

A N A R C H I S T A G E W E E K L Y R E V I E W

An Anarchist Society is a voluntary non-hierarchical society based on the creation of social and political structures which allow all people equal decision making power and equal access to society's wealth.

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'Anarchist World This Week' Radio Program on the net <http://www.3cr.org.au>

....."COMMUNALISATION - The Transfer of Power & Wealth"

from the Hands of the Private Sector & the State, Into the Hands of the Community".....

Number 789

26th May - 1st June 2008

**"WE SWEAR BY THE SOUTHERN CROSS TO STAND TRULY BY EACH OTHER
& FIGHT TO DEFEND OUR RIGHTS & LIBERTIES" - EUREKA REBELLION OATH 1854**

DON'T BLAME MABO

On the 3rd June 1992 the High Court of Australia found that indigenous Australians had rights to land in law because of their prior occupation of this land before white colonisation. The decision sent shockwaves throughout Australia because it overturned the long held legal fiction that this country was not occupied "terra nullius" before it was colonised. The Mabo decision forced the state to act to legalise the illegal occupation of this continent.

The Mabo case named after Eddie Mabo, one of the three plaintiffs from Mer in the Torres Strait, who initiated the case, could have been the beginning of a reconciliation process between indigenous and non indigenous Australians based on justice, not charity. Today there is a tendency among both indigenous and non-indigenous Australians to blame the 1992 Mabo High Court decision for the problems surrounding indigenous Australians obtaining land rights today. Sixteen years after this pivotal High Court decision the spirit of the decision has been buried in an avalanche of legislation that has made it difficult, if not impossible, for indigenous Australians to achieve land rights through the courts. Those that manage to achieve a court decision do so at the expense of giving up rights they had won in the Mabo decision.

Sixteen years later Aboriginal and Torres Strait islanders continue to live in fourth world conditions in a first world country despite the extraordinary profits that are being made by private corporations extracting wealth from their lands. The 3rd June, Mabo Day, continues to be celebrated despite the efforts that have been made by governments, private corporations, and historical revisionists to bury the Mabo High Court decision because it challenges the myths this country is based on.

Mabo Day gives the people of Australia the opportunity to acknowledge the wrongs of the past and set out on the long journey towards reconciliation between indigenous and non indigenous Australians that is based on justice, not exploitation or charity.

JOIN US TO MARK MABO DAY

one of the most important days in the Australian calendar

11:30am to 12:30pm
FEDERATION SQUARE
(Cnr St Kilda Rd and Flinders St - Melbourne)

TUESDAY 3rd JUNE 2008

QUEENSLAND OF ALL PLACES

Queensland of all places should be familiar with the dangers of lead poisoning. In the 1930's Queensland doctors, in ground breaking medical research, linked the large number of deaths of young children in Queensland from kidney failure with lead based paints. In the hot climate flakes of lead paint broke off the railings enclosing Queensland's quintessential verandahs.

Medical researchers demonstrated children who developed kidney failure did so because they had eaten flakes of paint while playing on the verandah. It's inconceivable the Queensland government, mine owners and the Federal authorities did not have the foresight to put steps in place to ensure the residents of Mt Isa especially their most vulnerable citizens - young children under ten, were not tested and protected from a problem that everyone has known has existed in areas where lead is mined for decades.

Serious questions have been raised by this totally unnecessary disaster about the price mining and surrounding communities are being asked to pay to fund the current mining boom. This disaster demonstrates how governments, mesmerised by the thirty pieces of silver they are being paid by the mining sector, are willing to turn a blind eye to mining practices that no civilised society should tolerate.

The unhealthy relationship that has developed between the growth at all costs mentality dominating corporate and business activity in Australia today and governments that are willing to turn a blind eye to dubious mining practices, because they're blinded by the money flowing into state coffers as a result of the mining boom, need to be urgently addressed so the largely avoidable problems that have developed at Mt Isa never happen again in this country.

BURQA MORALITY

Removing many of Bill Henson's photographs from Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery in Sydney so they can be used as evidence in a possible obscenity trial against the Gallery and Mr. Henson, reminds me of the time Christian Missionaries forced indigenous women and children to wear neck to ankle Mother Hubbards because their nudity offended the Missionaries. The Bill Henson fiasco is the latest example of the moral burqa descending over secular freedom loving societies as they grapple with the problems associated with child pornography and child sex abuse.

Nudity is not the issue, the issue is the 21st century sexualisation of children in a society where everything has its price. Paedophilia is not a new phenomenon, it has always been an issue that has troubled and continues to trouble communities. Nearly 90% of children who are sexually abused are assaulted by a family member or somebody who is known to the child. It is normally a crime of opportunity that until recently has been ignored. It was one of those issues that communities were not willing to acknowledge, let alone do something about.

Fortunately over the last few decades child sexual abuse has become a significant community issue, because society can no longer ignore the damage caused to individuals and to society long into a sexually abused child's adult life. The strides that have been made in bringing this serious community problem to the public's attention and in tackling this scourge, are in danger of being overturned if the country is wrapped in a moral burqa that makes no distinction between childhood nudity, the sexualisation of children for adult sexual gratification and profit and child sex abuse.

THANKS KEV

I'd like to thank the Prime Minister for telling the truth. Unlike Brendan Nelson who is punch drunk after the Howard government's electoral drubbing, Kevin Rudd seems to have a grip on reality. The Prime Minister is unfortunately right when he says his government has done all it can to halt spiralling petrol and food prices. He's right when he says that he does not have the power to control the marketplace.

Through his admission, Rudd has demonstrated what we all know but are unwilling to acknowledge, real power doesn't lie in parliament, it lies in the board rooms of national and transnational corporations. Its ironic people are willing to give parliamentarians a signed blank cheque to make decisions for them for the next three years when they know that parliament and the Prime Minister are not able to exercise power over that small section of society that owns the means of production, distribution and exchange.

Kevin Rudd has demonstrated once again that power and wealth go hand in hand. You can sit at the kitchen table and make the decision to take your family to the South of France for a long holiday, but if you don't have the resources to make that decision a reality nothing will change for you and your family. The same analogy can be extended to parliament. The economic decisions parliament can and cannot make are directly related to the power it is able to exercise over the economy. The wholesale privatisation of public assets over the past few decades has markedly decreased the power parliament is able to exercise over the economy.

Prices of goods and services are directly related to the power corporations are able to exercise over the economy, not the demand for goods and services. In a society where wealth is concentrated in the hands of totally unaccountable corporations, no amount of finger waving by the Treasurer or passionate speeches by Brendan Nelson will have any impact on the prices of goods and services in a deregulated economy where economic activity is dominated by a few large corporations.

POOR OLD FRED HOLLOWES

Poor old Fred would be devastated to learn that thirty years after his trachoma blitzkrieg into indigenous communities in central Australia, the rate of preventable blindness among indigenous Australians due to trachoma has not decreased. While we pat ourselves on the back at having the best health system money can buy, every available health indicator from infant mortality to life expectancy among indigenous Australians is similar to health statistics in poorer third world countries.

Trachoma is a chronic infection of the eye caused by a bacteria called Chlamydia. It is totally preventable. It's ironic, despite military intervention in the Northern Territory, indigenous Australians continue to live fourth world lives in a first world country. (the term "fourth world" is used to describe the third world living conditions of communities living in a first world country)

Nothing highlights this more than Trachoma. Australia is the only developed country in the world that has a trachoma problem. Countries like Iran and Oman have eradicated it completely, while countries like Sudan and Zambia have made huge inroads into the problem. In

Australia's indigenous communities despite the heroic efforts of people like Professor Fred Hollows, nothing seems to have changed. The failure of this country to tackle trachoma in indigenous communities highlights the piecemeal, stop, start health care initiatives that are the norm in indigenous communities.

Trachoma is a bacterial infection of the conjunctiva of the eyelids. It causes pus to discharge from the eyelids as well as painful and swollen eyes. It can eventually cause blindness. It is both curable and preventable. The lack of success in the fight against trachoma in Australia highlights the failure of state and federal governments to take the problem of health care in Australia's indigenous communities seriously.

ANARCHIST QUESTION AND ANSWER

Q. The anarchist world will rise from the ashes of the old?

A. I'm afraid not. Anarchists don't need to reinvent the wheel to create an anarchist society. Nothing needs to be destroyed except our way of thinking. Anarchism is about creating a society without rulers where the people involved in a decision make that decision and use the commonwealth to make that decision a reality. No manual tells us we need to destroy the gains made by 10,000 years of civilisation to create an anarchist society.

Destroying everything and starting from scratch does not guarantee success. Why waste resources, time and human life so we can go back to year zero. We don't need to start again. We need to abolish the state and the corporate sector and replace them with a federation of community and workplace councils based on direct democratic principles. I'm not saying this is an easy task. Of course its not. There are few examples in history of people giving up power without a fight. The struggle to create an egalitarian community is a difficult but not impossible task.

An anarchist society is not created from the top down, its built from the bottom up. You can't blow up a social relationship. Social relationships change with changing community dynamics. Every successful anarchist revolution has been reliant on mass support. Without mass support you cannot create an egalitarian community. Those activists who think everything needs to be swept away before you can build something new will find all they have done is lay the groundwork for the creation of an authoritarian community. In all authoritarian communities, power is held in the hands of a minority that attempts to mould the majority into a "perfect" society by the use of force. I have grave doubts that anything but a dog eat dog world would rise from the ashes of the old. Destroying everything to rebuild a new society is a recipe for barbarism, not anarchism.

ACTION BOX

EVEN WHEN YOU'RE DEAD YOU CAN HELP

Have you noticed how rich and powerful people love to leave their mark on society long after they're dead? They use their money to set up foundations, name buildings and support their favourite charity in a last desperate bid to achieve immortality. Well you too can emulate your masters. Why should only the rich and powerful play the life after death game.

I know it's unpleasant but you and I are going to die. Dying isn't the end. Even if you're an atheist, dying isn't the end. Your influence can continue long after you're gone. If you've spent most of your life promoting libertarian alternatives why don't you give a thought to ways you can continue to be part of the movement long after you've died. If you have a little money left over after you've made your will, why don't you think about leaving it to an anarchist group you know to continue their activities.

Instead of leaving them a lump sum which could disappear in a few months, why don't you organise for the capital to be held in trust and the interest generated from the capital to be distributed to the anarchist movement in your city every year. This way your legacy will continue for years after people have forgotten who you are. Not only will your legacy continue, but you will be able to give real support to the movement when it needs it most.

When you set up the trust its important you put its management in the hands of people you can trust. Currently a number of European and North American anarchist organisations are able to continue their activities as a result of accessing money from trusts, long after the person who set up the trust died.

No such trusts exist in Australia. If you think you are in a position to help and are interested in setting up such a trust, don't leave it till tomorrow, make enquiries today on the best way to set up a trust that will help the anarchist community, long after you have died.

AUSTRALIAN RADICAL HISTORY

**THE EUREKA SERIES No. 4 2008
"SORRY STATE OF AFFAIRS"**

The city of Ballarat has always been uncomfortable about its radical past. Even during the 150th celebrations during 2004, Ballarat councillors made the statement, too much emphasis was placed on the Eureka revolt around Australia. The Ballarat story has survived despite the Ballarat people's lack of interest in their own history. The Ballarat City Council continues to fly the Australian Flag on top of Ballarat Town Hall on 3rd December. They have consistently refused to fly the Eureka flag on the major flag pole on the Town Hall to mark the anniversary of the Eureka Rebellion.

Eureka Park resembles the contested space in the church that was erected in Bethlehem to mark the spot where Jesus Christ was born. Different Christian factions jealously guard their patch occasionally coming to blows over who owns what. In Ballarat the Eureka flag continues to be displayed in the Ballarat Art Gallery. The Gallery continues to claim ownership of the flag. The original Eureka Memorial Society is housed in an old building at one corner of the park while the brand new Eureka Centre sits at the other end. All groups participate in the annual lunch which is held on the first Sunday after the 3rd of December.

Unbelievably *NOBODY* celebrates EUREKA DAY on the date it occurred, 3rd December, unless it falls on a Saturday or Sunday. This year, like last year when Eureka fell on a Monday, only the Anarchist Media Institute will be conducting a series of events around Ballarat to mark the day. As usual the Ballarat media, "official" Eureka groups and most of Ballarat will not be marking the day.

Join us this year from 4am to 4pm on WEDNESDAY 3rd December to celebrate the 154th anniversary of the Eureka rebellion. If you don't, nobody else will. Take the day off and join us at Eureka Park at the 1884 memorial (Eureka and Stawell St Ballarat) at 4:00am to

RECLAIM THE RADICAL SPIRIT OF THE EUREKA REBELLION

- DIRECT DEMOCRACY
- DIRECT ACTION
- INTERNATIONALISM
- SOLIDARITY



BOOK REVIEW



'LIBERATING PINE GAP'

"The story of one small group's efforts at resisting war"

Authors : Christians Against All Terrorism
Publisher – LeftPress 2007

This tiny 26 page pamphlet packs more punch per square inch than one of those glossy coffee table books that people glance at once in a while. The purpose of this booklet are two fold, it documents the actions of Christians Against All Terrorism, a small Christian focused group that invaded Pine Gap, the secret United States controlled military base outside Alice Springs in Central Australia, that plays a pivotal role in the United States occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Six people, Donna Mulhearn, Sean O'Reilly, Jim Dowling, Bryan Law, Adele Goldie and Jessica Morrison, caused consternation in military and government circles when they conducted a successful citizens inspection of the top secret base at Pine Gap under the noses of the authorities in December 2005.

The front cover of the booklet shows Adele Goldie flashing a peace sign sitting on the roof of a building in the middle of the base next to one of the tracking stations that are used to direct United States military operations around the world.

The booklet highlights the absurdity of the current invasion and the authorities attempts to make an example of them. The four who walked into Pine Gap were charged with:

- Destroying or damaging Commonwealth property
- Trespassing on Commonwealth land
- Unlawfully entering a prohibited area
- Taking a photo on a prohibited area
- Unlawfully damaging property.

The booklet highlights the absurdity of the Supreme Court trial. The pages are peppered with choice morsels of information that show who really benefits from the "terrorist threat". Raytheon, a United States company that makes over 21 billion dollars profit a year from the military industrial complex, were responsible for security at Pine Gap. If the Pine Gap four hadn't put up a banner on the perimeter fence and used cameras with flashlights, they would never have been caught. They were fined for their involvement in the peaceful protest. The Pine Gap four were also presented with a \$10,000 bill for making a few cuts in the perimeter fence. The Howard government, shocked by the leniency of the sentence, appealed to the full court of the NT Supreme Court. The story in the booklet finishes before the government's appeal before the full bench of the Supreme Court in the Northern Territory was heard. The story finishes in 2008 when the Northern Territory Supreme Court dismissed all the charges against the Christians Against All Terrorism who had invaded Pine Gap to carry out a citizens inspection of the facility.

Just in case you've forgotten the pamphlet was written for two reasons. The second reason? is to encourage others to resist in whatever way they can. Interested in becoming involved in future actions: Ring Jim Dowling on 07 3425 3003 penange@octa4.net.au <http://pinegap6.livejournal.com>

If you want to get hold of a copy of this explosive pamphlet try the publishers

LeftPress



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www.leftpress.org.au

PERSONAL OBSERVATION

I wonder how many people reading the Anarchist Age Weekly Review know anything about Reconciliation Week. This year it begins on Tuesday 27th May and ends on Tuesday 3rd June. I'm sure you've heard about it. Well just in case you didn't know it's a relatively new concept. It begins on Sorry Day, the day eleven years ago when the Bringing Them Home report was tabled in Federal Parliament and it ends on 3rd June, the day sixteen years ago when the High Court of Australia decided in their wisdom to bury the legal fiction – Terra Nullius. For over two centuries Terra Nullius was used to justify the illegal occupation of this land. The High Court acknowledged that indigenous Australians had a right to land in law because of their prior and continuous occupation of this land.

Have you ever wondered why life is so miserable in so many Aboriginal communities? Have you ever wondered why life is so difficult for many indigenous Australians? Even after the horrendous consequences of colonisation indigenous Australians still work towards reconciliation between us. I wonder whether you'd be interested in reconciliation if somebody booted you out of your home, killed your father, raped your sister, gave away your younger brother or sister, turned your mother into an unpaid domestic, destroyed everything you owned, prevented you from practising your religion, punished you for speaking your language, worked you into the ground for food, stole your wages and made sure you continued to be treated as an outcast in your own land, the butt of disgusting vile jokes.

I wonder how you would cope? Maybe, just maybe you'd comfort yourself with alcohol to dull the pain. I find it extraordinary that during Reconciliation Week, many indigenous Australians are willing to extend the hand of friendship to the descendants of the very people who have benefited from their pain and their loss. We can't solve the problems that exist between us in a year or two, what we can do is use Reconciliation Week to begin a journey not based on guilt but a journey that acknowledges the past and takes steps to rectify the injustices of the past by striving justice today. It's time our children's lives are not blighted by the unfinished business that exists between indigenous and non indigenous Australians today. Enough is Enough. I encourage you to lance this boil by becoming involved in Reconciliation activities between the 27th May and the 3rd June 2008.

STOP PRESS

PARDONED

The execution of Colin Ross for the rape and murder of 12 year old Melbourne schoolgirl Alma Tirtschke in 1921 and the state governments decision to pardon him posthumous (The Age 27/5) needs to be examined within the social and political context of what was happening within the government, the judicial and policing circles in Victoria in the 1920's. In the middle of an austerity drive in the early 1920's, the Victorian State government decided, like the Kennett government decades later, that police numbers and police conditions needed to be rationalised as part of their drive to make significant budgetary cuts. Victoria Police had a rudimentary pension system, did not receive overtime rates, received little if any compensation if injured during work and had to do their job on a population basis with far fewer police than any other State in the post WWI period.

As a result of growing discontent within the police force, the State government appointed a Police Commissioner in

1922 – Alexander Nicholson, who was willing to do whatever it took to deal with discontent within the force. Rank and file outrage at his attempts to reduce numbers and cut conditions, led to a petition being circulated in April 1923 by Constable William Brooks that called for the restoration of pensions and conditions and parity with police conditions in other States. Day to day policing in Melbourne in the early 1920's was to a large degree carried out by single police constables who lived in substandard accommodation in the Russell Street barracks.

By October 1923, matters had come to a head and over 600 police constables had walked off the job. Army personnel were placed on guard outside Commonwealth buildings throughout Melbourne. Government appointed baton wielding vigilantes roamed the streets causing more harm than good. Although not one of the 636 police constables who took strike action were allowed back into the police force, the State government faced with the unpalatable consequences of the strike, conceded almost all the demands made by the striking police.

Colin Ross was just one of the victims of the government austerity drive; the gang violence and underworld murders that swept Melbourne in the 1920's were a direct consequence of the government's attempts to save money by refusing to allocate the necessary resources to fund a police force that could do the job required of it.

In many ways the current batch of former police officers being processed through the criminal justice system, the disbanding of both the Drug and Armed Offenders Squad, the payment of compensation to people wrongly imprisoned and the formation of active criminal networks between sections of the Victoria Police and the criminal underworld, and the gangland violence that has made Melbourne the murder capital of Australia, can be directly related to the Kennett government's austerity program. This program resulted in a drop in police numbers, a deterioration in police conditions and morale, and forced police hierarchy to abandon the checks and balances that are necessary to stop the growth of corruption within the police force to meet unreasonable budgetary constraints.

Colin Ross' execution in 1922 had as much to do with government incompetence and mismanagement as it had to do with the failure of policing, the judicial system and trial by media. It is appropriate that Rob Hulls, the current Victorian Attorney General, put place in motion the processes that led to the posthumous pardon of an innocent man who was executed as a result of misguided government policy.

(This is an edited article of an article which appeared in the Anarchist Age Weekly Review - Issue No. 713)

Joseph TOSCANO /
Libertarian Workers For A Self-Managed Society.

POEM – Stephen Roberts

FEDERAL BUDGET

We come to the stone table together
Plutocrats and People

We take our places at the table
The feast is for the Plutocrats
The great supper is eaten by them
Little is left for the People
Only spin – A "Robin Hood" budget
with mini tax cuts swallowed up

So People get the void
Plutocrats the copious world

ANARCHIST PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED THIS WEEK

FREEDOM Vol 69 No.8 10th MAY 08, ISSN 0016 0504, 846 Whitechapel High St, London E17QX, ENGLAND, Tel/Fax: 020 7247 9249, Web: www.freedompress.org.uk
UMANITA NOVA Vol 88 No.18 18th MAY 08, Settimanale Anarchico, C.50 Palermo 46, 10152, Torino ITALY. Tel/Fax: (011) 857850, Mobile: 338-6594361, Email: fat@inrete.it

** SIGN THE SEDITION CHARTER - www.seditioncharter.org **

** JOIN DIRECT DEMOCRACY NOT PARLIAMENTARY RULE - www.rulebythepeople.org **

** JOIN US RECLAIM THE RADICAL SPIRIT OF THE EUREKA REBELLION 4am – 4pm WEDNESDAY 3RD DEC 2008. EUREKA PARK (Cnr STAWELL & EUREKA ST, BALLARAT) **

Our debt is currently over \$200.00 - You can help to clear our debt by accessing the AAWR via email instead of receiving it by snail mail. This saves us \$50.00 per year for every person who decides to switch to the email list. Email us at anarchistmedia.org to get onto the email list for the AAWR. You can send us a book of 50cent stamps every month to cover subscription costs or if you decided to send a cheque or money order - make it out to 3CR and we will use that money to help clear our 3CR debt. If you send a cheque or money order made out to 3CR, we will send you out a 3CR receipt. Send cheques and money orders to P.O. BOX 20 PARKVILLE 3052, Melbourne, AUSTRALIA.

29 - 05 - 2008**\$425.70 DEBIT**

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MABO DAY CELEBRATIONS

Celebrate the 16th anniversary of the Mabo High Court decision delivered on the 3rd of June 1992 which acknowledged indigenous Australians had rights to land in law because of their continuous occupation of this land for over 40,000 years.

**11:30am - 12:30pm
TUESDAY 3rd JUNE 2008
FEDERATION SQUARE
MELBOURNE**

ALL WELCOME - Keep Terra Nullius at bay join us on 3rd June

DAVE KERIN - UNION SOLIDARITY

Dave Kerin - Union Solidarity Co-Ordinator is now facing up to 6 months jail for supporting striking workers at Boeing. The Australian workplace Ombudsmen has issued Mr. Kerin with a "notice to produce all documents" in relation to the recent strike at Boeing. This is the first time that Workchoices has been used to investigate community pickets. Go to the Union Solidarity website www.unionsolidarity.org for more information about Union Solidarity and Dave Kerin's case. They need your support today.

RECLAIM THE RADICAL SPIRIT OF THE EUREKA REBELLION**4am - 4pm WEDNESDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2008**

154th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS AT EUREKA STOCKADE SITE (Corner Stawell & Eureka Streets, Ballarat, VICTORIA)

Download poster from anarchistmedia.org
Email poster to your friends, print it off, distribute it around your community.
JOIN US - Celebrate the past by reclaiming the present & changing the future

ANARCHIST MEDIA INSTITUTE OBSCENITY OF THE WEEK

Has been awarded to the corporations and governments that have watered down the MABO HIGH COURT decision over the past sixteen years so that indigenous Australians continue to be denied land that was acknowledged they had a right to in the Mabo High Court judgement - 3rd June 1992.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Power is the aphrodisiac of the powerless and the poison of the powerful."
- Joseph TOSCANO - MAY 2008

**ANARCHIST MEDIA INSTITUTE
EUREKA AUSTRALIA DAY MEDAL NOMINATIONS
2008**

Know someone you believe should receive the Eureka Australia Day Medal, then why not nominate them today. If you don't, chances are nobody else will. The criteria used to choose recipients is reflected in the spirit of the Eureka oath - *"We swear by the Southern Cross to stand truly by each other & fight to defend our rights & liberties"*

NOMINATION CLOSE - 31st OCTOBER 2008

Send in one nomination or as many as you like. Send us the following information:

- * The name of the person nominated
- * A few sentences outlining why they should receive the award
- * A contact address for the nominee (We need to contact them if they wish to receive the award)
- * The person you nominate can be a public figure or somebody only known to a few people.

SEND YOUR NOMINATIONS ASAP TO

**EUREKA AUSTRALIA DAY MEDAL, P.O. BOX 20, PARKVILLE 3052, VIC,
AUSTRALIA or email your nomination to anarchistage@yahoo.com**

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE

I'M AIMING TO RAISE \$10,000 between 10am to 11am on Wednesday 11th June 2008 to keep 3CR on air for another year.

3CR streaming live on 3cr.org.au 855 on the AM dial/Victoria has broadcast the Anarchist World This Week for 31 years.
If you can pledge money RING 03 9419 8377 between 10am - 11am on Wednesday 11th June 2008.

Last year I raised \$8157 to keep 3CR on AIR.

**LET'S SEE IF WE CAN BREAK THE \$10,000 BARRIER IN 2008
Joseph Toscano.**

**CITIZEN INITIATED REFERENDUMS
PEOPLE POWER NOW**

VIGIL

**11:30am - 12:30pm
FEDERATION SQUARE
(Cnr Flinders and Swanston St Melbourne)**

**11:30am WEDNESDAY 4th JUNE 2008
Tel 0404 423 989
PO Box 5035 Alphington 3078 Melbourne**

www.referendumpeoplepowernow.com
info@referendumpeoplepowernow.com

ALL WELCOME

STAMP APPEAL - We spend over \$500.00 on postage stamps per month. If you're writing to us or have any spare stamps floating about stuff them into the envelope & send them to us. JOIN our \$5.00 a month group & send us a book of 10 50 cent stamps every month.

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS - (ATNTF)

An FBI agent has described how she watched Australian detainee Mamdouh Habib vomit repeatedly during a lengthy interrogation session at Guantanamo Bay. In a report prepared by the US Justice Department, the agent said that Mr Habib was interrogated in two 15-hour sessions with only a short break between them.

The agent, who was not named, said she was not bothered by Mr Habib's condition at the time, "but in retrospect she questioned whether the treatment of Habib was appropriate". The Justice Department report also includes a claim that Mr Habib was assaulted by a private-contract interrogator who belonged to the US company Lockheed Martin. Last night, Mr Habib repeated his claim that a female interrogator splashed him with what he believed was menstrual blood. "There was big pressure on me. They were trying to make me admit anything," he said. Mr Habib said that in court ASIO falsely claimed he had been treated very well at Guantanamo Bay. Since his release, Mr Habib, who was held for more than three years without trial, has consistently stated that he was tortured in Egypt, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Guantanamo. (Source: Sydney Morning Herald)

The leadership of the New South Wales Labor Party has approved electricity privatisation, against the wishes of most delegates to the Labor Party conference, and has threatened to expel any Labor Party MP who votes against it.

Delegates to the NSW Labor state conference voted against privatisation, by 702 votes to 107. The legislation would make it possible for a generator's power stations to be sold. Previously the Premier had promised only 50-year leases on power stations.

Premier Morris Iemma warned that any Labor MP who 'crosses the floor' and votes against the legislation could face expulsion from the party. (Source: Sydney Morning Herald, the Australian) Labor is taking a harsher line on refugees than the Howard Government, according to an analysis of decisions made by the new Minister for Immigration.

An analysis of the exercise of ministerial discretion by the Immigration Minister, Senator Chris Evans, shows that he has rejected 97.6 percent of applications since coming to power.

This is the highest rate of rejection since 2001. The handling of applications for ministerial discretion has been sped up, with 41 rejections being issued in five weeks.

Most of those rejected fear death if they're returned to their countries of origin, and several cases involve families that will be split up if people are deported.

According to Pamela Curr from the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, the applications that Senator Evans has rejected include an African woman who had been kidnapped and sent as a slave to the Middle East. She escaped from her abusive owners after they took her with them on holiday to Australia. "This case just shattered us all" Ms Curr said. "The people making these decisions are old immigration department officers, the same kind of people who handled Cornelia Rau and Vivian Solon. They are still there and they are just saying no." (Source: crikey.com.au)

QUOTE OF THE MOMENT: "Greedy fucking jew." - The New South Wales Liberal party's then-state campaign manager Susan Chandler, describing a colleague.

ATNTF weekly anarchist news report www.apolitical.info
PLEASE FORWARD THIS ON TO PEOPLE WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED.

If You Like What You Have Read, Photocopy This Publication & Leave It In Doctors, Dentists, Vets Waiting Rooms & In Railway Stations, Bus Stops, Libraries & Restaurants Etc.

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