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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2004

## Britain Behaves Unilaterally -- Just Like US

by Michael in New York on 9/27/2004 03:04:00 AM

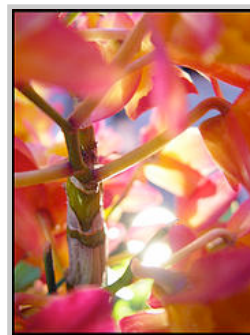
However, when the US behave unilaterally, it ignores international law and invades another country (and breaks with the Geneva Convention in the process). When Britain behaves unilaterally, it decides to **pay off 10% of the the debt of the Third World.**

Specifically, the New York Times reports that "Britain will set aside the equivalent of \$180 million a year to pay off 10 percent of the money owed by 32 countries to international lenders, notably the World Bank and the African Development Bank. Poor nations contend that they often must choose between paying these debts and meeting urgent needs of their people, or making expenditures that would strengthen their economies."

This move was announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Gordon Brown, who would love to unseat Tony Blair as head of the Labor Party (and thus become Prime Minister). So maybe this is some cynical political play. But isn't it lovely to picture politicians trying to out-manuever each other in helping Third World countries get on their feet economically? Instead of just blowing them up?



JOHN'S PHOTOS



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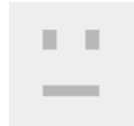


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