

Workers Weekly

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Newspaper of the Revolutionary Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist)

Fraud of NHS Deficit – Fight to Safeguard the Future of the NHS!

A great fraud is being perpetrated in order to wreck the National Health Service as a social programme dedicated to serving the health of society

and consolidate it as a machine for delivering funding to the monopolies.

It is a truism that in capitalist society, the production of goods for social and individual use is

incidental. What counts is the transformation of money through the production of commodities into even more money. In a similar fashion, health care is being made incidental to the

functioning of the NHS. A massive hue and cry is being made about an escalating deficit, hospitals are being set in competition for health care

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The Fight to Save to Ryton:

**THE WORKERS MUST
RELY ON THEIR OWN
STRENGTH AND
ORGANISATION –
THEY HAVE THE SOLUTIONS,
THEY MUST DECIDE!**



Peugeot workers demonstrating in Paris

The workers at Peugeot are resisting the plan to close Ryton and move production to Trnava in Slovakia, making

2,300 workers unemployed in the process. The threat to the Ryton car plant of Peugeot in Coventry, which comes after the collapse of

MG Rover and other closures in the West Midlands, underlines once more that the financial

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Commentary

**Payment by Results:
Negating the
Human Factor and
Substituting Callous
Cash Criteria and
Competition**

IT COULD BE SAID THAT THE NHS POLICY AND STRATEGY OF THE NEW LABOUR GOVERNMENT WHEN IT CAME TO POWER IN 1997 WAS ONE OF INCOHERENCE. It could not be made sense of, for while on the one hand it said that it rejected the NHS “internal market” instituted by the Conservative government, it retained the so-called purchaser/provider split of hospitals as “providers” of health care and the other parts of the health service such as primary care as

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Youth & Students

Taking Control of Our Future!

Bill Rammell's speech at South Bank University:

A Vain and Dangerous Attempt to Mould a "Loyal" Generation

In a significant speech at South Bank University on May 15, Higher Education Minister Bill Rammell outlined plans for new classes in "British values".

The speech represented a serious statement of intent to further attack the right to conscience and to outlaw any values unless they abide by the norm of British chauvinism. It was particularly directed against Islam in the name of opposing extremism and terror.

Bill Rammell began by attempting to reignite hysteria around the July 7 bombings. He said, "Now what happened in London last July was in every sense fundamentally shocking. ... This was home-grown terrorism. So we needed urgently to understand what had happened. What were the forces that had influ-

enced these four young men? What could Government do to guard against other British citizens going down this road?"

It has to be understood that nothing has ever been proved that these young men went down the road Bill Rammell asserts. Furthermore, the minister betrays his chauvinism in his shock at the "home-grown" aspect of his subject matter. He is not so much concerned to condemn terrorism as to ensure that the core of British "civilised" values is inculcated in the young. What has to be further understood here is that the government is arguing in the tradition of the British colonialist for whom other cultures than his own are backward and to be tolerated so long as they do not affirm their own identities and threaten the

"superior" culture. This is the nature of Bill Rammell's attempts to "understand" what happened. It is not to root out injustice and allow the different cultures in Britain to flourish without fear and in conditions of equality. The minister, to this end, very quickly presses into service the old Cold War argument about "extremism" in present-day guise.

Bill Rammell asserted, "Universities and colleges have always been places where young people are exposed to new influences; sometimes to ideas that they find culturally challenging. ... We know that young people of all faiths and indeed of none are more prone to become radicalised than other groups in society. This is true in terms of extreme Left and extreme Right politics, as well as

extremist religious views."

This was an important part of the speech. Taking up Tony Blair's argument of August last year in which the Prime Minister not only articulated the view that "the rules of the game are changing" but sketched an identity between Islamic fundamentalism and revolutionary communism in their attraction to the youth, Bill Rammell now brings "extremist religious views" into the equation. Views, extremist or otherwise, are not the issue. The minister deliberately mixes up the equal right of all to participate fully in the polity with assimilation of cultures, values and ideologies into prevailing culture which serves the status quo. This is the point of singling out the Muslim population as a

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Workers' Weekly

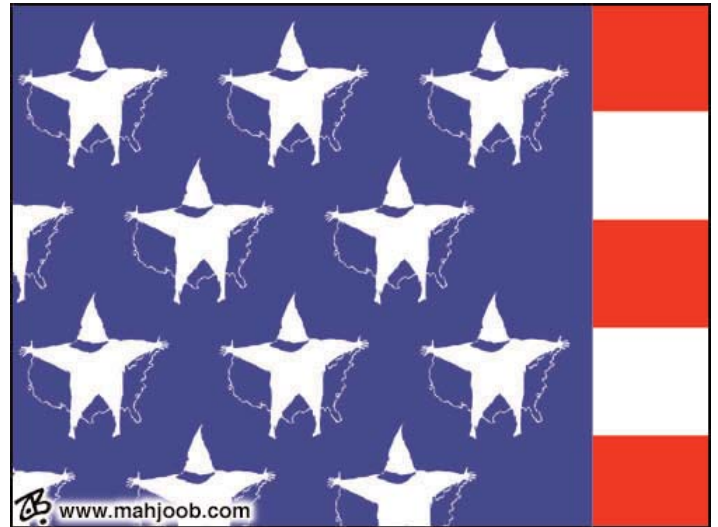
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End Anglo-US State Terrorism! Justice and Freedom for the Palestinian People!



The Palestinian people on May 15 once again commemorated Nakba (Catastrophe) day. This year marks the 58th anniversary of the Nakba when Zionist terrorist bands trained, equipped and supported by the British mandate authorities began staging attacks against Palestinian civilians. Having declared independence for the state of Israel on May 14, 1948, the Zionist forces occupied a number of Palestinian towns and villages, committing massacres against the Palestinian people and expelling them from their homes.

The Nakba resulted in the dispossession of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians of their ancestral land. Another 350,000 were dispossessed in 1967 following the Six-Day War during which Israel occupied the Gaza Strip, West Bank, Sinai Peninsula and Golan Heights. Today there are 5.1 million Palestinians in the diaspora – a great many of whom have lived in refugee camps for generations.

Just cause of Palestinians

Workers' Weekly condemns the British government, along with

the United States, the European Union and other powers, who have cut off economic aid to the Palestinian Authority following the recent election victory of Hamas. We condemn the state terrorism and economic blackmail of the British government and other big powers who are directly interfering in halting international aid to Palestine. We call for an end to all bullying and threats by the British government which is trying to impose its own version of "democracy" on the whole world, a "democracy" which is becoming further exposed as the enemy of

peace and sovereignty.

The actions of Britain and the big powers can themselves be considered as a crime against humanity. We call on the working class and people to step up their support for the just cause of the Palestinian people who are continuing to fight for their national rights – the right to their homeland, and the right to determine their own future. On this occasion, we salute the heroic Palestinian people who have refused to abandon their just struggles and resistance against all attempts to wipe them out as a people.

Bill Rammell's speech at South Bank University: A Vain and Dangerous Attempt to Mould a "Loyal" Generation

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target for "integration into the mainstream of contemporary British society".

For Mr Rammell, the issue is "loyalty". It is the loyalty of the slave to his master, of the subject to the monarch, not fidelity to a just cause or to principle or to working for social well-being: "A recent opinion poll showed the vast majority [of Muslims] do feel loyal to this country." According to the argument, "really this is a question about how modern society should cope with extremism in all its forms". In other words, this

is medievalism in content, while declaring it to be about "modern society" combating the forms of extremism.

And so the speech developed its theme of making Britain more united around an official set of "values", and the role of education in this. Most suspiciously, any opposition, as well as being labelled "extreme" is considered disloyal or un-British, carrying connotations of treason. This is the declaration that there must be an official ideology, not to uphold the national interest but to emphasise the loyalty to all the attributes of what is most backward about

Britain, but which is supposed to be mainstream – for example, parliamentary democracy which involves the Prime Minister invoking divine authority to govern against the public will, and so on.

In this vein, "there is the continuing need ... for educational institutions to play their part in tackling the threat of terror."

The minister was "therefore pleased to announce a review, led by Keith Ajegbo, of how the National Curriculum is covering diversity issues to meet the needs of all pupils. It will also look at how we can incorporate modern British cultural and social history into the citizenship curriculum within our secondary schools."

The content of courses at all levels is to be reviewed in this context. "We all surely want to see religiously-oriented courses that are not restricted to narrow interpretations of belief that fuel

extremism. We need to look at the content of other courses in the arts and humanities. We need to look at the nature of the spiritual advice that young students have access too, and how this can be improved."

The government would like to develop a sense of "national unity" to try and halt all who are seeking alternatives, around an official set of values marked by anti-communism and racism in "British" colours. Its plan for the youth is use the education system to indoctrinate them into these values.

As far as lessons in "British values" are concerned, the determining factor is young people themselves, who will undoubtedly turn the whole programme around into its opposite, as they are already doing with citizenship lessons, questioning the nature of these official notions and creating spaces to discuss the alternative.

Fight to safeguard the future of the health service!

Payment by Results:

Negating the Human Factor and Substituting Callous Cash Criteria and Competition

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“purchasers” of health care. While declaring that the health service should be “patient-centred” and not based on competition between hospitals, the Labour government nevertheless maintained the basic mechanism and outlook of the “market”, and of the patient as

a supposed “consumer” of health care. How would this be resolved? What did the “Third Way” in health care have in store?

In actual fact, there was really never any question of the direction in which Labour wished to take the NHS. There may have been illusions in some quarters that the New Britain which had been

promised would favour the working class and people and not the rich. But the crisis of privatisation which had swept Britain and elsewhere, exacerbated by the monetarism and “free-market” economics of Thatcherism, demanded that the rich find a new champion to rescue them from the people’s opposition and demand that their claims on society be met. The programme of New Labour was to take Thatcherism forward under a different signboard.

It was during Labour’s second term that the anti-social offensive was again stepped up in earnest, along with the Labour government demonstrating that it too was the Party of war and aggression. In the Health Service, a clear agenda emerged when, in October 2002, the Department of Health published the document “Reforming NHS financial flows: Introducing Payment by Results”. This was part and parcel of the programme of “investment with reform” that ensured on the one hand that funds would only be provided to the health service if its structure and ethos was reformed and on the other that funds would be channelled through PFI and other means into the coffers of private business, the monopolies and the financiers.

Now Labour’s third term is proving to be one of consolidation of this anti-social agenda, an all-out attack on the well-being of the people and utilisation of the government to service the unbridled dictate of the monopolies.

What is being implemented at present, with some tactical withdrawals necessitated by the opposition of the people, including

health workers and professionals, is a much more thorough-going transformation of the NHS into one where business considerations and the ethos and practice of neo-liberal capitalism hold sway than was ever attempted or dreamt of by the Conservatives. There is a vestigial recognition of the “interests of the patient”, but it is the patient as “consumer”, followed by their “funding”, and able to exercise “choice” between “competing” hospitals. The whole theory and practice of “payment by results”, which seemed so absurd when it

was first mooted and now appears so outrageous, and its accompanying “financial flow”, is based on the model of a manufacturing enterprise operating in a capitalist market, complete with “productivity” and “efficiency”. In this model, as in the capitalist market itself, the public well-being, the social economy and the material and

cultural needs of the people are negated and what remains are callous cash criteria and the fetish of competition.

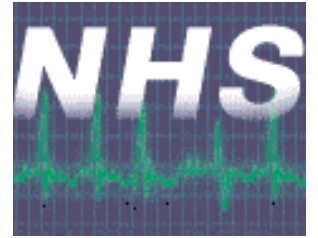
There is little hint that the health service should be there as of right to meet the claims of the people on society for a healthy life, of the health service as a social programme which cares for the people, of health workers and professionals as people who are dedicated to the service of the public or who are following a vocation to either care for the ill or work for the prevention of illness or accidents in the community and society.

Under the agenda of “payment by results” (PbR), there is a scale of national tariffs for “work done” by hospitals paid for by funding which follows “patient choice”. There is a long list of procedures,

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Fight to safeguard the future of the health service!

Payment by Results: Negating the Human Factor and Substituting Callous Cash Criteria and Competition



such as hip replacements or treatment for heart attacks, each with its own Healthcare Resource Groups (HRG) code, of which there are more than 1,000. The price of each HRG procedure is fixed as a national tariff. PbR therefore means that each hospital is paid a fixed price for every treatment it undertakes. If the treatment actually costs more, then the hospital is expected to find ways of bringing down the cost or of raising "productivity" and carrying out more treatments or operations to generate extra cash. If on the other hand the hospital trust finds ways to undercut the fixed tariff, then it is allowed to pocket the difference by analogy with a business retaining profits, and therefore the incentive is to compete with other hospitals in attracting more patients or in increasing the volume of treatments or operations. It should also be remembered that the budgets have been set for the trusts and they are expected to keep within

assumption is that there will be a spur to the hospital trusts to make a surplus on top of their legal obliga-

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tion to "balance the books". The plan is for this system to be fully operational in 2008/9, when the target is for 90% of hospital care to be covered by this practice. The PbR regime is providing a boon for accountants, and is being sophisticated with such refinements as the "Market Forces Factor" (MFF) and "purchaser parity adjustments".

The King's Fund, in a background paper in April last year, had the following to say: "Payment by results rewards volume, not quality. Hospitals can make money if they bring costs down, or increase the amount of work they do. But cutting costs might be at the expense of better-quality equipment or staff numbers."

"One lesson from other countries is that quality of care can suffer when hospitals are given incentives of this kind. For example, there is some evidence that patient mortality in the United States increased in the period soon after discharge from hospital. This is likely to be one of aspects of the new system that the Healthcare

Commission, which inspects and monitors hospitals, will be watching closely over the next few years.

"Another is that hospitals can start to cheat on coding. For instance, the NHS tariff pays two prices for different kinds of heart attack treatment: £1,775 for treatment of patients without medical complications, £3,676 for those with complications. The risk is that hospitals will falsify the code (or, worse still, give unnecessary treatment) in order to make more money."

Just one example of the effects of PbR can be seen at the East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust. The national treatment tariffs have meant that the trust is losing £20m on top of £15m savings already agreed in its budget, it was reported in April, thus causing a £35m shortfall. The trust board therefore proposes axing 160 beds over the next two years, cutting back on temporary staff and ensuring that patients spend less time in hospital. Its chief executive said that there had been no financial mismanagement, and they were having to respond to the reality. He said of the extra £20m shortfall, "It is 10 per cent of income and we are not in a position to do this in a traditional way. We've looked at procurement but we need to raise our game even more."

The Department of Health are also emphasising that information technology is an integral and key part of PbR, with a "national reporting system" as part of the "Secondary Users Service" (SUS). Literally tens of billions of pounds are being spent by the NHS on computer systems which simply are not working, not to mention the billions finding their way into the hands of the drug monopolies and so on.

Investment in the health service in a modern society is investment

in the society and for the people's well-being. It is both a duty of government to provide such a health service and the resources required to fund it and a right of the people to claim it from a government which is composed of their representatives.

The working class and people must demand and fight for a halt to this programme of "investment with reform" which is destroying the basis of a modern health service and is enriching the private

The working class and people must demand and fight for a halt to this programme of "investment with reform" which is destroying the basis of a modern health service and is enriching the private monopolists. The human factor must be put at the centre of considerations. It is necessary for the movement to be stepped up to safeguard the future of the NHS

monopolists. The human factor must be put at the centre of considerations. It is necessary for the movement to be stepped up to safeguard the future of the NHS, with the perspective that the patient is not a "consumer" but that the health of the people as a whole is paramount together with the claims of individuals for the highest health care that society can provide. To give a lasting guarantee that this is the case, health workers and professionals must be able to participate in deciding the direction of the NHS, and the people must be in the position of the decision-makers in society.

In October 2002, the Department of Health published the document "Reforming NHS financial flows: Introducing Payment by Results". This ... ensured on the one hand that funds would only be provided to the health service if its structure and ethos was reformed and on the other that funds would be channelled through PFI and other means into the coffers of private business, the monopolies and the financiers.

budget, hence the hysteria that has been generated of late about the NHS "deficits". The stated

Fight to safeguard the future of the health service!

Fraud of NHS Deficit – Fight to Safeguard the Future of the NHS!

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consumers, hospital trusts are being obliged in law to balance their books and cut costs even further through the imposition of a national scale of tariffs paid for by health care commissioners. This is leading to a conveyor belt for patients in and out of hospital, the axing of beds and the laying off of staff, and the merging and

closing of hospitals. Funds are being channelled directly into the pockets of private monopolists through PFI contracts, through the massive purchase of drugs and equipment and through the institution of market mechanisms. Finance capitalists are being brought in directly to decide the future and direction of the NHS. Meanwhile, health workers and professionals and those most

directly concerned with the provision of health care, as well as the populace whose interest it is to live a healthy life, are excluded from all decision-making.

Tony Blair worships the market as a god. To the Prime Minister and New Labour, market forces are sacrosanct. He puzzles his head over what can be done in the public services such as health and education to apply these forces or something very close to them as the regulating factor.

First the decision is to deliver social programmes to the monopolies. Then hospitals are constituted as businesses which have to deliver on budgets which

they do not set. Then we have Payment by Results, which is contributing to the shortfall as hospitals “overspend” because of not being “productive” enough. The Health Secretary is warning that further “difficult decisions” will have to be made by government.

The financial crisis and budget deficit of a net £536 million is a fraud. The health service does not produce added value. Funding for the health service is investment in the health and well-being of the people. The direction of the health service is at a critical point.

Health care is a right!
Fight to Safeguard the Future of the NHS!

French and British Workers Unite to Save Ryton

Peugeot workers across Europe took joint action at the Peugeot AGM in Paris on May 24. They leafleted shareholders and held a press conference. The lobby was organised and co-ordinated by the European Metalworkers' Federation (EMF).

The aim of the rally was to drive home to shareholders the European unions' stand which stresses opposition to the closure of the Ryton site and solidarity of all the Peugeot workers. Over 400 French and British workers took part.

Lee Gray, deputy works convenor for the Transport & General Workers' Union at Ryton, said of the joint action: “The protest was absolutely excellent. The support we received from the CGT [the French workers' union] was amazing.”

A letter of support was also sent to the British workers from Emil Machyna, president of the Oz Kovo Metalworkers Federation, Slovakia, who pointed out that Peugeot did not care about the 2,300 workers who would lose their jobs if the plant closes.

The Slovakian union leader wrote: “We strongly protest against the employers' practices. We express our full solidarity with our colleagues in the United Kingdom in their fair fight for keeping production in their territory. Our activities are targeted to get higher incomes for our employees the way that any other colleagues in economically stronger countries do not need to face the jobs losses just because of the fact in other countries the labour is cheaper.”

No-Strike Vote – the Struggle Continues!

Workers at Peugeot's Ryton plant have voted not to take strike action at present as part of their fight to save 2,300 jobs at the Coventry assembly plant and the Midlands car industry itself. The vote was 516 against and 440 for strike action.

Tony Woodley, T&G general secretary, said that union and workers would discuss how to carry forward the campaign to save their jobs and stop the collapse of manufacturing industry. He added that unions had not ruled out a possible boycott of Peugeot products in Britain.

The vote does not show that the

workers' spirit is not to fight but to take redundancy. Workers have had bitter experience of the struggle, especially in the West Midlands, against the dictate of the monopolies to close down factories and leave the workers and their communities to their fate. They are aware that serious consideration must be given to relying on their own strength and developing their own solutions.

Peugeot Citroen has no social conscience. The workers are determined to work out how to act in a new way on the basis of their strength, their unity and their own social conscience. The struggle continues!

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6th Anniversary of the Joint North-South Accord of June 15, 2000:

The Koreans Have Never Resigned Themselves to the Arbitrary Division of Their Country

— Declaration of CILRECO (International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea), Paris, June 1, 2006 —

Arbitrarily divided soon after the end of the Second World War, the Korean nation has been the victim of countless ordeals, including the terrible 1950-1953 Korean War, the consequence of this division of the country, perpetrated by the USA within the framework of its strategy of global hegemony.

Korea has never resigned itself to this division, imposed and maintained against its will, and its progressive forces, in the North, the South and the Diaspora, have been constantly struggling for its independent and peaceful reunification.

This patriotic struggle of the Korean nation has been guided and boosted by the historic proposals of President Kim Il Sung, liberator of the country and founder of the DPRK in its northern part, and then by innovative ideas of leader Kim Jong Il, whose daring initiatives have made it possible to pave the way for the country's reunification.

For the first time since the forced division of Korea, the adoption at this Summit of the joint North-South Accord of June 15, 2000, has created a totally different situation in the relations between the two parts of the

divided country, replacing the ones based on distrust and conflict by those built on reconciliation and co-operation, with an objective to accomplish, in the interest of the nation, its independent reunification, by the Koreans themselves, without foreign interference.

In the six years since this decisive turning point, outstanding progress has been accomplished in the North-South process of reconciliation, co-operation and reunification, initiated by the Accord of June 15, 2000. This proves the vitality of this historic Accord, and shows that it meets the immense desire of the Korean nation.

The outstanding progress accomplished in the application of the Accord of June 15, 2000, in all domains — political, economic, social, cultural, humanitarian, etc. — has reinforced the support of all components of the Korean nation: the North, the South and the Diaspora, and the national reunification movement has become a key force, now rendering the reunification process “between Koreans” irreversible.

This success reveals even more the will and determination of the Korean people, given the fact that

it has been accomplished despite relentless attempts of the USA to block by any manner of means the process of reunification under way.

To shatter to pieces the process which calls into question its imperialist policy in Korea and in this region, the USA has stepped up its meddling in the internal affairs of the Korean nation, relying on the support of its armed forces, stationed in South Korea since the Second World War (true “occupying troops”, kept there in violation of the international laws).

It has increased pressure on the South Korean authorities to make them cease their co-operation with the North, it has been constantly trying to foment the North-South conflict and the tension on the Korean Peninsula, threatening the DPRK with a “pre-emptive attack”, and instigating the South Korean far right forces to block the application of the Accord of June 15, 2000, and to oppose the country's current government, which supports it.

The Presidency of CILRECO at its recent meeting, held in Brussels at the end of March, firmly denounced this imperialist policy of the USA “which tramples the rights of the Korean peo-

ple and the international laws, and threatens the peace in this region and in the world”, pointing out that “this aggressive policy of the USA in Asia is indissociable from conflicts provoked by American interference on all continents under various pretexts of ‘human rights and democracy’, ‘war on terror’, etc.”

The Presidency unreservedly condemned “this bellicose policy, adopted by the USA to impose its imperialistic domination” and applauded “the DPRK's firm resistance ensured by its policy of self defence, which guarantees the sovereignty of the country”, pointing out that “it has thwarted aggressive attempts of the USA, preserved the stability and peace in Korea and in the region, and encouraged the process of independent reunification of Korea”.

This objective evaluation proves that the DPRK's firm policy and the joint North-South Accord of June 15, 2000, combined with the struggle of the pan-Korean reunification movement for its dynamic application, contribute considerably to the struggle of people throughout the world for the creation of a world of independence, sovereignty, security and peace.

Seminar on Hostility of US against north Korea

The United States, with the support of the British government, has adopted a hostile policy against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). It has dubbed it part of the “axis of evil” and made it a target for pre-emptive nuclear strike aimed at “regime change” and wrecking all moves for peace and reunification on the Korean peninsula. The DPRK has refused to bow to this pressure and put forward practical solutions to outstanding problems. The struggle of the DPRK is part of the struggle of the world's people against US imperialism and for defence of sovereignty and to safeguard the future of humankind. The seminar aims to combat the disinformation spread about the DPRK and takes place in the context of the month of solidarity with the Korean people.

**King's Cross Neighbourhood Centre,
51 Argyle St, London WC1
Saturday, June 24, 2006
2.00pm - 6.00pm**

— All are very welcome to attend. Refreshments provided. —
The seminar will be addressed by representatives of the DPRK Embassy in London. There will be every opportunity to make contributions, ask questions and participate in discussion.

Organised by the Co-ordinating Committee of Friends of Korea
(tel: 07764288678)

THE WORKERS MUST RELY ON THEIR OWN STRENGTH AND ORGANISATION – THEY HAVE THE SOLUTIONS, THEY MUST DECIDE!

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oligarchy and the monopoly capitalists, not only of Britain but of Europe and the capitalist world, are perfectly brutal when it comes to pursuing their agenda. They have no hesitation in discounting and attacking the interests of the workers, the communities and the national economies. What is of concern to them is not just the maximum capitalist profit but the amassing of personal riches by any means. The interests served by this agenda are destructive to the collective well-being of the people and to the social economy as a whole. The interests of the workers, on the other hand, are complementary to and support the collective well-being and social economy.

The neo-liberal agenda

The owners of the means of production at Ryton have no interest in the production of cars in order to serve the needs of society. They do not even give any consideration in their equation to the interests of the producers at Ryton, let alone give them a voice in decision-making. In this they have the support of the government, which washes its hands of the conse-

quences of the neo-liberal agenda for the working class and people. To the government, globalisation has such destruction of the local economies and loss of jobs as its inevitable consequence. According to them, neo-liberal globalisation has no alternative and it is futile and illogical to resist. Indeed, the monopolies utilise the state in their own interests and as their own mouthpiece.

Workers at Ryton

The workers at Ryton are to be applauded for acting to resist the closure of their workplace. They are not prepared, either, just to spontaneously respond and leave the Peugeot capitalists the freedom to follow the logic of competing in the global marketplace. They have made common cause with their co-workers in France, as well as having just completed a ballot on taking industrial action on the closure.

The workers cannot conciliate with the logic that it is necessary simply to convince the Peugeot Citroen capitalists that their reasoning is flawed and that really Ryton is the most profitable option. Rather they must explode the self-serving justifications of Peugeot that businesses' ability to

compete is the only criterion to be brought to bear. The monopolists within this are looking at return on investment, access to markets, the rate of exploitation of the workers, and so on.

Logic of monopoly capital

It is essential for the workers as a whole to grasp that the logic of the monopoly capitalists that the closing of plants or moving production are just private business decisions cannot be accepted or conciliated with. Such decisions which have momentous consequences are the concern both of the workers and of society as a whole, and it is one of the tasks of the workers to take up this message and mobilise society around it. Such issues must be dealt with collectively and responsibly by society, and a pro-worker and pro-social government would ensure that the monopoly capitalists, whether Peugeot or any other monopoly concern, are not allowed to collect subsidies, up sticks and ride roughshod over the workers as though they were answerable to no-one but themselves.

This means that, as well as resisting the onslaught of the anti-social agenda and uniting as one to

defend their interests, the workers must themselves take up the fight for a political power, for a government which is pro-worker and pro-social. An important lesson from the history of the 20th century, one which the workers must add to their historical experience of 100 years ago when they were fighting for an independent political party of the working class, is that the inter-monopoly competition of the capitalist system and the export and import of capital is a factor inevitably leading to war.

Workers as decision-makers

Furthermore, the more the interests of these most reactionary sections of capital are threatened, the more they resort to dictate and the denial of human rights, to chauvinism and disinformation. This is another reason why the Ryton workers are to be congratulated. They are building solidarity in action with their fellow workers internationally, with the perspective that workers in each country must defend sovereignty against the agenda of the European and other monopolies and take up the struggle to become the decision-makers and decide their own future and safeguard the future of society.

RALLY FOR JUSTICE, Sunday 11 June, London

A rally has been called to protest against the terroristic tactics of the police in their raid in Forest Gate on June 2, involving some 250 officers, in which a "terrorist suspect" was shot. Protesters will be assembling outside Scotland Yard at 2pm on Sunday, June 11.

CALLED BY: Islamic Forum Europe (IFE), Stop Political Terror (SPT), Muslim Association of Britain (MAB)' Islamic Human Rights Commission (IHRC), Hizb-ut-Tahrir, Young Muslim Organisation (YMO), FOSIS, MPAC, Muslim Directory, Muslim Parliament, Muslim Prisoners' Support Group, The 1990 Trust, CAMPACC, United Friends & Families Campaign, ELCAST.

For more information call: 07958 522 196