This month marks the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Cable Street, which succeeded in physically stopping a march by Moseley's Blackshirts through London's East End. On October the 4th, 1936, thousands of working class people took to the streets with "they shall not pass" as their slogan. Despite the back-peddling of Communist Party officials and the massive police protection for the Blackshirts, the anti-fascist mobilisation was a victory. The uniformed fascist march was driven out of the East End by the furious community. The Battle of Cable Street was only one incident in the fight against fascism, which must be continued right now. If we refuse the responsibility of confronting fascism now, then sooner or later we will be facing a large organised fascist movement in Britain.

Several different fascist organisations are now active in Britain - the National Front, the British National Party, and the British Movement are the main ones. They all believe in a far-right type of extreme nationalism, supporting Hitler to the point of using the extreme anti-semitic and anti-Semitic. In the 1970s they presented themselves as "responsible" patriots calling for the repatriation of Blacks and Asians. They were having considerable success at electioneering until they were confronted and chased off the streets by the Anti-Nazi League.

So what are these Nazis up to today? In the '80s they have changed tactics, believing it futile to participate in elections. The National Front is now committed to what it calls "repressive nationalism" led by violent "political soldiers" thugs. Their main activities are beating up or pre-bombing the National Front and Blacks. Jewish communities are also at the receiving end of fascist terror.

It must be stressed that groups like the NF are not only racist but also fascist which is reflected in their choice of targets. Besides ethnic minorities they target Troops Out marches, lesbians and gays, women's centres, anti-nuclear campaigns, etc.

The fascists are now trying to cash in on the frustration of white working class youth in Thatcher's Britain in order to recruit more thugs. They organise in football grounds - it is well documented that the NF are behind many of the worst incidents of football violence. Throughout the last year they have been leafleting schools and urging the school kids to organise NF cells.

In order to recruit people their ideology needs a certain degree of radicalism. They claim to support the working class (white of course) against the excesses of multinational capitalism - but to them it's okay to be exploited by British bosses (try telling that to the Silentnight strikers and many others). Their ideology is hypocrisy is confirmed by their claims that the spiritual values of the white race can only be preserved by a return to a medieval rural lifestyle - guess who would be the lords of the manor? However, the main thrust of their recruiting propaganda is still based on racist slogans such as "British jobs for British people".

TERRORISM

Fascists in Britain have now adopted the "strategy of tension" like many of their counterparts abroad. This is merely terrorism under another name. It means causing as much terror as possible and whipping up hatred against anyone they don't like to destabilise society and so create the conditions for a fascist take-over.

This fascist groups in Britain have links with racist terror groups abroad like the Armed Revolutionary Nuclei (ARN) in Italy. These armed bullys boys were responsible for the Bologna railway station bombing in 1980 which killed 85 innocent people (this was part of a fascist "strategy of tension" in Italy). As reported in "Direct Action" no. 21, members of the NAR escaped to London after the bombing outrage where they live freely, and have made links with British fascists.

The NF has also been trying to get in on the violence in Northern Ireland by supporting loyalist paramilitarism and appearing on loyalist marches and rallies. This has been moreso with the current backlash against the Anglo-Irish agreement. They will no doubt use this experience as part of their "strategy of tension" ideas.

A community defending itself against fascist attacks

Now is the time to put a stop to the fascist threat before it grows larger. But it is no good appealing to the state to do it. There are known links between fascist organisations and elements in the military and police, and the state will fall back on fascism if necessary. Similarly, reporting racist attacks to the police is a waste of time as racism is rife in the police force. The usual response is "there is no evidence to suggest that there was a racial motive behind this attack".

Fascism must be stopped by the mass action of the working class. It will not be stopped by a few liberal vicars verbally condemning it. It is our responsibility to challenge it by whatever means are necessary - by anti-fascist propaganda and education as well as physical opposition. It must be smashed wherever it raises its ugly head from the gutter. Fascist marches must be stopped by counter-demonstrations, fascist meetings must be disrupted and their paper sellers must not be allowed to peddle their evil filth.

Hitler once said "only one thing could have stopped our movement, that is if our adversaries had smashed our nucleus from the very beginning". This is what we must achieve.
Equal Pay for Equal Work

Warehouse workers at Yorkshire Imperial Plastics in Leeds walked out in protest at management’s back door tactics and attempt to deploy new workers at lower rates of pay.

The dispute began when management announced new rates for warehouse workers at a lower grade pay. The pay grade was in a way below the grade of work and binding but management twisted their way around it by employing 2 women at a lower rate and then later fired them on the so-called "C-grade" and would be paid £3.53 per week more than the male workers on the "G-grade" of pay. Management claimed they would not be doing less work. Workers rejected this, saying that in practice women were doing more work as them and pointed out that the new management had bought the firm’s Wesham warehouse where women workers earned 20% less at lower pay rates. No doubt Mr. Lord had been sent to Leeds to cut wages by introducing the same system there.

Things came to a head when workers refused to train the women - management tried to force all workers to train them - they too refused and were suspended. The whole warehouse staff walked out at this point that the women discovered that they were being employed at lower pay rates. Management it seems did not think it was worth the effort and decided to get rid of them. The women joined the strike and they too were suspended.

The strike lasted about a week, affecing all workers. Company drivers showed their solidarity by refusing to deliver goods. Initial negotiations broke down but now workers have gone back awaiting the findings of ACAS arbitration. Strikers showed their determination to get satisfaction - "we’ll stay out as long as it takes!" The striker said; let’s hope that their determination is rewarded.

Workers clearly saw the dispute as a matter of principle as well as economics. "We would be doing the same job as the men, and would be paid more and that’s not on! By defending the women’s right to be paid equal wages it is the other workers who defend their own wages. It is a common tactics throughout the world for the bosses to employ women workers at lower rates of pay. So called equal pay acts seem to do nothing against their underground dealing; only our collective strength as the working class can safeguard against the bosses’ attacks on our pay and conditions.

ACID CLOUD CURFEW

On the night of Wednesday 24th of September a thick white cloud spread menacingly over the Clifton area of Manchester. All on the soils was surrounded by heavily populated work - places, it meant industrial areas, dyestuffs, principally for cloth, but also for food and pharmaceuticals.

The leak occurred at approximately 1am. When the gland had been opened in a nearby empty tank broke, releasing Oleum (super-concentrated sulphuric acid). It immediately cast a cloud of fumes, the company claim that only 20 gallons of acid was lost, yet this was enough to blanket over 5 square miles dyestuffs, principally for cloth, but also for food and pharmaceuticals.

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"At the time the leak was discovered no alert was given to local residents - presumably so that the incident could be covered up if possible!"

The emergency services were informed and advice was given. The firemen with their chemical vehicles moved into the area. The cloud drifted westwards over large areas of Manchester. It was declared safe when the wind died away. The leak was tackled by the workers' emergency services as well and was sealed up by 9:45pm, about the same time that the first police vehicles started to tour the affected areas telling people to remain indoors. 19 people were taken to hospital suffering the burning effects of the gas, including 8 police drivers, 1 bus inspector and 9 children.

This, however, is not an isolated incident. Residents have been complaining about the smell of fumes from chemical plants for years. Sitting chemical firms in the middle of residential areas has a long term damaging effect on the environment and health of the local population (the once heavily industrialized North West has the country's worst health figure).

The local population are of course workers. The local government does little from such firms except dangerous and often low paid jobs, while those that make the most profits from these industries live well outside town in rich and pleasant areas.

The miners’ strike

Ever since the miners Strike (during which the Tories and their media used the miners in struggle) many of the "kills" have been made. This time's strike, NAMT's refusal to hold a national ballot. Since the first 1984 national ballot and the so-called "left" have been failing over themselves to adapt to the Conserva- tive government's move to the right.

Needless to say, the ruling class’ idea of union democracy has little in common with "working class democracy". The miners argue, and the so-called "left" have been falling over themselves to adapt to the Conserva- tive government’s move to the right.

No other union has entered into the Tory ballot spirit quite as whole-|

SOLIDARITY

It has always been the right of workers in struggle against capitalist demands to support from their fellow workers. What real gains our miners have ever achieved, has been brought about through some workers putting their own interests above those of their class before their own individual, short-term interests. THIS IS SOLIDARITY.

It is obvious from what has happened on the railways where the TUC/Labour Party are leading us. Workers are only going to work for a few days (for their jobs, living standards, etc) when union leaders allow them to, and then only after a ballot. Unofficial action will be the only course for workers, and that action will be illegal. This is the situation throughout Northern Europe now. The massive general strike in Denmark last month was completely unofficial and declared illegal.

Under Tory, Labour or Alliance the eco- nomic storm will rage on. The workers who will be the ruling class’ attacks on jobs and living standards. We will get nowhere in our struggle against the attacks if we throw away working class principles of collective aid and solidarity.

DAM Railworkers.
Capitalist Workers?

The Gas Board claim that privatisation will give employees more say in the running of the company. Here we show this to be nothing more than a con-trick.

Privatisation is one of the bogeys of the "keepem up" left, and with much justification. For the deplorable "country-Syndicalists are concerned with not maintaining the status quo; they are out to create a new economic order but rather that people should have real and direct control over their workplaces and society. The whole point of privatisation schemes have made a point of encouraging employees to buy shares. In an aspect of privatisation that we should ridicule this was sold as another bold move in that all the so-called "industrial democracy" has long been fashionable across quite a wide part of the parliamentary political spectrum.

Such notions throw up a direct challenge to the Gas Board's devotion to promoting a degree of control and just rewards for workers within the existing industrial structure. As long as workers themselves become capitalists, they benefit from company profits and shares in the company's failures. Also as shareholders they are not just passively influenced, but actively influence the strategy of the company.

GAS THE GOVERNMENT

The next company to be privatised is British Gas. In anticipation of this event, Britain's private industrialist and failed British Gas PLC (Public Limited Company). A private limited company is the company founded by 'Cuddy Collins' the ad-man hired J.R. the world's most famous cynical capitalist. But we must remember they are still workers even if they are to rise. The workers are often as keen as the bosses in stressing the employee ownership share option, but it is not worth taking advantage of the the free and matching offers.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Of course it sounds very good, free shares, discount shares, priority status, it is basically to benefit all of the company. And there is the novelty value of the stock exchange, but at the end of the day these are the same old promises that every socialist employee has in the company.

As employers, with 20 years service will he or she take up the free and matching offers, own 0.00001% of British Gas and will only be allowed to use this 0.00001% vote on the trustees. Furthermore it has been stated in the press that "ownership or non-ownership of B.G. shares will have no effect on the conditions of service of the employee's conditions of service". Firstly, it is there to swerve the you to the pit of privatisation. Several years ago the gas seals discovered that the ability of the government's plans to privatisate gas showrooms was not only impractical, but also3ly, the apparent generality of the employee share scheme are there to hypnotise and bribe the workforce into accepting the change. Privatisation is to be perceived as something that all employees are participating and benefiting from. It's a collective delusion and at least some of this is costing less than the public relations exercise of advertising. (The employee share ownership plan is worth £8 million, as opposed to the £13 million spent on privatizing the Gas.) The City's fees for the flotation are around £250 million. In brief, the money is to be the division of interest with the workers, the plan is that if the employee is in his or her interest to maximize his or her own personal interests but is not a share holder it is not for. For the majority of employees their real interests will be best served through higher pay and better conditions, because their share holders will maximise their own, but any perceived division of interest will give the management an extra psychological edge in their efforts to keep down wages. Share ownership schemes encourage employees to identify their interests with those of the managers. A share of the real state of affairs is testified to by the millions of working gas shares which have recently ended in death as a result of poor and dangerous working conditions throughout the world.

THE REAL THING

Employee share ownership schemes are mere front men for the richer board and needed their "special instalments plan". There was nothing in this plan for the rest of us, it was just for the group of people getting their fuel debts stepped forward. As a matter of fact this was under the "fuel direct scheme". The Gas Consumer Council wants a scheme to help "real consumers". On the other hand, the gas board plans to give special shares to workers who can afford to take part in its new scheme to become "stations". One rule for us and one rule for the gas board plus workers earn less than £116 p.w. The minimum wage is set by the wage council is a pitiful £20 a week for 40 hours. A few inspectors were illegally underpaid.

British Leyland workers' picket line

Unrest on the picket lines is spreading. British Leyland is being the latest target as workers from the old Rover plant in Longbridge have been locked out by the owners, who want to close the plant down. The pickets are determined to fight back and defend their jobs.

THE PRESS

The British press has been silent on the Leyland workers' strike. The Daily Mirror, for example, has not mentioned the strike at all. The Daily Express has given one or two short articles, but these have been very one-sided and biased. The Daily Mail has also given minimal coverage, while the Daily Telegraph has been virtually silent.

THE STRIKE

The strike at Leyland has been going on for several weeks, and the workers are now in their third week of action. The company has offered to negotiate, but the workers have refused, saying that they will not accept anything less than a full reinstatement of all sacked pickets. The company has threatened to close the plant if the workers do not accept its offer.

IT IS TIME TO TAKE ACTION

We must stand in solidarity with the workers at Leyland and support their fight for justice. We must demand that the company negotiate with the workers and agree to their demands. We must also demand that the government intervene and stop the company from closing the plant.

THE FUTURE

The future of British Leyland is uncertain. The company is in financial difficulties and has been losing money for several years. The workers have been campaigning for better pay and conditions for a long time, but the company has been ignoring their demands.

THE WORKERS' STRUGGLE

The workers at Leyland are not alone in their struggle. Throughout the country, workers are fighting for better pay and conditions. We must support these struggles and stand in solidarity with the workers who are fighting for their rights.

SOME OLD SELL OUT

Neil Kimberley's speech at the TUC conference last month contained the usual fare of promises to the workers from the Labour party in opposition to the run up to a general election. Unemployment, wage restraint, nationalisation, you name it, it was there. It meant that the TUC, the CBI and the government were all speaking from the same cloth. This was tried in the '60s and '70s when Labour was in office and failed to regulate the economy by encouraging wage restraint and low profitability. The result was a return to the old ways. Things were improved, in other words the corporatist approach is needed.

Under the capitalist approach the working class is asked to make more and more sacrifices to help in the smooth running of capitalism, and what's more they are made to pay for this by the very people who claim to represent them - the Labour Party and the TUC. It is a lesser known fact that many workers who are better off due to the corporatist approach, because contrary to popular belief, the TUC is the working class section of the corporate tripe. The idea that British capitalism leads to the British working class is the latest in a long line of delusions. The workers of other countries for jobs, housing, etc. are much better off than the working class in this country.

Of course the Tories always claim that the working class is in the minority and democracy is threatened when trade unionism is brought into consultation with the government. But this is sheer nonsense, not true from the truth. In fact corporatism actually is the solution and the government should not interfere with the trade unions. Instead, the government should support the trade unions and allow them to consult with the government.

The Tories have always held the view that the working class should be grateful to the "welfare state" for protecting it from excesses of capitalism and exploitation. This is due to the ever present influence of "Fabianism" which is the bible for society run by "experts" who would decide what was best for us, no matter what we thought.

The Labour Party has always held the view that the working class is the backbone of the "welfare state" for protecting it from excesses of capitalism and exploitation. This is due to the ever present influence of "Fabianism" which is the bible for society run by "experts" who would decide what was best for us, no matter what we thought.

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**Norway:** Electricians Give Hammond a Shock

When Mrs Thatcher recently went to Norway, she was the dinner guest of "socialist" prime minister Mrs Gro Brundtland of Norway. Unfortunately for Mrs T the food wasn't the only thing that the Norwegian public were unhappy with - the reception was downright fiery. Over a thousand angry protesters (including trade unionists) stormed the castle getting as far as the dining hall. When Thatcher's lap-dogs, Eric Hamilton and the EETPU and Inflamable Walking scabs, went to Norway, the rank and file unionists gave him a similar welcome.

When the congress of the Norwegian Electricians' Federation met on the 15th of September, the only thing present from the British delegation was a lone union jack waving from the window. But because of angry protests from the rank and file of the Småhstage (the only thing worse than a normal sark) and therefore the Electricians' Federation, Mrs Thatcher's proposal was forced to tell Hammond that although he could be present, he could not speak on behalf of Norway (and Britain) consider Hammond a union jack was the only thing worse than a normal sark and therefore the Electricians' Federation decided not to invite him for even inviting him in the first place.

Eric Hammond had no answer but to leave. When the week ended, TV journalists asked him if he felt at home, an insinuation he did not condemn. The Thatcher made the week better by virtually confirming the idea of the mass of demonstrators radicalizing the whole idea that this felt like home, Hammond, however, didn't seem to share his sense of humour as he refused to reply.

Earlier this year Hammond attended similar congresses in Denmark and Sweden without protest.

The official relations between the EETPU and the Norwegian Electricians' Federation have always been less than cordial and would not have been possible some years ago but support work for the British miners and the EETPU has forced us to become cordial.

The Norwegian working class. Strong rank and file groups have been springing up in many industries (the cream of the Norwegian protests are organized by rank and file electricians and printers in Oslo. Norwegian workers are beginning to see that our struggle and their struggle are one and the same.

**NSF-IWA (Oslo)**

(The NSF is the Norwegian section of the International Workers' Association)

**Italy:** No Strikes This Christmas

During July 1986 the Italian state decided on a massive strike wave of the major unions. The triple-confederation CGIL, C.G.I.U.L and C.G.L.I. called for the first time a strike that would last over 100 days during the year when they will not strike in certain key sectors. The strike was divided into separate periods and also election times. The bus companies were particularly concerned about transportation, telecommunications and post, and the banks and textile owners were concerned about the state's ability to control inflation. The only workers' organisation to immediately and unanimously condemn this sell-out by the union bosses was the Radical Catholic Union of Italy. The radical section of the International Workers' Association, UNSAM, is already organizing in the postal, railway and hospital sectors. However, it is likely to be difficult to spread the capacity to intervene effectively, with means adapting to resolving the problems of the different sectors and of particular industrial structures.

Within the union there has been discussion about action, supplementary to the usual strike action, for example the ANTI-NUCLEAR NOTES

Russia

The Soviet Union is set to go ahead with plans to double its nuclear power plant capacity by 1990 despite the Chernobyl catastrophe. Officials of the Moscow's policy of nuclear power was met with a public revolt last month. Colonel Makukhin, the Deputy Minister for Electricity Power Development in Moscow, said that large nuclear power plants will be built in the European part of the Soviet Union each year until the 80's, probably unlimited. Makukhin stressed Russia's good nuclear safety record, saying that Chernobyl was the first serious accident.

Yugoslavia

According to a report in the "Guardian", the Yugoslav government announced that it will con- tinue building on its nuclear power station at Kurejci. The country has an estimated 1,000 megawatts by the year 2000, it is unclear whether Yugoslavia will be able to cope with its nuclear power station.

Following the Chernobyl nuclear power station accident these plans will no longer go ahead. This has also been confirmed by other reports in the Guardian. It was claimed that an opinion poll in Yugoslavia had shown that most Yugoslavs interviewed were opposed to nuclear power.

**INTERVIEW WITH THE EDITOR OF SOLIDARIDAD OBRERA**

The following is part of an interview with the editor of Solidaridad Obrera, Luis Carmona. 7th of 1986, "Solidaridad Obrera" is the paper of the Canadian Regional Committee of the International Workers' Association. The interview covers working class struggles in Canada today and the CNT/AIT's role in them.

**Q:** What has changed for the Spanish working class in Canada?

A: We think nothing has changed; in fact we are going backwards. Here the workers have been forced to accept wage deals every hour, at an increase in the cost of living because of their adherence to the fascist and imperialist reformists. This has sometimes been to the point of accepting the house of cards, but it has usually been for the worse.

There's a great deal more control by the state and charge of the police. The talk about "intolerance" and "rationalism" has increased and has been used against the workers. The politicians don't take a stand and the workers are left to fight another day. The only direct methods of struggle. Things are as bad as they were.

**Q:** Could you tell us something about the trade union pact?

A: The intended effect of the Montreal Pact and the four others signed later are to further reduce the freedoms of workers to those levels suffered under Franco when only state-approved unions were allowed to function. In the same way as Franco, the Socialists have registered all the unions, a base of reformist control based on a 15% cut-off limit for the workers. If the agreement gives (as they often do) the 15% of workers in a factory negotiating rights through their union leaders regardless of what the other 85% want, then naturally that 15% will dominate to the detriment of the rest.

The unions have extended beyond simple money questions to include the methods and structures the union should follow in its factories. As a result, official factory committees have been created by the state in the sole name of the "factory council". In practice, this is a government压力 on management - a blank wall of the workers with no ability to live for the politicians, for their collaboration in the committees is rewarded by large pay rises in the state. The first year of the pact netted an increase of 15% for each for the Spanish Socialists and the Communist C.C.O.O., the second year 15% and the third 15% and the fourth. All included in this deal were the Basque regional union, the L.S.I.T. and the A.I.R.A in Galicia. The CNT/AIT took no part in this payout for the workers, who were also led into a personnel of workers' self-activity which will always be to their detriment.

**Q:** What's happening in Canada currently?

A: Well, things have been rather quiet for us. The situation at present is one of impasse. People are waiting. We've had some success when we fought against Spain being included in NATO when it was decided in. When we campaigned against the military and conscription again we won a lot of support. The same went for our general election boycott, which we thought was a success. We have a strong trade union in the banking sector in which we are active.

On the housing scene we've been involved with the squatting movement in Barcelona. We helped them in their fight, however the young don't have much interest in the CNT. The squatters, the punks and the anti-capitalists are pre-occupied with single issues and nothing more. Nevertheless we'll continue to work with them where we can. After all we are here to fight all injustice wherever it happens - the pickets, the eviction, the violence, the criminal onslaughts. We don't stop.

Q: Have you been working with the unemployed at all?

A: Yes. We organised unemployed assemblies in Barcelona but not a great deal came out of it. Groups of unemployed workers organised themselves to picket factories demanding work, with little results however. The assemblies didn't work either - they were too easily manipulated by left politicians in the P.S.U.G.C. (Socialist Party) though almost

**LAND STRUGGLE UPDATE**

Four weeks ago, landless farmers and their families in south west Spain. Church owned farms, passed through Andalucia province in protest at the 600+ charges still outstanding against members of the Lambaren region, who are still fighting the Guardia Civil and the landowners. The SO.GA, the A.M.I. of the Andalucia province has attempted to buy off the union's campaign by setting up a 10 month, 6 months off work program for 13,000 farm workers in the province but has failed dismally. Since then, the repression has been stepped up with mass arrests, heavy fines and jailing. The union, like the dockworkers' Coordina- dora groups, has no political affiliations and is run without permanent paid officials. It is committed to taking the large estates 'over' in order to be able to get the workers' rights.
Racist Murder

On Wednesday, 17th September 1986, Ahmed Ishaq Ulhab was brutally murdered by a racist white youth in Burnage High School. This is but one of the many horrific and tragic examples of racist violence spanning many years, being in a predominantly white area of having a large number of black children.

In fact the school is an example of British society being caught up in the part of the yard, white in another; one can see the black kids among the white, etc. etc. Since the beginning of this term the black children have been harassed and verbally abused to allow them to get home safely.

At Burnage the black kids get stuck from their classrooms to be threatened and attacked by groups of racists both in the school and in the surrounding area. For all black, notably though, racism in varying forms is shown to the school. As with, but recent months/year have seen a frightening increase in violent attacks - the Burnage stabbing is only the tip of an iceberg.

As at a meeting on the 26th September, the school had to make arrangements to intention to resort to self-defence. In the case of Burnage where a group of people who had previously advised the children to turn the other cheek.

The following is from a leaflet issued by the Burnage Community:

WHAT HAPPENED TO AHMED IQBAL?

On Tuesday 16th Sept., Ahmed went to the assistance of a fellow Asian student whose group of about 10 black racists were threatening that he would be killed the next day.

At 8.30 the next morning Ahmed was found on the floor, dead. The police who immediately after the stabbing had removed the Paki, Whilst Ahmed lay bleeding to death, the school authorities at first refused to listen to his screams. By the time assistance was offered it was too late and Ahmed had bled to death.

CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE

Since Ahmed’s murder, a conspiracy to cover up the racist nature of this barbaric attack has taken place. The Burnage police, the media and all the public authorities, the police, and the media have all been working together to obscure the facts. The fact that the school has gone so far as to state they have not taken the police advice to send kids home - let alone that it was a racist. This conspiracy must be smashed.

ORGANISE AGAINST RACISM AT BURNAGE

All over the country racist attacks against black people are on the increase. This can be seen in all the urban cities, on the streets, and in our homes, but our children are being murdered in school. The racist murder of Ahmed is the reflection of the deep-rooted racism in our society. Racists and attackers will not go away by being ignored or by being allowed. To find a solution to these attacks lies in the organisation of self-defence.

Today as a direct result of Ahmed’s murder there is a call on all of our children not to go to school. The conspiracy of silence is showing itself as an attempt to create an atmosphere of fear and intimidation. WE SHALL NOT BE INTIMIDATED.

SELF DEFENCE

The murder of Ahmed and the attempted murder clearly shows us that the only solution to these attacks lies in the organisation of self-defence. We call upon all black people and anti-racist white people to show our love and solidarity in demonstration. This time it was Ahmed who was murdered. The next time it could be any other black child.

DOWN WITH RACISM

(F&P & Ahmadi memorial Committee, c/o 584 Stockport Rd, Longsight, Man-

Capitalism’s Rubbish

UK 2,000 is the name of the latest government scheme to manage the unemployment figures. Many of the men, women, and children, who have been thrown out of work, seems to have been forgotten. Branson, has been given charge of this latest scheme. Along the problem of "litter", a very real problem everyone agrees on, there are £2,000 to try and solve "what local people think". With budget running into billions, have been bailed up. At the same time, government rate-capping has taken away the freedom of a city council’s ability to raise money, and put the, putting back, UK 2,000 is supposed to cover many of the further 300,000 "short job" terms on the government’s community programme. How £22 million, a pathetically small amount is supposed to do this no-one has been told. Because of the constant cuts over the last seven years or so, has destroyed a far greater number in real terms. Jobs in real terms, Model Tony London borough Wandsworth, meanwhile, while a refuse collection and street cleaning service, was at the council’s report. In the council’s report, borough in London* by readers of the London Standard.

Recently, all the Fleet St. gutter press have taken to using the word "Direct Action". They were presented as transformers, anti-nationalists, etc., as dirty litter-louts. No evidence was produced, it was just that this was a "typical" or "usual" appearances. On the contrary, the evidence of the rubbish left by the selfsame press, is that they have not the slightest idea of what they read the likes of The Sun, Daily Mirror, and the rest. This is why the Fleet St. newspapers, crisp wrappers, ciggy packs, beer bottles, tissue paper, packed-up food, used johannes etc. Multi-national fast food joints package their junk in tissue cardboard or polythene bags, paper bags, the more times it has their name on them. Un-packaged, one would want to buy their rubbish. Advertisements which most people don’t bother to read are pushed through letter-boxes to the homes of the economically deprived. Who else throws out the back door with the rubbish, and who else has to bear the cost? Even in the wind, Record stores, including Branson’s, insist on going for the supermarket approach, all the records, stacked out for the customer to choose, as if they were wrapped in polythene, more rubbish to throw in the bin.

"Direct Action" has in the past given much coverage to the issue of ecology. The time has come to do so, not out of some fascist concerns for tidiness and order, but because we believe that the problem is the destruction of our environment, of which the problem of litter is just one part. The whole of this is part of the class nature of society we live in. For instance, the 5000,000 jobs UK 2,000 won’t solve the problem. No cleaner streets. The problem of the wider destruction of the environment remains.

Capitalists, in their ever shrinking world of the eighties, in pursuit of greater and greater profits, clearly puts its own interests before those of the wider world. In 19th centu-

Racist Police

Rose Alasa and her baby son Brian rescued from Brittain in 1972. Rose feared for her life in Uganda's climate of political assassination and state repression. Her fears were justified - her brother and his family were murdered. When she came to Brittain, Rose expected peace, freedom and political asylum. However she has received none of these things. In fact for Rose and Brian she has just as oppressive a regime as Uganda ever was.

Rose and Brian Alaso

Rose's application for asylum has never been considered, so that now she has had to fight against the police, and other groups to seek not only Rose and Brian have had to suffer - she has been assaulted, intimidated and threatened by none other than the police.

In January, 1984, Rose returned home late one night to discover that the police had broken into her flat and were rifling through her personal documents. The explanation? apparently a blundering man had been spotted running into her flat - perhaps the police thought he was hiding in her desk. Strangely enough no body or blood ever found, and the phone from which an anonymous caller is supposed to have rung the police had been broken for some time. It seems the police are just as oppressive a regime as Uganda ever was.

In August of this year Rose returned home to find her son barricaded in his home, in tears and frightened out of its wits. Brian said that the police called saying they had come to take him back to Uganda. This was backed up by newspapers.

The next day Rose was woke up at 4am by a brutal knocking at her front door. Outside were several men claiming to be from the police, and refused to open the door to them until they were forced to give in. When they refused and went away, Rose then came out for a much needed smoke. They were just crossing Chapel Road when the police were shouting towards them almost knocking them over. They jumped out and threw them to the ground. After that the police were to be shot up and hit in the back of the car, Rose, Rose was asked to stop. She was told to stop and hit in the back of the car. Rose was then asked to stop. She was taken to the police station at 11pm. She was then interrogated about her political beliefs, her opinions on the police and on police brutality. Rose was appalled and was fearful of what they might find her guilty of. At the same time police raided her home, removing literature about her campaign. She was released after being charged with "aiding and abetting a terrorist" and causing actual bodily harm to a police officer - he probably hurt his hand when he hit her.

People may ask why the police spend so much time terrorising an innocent woman? Why don't the police do their job? The answer is that they are. The job of the police is to remove the defenceless person. As anyone who has been on a picket line knows, the job of the police is to suppress ordinary people and defend this rotten system.

Rose is settled in Leeds, having a job as a computer operator and Brian has lived with her since coming back to Leeds. Their idea is to just another murder. Rose has a strong campaign to protect her from deportation, but in the one of the most racist places. Black and Asians are deported every day. Our campaign to stop them is a dangerous one. We never get to hear of most of them. More people have been arrested than those organised to prevent this. We cannot allow the state to impose its will on any of our class.

The workers at Contracts Ltd., South Shields have implemented an overtime ban and threatened to protest against any contract of management. Despite this, most of the workers are behaving as if nothing was going to happen. The月底 which ended at the beginning of this year. These tactics include luridous anomalies in, and inaccurate calculation of wages. For instance, workers who reached the age of 18 years have been refused the statutory rate of £10 per week. Also workers have been disciplined in the collective punishment of the employed and unemployed in one organisation.

The National Union of Unemployed and Workers is the only union for the unemployed. The NULWU has a centralised and federated basis and holds two conferences a year to decide policy. Membership is open to workers who are unemployed, YTS, part time, seasonal or temporary work. The conference campaigns for a national minimum wage, the ending of the closure of low pay, a national social wage to replace all benefits to be negotiated as part of the class struggle for the rights of the employed and unemployed in one organisation.

TRADE UNIONS

The existing unemployed sections in some industries are merely a sop - the trade unions have no realistic solutions for the unemployed. They have no interest in the struggles of people because problems on the breadline are not so important as the wishes of the rich. They work with the trade unions in, like the reformist unions of today, are paid for their efforts to become an asset to the labour movement and to grow into a fully-fledged negotiating unit which will be able to deal with government and trade union bureaucracy.

For further information, contact: Tamsin, UBB
IRELAND: is Class Unity Possible?

The two communities in Northern Ireland remain as divided as ever with the situation having worsened since the signing of the Anglo-Irish Agreement. As a result any chance of class unity has been set back. Sectarianism along with partition have an important effect on the working class in Ireland. Clearly in Northern Ireland the entrenched sectarianism of the loyalists and republican brands discourage united and independent working class action. As anarchists/syndicalists we should work for British withdrawal while at the same time organizing the formation of a working class movement which would work to organize and oppose the backlash that would follow any possible British withdrawal in the future.

LOYALISM

While recognizing that Loyalism is reactionary it is important that we do not ignore it. If working class unity is to be achieved sooner or later Loyalism will have to be faced. It survives because of its value to the capitalist class who first introduced the "bogus" of the union after loyalist jobs. Since then sectarianism has kept the working class divided. It is institutionalised by the 6 county state as the loyalist working class are allowed marginal privileges in areas such as housing, education and jobs. So although they are worse off than the British working class, as long as they are being allowed to keep the Catholic working class they are happy. In this way sectarianism and Loyalism are tied to capitalist/imperialist interests.

REPUBLICANISM

Although the left wing of Sinn Fein is involved in the unions and struggles in the working class community it is difficult to see Republicanism leading to working class unity or independence. In fact, republicanism may make the struggle against British rule more difficult.

When the British police were first established it was in the face of mass movement opposition. A wide range of political interests were present but while middle and upper class represenatives had been imported and tied in, the working class had been left out. This resentment, always bubbling below the surface of public opinion was pronounced during the years of working class resistance to the British war in Ireland 1914-1918, the period after World War 1 and the years of 1921-1922. Yet by the 1950's the police had become not merely accepted but idolised by the broad spectrum of opinion, as a 1955 Police Journal editorial commented:

"the law abiding sections of the community have come to accept the police as more as guardians and less as oppressors. Time and experience have dispelled old fears, and even when engaged in illicit or unofficial strifes the police seem now rarely resort to rodwork or disorder".

POLICING BY CONSENT

So by the 1950's the policing by consent which was achieved in Britain to the maximum degree of the eighteenth century model of control power had been changed into authority, power which is accepted as least mistakenly. A phenomenon that by the 1960's has changed and policing has come to become a major political controversy.

This process began in the late 50's with the crime statistics and the first signs of the growth of youth culture with Teddy Boys and Beatniks. The press then began to denounce the growing number of Juvenile delinquents in the city of Nottingham, the Anti-Sweat dens and the first here remembered as the start of future concern about public-order policing.

In the 1960's changes were made that included greater central control, state strengthening of the power of the Home Office and the police, the police became the main force in the whole of Northern Ireland. The British "bobby" was recast as the tough, formidable (but still brave and honest) "Crime Buster". The police themselves became seduced by the repressive/control perspective with the technology of fast cars, spotlights and less visible methods.

The image of the police started to change but it was at the end of the 60's with the growth of the counter culture and police clashes with anti-Vietnam and anti-war demonstrators that finally meant the police were transformed from plods to pigs from bobbies to beatniks.

CORRUPTION

There were many reasons for this; one was the low level of intelligence of police officers and the mass enrolment of recruits who were subjected to no adequate training. There was also a series of corruption scandals involving the drug squad and the obscene publications squad which were riddled with corruption on a grand scale. Also police violence was not a rule of law especially in the treatment of suspects rights and the methods of gaining false confessions. There was a growing number of deaths in police custody; from 8 in 1970 up to 48 in 1972 - these did not include cases in which death class civil rights demonstrators (Eddie Towers) and from contact not leading to custody (Blair Peach, years ago). But the most crucial factor which politicized police was the growing war of a consciousness of anterior to the police, especially among the working class and the black community. This was followed by the development of more self-conscious youth culture, the return of the long term unemployed, and most importantly the development of the potential of industrial conflict since the csa 1972.

ANTIHUND

The panic that followed the miners' strike in 1966 produced a climate in which "conspirators", "union agitators" and "white helmets" were hunted down and the police very efficient in the war against those views.

THE POLICE: from Bobbies to Bastards

Police Occupation of Arthorpe 22/8/84

shop floor. The Donovan report of 1968 concluded that "the use of the unoffical strike by workers coupled with the power of the unions was a major threat to industrial and working class power". The election of the Heath Government in 1970 set workers on a collision course with the state. The Tories came in on a strong wave of order and anti-union slogan. They were defeated in 1974. It was obvious that the police, regardless of their use of intimidatory tactics, were not capable of handling well-organised mass pickets.

continued on page 7
The Police (contd.)

DAM Contacts

South East Region:
- Camberley - Box DAM, Camberley Free Press, 25 Gwydir Street, Camberley.
- East London - c/o 84 Whitechapel High St, London, E1 7KX
- South London - c/o 121 Raiton Road, Brixton, London, SE24
- Central London - Box DAM, 43 Camden High St, London, N1W
- Tower Hamlets - 17 Turner's Rd, Limehouse, London E1
- North West Region:
  - Burnley - c/o 684, Hill Lumb, Burnley, Lancashire.
- Liverpool - Box DAM, 82 Lark Lane, Aigburth, Liverpool 17.
- Manchester - c/o Box DAM, 82 Lark Lane, Aigburth, Liverpool 17.
- Teeside - c/o St James, Stockton Health Centre, Ashburg, Stockton, GE 16 QY.

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Although I have reservations about some aspects of syndicalism, I respect what you are doing, and believe you’re one of the most positive elements in the anarchist movement today. My reservations are only superficial, in nothing more than style, with no covered elements. But I wish you all the best.

Tony, Lancaster.

REGEN

The Police (contd.)

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REGEN
ST. PAUL'S TAKES ON THE POLICE STATE

On Thursday 11th of September just after 4pm, Avon and Somerset police force launched a carefully planned attack on the St. Paul's area of Bristol. "Operation Delivery" had been prepared at least 2 months in advance according to police statements. It should be seen as part of a pattern of police invasions of areas where black people live. The invasions carried out under the pretext of the need to clamp down on "hard drugs", but actually intended to ferment public panic over law and order - race - drugs issues.

Some facts about St. Paul's: fact; there is a large amount of open, illegal activity in St. Paul's; red light district; gambling houses, clubs, drug trade etc fact, there is a very strong hatred of the police among local residents; fact, the drugs trade in St. Paul's is almost exclusively in dope (hard drugs are simply not available in St. Paul's, better to look for those in rich areas of Bristol) and is tolerated if not supported by local residents.

POLICE STRATEGIES

The police have developed other tactics since the 1950-81 riots. They have the ability to close off the area and the crowds is to trap them between the main parallel roads running through St. Paul's. To this end the police made great efforts to secure Grosvenor Rd, City Rd and Ashley Rd (see diagram) and then to bostion charge the crowds in the narrower interconnecting streets. There were memories too of the crowd-control tactics used in the miners' strike, with police splitting up large crowds and then sending in snitch squads to pick up stragglers.

DIRECT ACTION

The response on Thursday to the police invasion, though hastily prepared was fierce and enthusiastic. However on Friday morning the preparation and organisation were better. Attacks on police lines were centred on Grosvenor Rd, from where there was a good escape route into a housing estate. Looters took place on Grosvenor St, St. Bedes Rd and Shacklewell Ave and robbing was much more widespread than on previous occasions with street battles and looting outside the St. Paul's area. In addition some entering urban guerrillas trashed 15 or more doors in the richest areas of Bristol.

There was a good spirit of comradeship and solidarity amongst the crowds, with anyone who wanted to help fight the police welcomed to participate wherever the colour of their skin, their gender and their age!

"We support the right of youth to fight back and defend themselves. And we condemn the involvement of white youth. They share many of the same problems" - Jagun Akinbogun

SMASH THE STATE

Today the British ruling class is turning its violence on its domestic working class more viciously than it has done for fifty years. This is a sign of their growing insecurity as the gap between the rich and the poor grows. As Britain's manufacturing base dwindles and as violence of poverty asserts itself more and more in working class life sparking off militant direct action in the ghettos and on the picket-lines.

As the legacy of the British State's imperialist past and present is brought home to it, we must beware of any two dangers:

1. The raid had nothing to do with crime. The police wanted to show they...

TEAM UNION AND THE NEW REALITY

Pete Carter, "Euro-Communist" organised anarchism has been a key factor in today's trade union and has come up with a new strategy that anarchists and others have been saying for years. In fact, it prompted the Morning Star to comment that "this pamphlet represents the greatest betrayal since Khrushchev's speech on Stalin."

The unions, he mourns, are in decline - they have patently failed to resist the new 80's style capitalist onslaught. But haven't they always been backing on the defensive, divided, run by white male bosses? The real question is not whether they are accountable to the rank and file.

Fair enough. And he even admits that the Communist Party has to take some of the blame. But had she, for a prominent member of an organisation that for years has been sticking up and baltlo rigging working class people on its own terms, as well as spawning some of the worst tyrants in the history of the "labour movement", been more like Che Guevara?

But, like Khrushchev's denunciation of Stalin, his solutions are new wine in bay bottles - they only patch up the symptoms. Take the issue of rank and file democracy, an issue dear to our hearts and also apparently to the C.P. which, he boasts, was an honourable record of championing the cause of trade union democracy. But, Backcard, the best Mr. Carter can do here is to winge on about the Tory Employment Acts.

One paragraph out of the 20 in this section actually deals with increasing rank and file participation - which of course to him means devising new ways of making the central power more acceptable to the members it exploits.

Let's face it, the corpus of the trade union hierarchy needs to be buried, not defended. The structures they support are becoming increasingly irrelevant to our survival in the workplace and the community. As the decay progresses, new working class structures may emerge, independent of the old and the full-time. That is the challenge we should take up, C.P. corps lovers, beware!