

BLACK FLAG

ANARCHIST FORTNIGHTLY

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MORE HELL RAISERS NEEDED!

Police sealed off Hatfield Main Colliery entrance and fought off attempts to stop scabs by a mass picket organised locally. Local NUM organiser, Dave Douglass was snatched by the police, but the pickets retaliated. Media coverage was nil.

Several members of the BLACK FLAG collective were eyewitnesses to the incident, had been invited to the picket and a social (the night before). At the social, a contingent of Nottingham miners were welcomed, as were ourselves (our group included several members of the Direct Action Movement and comrades from South London). A good time was had by all. A BBC crew filmed the evening's entertainment for a slot on their 'Real Lives' series. Behind a backdrop of a banner proclaiming '1926: TUC General Council Traitors. 1984: TUC General Council Traitors', a motley of performers sang songs, told jokes, etc. Dave Douglass did a turn, Sandra Kerr from London sang the 'Unwaged Maintenance Engineer', 'Which Side Are You On' and others, a Labour man sang an anti-Labour Party song called 'Just One More Chance', the only low moments being when a couple of blokes did some anti-women and racist jokes but some good ones against the National Coal Board and scabs. It all ended with the usual 'Here We go'.

The next morning we gathered early at the local Welfare Hall for a pre-march rally. A Channel 4 crew filmed the packed hall and several speeches were made. An ASLEF delegate told those gathered that railway workers had blacked oil (although most of it is carried by truck and by direct pipeline). After a bit of a whine by a local Labour MP, Dave Douglass gave a rousing speech urging miners and support groups to organise to visit workplaces to widen industrial action. His final words were, 'We don't just want fundraisers any long — much needed as they are — we want HELLRAISERS, and more guerrilla resistance'.

The 600 of so of us at the rally then marched out of the hall, past the gauntlet of trotskyist paper-sellers, and walked the mile or so to the pit entrance. We were followed by a convoy of police vans and riot vehicles. As those of us near the front of the march got to where the entrance was a wall of about 40 cops stood in our way. Immediately they grabbed Dave Douglass and three others and dragged them off behind police lines. We then went straight for the police lines. Cops were kicked, punched and stones were thrown. But within seconds the police convoy had sped up and pushed through the marchers, forcing a gap towards the cops on foot. We managed to drag a woman back who the cops had tried to nick, but then we realised that we would all get trapped between the foot cops on one side, the police convoy on another, and a house on a third side, so we regrouped and went for the tail end of the police convoy, which by then was being attacked from all sides. As the last van (a jeep) sped through a couple of miners managed to grab a petrol can and some police baggage and throw them at the windscreen.

For the next 45 minutes we stood our ground while waiting for the scab bus to come by. But some outsiders had already begun to drift away and a contingent of Workers Revolutionary Party members made a dash for their coach before the trouble began. This left about 300-400 of us to face what was by now a similar number of cops who had their back-up of riot equipment in their vans as well as dogs. There were few missiles around to grab and the roads were all sealed off except for one which the cop vans could easily charge down.

Suddenly the scab coach appeared, there was a big surge forward and stones went flying for the cops. A few hit their target and some vans got hit too. The police retreated to their vans for protection and we lobbed more stones. We then realised that this was only the lull before the storm: we were now few and a large reserve of cops were still waiting in their vans. All of us then began to drift back without getting set upon. For Hatfield the day's events were just one of many such intrusions by the police on their liberty.



AFTER 11 MONTHS ON STRIKE
WHICH SIDE ARE YOU ON?

TOWARDS INDUSTRIAL ACTION

A Congress for Industrial Action took place in Burnley on January 19. It was initiated by the Burnley Miners Support Group and members of the Direct Action Movement. Speakers included Peter Heathfield (General Secretary NUM), Dave Douglass (Hatfield NUM delegate) and a delegate from the NUR, Tony Crowther (DAM National Secretary).

Heathfield gave a very general speech, but Dave Douglass (who introduced himself as a NUM delegate and a DAM supporter) tore into the Labour Party and the TUC leadership as well as the trotskyist groups who spend their time paper-selling and doing fuck all. There were a few trots in the audience, but not many as their respective leaderships had instructed the bulk of them to boycott the congress for sectarian reasons. Douglass then went on to thank the DAM for organising things and referred to the NUM as also being a movement of direct action.

Tony Crowther then angrily denounced Kinnock and his hypocritical pleas against violence, as well as the NUR/ASLEF leadership who are doing their best to contain secondary industrial action, rather than widen it. A Labour MEP then spoke from the floor, pleading with us not to set our sights too high, while at the same time

patronisingly telling us not to get too pessimistic. A power workers delegate then attacked TUC guidelines relating to the use of oil where coal supplies have been blacked: he explained that these guidelines made a whole mockery of the blacking. Instead he called for mass picketing of the power stations and a boycott of the guidelines. After a break the congress was broken up into syndicates and later convened to formulate proposals and a common strategy.

The final recommendations were: to organise at rank and file level for industrial action, to back-up any regional initiatives for regional strikes, to call upon other regional congresses to follow suit, to spread the idea that all support groups should be made permanent (not only to help out the mining communities in their hardship, once the strike is over — whatever the result — but also to provide mutual aid for others taking industrial and community action and to serve as a focus for class resistance), and to urge support groups to take more of an active role on the picket line. Finally there was also a call from the floor for more support from local groups of the large numbers of pickets imprisoned and for a list of these prisoners to be drawn up and where they are being held.

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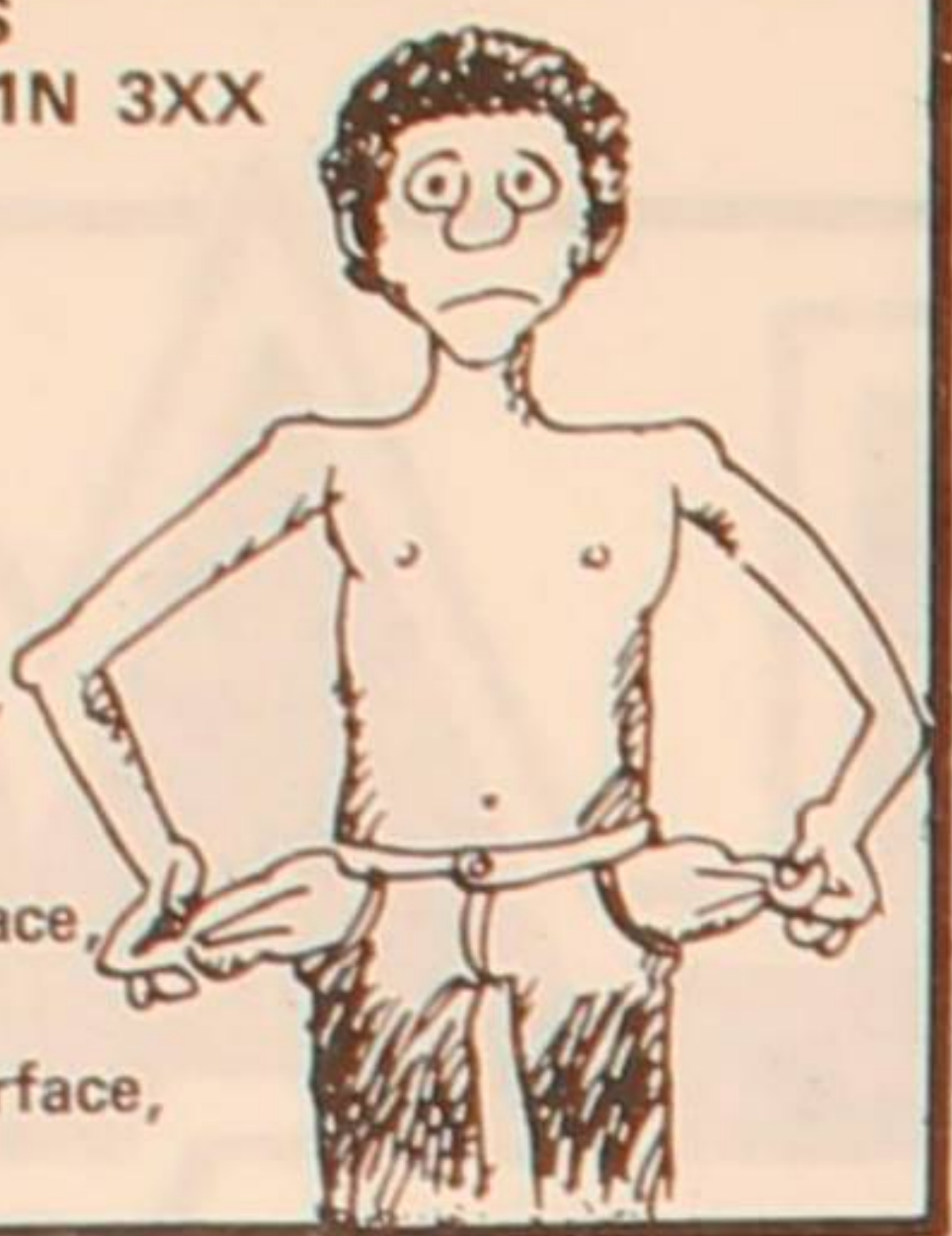
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Question & Answer on Anarchism

Q: Revolution means moving round to where you started, and this has been the fate of all revolutions — look at Russia. Wouldn't Anarchists do better by discarding the idea of revolutionism and considering altering life-styles and the abuse of the planet rather than clinging to the myth that the triumph of the workers can bring about utopi@?

A: In physics, revolution means turning round in full circle; in politics it means overthrowing a system. Don't confuse the two languages (when a Parliament is dissolved it doesn't just vanish into thin air, and when parties form a Coalition they don't coalesce!) That hasn't been the fate of *all* revolutions (Russia isn't the only one; France and America for instance were different after their revolutions from what they were before), but of course it is true that a vile regime makes a long lasting impression and it takes a lot to slough off years of tyranny during which people are educated to be submissive. The 'triumph of the workers' won't bring about 'utopia': but the point of a social revolution is that it can bring about the conditions in which people can discard the idea of governmentalism. Merely altering lifestyles — or being diverted into sideshows — won't get us away from repression while the economic system is unaltered and the power bases unchallenged.

Letter

Black Flag,

Thought I'd let you know an alarming National Front tactic. The NF up here seem to have adopted the @. All of the NF signs of walls now read ANF and some of the worst wall writings have incorporated the @ sign, e.g. 'The only problem with F@scism, is that there isn't enough of it.'

They are also wearing @ badges and generally confusing hell out of the Asian community up here. We have already had two very worrying incidents. The first was an anarchist being threatened and then having to fight only to discover that his assailant thought he was a fascist. The second was an anarchist being asked to leave his bedsit by his asian landlord because of posters in his room carrying the @ sign. Both of these situations were resolved, but the implications are very worrying. It is a very worrying situation to contact. So far we have contacted the Asian Youth Group who have agreed to circulate information about what is going on throughout the Asian community. The other answer is to try to keep ahead of them, graffittiwisely — a very difficult, energy draining task. I am well aware of fascist approaches to *Black Flag*, and I am becoming very alarmed by this new threat. Any suggestions that may help would be very welcome. No doubt other areas are having the same problem and feeling the same degree of anger and frustration. But we must find a way to stop this trend quickly.

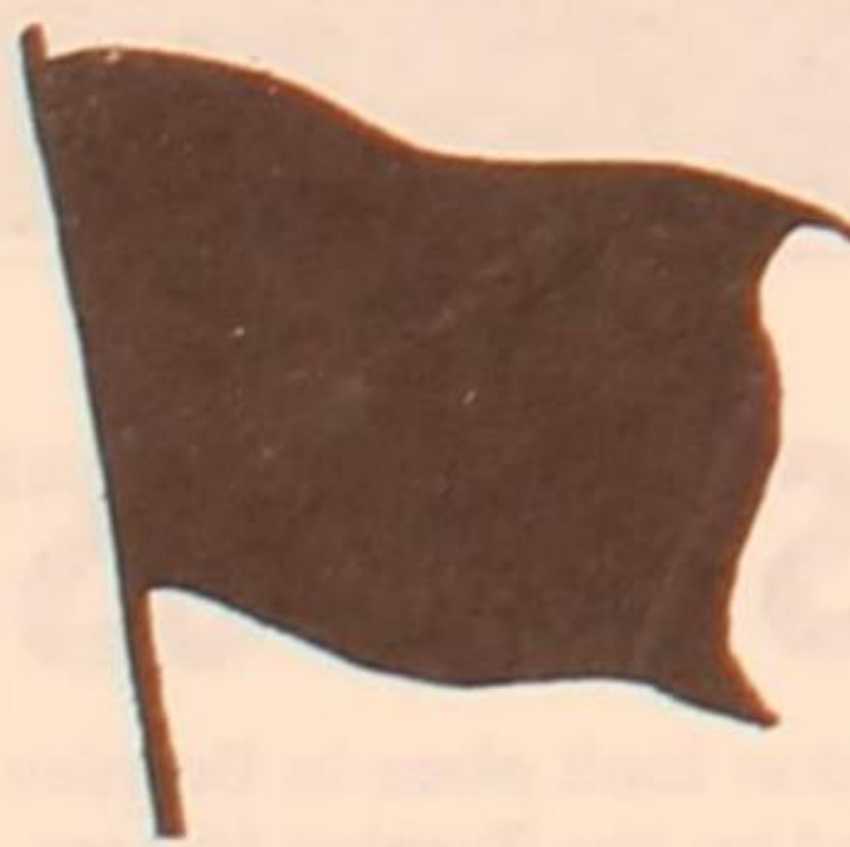
M@d Emma — Bradford.

HOW TO PAY:

Payments to *Black Flag* and for books, pamphlets etc. can be paid direct into our Giro a/c 58 552 4009.

For our Mutual Aid/Solidarity fund we have a separate account for the *Anarchist Black Cross* Giro a/c 51 172 0009

When paying by cheque please let us know what the cash is for and make the cheque out to either *Black Flag* or *Black Cross* (we can always switch part of the money over if it's for the other account but it's a bit confusing if you make the cheque out to *Black Flag/Black Cross* as several comrades are tending to do now. Admittedly that's the least of our problems. . .)



BLACK FLAG is sent free to prisoners.

Quay Co-op,
24 Sullivans Quay,
CORK, IRELAND.

Jura Books,
417 King Street,
Newtown, Sydney
2042.
AUSTRALIA

Red & Black, P.O.
Box 332, North Quay
4000,
AUSTRALIA

Collective Effort,
224 Gertrude Street,
Fitzroy 3065,
AUSTRALIA
A/S Jaap,
Hjelmstgt 3,
Oslo 3
NORWAY

Anares,
Muhle 28,
5270 Gummersbach 31
W. GERMANY

Het Fort Van Sjakoo,
Jodenbrees straat 24,
Amsterdam
NETHERLANDS.

Peoples Bookstore Inc.
458 W. Gilman Str.
Madison W1 53703
USA

Soil of Liberty,
P.O. Box 7056,
Powderhorn Station,
Minneapolis MN
55407
USA

SCM Book Room Inc
333 Bloor St West,
Toronto Ontario,
M5S 1W7,
CANADA

Librairie Alternative,
2033 Boulevard St.
Laurent,
Montreal, Quebec
32X 2T5
CANADA.

Spartacus Books,
311 West Hastings
Vancouver V6B
H6 BC
CANADA

Mushroom,
10 Heathcote Street,
NOTTINGHAM
108 Bookshop
108 Salisbury Road,
CARDIFF.
Peaceworks,
54 Wakefield Road,
ASPLEY, HUDDERS-
FIELD.

Public House,
21 Little Preston St.
BRIGHTON, SUSSEX
Books Upstairs,
Above the Grainstore,
Parchment Street,
WINCHESTER.
Boomtown Books,
167 King Street,
ABERDEEN.

Doorway,
18 Victoria Road,
NORTHAMPTON
NN1 2NQ.

Oakleaf Books,
109 Church Street,
Wolverton,
MILTON KEYNES.

Starry Plough,
6 Edmund St.,
BRADFORD.

Wedge,
13 High Street,
COVENTRY. WARKS.

Atticus,
43 Harman Street,
LIVERPOOL.

Red & Black,
120 Victoria Road,
Middlesborough,
CLEVELAND.

Independent Books,
341 Glossop Road,
SHEFFIELD 10

Durham Co-op,
14 Railway Street,
Langley Park,
CO. DURHAM.

INTERNATIONAL

Fifth Estate,
P.O. Box 02548,
Detroit, MI 48202.
USA

Bound Together Books,
1369 Haight Street,
San Francisco 94117
California
USA

Impossible Books,
c/o Autonomy Center,
3951 N. Ashland Ave.,
Chicago, Illinois
60613
USA

Editorial

Black Flag got an unusually high amount of mud slung its way this month via the so-called anarchist press.

In the latest issue of the *Sheffield Anarchist* (sic) it is revealed that *Black Flag* has been 'completely taken over by DAM' and that 'every member of the *Black Flag* Collective is a member of South London DAM'.

For the record, not every member of the BFC is a member of S. London DAM nor has BF been taken over by DAM. BF has an independent editorial team which is neither accountable to S. London DAM nor any part of DAM.

Meanwhile, over at *Freedom* (sic) we are told that they have 'done all that it humanly can. . . to create good relations with BF. They have been snotty and paranoid in return.'

For the record, the new *Freedom* Collective have done nothing to create good relations with BF (see the latest two issues of *Freedom*).

Those who wish to believe we are 'disgusting' 'un-comradely' 'snotty' and 'paranoid' are welcome to. Those with an open mind on the subject are welcome to meet us and help distribute BF every other Saturday at 121 Railton Rd, London SE24 (Tel 274-6655). The bookshop is open 12-4pm during winter.

WHERE TO GET BLACK FLAG

Below is a list of bookshops in England, Scotland and Wales, also internationally, where *BLACK FLAG* is available from:

Blackthorn Books,
70 High St.
LEICESTER.

Dreamberry Wine Books,
233 Maine Road,
MANCHESTER M14

Bookstall Services,
86 Abbey Street,
DERBY DE35Q

Full Marks,
110 Cheltenham Road,
BRISTOL 6

Grapevine, Unit 6,
25 Gwydir Street,
CAMBRIDGE CB1 2LG

Days of Hope,
115 Westgate,
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

EOA,
34 Cowley Road,
OXFORD.

First of May,
43 Candlemaker Row,
EDINBURGH EH1 2QB

Grassroots,
1 Newton Street,
Piccadilly,
MANCHESTER.

Just Books,
7 Winetavern Street,
BELFAST 1.

Neges,
31 Alexander Road,
SWANSEA.

News from Nowhere,
100 Whitechapel,
LIVERPOOL 1

October Books,
4 Onslow Road,
SOUTHAMPTON.

Single Step,
78a Penny Street,
LANCASTER LA1 1XN

Other Branch,
12 Gloucester St.,
Leamington.
WARKS.

Tuesday Club, 55
Thickerford Road,
Tonge Moor,
Bolton,
GREATER MANCHESTER

York Community Books,
73 Walmgate,
YORK

Websters Bookshop,
Whitgift Centre,
CROYDON.

Lark Lane Books,
82 Lark Lane,
LIVERPOOL 17

Hastings Free Press,
92 London Road,
St. Leonards on Sea,
HASTINGS.

Letter

Dear *Black Flag*,

The following is a description of our Day of Action on Dec 1st 1984 in Bedfordshire. During the morning of this day, just 8 members of the collective brought chaos to the heart of Bedford. After leafletting around the market, in butchers shops and in the local McDonalds junk-food outlet, two of us climbed up scaffolding on St. Peters Church to attach a 'Coal Not Dole' banner.

After this, we entered the local NIREX (Nuclear Industries Waste Disposal Executive: they want to dump killer waste south of Bedford and the local MP is all for it) Office replacing their free leaflets with ours. A smoke bomb was discharged as we left, causing considerable panic. This is the first act of direct action against NIREX so far in Bedford: in our interview with the *Bedfordshire Journal* the following week, *Anarchists Bid To Halt Waste Dump*, we made it clear that the proposed public enquiry into the Elstow dump is just a sham, delegating peoples power into the hands of the bureaucrats. Some members of the collective were arrested while others went on to smoke-bomb a Conservative Christmas Fayre in sympathy with miners children robbed of Christmas: they reduced it to a shambles, as a letter, *Don't 'plug' anarchists*, to the *Bedfordshire Journal* from the Young Conservatives Vice-Chairman confirmed.

The four of us arrested were detained for six hours in police custody 'helping with inquiries'. Police toilets were boycotted and a hunger strike declared to ensure we were not kept in over the week-end so a court-order to fingerprint and photograph us could be obtained. Police responses included illegally and forcefully measuring my height and shouting abuse, strip-searching Paul "because he might be carrying drugs" and threatening to charge us with criminal damage with an explosive device (carrying a minimum 1-year sentence) Only this morning (January 10th) were charges of breach of the peace pressed. A Bedford 4 Defence Committee has been set up to stress that our acts were an exercise in civil disobedience worthy of imitation in the community, not a "crime". We would be grateful for national support/publicity. The trial is at Bedford Magistrates Court on January 24th, 1985.

Yours for anarchy, peace and freedom,

P.N. Rogers, B@C

PS: We are now working towards the publication of our first issue of *The Mole: Organ of the Bedford Anarchist Collective*. It costs only 20p and a SAE sent to the address above.

Letter

Dear Friends of the BF Collective,

I read various numbers of yours and it was all good solid stuff! I enclose £12 for a year's combined subscription — I hope it helps.

Your faction @ction strip called 'Book Burning' was timely, for all us us involved in or witnessing the persecution of Savoy Books in Manchester. This was the organisation of Michael Butterworth & David Britton who ran the independent bookshops, 'Orbit Books' in Manchester and also a publishing company 'Savoy'. Using the loopholes in the Obscene Publications Act (as explained by Michael Moorcock in *Time Out* and elsewhere), James Anderton, Chief Pig of Greater Manchester, forced them to close. Meanwhile Mike and Dave were branded as 'pornographers' in the press — they were in fact in the tradition of 'New Worlds' magazine (which was also crushed by an establishment conspiracy).

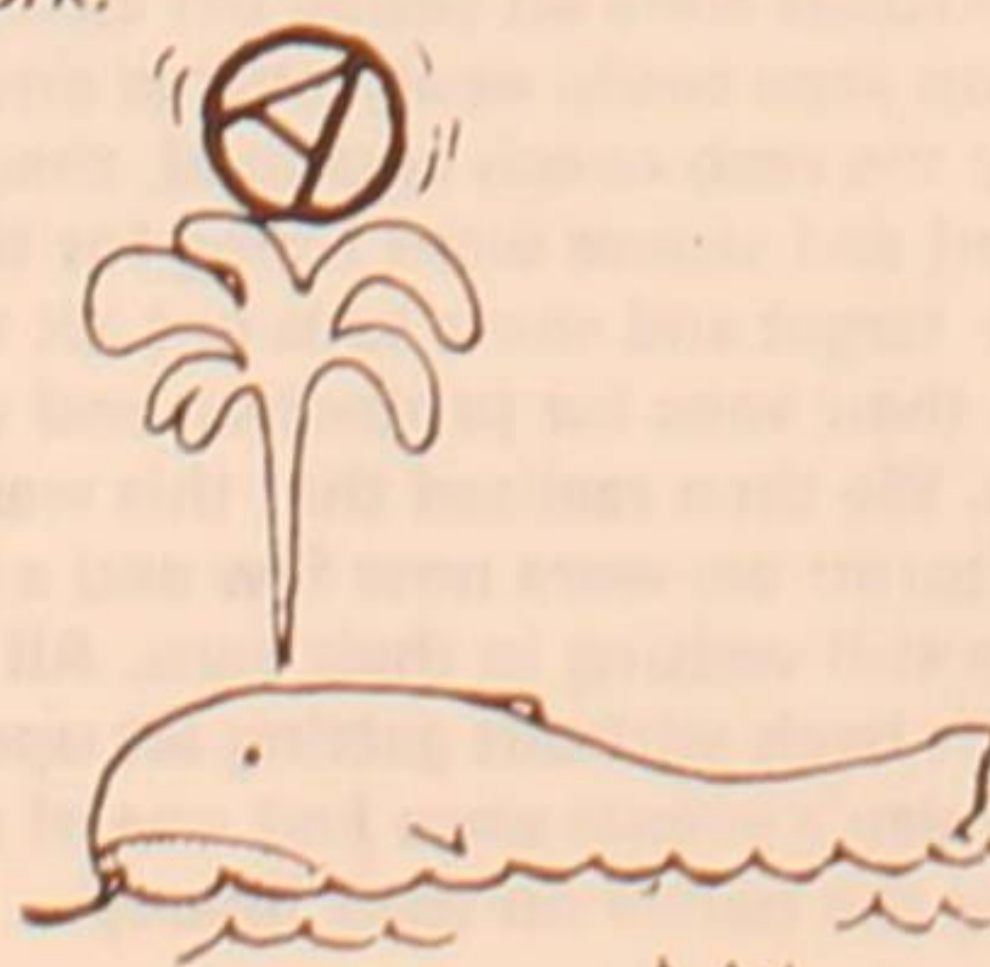
Through Savoy Publishing, they had reprinted works of Harlan Ellison, Charles Platt, Langdon Jones, M. John Harrison, Mike Moorcock and classic Henry Treece. For this, Dave was prosecuted under the Obscene Publications Act and the judge, a gross monkey of the establishment, gave him a 28 day sentence! (This is unheard of even for an actual pornographer, which Dave is not).

He ultimately served 19 days of this sentence in Strangeways, having to endure those conditions which led so many to suicide as an innocent and an aesthetically conscious man. He was released on 11th June 1982.

This is an object lesson in how reactionary incomprehension leads to persecution, or, fuck the state that tries to destroy us.

The works of Mike & Dave in publishing such 'speculative fiction' magazines as 'Corridor' and 'Wordworks' are most similar to those of Erich Muhsam and his 'KAINI' And Similar is the result! The whole sad history is excellently well set out in the Savoy publication 'Savoy Dreams'.

Best wishes,
M.T. Brown, York.



MINERS UPDATE

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MINERS UPDATE



A STRIKING MINER

I am being forced to choose between kids and community. I live in a dingy terrace in a dying valley where unemployment reaches 40%. I am fined £10 after taking a roll of wallpaper from Timberland. I have a life expectancy of 69, I have a good chance of accident and diseases. I am sliding down the razor blade of life, down the wages and job security league. In this strike I have seen Ireland move to Wales, seen police hurl bricks onto miners at Orgreave — more frightening than two pitfalls.

DEMOCRATIC REPRESENTATIVE

I earn more than £27,000. I lead a party which supports the House of Lords, Monarchy, Private Banks and Credit. A colony in Ireland. An Alliance based on nuclear technology private medicine and education. My party has closed many pits, sold plutonium to the USA, imported radioactive waste and dumped it at sea and inland. Approved Trident. Introduced prescription charges and interned people without trial.

Kinnockio

ASK AND THINK and avoid a centrally planned brain — think for yourself!

NO NOOSE IS BAD NOOSE



A SHIFT IN THE LIFE OF AN ASKERN PICKET

You have to be at the pit for about 3.30am because the two scabs not 5 or 8 as everybody will have you believe, arrive at 4am.

There are about 100 pigs spread about the pit at this point trying to stop pickets massing.

By now the flying convoys of pigs start coming through and they stop to see if the situation warrants them staying ie. more than 6 pickets, if not they will get whomever is about or go and beat somebody else up.

If there are enough pickets they will get whatever they can lay their hands on to make a barricade for when the convoy with the scabs arrives, then pour paint all over it for when the pigs try to move it.

When the TV arrive with their cameras the pigs do, their party act, they line up in nice little neat rows and do their quick step, that's the bit you see on TV news, not when they club hell out of you, or chuck petrol over the cabin the pickets have used from the start of the strike, set fire then make sure the TV and reporters say the pickets did it.

MASS PICKETING

Calls for mass picketing in Scotland were answered when over a thousand pickets converged on Monkton Colliery; the police (who heard about the action in advance) were also there in large numbers to block the roads and seal off local villages. As we go to press we hear of more mass picketing action in the pipeline but their locations are secret.

PICKETING LOSSES AND GAINS

Shirebrook Coal Depot — crucial, massive scabbing with continuous movement of coal stocks.

Didcot Power Station — AUEW members have stopped their boycott on the handling of new stocks of coal (transported by trucks in massive supplies). The station is now working to normal capacity.

Thames Valley Stations — low on fuel, some support already by power workers, and at Tilbury on January 21st with support demo in solidarity.

Aire Valley Power Stations — low on capacity, some close to being shut down

Power supplies are being stretched to their limit and there have been reports of brief power failures in many parts of the country. With the current freeze in weather the government is glad of the divisions forged by the scabs, but fears any initiative that will bring about a return of mass picketing at the power stations.

Over the past month or so the NUM leadership has noticeably adopted a low profile and this has been complemented by calls from certain mining areas for more involvement by the membership in the wider strategy making.

Some miners have been saying that if only 50% of all those not scabbing put all their efforts on picketing the power stations, a strategic two or three, there would be a good chance of power workers being persuaded — above the heads of their union bosses — to taken selective action.

At the moment many of the power plants are being picketed by support groups and sympathetic trade unionists, with a small number of NUM pickets. Where NUM picketing has been organised it has been at the pits in response to scabbing. In some areas though scabbing has reached its peak, in others there will be a steady trickle of scabs no matter what.

The picketing of scabs is a defensive action, as was the response to the seige conditions of the mining areas, and villages. As with the beginning of the strike the miners know that they have to return to the offensive — particularly the picketing (sometimes mass picketing) of power stations.

They also know that a winning strategy cannot afford to follow one course of action only, but must be backed up by other contingencies. Industrial action spreading to other key industries, brought about by rank and file organisation without TUC 'help', is another option still on the table.

The railway workers, for example, have the power — despite the threats of massive fines, sequestration, etc. — to bring about a victory for the miners, and speedily. Not with a pathetic 24 hour regional stoppage, but with selective action involving key workers (eg. signal operators), unofficial/wildcat in sympathy stoppages as some railway workers did in other regions on Jan. 17th. If the Courts become involved... bigger tactics.

POWER STATION PICKET

As we go to press we are told of a picket at Dungeness on January 28 called by Kent NUM and South East Region TUC. Coaches leave Kings Cross Station at 4am.

GENERAL STRIKE?

February 11 has been named as the day for regional rank and file congresses to work for. Yorkshire and Humber-side TUC has called for a regional 24 hour strike on that day. Other regions have been asked to support the initiative in the hope that the regional one day strike will then become a national one.

FITZWILLIAM 9

The police 'pincer movement' on the Fitzwilliam Hotel on July 9 of last year led to arrests, beatings and a recent trial (see last issue). The Magistrates Court criminalised those who defended themselves and have now taken them as hostages in the class war. Slogans such as 'free the prisoners' and 'Dimmock — community spy' (referring to 'Community' PC John Dimmock) adorn the walls of Fitzwilliam, and Hemsworth police station is now like a garrison.

Cards and letters can be sent to *Peter Hurst, No. 78282, HM Prison Armley, Leeds*. Donations to the support committee to help the relatives can be sent to: *Fitzwilliam (Kinsley & Hemsworth) Prisoners Aid Committee, c/o 4 Rockingham Street, Fitzwilliam, Pontefract, West Yorkshire*. (The Aid Committee say they 'intend to support any miner and anyone who has supported the miners strike in this locality').

PICKETS GET 5 & 2½ YEAR SENTENCES

A striking miner, Terence Finch, has been jailed for five years for a picketing offence (alleged Grievous Bodily Harm on a policeman). His mate, Chris Tazey got three years Youth custody and was convicted on the same offence.

Prosecution described how the policeman, PC Learmouth, was punched to the ground, kicked in the body and had his face stamped on. Both defendants were from Kent and had been picketing at Wivenhoe in Essex against coal imports when the incident is supposed to have occurred.

In another case eight miners and a farm worker each got 2½ years for arson. An 18 year old got sentenced to three years for his part: all those accused entered a plea of guilty.

The attack in question was made against Thompson Engineering of Pleasley Vale, Mansfield, when five coaches used to transport scabs past picket lines — were completely gutted after being petrolled and set alight. The premises of the firm were also damaged, with total costs at £35,000. All the miners involved came from the Shirebrook Colliery.



TERRY FRENCH... jailed for five years

ONE LAW FOR THEM, ANOTHER FOR US OR ARE THEY JUST ABOVE THE LAW

Miners, on strike for months and finding their families starving but knowing that if they give up their whole community will be endangered, finding that some of their former colleagues and friends who see only that they are safe for the time being and might as well make hay while the sun shines, sometimes resort to violence when they are harassed by the police, moved in on the scene in force to prevent picketing.

This is condemned as wicked by Mrs Thatcher and denounced by the media, which sensationalises all such acts. It generally seems to be agreed that violence is totally unjustified even if the kiddies are going short at Christmas.

Sir Clive Sinclair, multi-millionaire boss of the biggest computer makers in Britain, went for a drink at Cambridge and found Mr Christopher Curry there — he's the millionaire boss of Acorn computers and a former employee of Sir Clive's, whose advertisements have been knocking Sinclair Computers. Sir Clive, an adviser of Mrs Thatcher, rushed at Mr Curry, beat him up and tried to push one of her adverts down his throat. Their sycophants joined in the fray. No police were seen and no proceedings taken: the pub landlord said tactfully that both were valued customers. Neither of them were short of a few bob at xmas.

Sid Vincent, in his sixties, not in good health, flew off to Tenerife with his companion Joan Hodgkinson. After the strain of the year — both are divorced, and he is at the centre of the Lancashire mining strike — why not?

The entire media, of course, ganged up on him, following them to Tenerife, tracking them around (and getting virtuously surprised when duffed up by the burly miner) and putting the worse possible construction on it ('while the miners are starving, he basks in the sun'), getting quotes from scabs to make the story stick.

Yet he made it quite clear than Joan Hodgkinson is paying for the holiday. Would there have been any fuss if the sex roles were reversed and she was the striker? The journalists may be trendy and liberated on their own ground but the veneer soon sloughs off when they get to reporting.

Conservative thinking is that anti-Tory feeling is 'motivated by envy of the rich' but envy by the rich is much more frequent.



ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS PRISONERS LIST

incomplete

Below is an updated list of libertarians at the moment imprisoned throughout the world. We urge all comrades and friends to show their solidarity by writing directly to them or by sending money for them to the Anarchist Black Cross.

CANADA

JOHN ABBOT
Matsqui Pen, Box 2500,
Abbotsford, B.C. V.28.,
4P.3., Canada.
KEN DEYARMOND,
c/o K. Deyarmond Defence,
Committee, P.O. Box 6326,
Station 'A', Toronto,
Ontario, Canada.
BRENT TAYLOR, ANN
HANSEN, DOUG STEW-
ART, JULIE BELMAS
and GERRY HANNAH
(THE VANCOUVER 5),
c/o The Vancouver 5
Defense Group, P.O.
Box 48296, Bentall
Station, Vancouver, B.C.
Canada V.7.X. 1.A.1.

ENGLAND

EDDIE HORNER (008),
H.M. Prison, Hedon Road,
Hull, North Humberside
H.U.9 5L.5.
HARRY MURRAY (D84584)
H.M. Prison Old Elvet,
Durham D.H.1 3.H.U.
WAYNE HALFORD
(K25356), H.M. Prison
Walton, 65 Horby Rd.,
Liverpool L.9.3 D.F.
FRANCE
MICHEL NOURY
(213699 C305), 17
Rue de l'abbaye,
78303, Passy, France.
HELYETTE BESS
132 50/c D112,
9 Avenue des Peupliers,
91705 Fleury-Merogis,
France.

GREECE

D. MELETIS,
Klisti Filafi Kerkiras,
(Kerkira Prison)
Corfu, Greece.

IRELAND

NOEL MURRAY,
Limerick Gaol, County
Limerick, Ireland.
MARIE MURRAY,
Limerick Gaol, County
Limerick, Ireland.
PATRICK FAGIN
(3683), Arbour Hill
Prison, Arbour Hill,
Dublin 7, Ireland.

ITALY

WILLY PIROCK,
Via Andria 300, (BA)
70059 Trani, Italy.
(Italian Anarchist Black
Cross - Not Prisoner)
Maria Grazia Scoppetta,
C.P. 14021,
20140 Milano, Italy.

JAPAN

K. OMORI,
c/o Akiyoshi Ito,
Sakae So 203, Iwakura-
Agura, Sakyo, Kyoto,
Japan.

SPAIN

Carabanchel Prison:
Apartado de Correos
27007, Madrid 280-
25, Spain.
ALVARO ALVARO
DEL RIO.
Arrested 1979 Sentence
23 years.
GUILLERMO MARIN
GAITAN. Arrested
24.1.83. On Remand.
JOSEP DIGON BALAG-
UER. Arrested 24.1.83.
On Remand.
SOTERO DEL CAMPO
BAZ. Arrested 24.1.83.
On Remand.
ARMANDO GARCIA
PONS. On Remand.

JAVIER CLARAMUNT
CICERA. On Remand.
JOSE M. VIEITES ARCAS.
Arrested 13.2.80
(Barcelona). Sentenced to
16 years.

Segovia Prison, Apartado
de Correos 113,
40080, Segovia, Spain.

FIDEL MANRIQUE
GARRIDO. Arrested
1.5.78 (Valladolid).
Sentence 32 yrs. CNT
member.

JOSE HERNANDEZ
TAPIAS

Caso E.R.A.T. Sent-
ence 30 years.
GABRIEL BOTIFOLL
GOMEZ. Caso E.R.A.
T. (Armed Revolution-
ary Workers Organisat-
ion). Sentence 30 yrs.
MANUEL NOGALES
TORO. Caso E.R.A.T.
Sentence 30 years.
RAFAEL SIMON
GOMEZ. Arrested
3.2.78 (Valencia)
Sentence 11 years.
GUILLERMO GOREN-
ZO TREVINO. Arrest-
ed 14.2.80 (Barcelona)
Sentence 12 years.
FRANCISCO MEDIAN
HERNANDEZ. Arrest-
ed 14.2.80 (Barcelona).
Sentence 10 years.

Modelo Prison Barcel-
ona, Apartado Oficial
de Correos 20, Barcelona,
Spain.

JUAN MANUEL
FERNANDEZ ASENSIO
Arrested 23.3.81.
Sentence 19 years
CNT member.

FRANCISCO NICOL-
AS GARRIDO. Arrest-
ed 1.8.79. Tried
3.5.82. Sentence 43yrs.

JORGE GIL SALVADOR
Arrested 20.5.81.
Tried 10.2.83. Sent-
ence 4 yrs 5 months.
MANUEL CRUZ
CABALEIRA. Caso
E.R.A.T.
FRANCISCO JAVIER
CANADAS GASCON,
Sentence 17 yrs -
Caso Scala.

Lerida I. Lerida, Spain.

ARTURO PALMA
SEGURA. Arrested
16.1.78. Tried 1.12.80.
Sentence 17 yrs. CNT
member. Caso Scala.

Lerida II, Apartado
Oficial de Correos 426,
Lerida II Lerida, Spain.

MIGUEL MULET
NICOLAU. Arrested
1.8.79 (Barcelona).
Tried 3.5.82. Sentence
31 yrs. CNT member.

JOSE GRANADOS
MARTINEZ.
Arrested 1.8.79 (Bar-
celona). Tried 3.5.82.
Sentence 31 yrs. CNT
member.

Las Palmas (Canary
Islands), Salto del
Negro, Tafiia Alta,
Las Palmas de Gran
Canaria, Spain.

GUILLERMO RODRI-
GUEZ LOPEZ.
Valencia Women's
Prison, Carcel Valencia de
Mujeres, Valencia, Spain.

MARIA LUISA
ALVARO DEL RIO
Arrested 1979. Sentence
10 yrs.

Murcia Prison, Murcia,
Spain.

FERNANDO GARCIA
MORALES
Arrested 3.2.78 (Val-
encia). Sentence 11yrs.

Puerto de Santa Maria
Prison, Carretera Jerez-
Rota, Km.6 (Prison),
Puerto de Santa Maria
(Cadiz) Spain.

JOSE RAMON CORNEJO
SANCHEZ
(Imprisoned through
previous convictions).
Tried 16.11.82. Senten-
ce 4yrs and 8 months.
PEDRO GARCIA PENA.
Sentence 20yrs.

USA

KATHY AIKMAN
(43886), Box 3400,
Women's Center,
Goodyear, Arizona
85338, USA.

ELAINE ANTONE
(47573), Box 3400,
Women's Center,
Goodyear, Arizona
85338, USA.

STEVE LAYTON,
H-Unit, P.O. Box 1000,
Marion, Illinois, USA
62959.

LARRY W. GIDDINGS
(10917-086), P.O.
Box 1000, Leavenworth,
Kansas 66048, U.S.A.
JOHN BOSCH (253269),
P.O. Box 520, Walla
Walla, Washington
99362, U.S.A.

STEVE SIWEK,
(Mecc.) 2-B-10, 18701 Old
Highway 66, Pacific, MO
630664-9799, U.S.A.

WEST GERMANY
HORST STOWASSER,
Postfach 2602, 6330
Wetzlar-Lahn, W.
Germany.

OTHERS

(details unavailable)

KOMBOA ERVIN
(last known address -
Leavenworth, Kansas.)

MICKY KLOEKNER &
BENNY HAERLIN
(Prison address not
known; please write to
Radikal, c/o WOZ
[Zietungskooperative]
CH 8042 Zurich,
Switzerland).

GIUESSEPE RUZZA &
DELFINA STEFANUTO
(Italy - details unknown).



England

COLIN ROACH 2 YEARS ON

Sixty people attended a picket of Stoke Newington police station on January 12 from 4 till 6pm to protest the police cover up since Colin Roach was shot inside Stoke Newington Police Station on Jan 12 2 years ago. The inquest by Coroner Douglas Chambers cleared the police of any responsibility. Police harassment of the Roach family members and their home, their friends and supporters included interrogations, assaults, £3,000 in fines, 100 arrests, 8 Black youths framed and failed. Cirus Noor, one of those imprisoned was systematically attacked, eventually being certified in January spending months, heavily sedated in the hospital wing of Wandsworth prison under threat of transfer to a mental hospital at Home Secretary discretion. Cirus Noor c/o B63620, HMP Wandsworth, Heathfield Road, London SW18. Ace Kelly, a defence campaign activist is currently on trial (3 charges have since been thrown out of court) before Magistrate James Jobling at Old Street Magistrates Court on January 31. Stoke Newington & Hackney Defence Campaign, 380 Old Old Street, London EC1. Tel: 01-739 8549.

FAIRPLAY FOR SPG

Fairplay, the racist vigilante group that is really an NF front, was directly responsible for bringing the SPG to Lambeth. Members of Fairplay were instrumental in petitioning the Lambeth Police Consultative Committee - chaired by 'Red Ted' Knight - that gave their blessing to bringing back the Special Patrol Group onto the streets of South London.

Of course the SPG has been around all the time. Over the past two years they have been renamed and re-organised variously as the Instant Response Units, the District Support Units, etc. . . Their members (some constant, others new) continued their operations within the units, the reintroduction of the term SPG being merely a recognition that their aggressive image associated with their name needs to be restored to maintain a high profile on the streets.

The concerned 'residents' of Clapham and Stockwell who turned to the police against a spate of muggings & burglaries referred to themselves later as a Residents' Defence Association. A box number used by the Stockwell group was later shown to be the same one used by the Fairplay group, who have direct connections with National Front activists in Bethnal Green, East London.

Fairplay have threatened force if families are evicted for causing or prompting racial harassment. This is also NF policy (they said they'd smash up any home of any white family thus evicted so as to make it uninhabitable for any potential black family).

Spain

SPANISH PRISONERS UPDATE

We were recently informed that Spanish anarchist Raimond Soler Sugranyes has been released from Carabanchel prison (Madrid) while awaiting trial. Jordi Sole Sugranyes, an ex-anarchist militant, has also been released from Modelo prison (Barcelona) after all charges against him arising from his alleged activities in the M.I.L. (Iberian Libertarian Movement) were dropped.

Anarchists remaining in Carabanchel have requested us to send them cassette tapes by the following groups: Dire Straits, Pink Floyd, Eric Clapton, Janis Joplin, Who, Rolling Stones, Beatles, Rory Gallagher, Tina Turner, Led Zeppelin, Queen, Lou Reed, Patty Smith, etc.

Those wishing to send tapes can do so via us or directly to: Guillermo Marin Gaitan, Apartado de Correos No. 27007, Madrid 28080, Spain.

WONDERFUL WORLD OF AUTHORITY

Recent examples of Law & Order round the world include the following: In Iran a jealous husband blinded his wife. It seems there was no suggestion that she had been 'unfaithful' in any way. The Ayo-dalek therefore confirmed the sentence passed by the Islamic court, and was sentenced to be blinded by the wife. The understandably angry wife has chosen a pair of scissors for the task. Meanwhile in sunny Uruguay people are paying the price of 'violence'. The authorities are now sending people bills for short stays in prison, during which they are usually beaten up, or tortured, and are certainly not fed gourmet foods. Naturally if you do not pay your bill for expenses incurred by the State (regardless of whether you were actually found guilty of anything the bailiffs will be round, or you may find yourself back inside. Marxists of course, also have a keen sense of justice. Should you try to desert from the Afghan Army, and the authorities prove unable to lay their hands on you, it is entirely within the law for them to jail your family instead and naturally when life is hard, the prisons have to be even harder...it is vital to maintain Law & Order.

MURRAYS Ireland

We've just heard that a court date for the Conjugal Rights hearing has been provisionally set for February 7th in the High Court. It's unclear whether this hearing is a preliminary to the hoped for European Court hearing, or whether it's instead of.

ABC



Greece

KORIDALLOS REVOLT

A major revolt broke out in Koridallos prison (Athens) on 23rd November, 1984 when prisoners there found out that a Greek actor had been released having only served one month in jail for attempting to murder his mistress.

640 prisoners, many of whom had served over a year in jail for relatively minor offences, managed to stage their protest on the roof of the prison until anti-riot police were allowed to invade the prison and brutally repress the peaceful demonstration.

Many prisoners received beatings and some were transferred to other prisons including the notorious Kerkira prison (Corfu) where anarchist militant D. Melitis is currently being held. 2 prisoners preferred to slash their wrists rather than be transferred to other prisons and are now on hunger strike in the hospital wing of Koridallos.

We are also sad to report that Photis Danatos has been re-arrested but we have no details at the moment.

Letters of protest to: The Greek Embassy,
1A Holland Park, London W.11.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS INTERNATIONAL

ARGENTINA

We reproduce below a letter sent to C.R.I.F.A. (the Anarchist International) from Anarchist militants in Rosario, Argentina at the end of last year. We hope it will be of interest to our readers. Those wishing to get in contact with the group or wishing to send them any literature should write to: Grupo Distribuidor "Impulso" Sarmiento 4694, 2000 Rosario ARGENTINA.

Dear CRIFA,

We became aware of your wish to hear from us and to be informed about the political and social situation here through your recent circular. We have responded by sending this letter and hope we can establish contact between us.

We are distributors of libertarian literature, or should we say that we started out with the idea of distribution, in order to make libertarian ideas more widely known. Once we had secured our premises, other ideas took shape and were added to the first. We saw the possibility of staging meetings, debates, of starting a libertarian library, a documentation centre and other activities (trying to forge links with the neighbourhood).

Organisation became complex and so various problems arose: correspondence, maintenance, finances etc. Our workload increased at the same time.

As a result of this process the following activities have been adopted: a) the staging of two public meetings consisting of a talk, a debate and lunch. V. Garcia's book *Bakunin Today* was discussed at the first meeting, followed by an exhibition by G. Guevara about the life of Bakunin which sparked off a rich debate. Our premises full of people (at first as well as the second meeting), Professor A. Capelletti spoke about 'Soviet Capitalism' at the second meeting after which followed the customary debate.

b) Other meetings of a political nature have been staged on an internal level, and benefitting from the presence of A. Capelletti in Rosario.

c) The founding of a library and documentation Centre. If possible, can you send us all types of libertarian literature for our documentation centre.

d) The distribution of libertarian literature: various publications have been distributed: *La Protesta* newspaper, *Comunidad* magazine, *Reconstruir* magazine, pamphlets published by various anarchist groups (FORA-AIT, FLA, Anarchist student groups, etc), libertarian books, etc.

e) Correspondence: We are working to achieve effective communication between anarchist groups from inside and outside the country.

f) Maintenance: we are improving our premises by obtaining the necessary materials.

g) Finances: despite the lack of finance we haven't yet lost money.

As you can see, our work has been modest although we are aware that we can expand with ingenuity and effort. You should also take into account the fact that our group is still young and only about a year old, (it started at the beginning of 1984).

On the other hand, we've got lots of projects in the pipeline. Our major problem is economic. We would like to know how to obtain it. We can send you libertarian literature or information about the economic or social situation here. We are at your disposal and hope to hear from you soon.

Fraternal greetings,

From the members of Grupo Distribuidor 'IMPULSO'.

USA

MICKEY MOUSE DEAL

Workers at Disneyland, California, were forced to accept a two year wage freeze and a return to work after a 3 week strike, involving five unions representing ticket sellers, ride operators, warehouse workers, etc — 45% of them part time. The unions in the meantime have filed an \$18m law suit against park officials who made citizens' arrests of six strikers who defied a court order against picketing near ticket booths.

SOURCE: *Industrial Worker*.

Anyone who thinks we shouldn't protest at the deliberate misrepresentation of anarchism by the media (and those who think pillorying journalists, who hate being exposed to the derision of printers who are bribed to purvey their rubbish, is unfair), may ponder at a recent classic example by President Reagan.

Denouncing the bombings of US abortion clinics 'in the strongest possible terms' he referred to the perpetrators as 'anarchists'. Not, be it noted, 'fascists' which was nearer the mark (he wouldn't would he?). Interesting that Reagan's strongest term is 'anarchism' and also that he could hardly denounce them for what they actually were, Christian Fundamentalists and patriots of precisely his own brand, just a bit impatient — old-style Southern Vigilante-wise — with waiting for 'the bureaucrats in Washington' to catch up with the values it professes.

HONG KONG

The Hong Kong comrades we met in Venice later spent another week in Italy visiting comrades in Milan, Turin, Carrara, Florence and Rome. Mok and Man Yee returned to Hong Kong at the beginning of October. Quo continued to tour Europe visiting comrades in Austria, Switzerland, France, Holland etc. Quo returned to Hong Kong two weeks ago.

Mok writes: 'Right now we are starting work on the film which we shot in Italy. We are working on the editing and the script and hopefully in 6 months' time it would be ready. The narration of the film will be in Chinese and we hope that there will be a copy with English subtitles and another one with Italian subtitles. We anticipate that the film will last for about an hour or so'. The film contains an interview with BLACK FLAG.

Quo and his band, the Blackbird, are now working on a local tour — initially it is planned to last seven days with seven evening concerts at different community/youth centres.

'China and Britain have formally signed an agreement about the future of Hong Kong, that HK will be returned to China in 1997 and HK will stay capitalist until 2047! During the transitional period between now and 1997, the British administration in Hong Kong is 'democratising' the government in Hong Kong and there will be indirectly elected representatives to the legislature in Hong Kong. There is much talk about elections in HK now. And there shall be elections in March 1985 and 1986. Our performance of the play 'The Election' has been an attempt to expose the exercise as a sham,' our comrades write 'you probably have a lot more experience with elections and we shall be very grateful if you can send us 'anti-election' posters, brochures, stickers, leaflets etc. as soon as possible. We may publish them together or use them in other ways.'

Mok Chiu Yu & Quo da-lin

USA

Anarchist carried gun for 'defense'

By Tim Reiterman
Examiner staff writer

The gun-packing anarchist arrested outside Sen. Gary Hart's hotel says he brought the pistol to San Francisco for self-defense against dope addicts and muggers.

"When I go to what I consider a dangerous place, such as a large American city, I believe it is my right to be able to protect myself," Robert Carlson of Arcata said in an interview at the County Jail.

Carlson, a 25-year-old Humboldt State University student, was arrested outside the St. Francis Hotel yesterday after a Secret Service agent found a loaded gun in his pack. After questioning, he was turned over to city police and booked on charges of carrying a concealed weapon and carrying a loaded gun.

Carlson said he came to San Francisco to attend a series of demonstrations against the Democratic convention. He participated in everything from peace rallies to a march through the Financial District, he said.

"Realizing it is against the law, I don't normally carry it (the gun) to demonstrations," he said. "I left it with people I was staying with."

The soft-spoken veteran of anti-nuclear protests said he brought his gun to Union Square yesterday afternoon. He had stashed most of his belongings in a locker at the Greyhound bus depot and planned to take the next bus home, he said.

The large numbers of police near the hotel attracted him to the barricaded area, he said. "I thought there was a demonstration I might be able to take part in."

Then a man — who turned out to be an agent — bumped against Carl-



ANARCHIST ROBERT CARLSON
'Personal security blanket'

son's runner's waist pack and evidently felt an object inside.

"About 30 seconds later, I felt someone goosing me," the student said. "I thought it was a pickpocket. He said, 'Police!' I let him go through the pack. He saw the gun in there and threw me down."

Told he had been arrested not far from where Sara Jane Moore fired a shot at President Gerald Ford on Sept. 22, 1975, Carlson acted surprised. "That same hotel?" he asked. "Oh, my God. Oh, no. I'm not that up on the Bay Area."

San Francisco Examiner

In New York a gun-carrying traveller on the underground shot three would-be muggers, paralysing one for life. He has been hailed as a great national hero and thousands of dollars contributed to his defence.

But in San Francisco, another guy carrying a gun — who didn't use it and only had it in his pocket — is jailed without anyone coming to his defence.

The gun lobby in USA has prevented guns from becoming as illegal as they are in England. Thousands do carry guns for self defence and for increasingly necessary reasons. Robert Carlson, of Arcata, is under arrest because he is an Anarchist, and the media sensationalises the 'outrageous' image they have created, pointing out that 'he had been arrested not far from where Sara Jane Moore fired a shot at President Gerald Ford — on Sept 22 1975!

BELGIUM

NATO HQ BOMBED

The left underground group, Cellules Communistes Combattantes (CCC), have claimed responsibility for a car bomb attack at NATO HQ in Brussels.

The bomb exploded on January 15th in the early hours of the morning. There were no injuries (as with all previous CCC claimed attacks). Considerable damage was reported to office buildings and parked vehicles. CCC has carried out attacks in the recent past on a variety of targets, including multi-nationals involved in militarism, the NATO pipeline, and political part premises.

W. GERMANY

RAF (Red Army Fraction) prisoners in W. Germany are still continuing with their hunger strike (now in its sixth week). Christian Klar is close to death and relatives of 39 RAF, June 2nd Movement, etc prisoners taking part believe that the State has no intention whatsoever of intervening but will allow all 39 to die if need be.

In our previous issue we referred to a RAF communique sent to us which outlined the prisoners' demands and urged other anti-state and/or class struggle prisoners to organise across national boundaries in solidarity. The RAF have already formed a prisoners union and hope to encourage comrades elsewhere to follow suit. We repeat our offer to act as a 'clearing house' for any prisoner who wishes to correspond with other prisoners or organise to form an international union.

Meanwhile letters of support to Klar can be sent to him at Hohenasperg prison hospital, Stuttgart. Force-feeding is now taking place and the W. German authorities are threatening to impose a news blackout, a press censorship and a ban on all RAF support activity — as well as a block on all visits to the prisoners by friends and relatives — if there are any actions done in support of those taking part in the strike.

NEW ZEALAND

There were hundreds involved in riots in Auckland's Queen Street early in December with police being attacked and damage and looting reckoned at \$NZ500,000. It followed police intervention during a rock concert at Aotea Square.

According to police, they went in to stop 'hooliganism' and were met with flying glass, bottles and rocks; afterwards 63 stores were smashed in and looted.

The assistant commissioner of police said the police presence at the concert was intended to be a 'low profile' operation and he blamed the large consumption of alcohol and drugs — but Police Minister Mrs Hercus said it showed 'hostility to the police by rioters' and she 'accepted that the antagonism shown against the police was a result of the 1981 Springbok tour violence'.
SOURCE: NZ News UK.

USA

How many cops does it take to ruin your day?

Since April of 1984 there have been nearly 700 political arrests in San Francisco. The trials of 39 defendants who are maintaining that they did nothing illegal in marching on the Hall of Justice on the last day of the Democratic National Convention began on October 15, 9am. Cases against almost 120 others arrested during Convention Week have either been dropped or discharged as weak and/or illegal. Considering the adverse publicity that the San Franciscan Police Department has been subjected to lately, stemming from the 'sex party' scandal to the raid on Lord Jim's, the pressure is on the cops and the courts to show that they still have control and that this control is legal. Regardless of the outcomes of the remaining 39 criminal cases, our legal team will be filing a civil suit on our behalf against the City and County of San Francisco for abridging the First Amendment 'rights' of all protesters during the Convention. Funds are desperately needed to help with the suit (the legal team is not being paid for their invaluable services). Make cheques payable to: Gary Marcus. For more information and legal updates write to: 'Defence, P.O. Box 40400, San Francisco USA 94140.

The idea of Stop Business as Usual, or War Chest Tours, came about in San Francisco about two years ago. Similar to the London Stop the City actions, they are disruptive actions aimed at multi-national corporations that fund and control the governments, wars, economy and our everyday lives.

There have been 8 such protests in S.F. (some more of a success than others), and one successful action in Dallas, Texas during the Republican Convention in August 1984.

April 30th, 1985 has been chosen as a day to try out an internationally based series of actions starting at 12 noon. Whatever city or town you may find yourself in the world its an autonomous action time, time to research the targets such as military financiers and expose them, if possible to damage their property.

FEEDBACK

LETTER

Dear Black Flag,

In the Question and Answer on Anarchism about the police in a recent issue you didn't answer the question which, like it or not, is a very important one to most people. Unless you can say something realistic, you can't blame people for thinking you're advocating the nightmare 'free for all' scenario of Anarchy as chaos pushed by our enemies.

Last week a friend from the south was discussing the miners strike, and commented on the fact that a nearby village had told the police to stay away and they would 'police the village themselves'. My friend thought this outrageous. I think he under-estimates the working class.

There were a few nasty characters about in the 1981 uprisings (as in the present strike), there were some nasty incidents. If you're saying that revolution will 'purge the human spirit' and make us all perfect you might as well tell us to join the moonies.

There are two areas under 'policing' that people find important, or so it seems to me. First is investigation, for instance, if a body is found there is an autopsy to find the cause of death, an inquest etc. to establish circumstances and so on. In short, there needs to be some way of investigating a 'crime' or whatever.

Second, people need to be able to call on assistance from time to time if something happens, for example, at a recent open air carnival, a group of drunken dead-heads were hassling people; one guy pulled a knife. Fortunately there were people organised for security reasons who instantly moved in and sorted the situation out (these were anarchists).

You might say such things are rare, and play a minor part of today's 'policing'. Then of course there's the whole question of 'justice' which follows. However, these are real questions that have to be dealt with. A vague, academic cop-out won't do. Communities, if self-managed will no doubt develop means of 'policing' themselves, but there's no reason not to think about this now.

A.H.

REPLY: Many people put a second meaning on the verb 'to police' which is not justified. Nobody would do this in the countries where the police have come out openly in their role as a conspiracy against the people. In criminal Statist regimes no one thinks police are any sort of defence against assault or such defence as being of a police nature.

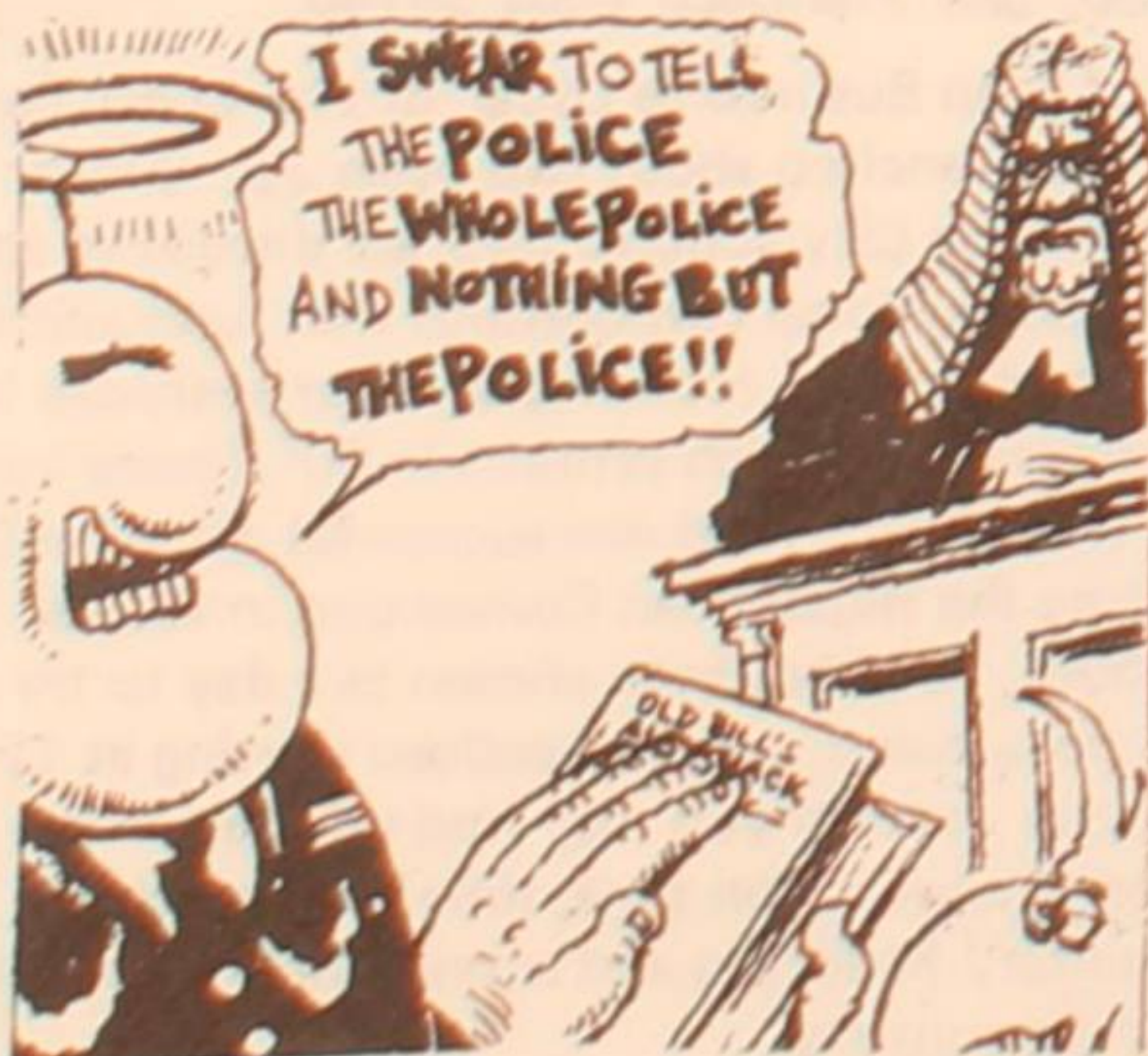
The police in this country, as the Army, do occasionally do some useful duties, but these aren't 'policing' any more than (say) flood or earthquake relief is militaristic. A mother doesn't 'police' the kids though some teachers may.

The miners saying they would 'police the village themselves' certainly didn't mean to say they would act as a Mafia taking protection money from people who didn't want to be assaulted - that is policing - what they meant to say was they would run the village themselves and the police would keep out.

People organising for security reasons aren't doing a police job, which is a job directed from above, but the world has got to such a state of Big Brotherhood that it feels defenceless without the watchful eye of the police and it takes the moves to a criminal Statism to open their eyes to the fact that the police are not there to protect them but to repress them; and that they not only have to fight them but to dispense with what was thought their necessity.

We only have to look back in history to see that before the introduction of the police about 150 years ago - a move fiercely resisted by the people and imposed on them (the City of London, then not synonymous with Big Business, fought it so hard that in the end it had to be appeased with having its own force under its control, which it retains to this day) - investigation, inquests, assistance, and mutual protection were carried out, on a municipal basis, slowly eroded by police encroachment since.

The old municipality has given way to municipal and now central government; in municipal anarchy - operating on the basis of workers control and community participation - we would go back to the former system, before the Peel transformation, with a new direction.



SMASH SEXUAL HARASSMENT, RAPE & SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN. An information pack for men compiled by Sheffield Men Against Sexual Harassment. £1. Includes articles on Sexual Harassment at Work, Questionnaire on Rape; What to do if someone you know has been raped; Men in Public Places; Sexual Abuse of Children and more. Available from SMASH, c/o Lifespan, Dunford Bridge, Sheffield S30 6TG. We hope to do a more indepth review of this pamphlet in the near future.

WORKERS SOLIDARITY No. 3 January 1985. 20p Articles on Anarchism & Violence; Hypocrisy & Childbirth; workers power; A woman's Right to Work; Miners Fight on; Help the Gardia - Beat Yourself Up; Hospital Staff Sacked and more. Available from WSM, P.O. Box 1528, Dublin 8, Ireland.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Doug Stewart (one of the Vancouver 5) has been transferred to Kent Prison, Box 2000, Agassiz, B.C. Canada V.O.M. 1A.O.

NOTTINGHAM ANARCHIST CONFERENCE

Nottingham Anarchist Group are holding a Get Together Conference on the weekend of the 2nd and 3rd of February at the Queens Walk Community Centre in the Meadows Area of the city from 10am to 5pm on the Saturday and Sunday. There will also be a gig on the Thursday night (£3.50 waged, £2.50 unwaged) and a social on Saturday evening.

Accommodation will be provided if necessary, but please tell them how many are coming if you need it. There will also be food, a creche and disabled access. All welcome. For more information write to: Nottingham Anarchist Group, Box A, Mushroom Books, Heathcote Street, Nottingham.

Also a Direct Action Movement member of the group wants to meet any local contacts interested.

SNOW - Squatters Network of Walworth (& Southwark) has moved up the road to 362 Old Kent Road, London SE1. Office open Monday, Wednesday & Friday 4-7pm Tel 701 5804. Their new premises needs volunteers and materials for repairs.

HUDDERSFIELD DAM can now be contacted at: Old Stewards House, Northgate, Huddersfield HD1 1RL and not at the old 'Peaceworks' address.

