WORKERS

SMASH TERRORISM, NOT AFGHANISTAN

• Terrorism is war against workers

• It is never progressive

• Yes to a real war against terrorism

• No to the destruction of Afghanistan

The war on terrorism must be won. But terrorism will never be defeated until workers collectively Oppose and expose it.

Dropping bombs from thousands of feet up is not the way this kind of war can be won.

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MAYHEM IN THE WORLD

FROM THE COLLAPSE of the Soviet Union to the mayhem of the modern world has turned out to be a very short step. Workers in the United States find themselves targets for terrorist assault, unprotected by outdated and idle intelligence forces. In Britain, too, there are justified fears for our safety.

The world of workers is now reaping what it has sown. We were content to leave the Soviet Union to stand, and then fall, almost alone. We have allowed our governments to play power politics in the Middle East, akin to letting children play with fireworks in an ammunition dump.

TERROR: NEVER PROGRESSIVE

We allowed them to fund, train and equip the very terrorists who now attack them, and do so through attacking us, the workers. And worse, we have allowed these terrorists to masquerade under the banner of freedom fighters — an insult to those around the world, in Vietnam, South Africa, Cuba and many other countries, who have truly earned that accolade.

As a result, we now face the twin evils of terrorism and war. And we must fight both.

Terrorism never has been progressive. It has always involved making war on workers, either at work, or in their homes, or in their social lives. There is never an excuse for it. As Gerry Adams said, addressing the Sinn Fein conference shortly after the plane attacks on US workers, "There is no ethical justification for terrorism." And yet some within our class still flirt with it.

WAR WITHOUT TEARS?

The US, meanwhile, seems wedded to a bombing war, a war without tears, without US sacrifice. Yet such a war will not destroy terrorism. It will instead exacerbate and perpetuate Afghanistan's agony. The war must be stopped, not because it is a war against terrorism, but because it is the opposite.

The Middle East will not be at peace until Palestinians have a secure home and foreign powers have departed. But terrorism will never be defeated until workers collectively oppose and expose it. In Britain, all workers must put the interests of the working class above any sectional loyalties. We must assert control over our future.

That goes for workers in Afghanistan as much as it does for workers in Britain.

We know who our enemies are.

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