Australia Dossier

Howard Pushes Fascist ‘Anti-Terror’ Laws

Prime Minister Howard’s new laws would make Hitler blush, but the PM has hitched his wagon to a dead mule: Dick Cheney.

Australians awoke on Nov. 8 to find that 400 state and federal police had staged the biggest “anti-terror” raid in Australian history, arresting 17 in Sydney and Melbourne. Despite the presumed highly sensitive nature of the operation, Prime Minister John Howard ensured that all media were present for the pre-dawn raids. And, despite police claims that they had prevented a “catastrophic” attack, no supporting evidence to that effect was presented.

This was only Howard’s latest stunt in his plans to turn Australia into a full-fledged police state before the world’s financial system blows to bits. His Anti-Terrorism Act of 2005, provides for, along with accompanying legislation:

- Conversations between lawyers and their defendants may be taped, a procedure outlawed even at Guantanamo Bay.
- The use of unchallengeable video or other evidence from abroad, opening the door to that gained by torture.
- New “stop, question, and search” laws modeled on Britain’s notorious laws in Northern Ireland.
- The use of the Army to carry out civilian policing for the first time in Australia’s history, under even the “potential” of a terrorist attack. An earlier Howard law gave the Army the right to “shoot to kill” civilians.
- Family members or journalists who disclose such imprisonment or detention may be sentenced to 5-7 years, and those detained or their lawyers may not see the evidence upon which such confinement is based.
- Vague, catch-all definitions of “terror” and “terrorists.” No evidence is required that the “terrorists” are planning a specific attack, only that they might be “considering” one.
- Sedition laws with seven-year sentences for “exciting disaffection against the Government” or “promoting feelings of ill-will and hostility.”
- Police powers to imprison anyone for 14 days or to confine them to home detention for up to one year with no charge, and to “shoot to kill” in making such arrests, as British police did around the subway bombings in July.
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Howard has been a puppet of the Synarchy and its Mont Pelerin Society throughout his career. He has lined Australia up with every neo-con policy pushed by U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney and British Prime Minis-