace, rather than a decision taken by only a few." For more info and to donate go to <https://netpol.org/2015/05/13/cover-up>

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The **Anarchist Action Network** (anarchistaction.net) is meeting on Saturday May 30 and Sunday May 31 from 12-5pm at The Cowley Club, 12 London Road, Brighton.