

'What would YOU do....?'

If you saw terrible things, awful things that belong in the public domain?'

(words attributed to Bradley Manning – May 2010)

If you are concerned about PEACE and JUSTICE in the world -

JOIN US at the Cathedral War Memorial in EXETER at 2.30 on FRIDAY 8th June

(Devon County War Memorial, 10 Cathedral Yard, Exeter, Devon EX4 3DU)

in solidarity with BRADLEY MANNING, the US soldier and Welsh schoolboy accused of revealing 'awful things' to the public in the hope of provoking change, now being court martialed in the USA. 6th - 8th JUNE is the date of his next court appearance.

Supporters of Bradley will also be joined by The Molino Group, whose play, 'Desert', based on Bradley's case, will be performed in Exeter at The Bike Shed Theatre, Fore St, on Thurs 21st, Fri 22nd, and Sat 23rd JUNE at 7.30 and on Sat 23rd also at 2.00

BRADLEY MANNING, the 24 year old US soldier who was a schoolboy in Wales, is now imprisoned in the USA, charged with releasing into the public domain evidence of war crimes, widespread human rights abuses, torture, and a culture of horrific brutality amongst the armed forces in the Afghan and Iraq wars.

Considered the world's most prominent whistleblower by many, Bradley joined the US Army as an intelligence analyst and went to Iraq with hopes of saving lives and spreading democracy.

He was arrested in May 2010 as the accused WikiLeaks source. He had become deeply concerned about evidence of appalling injustice and human rights abuses (including war crimes) that he had access to, and, after an attempt to report abuse had failed, he apparently sought to bring about change by leaking to WikiLeaks.

Bradley has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for this, but the US Military has taken drastic reprisals; imprisoned without trial for 2 years, he was held in solitary confinement for a year in conditions called 'cruel, inhuman and degrading' by the UN torture investigator, and protested by Amnesty International as well as many other groups and individuals. Worldwide public condemnation forced a move to a more liberal regime.

Supporters say that Bradley's Court Martial is a 'show trial' in a 'kangaroo court' and that a fair trial is impossible.

The unlawful and punitive pre-trial detention has already discredited the judicial process, and he has been publicly described as guilty by President Obama (the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces) before trial.

There is an extensive prosecution team, who have easy access to all documentation, but only a small (though dedicated) Defence team, who do not. Bradley himself has been unable to view any of the documents in the case at all as he is not permitted to travel to where they are held and the Defence is not permitted to take them to him. The Defence is consistently refused access to key witnesses and documents, and is inhibited in attempts to obtain other documents requested for disclosure on repeated occasions from as long ago as Oct 2010.

The Court Martial Judge has refused to lift the extreme media secrecy surrounding the proceedings (greater than for trials of alleged terrorists at Guantanamo) necessitating a landmark legal suit (currently being heard) that has been brought by several plaintiffs to force transparency in this case of such great public interest.

Bradley has already been held for 2 years without trial. Although a provisional date has been set for his trial - 21st September 2012 – initial hearings indicate that it could be later.

BRADLEY MANNING 'IN HIS OWN WORDS' (taken from an internet 'chat log' before his arrest):

"and it's important that it gets out....i feel it might actually change something....if it's out in the open it should do the public good....we're human...and we're killing ourselves....and no-one seems to see that....and it bothers me..i care? god knows what happens now, hopefully worldwide discussions, debates and reforms "

Bradley Manning is accused of leaking the Afghan War Diary, the Iraq War Logs, the Collateral Murder video, the Guantanamo Files, the Granai Air Strike and the State Dept Cables in the largest leak of documents in History. He faces 22 charges, including the widely criticised 'aiding the enemy', and the prosecution are seeking a sentence of Life imprisonment without parole.

MORE Bradley Manning 'in his own words' at www.wiseupforbradleymanning.wordpress.com (ABOUT)

DESERT: THE MOLINO GROUP www.bikeshedtheatre.co.uk/whats-on/desert-by-the-molino-group/

www.bradleymanning.org www.armycourt martialdefense.info/ www.guardian.co.uk/world/bradley-manning

CONTACT: LINDI on 01840 230397 07806 875983