

A MAN IN A SUIT WITH A MOBILE PHONE WHO CALLED THE SHOTS IN THE (London) CITY RIOT

IN A SMART dark suit, with a brief case and a copy of the Financial Times under his arm, he looked like your typical City gent. Only after he dropped his props and began helping to unload a truck full of concrete blocks and wooden stakes did his allegiance become clear.

The man in the suit and the hire truck were part of what police believe to be a sophisticated and well-planned attack that brought some of the worst violence and public disorder to the streets of Britain since the poll-tax riots of 1990.

In five hours on the afternoon of 18 June, groups of demonstrators on an anti-capitalism protest in the financial sector of London ran amok, attacking police and causing pounds 1.2m of damage as they vandalised buildings and blocked off roads.

Since the rioting in the financial heart of Britain, a team of 60 detectives from the City of London and Metropolitan forces has been compiling evidence against the violent demonstrators. A key part of Operation Enterprise is being run from a video suite in the Bishopsgate police station, where five officers are painstakingly sifting through 5,000 hours of film from hidden police cameras, a helicopter and fixed CCTV monitors installed throughout the City.

The walls of the suite are plastered with photographs of police "targets" -- alleged rioters caught on camera. They are brandishing scaffold poles, bricks, staves, a spade, or helping to unload a lorry full of concrete blocks. Each suspect is given a number written next to the face, and cross-referenced to video sequences.

One section shows a police woman on a grey horse being dragged to the ground by protesters. The crowd tears off her helmet and repeatedly punches her in the head and body. One rioter is filmed reaching up to her saddle and stealing a side-handled baton.

In another episode, a camera captures a man with a shovel hidden by his side slowly approaching a line of police officers who were being confronted by demonstrators. The man quickly raises the weapon above his head and strikes an officer on the helmet, sending him tumbling.

In a third sequence, a camera on a police helicopter films protesters throwing bricks and rocks at officers, then using two huge rectangular dustbins on wheels as battering rams.

So far, the police have photographs of 147 different "targets" said to be committing serious criminal offenses. The police have names for 20 of them and have sent out folders of photographs to all Britain's police forces and Special Branches, asking them whether they can identify any of the suspects.

Detective Chief Inspector Kieron Sharp, of the City of London police, who is heading Operation Enterprise, believes evidence from the film and information from police intelligence shows the protest and violence were carefully planned.

Demonstrators were filmed arriving for the Carnival Against Global Capitalism protest at Liverpool Street railway station, where they were given four different coloured masks with legal advice written inside and information telling the protesters to follow organisers with matching coloured flags.

Two cars bought by organisers were used to block a road by letting down the tyres and throwing the keys away. A ring-leader dressed in a suit is filmed standing in front of the vehicles, signaling protesters to join him. In another video, a lorry loaded with ladders, staves and concrete blocks is brought into the crowd and unloaded near the London International Financial Futures Exchange (Liffe) building, site of some of the worst fighting.

Throughout the disorder, several activists are seen in suits as an apparent disguise. In one of the most blatant cases, a man puts down his briefcase and Financial Times to help demonstrators to unload a lorry. A man wearing a pale jacket is also filmed, apparently orchestrating the pelting of police officers with missiles. Several groups organised the protests, including the high-profile Reclaim the Streets.

Det Ch Insp Sharp said: "It's unbelievable how some police were not killed. There was very severe and savage violence. We knew there was going to be trouble, but we had no idea where it was going to be and we had no idea that it would be so well organised and so violent."

An independent report into the police handling of the riots criticised the City of London force for indecisive action, poor judgment and inadequate communication.

Det Ch Insp Sharp said there had been claims and rumours about further anti-capitalist mass demonstrations on 30 November and 4 January, the first working day of the next century. But intelligence suggested the demonstrators were unlikely to be able to organise another large event so soon.

[Since this news item is un-attributed, I can't find out whose intelligence is being mentioned. Unless the reporter is using his own head, this last sentence suggests an oxymoron -- "police intelligence ?" (MichaelP)]

"Blessed Are the Cracked, For They Shall Let in the Light"

By Sharon Pearson
(this is a partial excerpt from "A Forever Home")

"It's more important what we do to people," he said, " than what we do for them." I looked at him. He was a homeless middle-aged gay Alaskan Indian with one glass eye whose family was in the publishing business. It was 1985 and I was a middle-aged sociology/journalism student struggling to keep up my studies as I prowled the streets of Anchorage talking with homeless people, trying to figure out what had become of the American Dream and why so many people were homeless. "And what you have to remember," John said, "is that there are more layers of illusion and deception wrapped around welfare than wrapped around life and death itself." I was trying to jot down what he was saying in my journal, but I was a little drunk. We had just split a bottle of wine, sitting at a kitchen table, sterno candles in a cast iron frying pan burning low, while we watched a frozen turkey thaw. "This," he said pointing to the dripping turkey, a pumpkin pie, and waving a ten-dollar bill in the air, "is real charity and this," he picked up a few food stamps, "isn't." "Food stamps aren't charity?" I asked as I glanced at the turkey, pie, and money a neighbor had brought. "Nope," he answered, "they're welfare." "So," I prodded, "What's the difference?" "The difference," he said, "is simple." He had tilted his head so that his one good eye could see the top tobacco he was rolling into a cigarette. "Charity and welfare," he said looking up at me for a moment and then down at his tobacco, "are not the same. Charity is love of humanity nothing less and nothing more. And welfare is only the illusion of charity. Welfare is a cold impersonal industry disguised as non-profit, but designed to maximize profits which are then absorbed by the salaries of non-homeless people and the overhead they create; so that a love of profit replaces love of people."

That little scene took place a long time ago in a former massage parlor converted by me into a homeless shelter. The spiral journal I wrote in that night is now frayed and missing its cover. But when I read John Mark's words, I realize the journal and all the other journals that followed, are in fact talismans: representing my initiation into what John called layers of illusion and deception. Now 14 years later I am no longer deceived. Life and death are dependent upon charitable acts which demand personal sacrifice and are driven by love of humanity. Welfare is tough love steeped in psycho-babble: "If I become my brother's and my sister's keeper and don't insist upon their helping themselves I create unhealthy dependencies." The basic philosophy of welfare today is steeped in Calvinism, AA and New Age metaphysics. Calvinism says that says that people are poor and suffering because they are sinners. Therefore, they're to blame for their own tragedy. AA says that people are poor and suffering because they came from dysfunctional backgrounds. Therefore, they had little or no parenting and expect others to take care of them. New Age metaphysics says we create our own reality. Therefore it's up to us to change it. But all three of these philosophies ignore our inter-dependent reality which demonstrates over and over again that when one part is harmed, the whole part is harmed. The poverty service industry in the US is no longer as profitable as it once was because over time it became too difficult to convince taxpayers that welfare worked. So, to solve the problem, departments of welfare have kicked people off and are now criminalizing homelessness, keeping the poor alive in jails and prisons, rather than have them die in the streets for all to see. And this one-criminal-size-fits-all shift is denying poor Americans the ability to even have limited control over what happens to them; thus rendering their share of the American Dream null and void. And in the meantime, suffering is spreading into every neighborhood and every home in the nation as more and more homeless people become alienated, are forced into a life of crime to survive, and turn to drugs and alcohol for comfort. Landlords deny them housing because of past evictions. Employers won't hire them because they have no phones, regular addresses, or have been arrested for illegally sleeping on public property. Family members, unable or unwilling to share, have abandoned them. They go without sleep because shelters are noisy and dangerous and police move them from place to place. The numbers of homeless people afflicted with Tuberculosis, HIV, and recently, Whooping Cough, are growing. And not one city can build jails and prisons fast enough to hold them. The message is: "You are homeless and poor because you did things wrong. I, however, have done things right. I have a home, a job and money. Therefore, if you want to stay alive, you must let me fix you. I will hold food, clothing and shelter in front of your face like a carrot in order to lead you into a better life. You will, if you want to survive, enter into tax-payer supported life-management skills training programs, self-esteem classes, job readiness programs and by god, get clean and sober. And if you cannot, or will not do this, I will let you die." There are, however, growing numbers of people who hate this message. They have seen through welfare's false charity illusions and deception. They place their trust despite vast opinion to the contrary in basic human decency. They believe that if food, clothing, housing and medical care were a birthright and if notions of sin, blame and character were given less importance then life on this planet could be good. Much like the new adage: "Christianity hasn't failed, we just haven't yet tried it," true charity gives believe in what hasn't yet happened, hoping life has a purpose. These are the people and groups who have found through their charity illuminating light coming from the world's most unlikely source the cracked and the broken. They are voluntary risk-takers, willing to sacrifice what they must to dispense true charity, not only for poor and homeless people, but for themselves and for you. We believe it's more important what we do to each other, than what we do for each other. In other words we believe in real charity.

I like Mike's bike!



Mike's Bike Shop
Rentals • Repairs • Sales
24 years downtown, on Spruce Street
436-1266
(Out of state inquiries, 800-492-1266)

HANE'S BAKERIE



BREADS & CROSSANTS LENA WHITE BUILDING
PASTRIES & DESSERTS 4064 HEMLOCK
SOUP & SANDWICHES MIDTOWN CANNON BEACH
436-0120

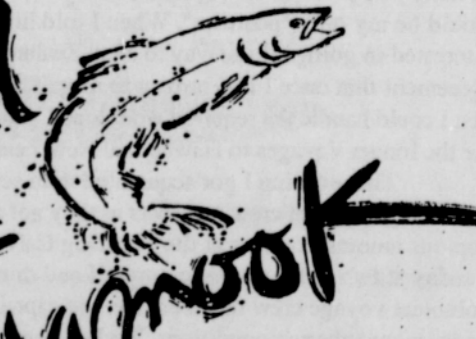
He preaches well who lives well. Cervantes

Northwest by Northwest Gallery

ARTIST: MEDIUM:
PRICE:
239 North Hemlock P.O. Box 1021
Cannon Beach 503/436-0741
Oregon 97110 JOYCE LINCOLN, Director
Pacific Northwest Contemporary Art & Craft
Celebrating 10th Year in Cannon Beach

National Wildlife Federation presents...

Wild in the Tillamook



A Day of Fun and Exploration
in the Tillamook Rainforest
For more information contact us at 239-1227

This FREE event will be at the Gales Creek Campground
Fun for the whole family!

Workshops:
Wild Waters: The Tualatin River Watershed Council will share the latest in watershed projects from the forest to the valley floor. The Tualatin River keeps many communities west of Portland hydrated.
Wild in the Woods: Discover this complex and wondrous state forest with Dave Perry, his vision for biological recovery will bring the forest alive for you!
Wild in Your Own Backyard: Learn about making your own backyard a wildlife refuge with NWF's, Beth Stout and landscape architect Gretchen Vadnais.
Winged Wildlife: Walk through the woods and discover native birds, their songs, and their habitats with our local bird expert, Rick Brown.
Streamside Ecology: Our native fish biologist will illuminate your riverside stroll with the latest in habitat projects, aquatic resources, and the issues facing the future of fish recovery.
Wild Ones Forest Ecology for Kids ages 6-12: games and hands-on activities will inspire the naturalist in every child. Small groups will explore nature into the woods, crafts and stories too!
*****Getting there*****
A shuttle bus service will be provided from local park and ride lots. A \$5 per person charge and pre-registration will guarantee a seat on the bus. Call us at 239-9227 for park and ride locations and for scheduled times. Parking at the campground is limited, so please carpool or use the bus. Gales Creek Campground is located at milepost 55 on Hwy 8, about 1 hour from Portland.
National Wildlife Federation will provide snacks and drinks during Wild in the Tillamook. Please bring lunch, water, and appropriate gear. National Wildlife Federation is not responsible for any injury or loss resulting from these events.

Sunday, September 12th / 9:00 AM -3:00 PM

LuLu's

A SHOE & ACCESSORY BOUTIQUE
503-436-0577 239 N. HEMLOCK
CANNON BEACH, OREGON