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GCHQ
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EXORCISM



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**REVOLUTIONARY
 ANARCHIST PAPER**

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EDUCISM

REVOLUTIONARY
ANARCHIST PAPER

GCHQ REVISITED...

In the outrage over the Government 'disenfranchising' the white collar secret police auxiliaries at GCHQ one official secret remained a mystery - why on earth had they done it? Theories about American pressure probably had a grain of truth, but seemed unlikely as the only explanation (quite apart from being obvious products of rabid left nationalism). Talk about this being the thin end of the wedge in de-unionising the civil service and the public sector were obvious nonsense. The government didn't merely fail to make political capital out of the affair along these lines, it bent over backwards to insist it was untrue. Their actions throughout were hardly those of a body taking the first step in a co-ordinated campaign.

UNION REVEALS ALL??

A more convincing explanation was given to a playmate by a CPSA union bureaucrat. Apparently the Government had been anxious to counter civil service disaffection over low pay in institutions like GCHQ - the importance of keeping the loyalty of a crucial part of their planning for war was obvious. They decided they would do this by raising their wages significantly. However since they had no intention of extending this benefit to those state employees merely engaged in servicing British capitalism this meant separating the GCHQ workers from the national negotiating machinery. Far from wishing to de-unionise them the government wanted them to have their own union in the form of a staff association, which would then negotiate the pay rises.

FOREIGN OFFICE FOUL UP!

So much for theory - the Foreign Office then proceeded to comprehensively bollocks the whole thing up, assisted by some 'banana-skin' sabotage by First Division civil serv-

ants (the only effective industrial action during the whole affair).

SILENCE IS GOLDEN

If this is true it will be interesting to see how long they wait for the dust to settle before instituting the second half of the plan. It is in any case interesting to note that while this explanation was believed to be true by the leaderships of all the unions involved, not a word emerged about it in all the verbiage about 'the attack on our democratic rights'.

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This article was reprinted from WORKERS' PLAYTIME, June 1984.

THE POLICE BILL

On the following page we reprint a leaflet on the Police Bill originally distributed by the London Autonomists.

It deals bluntly with the consequences of an increase in police powers and of the existence of the police force itself!

The abuse of their powers that we have seen in the current miners' dispute gives us a taste of what is to come. Their role as the front line shock troops in the states relentless war on the working class leaves us in no doubt that we should oppose not just the increase in their power but any power used against us. We feel that this leaflet more than clarifies our position.

We should stress that it is not just the police we oppose with the implication that their abolition (which would anyway be impractical under capitalism) would improve our lot. They are merely an instrument of a system long overdue for abolition itself.

THE BLUE RINSE STARTS TO RUN

SOME PEOPLE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE POLICE MADE MORE ACCOUNTABLE, MORE 'DEMOCRATIC'. OUR ATTITUDE IS A LITTLE SIMPLER. WE HATE THEM.

All politicians, of whatever party, are united in their desire for a strong police force. Despite some feeble criticisms they are always end up congratulating them for a 'good job done'. But when the police are portrayed as kindly and supportive, we know the reality is far different. Arrogant, brutal, repressive: we have every reason to see the law as an occupying force on our streets. And we have every right to deal with them as such.

Ever since they were set up in the middle of the last century, the police have been at the forefront in the efforts to control the working class. By protecting the wealthy from attack they have forced crime back into our own ranks. The true meaning of law and order is for us to vent our anger on each other instead of letting the rich and privileged take the full brunt of our instinctive class hatred. Racism and petty crime amongst people who should be fighting side by side, together with the shadowy control wielded by organised criminals over their won communities all add up to the old game of divide and rule. Whether knowingly supported or not, this policy is backed by every one of our so-called representatives.

With the collapse of the welfare state the leftist fantasy of 'policing by consent' becomes more absurd every day. The attacks on our already pitiful living standards can only be made when backed by the strong arm of the law. It may be smashing up workers' picket lines and occupations, the onslaught against unauthorised gatherings of the young and unemployed, or raids into our housing estates and homes. How can we 'consent' to this? Only the cosseted middle class can pretend this doesn't happen - and that it won't happen on an ever wider scale.

We say that the Police Bill merely legalises what is already common practice on our streets. The Police Bill is a blatant threat to the working class. 'Our' rulers are telling us that should we step out of line in any way they deem, they will set the full fury of the police on to us. And these are early days yet. What other repressive laws are they going to come up with as the crisis bites even deeper? These new provisions are preparations that they are making for a stormy future. If we are serious we must make ours without delay and get ready to meet them on our terrain, the streets.

By looking at the Police Bill in a wider social context, we can see that it is designed to meet a more violent class response to the deepening crisis in our cities. By making legal provision for area saturation policing, this shows that their concern is not only the control of individuals, but also the quelling of the first signs of urban revolt. They want to drive us off the streets and back into an isolated existence locked up in our own homes, pursuing a sterile privatised lifestyle, never questioning the system as it crumbles around us. They will not tolerate any life outside those activities they organise and control.

But there is an answer: 1981 destroyed the myth of police invincibility. For a week the whole establishment was rocked to its foundations as town after town exploded with our reply to class society. Despite their shortcomings, these events marked the change from mere defensive reflexes to an offensive against the system. They set the tone for the future. The ruling class knows that. So do we. Let us get down to business.

"...bringing the police into the trade union movement could help avoid the situation where a remote and bureaucratic police force is so alienated from the people that it ceases to be an instrument of protection and instead becomes an instrument of oppression..."

This piece of drivel was in Peter Hain's introduction to book 'Policing the Police'.

THE MINERS STRIKE

the reclaim of the law

How is it that the Labour Party and the left are always in the driving seat of any campaign that seems to be against increasing police powers? The answer is so obvious that you could easily overlook it. When they're out of office, the Labour Party desperately needs to jump on whatever bandwagon will help it recruit new members and more importantly catch votes in the next general election. This is nothing new. They've been at it for years: the People's March for Jobs, the Anti-Nazi League, Rock Against Racism. Each time they are squeezed dry and cynically discarded. This process can be seen working very smoothly with the peace movement as they protest about the very Weapons that the labour government brought into the country in the first place. And how many campaigns was Benn involved in when he was a minister?

Given the Labour Party's opposition to the Police Bill, let's have a look at their past achievements in the field of law and order: The Prevention of Terrorism Act, arming the police with riot equipment (the shields were first used at Lewisham in 1977), strengthening elite units like the SPG. When in office the Labour Party has given the police every ounce of its support as they smash down those who fight back outside the cosy confines of their rigged publicity stunts. Are we meant to believe that some miraculous change of heart has taken place? Or are they going to continue in the spirit of Eric Heffer M.P. when as police were routed on the streets in 1981 he said, 'Rioters and looters must be punished with all due severity.'

When they talk about 'policing by consent' this is because they recognise that consent has to be created in the first place. The police on their own cannot do this. They need the help of social workers, teachers, community leaders. Oozing socialist sincerity, these soft cops try to make us accept our alienation as a natural part of everyday life. These new welfare state gentry have the nerve to think that they can lead us in struggle. In the inner cities they make up the left establishment; running the councils, forming police committees and whatever they say, their true role lies in diverting our anger into the most irrelevant community schemes and projects, trying to make us embittered individuals feel closer to the system that divides and isolates us. The contempt with which we treat them in the political arena is only one face of the hostility we show them in the 'caring, sharing, socialist network.'

For the extreme left, their adventures into electoral politics have been a devastating disappointment and have only resulted in a series of lost deposits. They are now generally united in the belief that their progress is dependant on the electoral success of the Labour party, despite its shortcomings ('vote labour without illusions'). Worming their way into the labyrinth of party committees, they hope to develop an alternative leadership within the party. As workers' discontent and distrust with the traditional leadership grows, they want to neutralise it by feeding it back into the Labour Party machinery and dissipating it in support for left-wing caucuses. Being part of an established institution, such as the Labour Party, and at the same time part of the militant left is not a contradiction. It's just a question of tactics. When it comes down to it, the extreme left has no intention of abolishing the police force. They merely want to give these 'workers in blue' the opportunity to obey the instructions of their own political gang. If they got to power we would have the same social fabric, with a socialist police force kicking our heads in with their socialist boots.

Although these different groupings are often in fierce competition, reformist and 'revolutionary' alike seek to ride to power on the back of our struggle. So they must try to control that struggle right from the start. We are the cannon fodder for their 'tactical advantages' to be safely put away in prison when no longer needed.

We have no need of these parasites. They leap from issue to issue, holding those ready to put up a real fight and recruiting the more gullible amongst us. We've got to fight on our own terms, and let these vote cadgers wander in the wilderness of their own impotence.

THE MINERS' STRIKE

As we write this issue of the paper, we read and hear of 'progress' in the negotiations between Scargill and MacGregor. It looks as if a deal might be made. Whose back is the hatchet going to be buried in? The miners' - of course! For Scargill, the fight is already lost. His position and power, as a politician and union leader, depends on his having the full support of all the miners. This he has obviously not got (i.e. Notts and Lancs). Having failed to gain this support, he cannot afford to lose this strike - as the combination of defeat and division would destroy his career. Hedging his bets he has opted for negotiation which WILL result in 'compromise' (pit closures!) and a defeat - albeit heavily enough disguised to save Scargill's position - £26,000 a year and expenses.

This cannot be allowed to happen. The miners have been struggling too long to accept defeat at the hands of their own leaders! They should know their friends and recognize their enemies! No negotiations and no compromise! No leaders, no sell outs, no defeat! The fight is just beginning!

On the following pages we carry two articles. The first criticises the actions and attitudes of some miners which we consider weakens the miners' cause and endangers the success of the strike. The second is a leaflet, produced by the North West Anarchist Federation (of which we are members). This leaflet has been distributed throughout the North West - from Burnley to Liverpool to Manchester to Stoke.

A MINER PROBLEM

Recently, women in Silverdale set up a support group to offer practical help to miners in struggle and spread propaganda on their behalf. This is a positive move that should be encouraged for building solidarity and spreading the strike. But strangely enough it was a small group of miners who did their best to undermine this progress.

At a meeting at Keele a couple of weeks ago, arranged by the support group, some miners ran riot, damaging union facilities and molesting women students - to the point of imprisoning two of them in their rooms and reducing them to tears.

Whereas working class contempt for the arrogance and elitism that tends to characterise many students is understandable, such behaviour is not. It is shameful and inexcusable. Many students, including many women at Keele have worked hard to help the

miners; collecting money and food; distributing propaganda; supporting marches and rallies; and making accommodation available to flying pickets at the risk of being kicked out themselves. Their reward? Intimidation, humiliation and assault! Victory to the miners is not guaranteed, nor is it likely unless they gain solidarity with others presently outside the struggle. We all take enough shit from the state to give us more than enough in common to unite, and we should be throwing it back at them - not at each other.

The kind of sexism displayed by some of the miners at Keele is one of the most subtle and successful weapons used to divide us in order to defeat us.

DON'T PLAY INTO THEIR HANDS!

Acknowledge your friends and TOGETHER we can win!



THE FIGHT IS JUST BEGINNING...



The media is trying to convince us that this strike is doomed, but the evidence around us shows this to be a lie! Their portrayal of Lancashire and Nottinghamshire SCABS as heroes should leave us in no doubt as to who's side they are on. In reality throughout the country support for the strike is growing, confrontations with the state (ie. the police) are becoming larger and more ferocious, this is why the media is lying! THE STATE IS SCARED SHITLESS! Not for what the strike is, but for what it may become!

Ultimately the state will use any weapon it can to prevent the strike from spreading, to isolate and defeat it, using as we have seen:-

TACTICS OF FORCE

The police have been used against the miners on an unprecedented scale, one miner was led to comment: "Police operations while the Yorkshire Ripper was at large were like a vicars tea-party compared to this. Our crime is that we want to save the coal industry." The abuse of the Pass Laws to restrict movement; reports of agent provocateurs; massive phone tapping operations and army personal on picket line duty shows us what we are up against.

TACTICS OF STARVATION

The starvation tactics being implemented through the D.H.S.S. shows us that the whole machinery of the state is being used against the workers and reveals that the Welfare State is not for our welfare, but for the welfare of our rulers. The state exists no matter which party is in power, the laws it makes always reflect the interests of our rulers. The reforms it implements are not out of concern for the working class but only to pacify us, to maintain the stability of the capitalist system. The Welfare State exists because without it the working class would take back the wealth it created in the first place, it would disposses our parasitic rulers. (In Britain, 7% of the population owns 84% of the wealth!).

WARGAMES

Some years ago the D.H.S.S. conducted a 'wargame' where all benefit payments in a certain area were interrupted. The reason for this rather sick little 'game' was to see how long it would take before moneyless people became desperate and ransacked their local supermarkets. The answer was three weeks, a

result which must have worried our rulers but is highly encouraging to us: it shows that they can not control us so easily! The class struggle takes place in many forms, and anything that hits back at our exploiters whilst serving the interests of the working class is a step forward in that struggle!

TACTICS OF DIVISION

Divisions which exist in the working class are exploited and manipulated by CAPITALISM. To some extent the divisions that are used to divide the class (by region and by trade as well as: skilled/unskilled; employed/unemployed; waged/unwaged - e.g. housewives; male/female; black/white; gay/straight; student/non-student, etc.) are overcome by united class action, where the working class recognises their common interest and power in struggling together to defeat capitalism's policy of DIVIDE AND RULE.

Sexism on the picket lines serves only to alienate women from the strike when, in fact, they have an equal interest in this struggle being won and could be playing an important role in ensuring that it is won, either by striking for themselves if they are employed, or by joining the picket lines. Even now when the media attempted to get Nottinghamshire miners wives involved in anti-strike protests, miner's wives from Kent travelled up to Leicester to counter the demonstration. In Doncaster, Yorkshire women picketed the coal board offices where clerical workers continued to work during the dispute. Women and unemployed should be involved in picketing. Power stations, shipyards, steelworks and local industry should be picketed, since the most effective action they can take is to join the strike not just in sympathy, but by choosing this moment to take up their own demands.

AGAINST THE UNITED FORCES OF THE STATE,
ONLY THE UNITED WORKING CLASS CAN WIN!!

NO COMPROMISES!

Trade unions help to keep the working class divided. Workers are constantly being betrayed by their union leaders. This is because the unions are founded on the belief that you can arrive at a compromise between the interests of capitalism and those of the workers. The union leader's job is to sell these compromises to the members and to avoid strikes whenever possible. Compromise has

always benefitted the capitalists rather than the workers, but today the crises in capitalism means that satisfactory compromise is no longer viable, the path of compromise is that of defeat! The overtime ban was called to

'put pressure' on the NCB to negotiate, and Scargill continues to call on the NCB to come to the negotiating table. The bosses do not want to negotiate with the working class, they simply want to smash us! In return we should make it clear that we are not prepared to negotiate or compromise. We should boldly declare that the power of the working class will FORCE the bosses to give in to ALL our demands!

INTERNATIONAL CLASS STRUGGLE

Trade unions help maintain divisions not only in trades and skill but also by nation. Scargill talking about the "Industrial Battle of Britain" and calls for import controls only serve to alienate and injure foreign workers who have the same interest in overthrowing capitalism (whether it be the state monopoly capitalism of the East or the mixed economy capitalism of the West) as we do.

Recently in Europe we have seen many examples of mass strikes. In Asturias, Spain there has been a complete shut down of wage labour due to a response to threatened pit closures. Workers went way beyond the unions erecting barricades against the police and continuing the strike beyond the union time limit. Construction workers in Madrid joined the miners and blocked the roads with bricks, cement and plaster. In France steel workers have covered roads with coils of metal whilst in some areas they have pulled up the railway tracks. In Toulon a union controlled job centre was trashed and in Metz a local 'socialist' party headquarters was attacked though not burnt down as the Poles had done to similar establishments in Poland in 1970.

Even as we write we hear that 20000 BMW workers in West Germany have come out on strike in solidarity with German steel workers and against the directives of their unions. THIS IS THE WAY FORWARD! Bypass the union

bureaucracy and forge links directly with other workers. Cross trade boundaries and form joint strike committees to unify demands and coordinate the struggle for

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM

Socialism has nothing to do with the oppressive state capitalist regimes of eastern Europe nor has it anything to do with nationalistic policies of Labour. Nationalization is just another way of organising capitalism, we see no difference between being exploited by private entrepreneurs or by faceless state bureaucrats. Either way we get screwed whilst the unions play the role of pimps negotiating the rates.

Struggles we have outlined and more show us the hatred of the rules of the capitalist system, people are sick and tired of playing pawns in a world wide monopoly game, a game which profits only a small minority and leads to wars, governments, armies, police, poverty, suffering and alienation. Real socialism means an end to all this, an end to the money/market/wages system and the beginning of a world where production is organised to meet peoples needs by the people themselves. No more empty houses and homeless people, no more food mountains and starvation, an end to the so called 'logic' of capitalism! But more than this, SOCIALISM is an end to division, exploitation and oppression where the individual is sold bought or exchanged on the market as a commodity. SOCIALISM means that the full creative potential of every individual is realised and released for the common good of humanity as a whole, where individual fulfilment supercedes the oppressive desire for personal profit and gain. The power to create socialism is in your hands.....it is the power of the INTERNATIONAL WORKING CLASS!

**NORTH WEST
ANARCHIST
FEDERATION**

contact :-

CARELESS TALK

C/O P. FOURIER
THE HAWTHORNS
KLELE VILLAGE



SUBVERTISEMENTS

CARELESS TALK is a group of Revolutionary Anarchists and Libertarian Communists based in Newcastle and Stoke-on-Trent.

We meet together regularly to produce leaflets, the paper and discuss politics. We also hold regular discussion meetings. If you would like to come to one of our meetings either drop us a line, or listen to Radio Stoke's Daily Diary.

We welcome visitors at our meetings.

CARELESS TALK is part of the North West Anarchist Federation. Membership of our group is based on general agreement with the Aims and Principles of NWAFF, which are set out elsewhere in this paper, AND a willingness to work with the group.

SUBVERTISEMENT ... SUBVERTISEMENT

WORKERS PLAYTIME 'popular yarns of the class war'. June 1984 issue, contains articles on the Miners' Strike, Drug Addiction, Class Struggle in Europe, the Lebanon, all for 30p plus 12½p postage from the Careless Talk address.

INTERCOM 'revolutionary discussion journal'. Issue 5 contains articles Gays and the Left, revolutionary organisation, Socialism and money and more.

INTERCOM 4 contains articles on revolutionary organisation, Lenin, socialism and money, the war in Chad. They cost 30p each, plus 20½p postage.

The North West Anarchist Federation also has groups in: Crewe, Liverpool, Manchester, Burnley, Bolton, Thameside. If you want information about any of these groups, or about NWAFF, write to the Secretariat, c/o LDAG, 82 Lark Lane, Liverpool 17.

The next NWAFF conference is to be held on June 30th at Manchester University Students' Union. Further details available from the Secretariat.

OTHER ADDRESSES... OTHER ADDRESSES

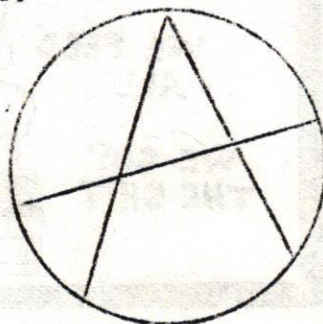
Workers Playtime c/o 84b Whitechapel High Street, London E1.

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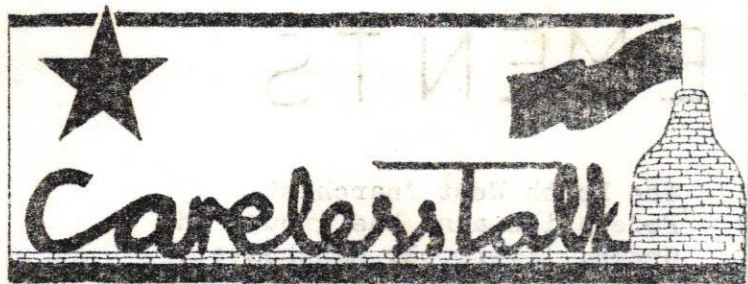
SPLAT! Collective c/o 9b Fore Street, Redruth, Cornwall.

Wildcat, c/o Autonomy Centre, 8-10 Gt Ancoats St., Manchester 4. Wildcat produce a number of pamphlets - on the Labour party, the SWP and recent industrial struggles, all available by writing to their address.

SUBVERTISEMENT....SUBVERTISEMENT.... The latest issue of SPLAT! contains articles on Greenham Common, CND and the miners' strike. It costs 30p plus 12½p postage from their address.

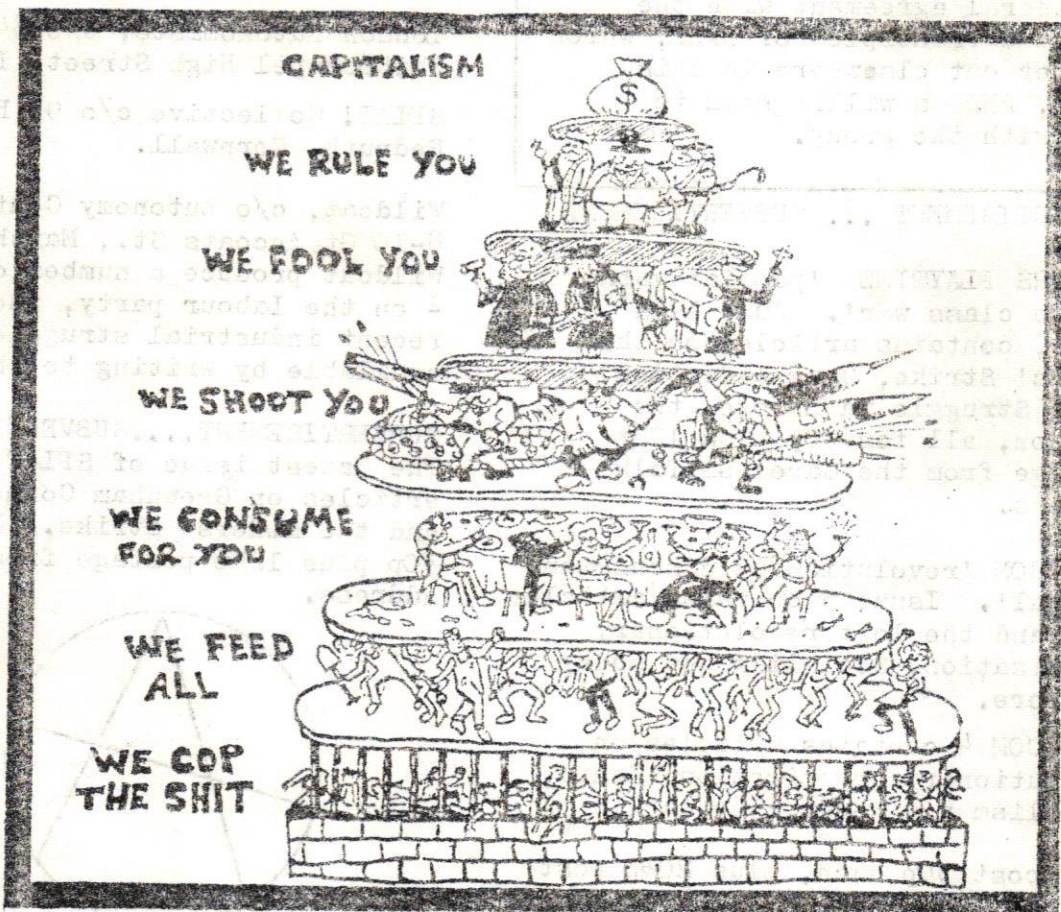


printed and published by CARELESS TALK, c/o W. Smith, 14 Elliot Street, Newcastle, Staffs.



POSTER

CAPITALISM



IF VOTING COULD CHANGE
THE SYSTEM IT WOULD BE
ILLEGAL.