

# Time To Reclaim Our World

WE live in a world of massive, not to say, obscene contradictions. Consider a few facts.

According to the UN, 800 million subsist on a wholly inadequate diet - some of them starving - yet food is destroyed or stockpiled on a huge scale and some farmers in Europe are even paid not to produce under the 'set-aside' scheme. Politicians prattle on about peace, the UN urges reconciliation between states, yet wars simmer across the face of the earth and armaments gobble up a large

chunk of every national GNP. And even in a supposedly rich country like Britain, many lack decent accommodation (some have none at all) while nearly a million homes lie empty and building workers remain unemployed. One could go on adding to this list ad infinitum. From a rational perspective, it just doesn't make sense. But we live in a world that is not organised on a rational basis. It is organised around the relentless drive for profits through the sale of commodities

on the market. This is a world where the greed of the few takes absolute priority over the needs of the many, where a recession means 'too much has been produced' even though the poor have, self evidently, far too little. Because if they don't have the money to buy what they need then they simply don't count. That is the crazy logic of global capitalism.

Who counts in this crazy world? According to the American magazine, Forbes, just three individuals - Bill Gates,

Warren Buffet and Paul Allen - have between them assets worth N\$156 billion. That is more than the combined GNP of the world's 43 poorest countries - of which some 600 million live in sub-Saharan Africa. It is a figure that almost defies belief.

It is time for us, the vast majority, to reclaim our world. Capitalism has had its day. Whether run by the state (as in the ex Soviet Union) or left to the so called free market, it clearly cannot be made to work in our interests. And we

don't need Bill Gates and co to tell us in whose interests it really works.

Let us democratically strip this parasitic minority of its exclusive ownership and control of the means of living. Let us make this world the common property of everyone in it. Free off the shackles of the mar-

ket and the tyranny of the state, we can indeed create a decent life for everyone, freely giving according to our ability and freely taking according to our needs. All it takes is for us now to say, enough is enough.

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*Note: The World Socialist Movement welcomes an exchange of ideas with any readers. They can be contacted at the address above. - Ed*

## Chaos At Kaudom

I HAVE just returned from a visit to Kaudom. I could accept the disintegrating facilities, the general devastation and lacklustre attitude of the park officials. What I could not accept was that at almost every water point we visited, and

Ironically, at Etosha the previous week, dirty linen was collected in the camp with Land Cruisers!

This is insanity! No one checking? What about emergencies? What about poaching? The antelope took one look at