

NEWS

FROM

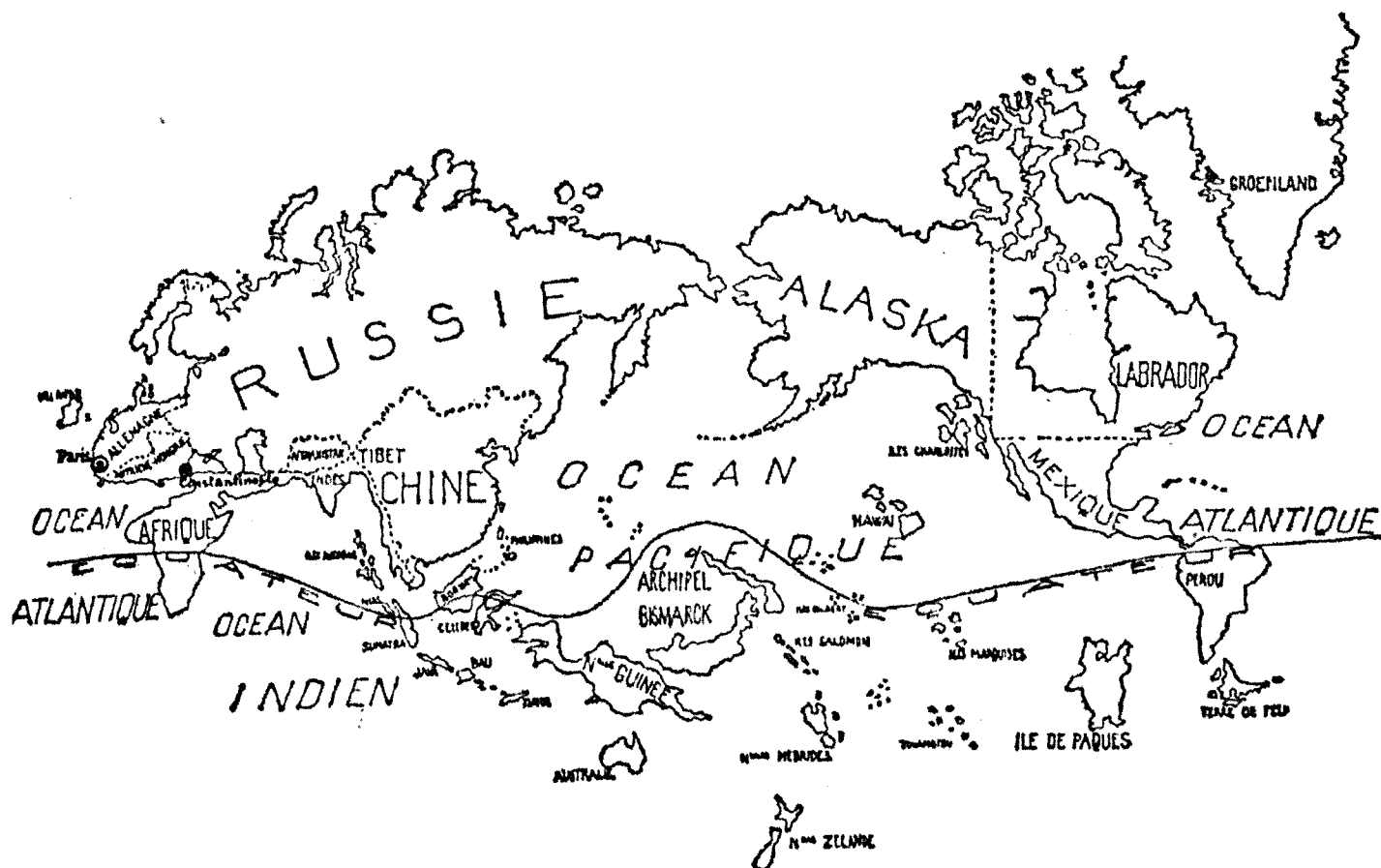


Spanish strikers (Groucho-Marxist) reply to the police, saying "We've got to be optimistic".

EVERYWHERE

This is a chronological list of events which we consider as relevant contributions to the class struggle. Our criteria for inclusion are those events that show some potential towards autonomous proletarian activity, not so much always in their present form, which in the case of strikes over here for example, rarely break away from union domination, but more in the nature of their demands and reactions to the imposition of austerity measures. We deliberately do not include terrorist or nationalist activities because they are not expressions of the class struggle. In quite a few of the struggles listed, which although reformist/limited in appearance, there has been a conflict between the most combative elements of the class and those who exist to strengthen their role as leaders or protect their petty privileges within this society (cf. Madrid 14/2/87) and for this reason we think they are worth including.

Some of the things we've reported take the form of demands for democratic reforms in "Third World" countries ruled by one party systems. Those leading these struggles for democracy are generally bourgeois elements resentful of the economic domination of a small elite. This situation seeks to encourage class alliances in the "national interest". The reason that we've reported them is that there are workers and other proletarians who use these situations as a convenient opportunity to attack the State and express their grievances. Specifically, successful student struggles can act as an encouragement and catalyst for workers to express their own struggles (as in France in '68 and '86 for example). Although the press has portrayed the South Korean events as a student/ bourgeois opposition movement, workers have participated to some extent. The nature of their participation is more or less unknown, but is undoubtedly influenced by the severe repression they experienced in the 1980 civilian uprising. It is also known that students accused of anti-government activity are often thrown out of university and have no choice but to go and work in the factories.



The Surrealist Map of the World,
1929

PUBLISHED IN AUGUST 1987.

CONTACT: BOX 14, 136 KINGSLAND HIGH ST, LONDON E8.

CHRONOLOGY

1/1/87

ENGLAND: In London Trevor Monerville is arrested, beaten and left with brain damage in Stoke Newington police station.

150 cops pelted with bottles, bricks, rocks and coins by 300 youths in Lincoln on New Year's Eve; 23 cops injured, 35 windows smashed, some looting, 27 arrests.

In Newport Pagnell 10 cops were injured after being attacked with beer barrels, belisha beacons and glasses. 18 arrests.

In Gloucester 13 cops are hurt, shop windows and other property damaged. 12 arrests.

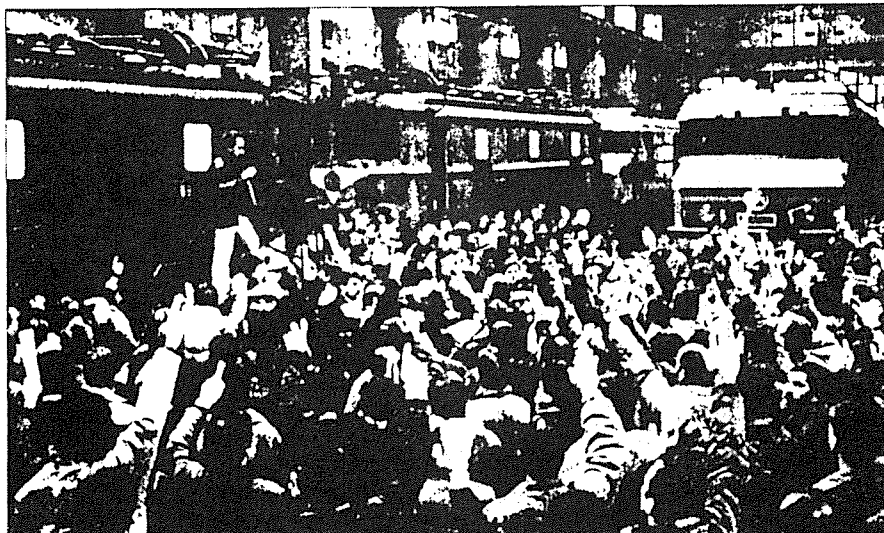
CHINA: 1000's of students staged marches through the centre of Peking defying a government ban on demonstrations and broke through police lines - 24 people arrested. A second march was staged to demand their release, which was granted.

2/1/87

FRANCE: In the face of railworkers' militancy, SNCF management drop the salary and promotion structure which had been instrumental in sparking off the strike. Riot police scabbing didn't prevent a total stoppage in the eastern region. Merchant seamen's strike blocks ports of Bordeaux and Marseilles. Paris Metro workers are on strike. Nearly all mainline rail stations in the country blocked. In an attempt to try and regain control over the largely autonomous strike movement the CGT calls for bus and Metro strikes on 5/1/87 and gas, electricity and munitions strikes the following day.

3/1/87

FRANCE: Workers at 3 rail depots and on 2 car ferries return to work.



strikers' general assembly meeting, Lyon-La Mouche depot

5/1/87

FRANCE: Despite CGT calls, bus and Metro services are running at 90% capacity. Strikers occupy Lyons Stock Exchange demanding negotiation of their demands.

BRITAIN: Production hampered at Yorkshire pits by pit deputies operating an overtime ban and refusing to carry out safety inspections.

In London 600 BBC electricians go on strike for 20% pay rise to restore pay differentials.

CHINA: 300 students burn party newspapers in protest at news coverage of their demonstrations. "There was a carnival atmosphere."

CORFU: Mutiny in a high security jail ends when 10 prisoners return to their cells.

6/1/87

SCOTLAND: 34 screws injured, 3 seriously by prisoners who had taken over the top floor of B hall of Barlinnie Prison. On the night of 5/1 screws were bombarded with bricks, stones and slates. 14 screws spent a night and a day barricaded into cells in B Hall after the seige started. In the afternoon 3 screws are taken hostage - one of them was displayed on the roof to reporters. Prisoners demand that a Scottish Daily

Record reporter went into the prison to hear prisoners' complaints. 200 prisoners were released from their cells by their comrades. Prisoners were protesting at the brutal regime of Governor Gallagher in general and the beating of prisoner Sammy Ralston in particular.

BAWGLADESH: 5,000 involved in student demos in Dhaka to protest at government plans to ban political activity in educational establishments.

8/1/87

SCOTLAND: A prison officer previously taken hostage during Barlinnie jail siege is exchanged for food, leaving two prison officers and 15 protesters on the roof. After prisoners demand to see Sammy Ralston to make sure he is alright, the authorities immediately allow Ralston the opportunity to make a formal complaint against the prison officers who beat him up and also to see his mother for the first time since Xmas.

9/1/87

SCOTLAND: Last hostage released in Barlinnie jail seige, the longest in Scottish prison history, with 12 men left on the roof. As the hostage was bartered for food, four protesting prisoners left with him. Prisoners smashed windows of the block below and threw down bricks and slates, demanding a public enquiry into prison conditions.

ENGLAND: 15-year old youth gets three years for stoning cops and turning over a car during the Broadwater Farm riot in November '85 in Tottenham, N.London. Another youth gets 4 years for affray.

13/1/87

ENGLAND: Eastern region rail drivers impose overtime ban in protest at new duty rosters which would mean longer hours and journeys and also more single manning.

14/1/87

ENGLAND: 830 Austin and Pickersgill shipyard workers return after 6 week strike without any firm guarantees of withdrawal of redundancy notices or the withdrawal of the contract labour system.

SCOTLAND: Caterpillar workers occupy their factory when closure is announced by its US owners.



"We want you to know we are still part of the human race even though we are prisoners. They are brutal to us. They treat us like animals."

Top protester: A Barlinnie rebel prisoner complete with loudhailer stands on a chimney plate on Barlinnie's roof with a hooded compatriot in support

⑥ Business International Conference

SOUTH AFRICA

STRATEGIC OPTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES

with OLIVER TAMBO
President of the ANC
and other guest panelists

Mayfair Inter-Continental
London
Wednesday, May 27, 1987

African National Congress (ANC) goals and tactics are directly and indirectly helping to shape the future of South Africa and its relations with international companies.

Oliver Tambo, President of the ANC, has agreed to participate personally in this conference, so that international executives with responsibilities for South Africa can directly hear and assess what the ANC aims to achieve, and how.

The role of the ANC—along with political reforms, future sanctions, corporate critics, and South Africa's economic outlook—will be the focus for reassessing the choices for companies:

- To disinvest, now that over 100 companies have quit;
- To stay, as many others have carefully decided to do.

The conference is closed to the press and all proceedings are off-the-record.

Fee: \$600 per executive. For further details and a registration form, phone or telex:

USA: Nearly 2,000 workers attend a rally in Austin, Minnesota to "turn up the heat on Hormel." The rally, preceded by a march through downtown Austin, was organised to boost the international boycott of Hormel products and those of its subsidiaries, Jenny-O and Dubuque to back up demands that the 1400 workers in the meat-packing industry - left out in the cold when Hormel and the United Food and Commercial workers Union signed a concessions deal last September - be returned under conditions they could accept. Among the 1400 displaced workers are 850 members of a Union branch Local P-9 who, despite hindrance from the union leadership, have refused to give up the struggle against concessions (ie, wage cuts, worse injury levels) that they began in August '85, and the 550 meatpackers from Ottumwa, Iowa and Fremont, Nebraska Hormel who were fired for honoring P-9's roving pickets. Some strikers have now organised the North American Meatpackers Union, stating that "turning the union back to the rank and file is what we're all about." One activity of the boycott campaign is that advertising cards that are found in magazines with "return postage guaranteed" stamps are being returned in their thousands with nothing but "Boycott Hormel" stickers on them. Industries having to pay this postage are putting some pressure on Hormel.

15/1/87

SPAIN: In Barcelona police arrest 25 striking dockworkers who blockaded the port to protest against government reorganisation plans that could abolish 3,000 jobs. Cops arrested people who were blocking access to one of the quays. The strikers are protesting against the abolition of the State-run Port Works Authority which directly employed Spain's 9,000 stevedores and contracted them out to private shipping companies. The new plan will allow firms to contract their own labour. Coordinadora (the federation of Spanish dockers' assemblies) has boycotted the Contenemar shipping firm since August '86 after voting against the negotiation of individual contracts. Contenemar coped with non-union labour until the end of '86, but in January '87 were banned from using non-union workers.

SCOTLAND: 100 middle management workers at Caterpillar in Strathclyde pull out of the factory occupation.

GREECE: Most of the country is at a standstill as about 2 million workers stage a 24-hour general strike against a government austerity programme which includes a wage freeze. The strike affected nearly every sector of the workforce, hitting all public transport and causing power cuts in Athens and other parts of the country. There have been no real pay increases in over a year.



The shipyard workers of Seville and Puerto Real confronting the police.

18/1/87

USA: The Long Island line in New York, the busiest commuter railroad in the U.S., is shut down by a strike over wage increases. Strike ends in the first week of February.

19/1/87

SCOTLAND: Prisoners at Perth Jail smash up furniture and set fire to bedding in a protest against the quality of prison food after recent outbreaks of food poisoning and diarrhoea.

USA: About 2,800 non-teaching employees at three university campuses in New Jersey go on strike over planned changes in payment of annual increments for longevity

20/1/87

SCOTLAND: Trouble in Saughton Prison in Edinburgh again when two prisoners escape into the roof space and barricade themselves in. Saughton was the scene of a 6-day siege last September.

22/1/87

SCOTLAND: At a mass meeting at the Strathclyde Caterpillar factory, workers unanimously decide to turn a sit-in into a work-in and to start a scheme under which staff will train in each others jobs in a bid to attract potential buyers with their flexibility.

SPAIN: Isolated clashes with cops as hundreds of thousands of high-school students boycott classes for the third day demanding free access to university and social benefits.

23/1/87

ECUADOR: In the capital, Quito, hundreds of high school and university students take part in a riot, demanding the resignation of the president.

MADRID, SPAIN: Pitched battles lasting for hours with cops as high school students march on Education Ministry after a four day boycott of classes in demands for free access to university. Police shoot a girl in the thigh. 25 protesters and 7 cops injured, several arrests, one cop is set on fire by a petrol bomb. 3 arrests in Mallorca when students stop rail traffic for half an hour by blocking railway lines.

24/1/87

LONDON: Riot on the Wapping picket line - 162 cops are injured, 66 arrests in 4 hours of rioting.

26/1/87

LONDON: British Telecom workers go on strike over suspension of workers who refused to work compulsory overtime. Strike ends 11/2.

SPAIN: Hundreds of students clash with cops in Madrid in a protest demanding the end of university entrance exams and other measures.

27/1/87

ENGLAND: Firemen at Manchester Airport go on strike over plans to introduce new technology.

SIERRA LEONE: Police use teargas to disperse 3,000 schoolchildren who demonstrate in sympathy with university students demanding higher food allowances. The student unrest is regarded as a potentially serious threat to the government of President Joseph Momoli.

28/1/87

SCOTLAND: Sammy Ralston in court charged with assault on two prison officers. Prisoners in the siege pelted prison officers with slates and one shouted "We want you to know we are part of the human race, even though we are prisoners".

30/1/87

SPAIN: Sixth-form student strike - marches in Bilbao, Barcelona and Madrid.

Late January

USA: The 168-day stoppage at 14 Deere plants in Illinois and Iowa ends. Over 13,000 auto workers went out on strike on 24/8/86 in a wage dispute.

END OF JANUARY

U.S.A: The longest work stoppage in the history of the US steel industry comes to an end as the steelworkers' union votes to accept a four year concessionary agreement with the USX corporation, the nation's largest steel producer. USX had asked for wage cuts similar to those granted by the union to other steel-producing firms, but the union only offered a wage freeze. The rank-and-file voted overwhelmingly to strike but the union leadership opted to continue work under the old agreements. USX refused to accept this and on 1/8/86 locked out 220,000 workers.

3/2/87

SPAIN: A night of clashes between students and police outside Madrid Cortes (parliament building).

ENGLAND: 600 BBC electricians in London and the regions will strike from midnight

tonight in an attempt to black out live broadcasts and hit other programmes in their campaign for a 20% pay increase. A ballot of EETPU members resulted in a three to one majority for strike action on the claim.

4/2/87

SPAIN: Stock Exchange invaded by 6th form students and trading disrupted for several hours in Barcelona.

5/2/87

LONDON: SOGAT'82 formally end their involvement in the print dispute with News International.

SPAIN: 17 police and 17 others injured in Madrid when over 6,000 secondary school pupils try to invade the prime minister's official residence.

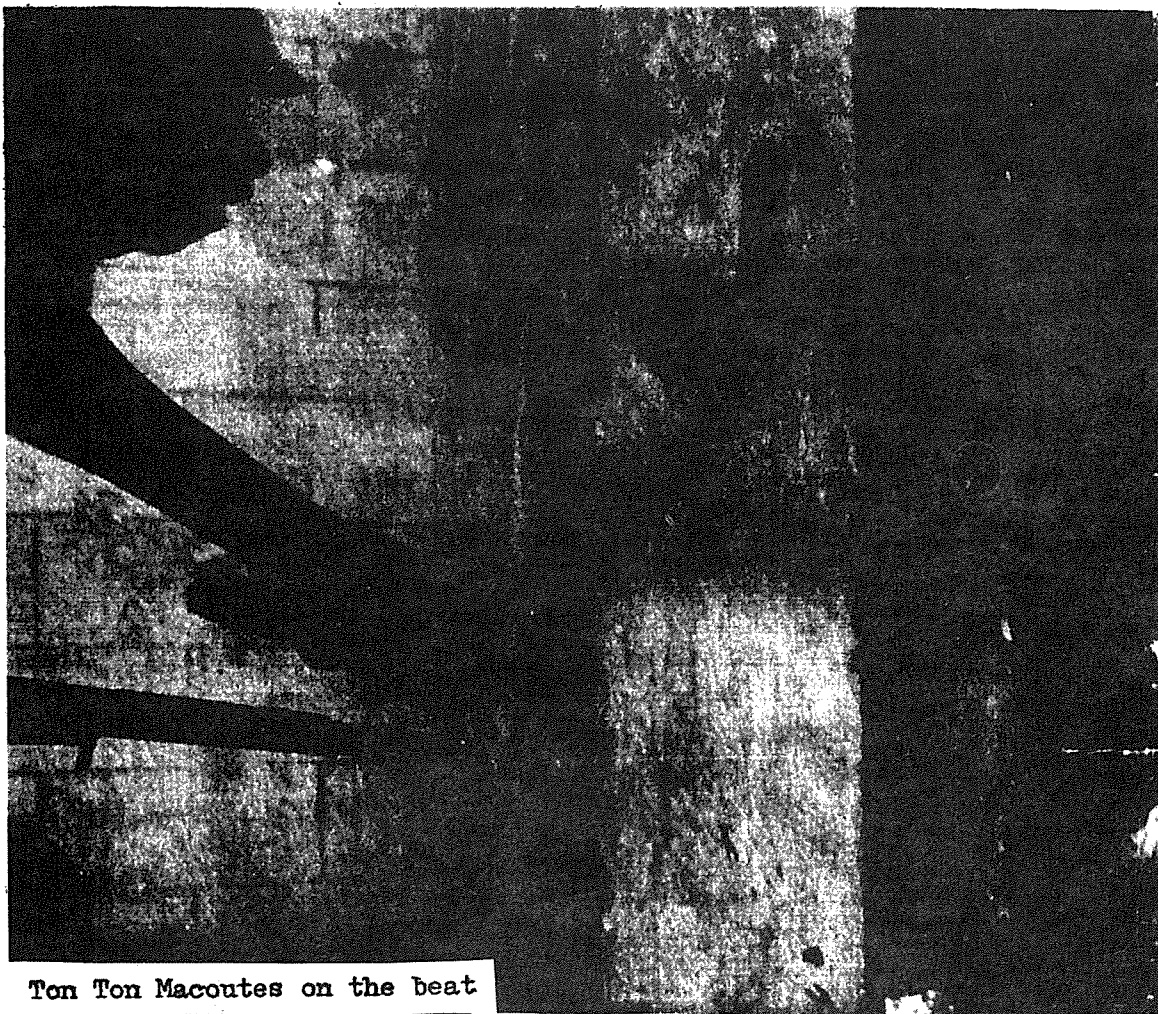
8/2/87

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA: 740 arrested in battles between police and students after the killing of a student by police. Violence broke out after the police blocked religious and civil rights demonstrations. Students throwing rocks and petrol bombs are attacked with teargas. Dozens of injuries on both sides, some property damaged.

9/2/87

HAITI: Armoured cars patrol Port-au-Prince ready to crush demonstrations calling for radical reform on the first anniversary of the fall of the Duvalier regime. Police seize effigies of the Ton Ton Macoutes (secret police) in the Cite Soleil slum district.

ENGLAND: Final demonstration at Wapping despite cancellation orders from the unions.



Ton Ton Macoutes on the beat

11/2/87

ENGLAND: British Telecom engineers call off their strike. Some branches are dissatisfied at the outcome.

12/2/87

SPAIN: Students protest after a militant union rejects a government offer on reform in the university system. In Bilbao riot cops charge a demonstration after youths throw petrol bombs at the offices of the Basque government. In Madrid a traffic jam several miles long builds up when teenagers block the main Castellana avenue and other streets in what is "a daily routine."

GREECE: One million workers across the country on strike over a government imposed wage freeze.

14/2/87

SPAIN: 9 injured in fighting between students and police during a demo against the government's education policy; windows and telephone boxes smashed, barricades built in the centre of Madrid, police petrol-bombed. Youths with iron bars fight with reformist students who want to avoid the violence that has characterised the demonstrations of the previous two and a half months. A lot of students from outside Madrid have been bussed in; this demonstration was the culmination of a week long boycott of classes.

16/2/87

GREECE: Tens of thousands demonstrate in the third major strike wave this year. Workers and students are demonstrating at the government's austerity plan - there's been a wage freeze since October '85. One and a half million people bring business life in Athens and other cities to a standstill. Public services and transport, shops and businesses are closed; power cuts throughout the country.

20/2/87

ENGLAND: Clinton McCurbin strangled by cops in Wolverhampton shopping precinct after allegedly using a dodgy credit card. About 100 kids attack the cops in the precinct, shop windows are smashed. 13 arrested, 4 cops injured. There is more violence the next day.

Mid February

ENGLAND: The Silentnight strike ends, with alot of bitterness felt by the strikers towards "their union" FTAT, who had stopped paying strike pay in August '86 and withdrew official recognition in December '86. The strike in the Sutton bed-making factory began in the summer of '85 when workers walked out after the bosses reneged on an agreement promising no redundancies if workers forwent a nationally agreed payrise. YTS workers were brought in to scab.

25/2/87

SOUTH AFRICA: A ten-week strike by a predominantly black union against one of South Africa's largest supermarket chains comes to an end. Over 7,000 workers, most of them black, went out on strike on December 18th '86 against the OK Bazaars chain. During the strike the company dismissed over 500 workers who were reported to have vandalised property or intimidated customers. Over 1000 workers were arrested or detained. Police repeatedly raided union offices and attacked picket lines in an effort to break the strike, and the union was forced to spend thousands of dollars to bail out jailed pickets. The strike, covering 137 stores, was in response to a wave of layoffs and to the company's low wages.

27/2/87

SOUTH AFRICA: Riot outside Winnie Mandela's home in Soweto after conflict between local kids and members of Mandela United F.C. over the use of a local sportsground. The Mandela home is stoned.

28/2/87

ENGLAND: Northumberland miners at the Ellington-Lynemouth pit stage a lightning 24 hour strike against British Coal's plans to axe a local union branch at Lynemouth.

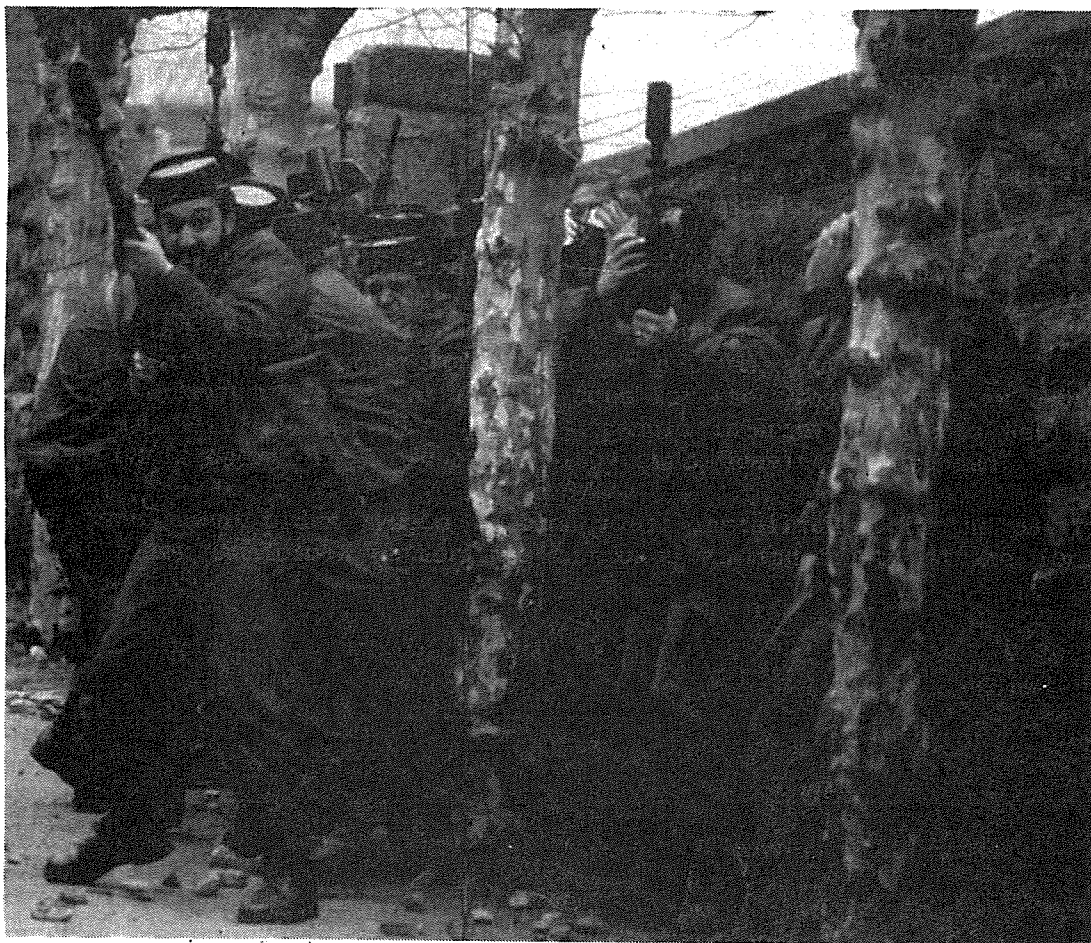


27/2/87

Soweto kids win at home, giving Mandela United F.C. a well-deserved thrashing.

BEGINNING OF MARCH

SPAIN: University students join in opposition to the government after two months of action by sixth-form students; doctors, railway and construction workers begin stoppages.



Reinosa;12/3/87 - Civil Guards on their way out of town.

11/3/87

SPAIN: Workers at a steel plant in Reinosa on the Cantabrian/Basque border, who are faced with a third of their number being made redundant, kidnap the outgoing chairman of the enterprise, Enrique Antolin, and hold him hostage inside the plant.

12/3/87

SOUTH AFRICA: Thousands involved in demonstrations in Johannesburg protesting against detentions and the state of emergency; Teargas is fired at the crowd.

SPAIN: Fights between cops and strikers outside the steel plant in Reinosa. Some Civil Guards were surrounded, stripped naked, disarmed, beaten up and marched out of town.

13/3/87

YUGOSLAVIA: Troops are sent to guard larger mines and factories against workers' unrest. "Workers' councils" (State-management mouthpieces) are disbanded. The military are supervising production and miners react by mixing coal with up to 20% rocks.

BRAZIL: Over 1,000 miners resign rather than end a 13-day old strike and go back to work. Marines were used to break the strike after the strike was declared illegal.

15/3/87

BRAZIL: 5,000 bank workers threaten to go on strike on 24/3 unless a 100% pay rise is granted. 5,500 oil workers threaten industrial action.

18/3/87

YUGOSLAVIA: Strikes against a wage freeze. Strikes by textile and sewage workers for higher wages. 780 construction workers on strike, also strikes in ports.

19/3/87

SCOTLAND: Hunger strike at Barlinnie jail involving 300 prisoners ends after John Gallagher, the man they are supporting, accepts food. Sammy Ralston continues his hunger strike.

ENGLAND: Winston Silcott, Engin Raghip and Mark Braithwaite are sentenced to life imprisonment for the killing of PC Blakelock.

21/3/87

YUGOSLAVIA: Prices of some food, textiles, furniture etc cut, to quell unrest at the wage freeze. Prices have risen 20% since January.

POLAND: OPZZ, the unions created by the government after the disbandment of Solidarnosc, warn that strikes will be inevitable if prices remain "unacceptable".

SOUTH KOREA: 700 students, calling for an uprising to remove President Choon Doo Hwan, are dispersed by teargas. Petrol bombs and stones are thrown by rioters in a 3 hour battle with over 1,000 cops.

24/3/87

SOUTH AFRICA: 450 march on Soweto council chambers protesting at evictions of rent defaulters. Evictions are being resisted. The rent boycott has been in force for one year.

YUGOSLAVIA: The government reports that there are more than 70 strikes around the country in reaction to the wage freeze of 27/2 which reduced wage levels to those of the last quarter of '86 and made future rises dependent on productivity. 28,000 workers are said to be involved in the strikes.

25/3/87

ECUADOR: A 24 hour strike against austerity measures after the oil industry is devastated by an earthquake. In Quito, the capital, main roads are blocked by demonstrators, who petrol-bomb soldiers and cops.

BANGLADESH: The arrest of three students for non-payment of fares sparks off a riot in which 1 student is killed and 75 injured. Students protesting at the police murder of the student rampage through Gaffargaon attacking the cop station, railway office, court, telephone exchange and government offices.

26/3/87

SPAIN: Hundreds of demonstrators fight cops in Madrid protesting against university entrance exams.

27/3/87

SPAIN: 100,000 transport workers join students and public health workers on strike; 268,000 health workers stage a second stoppage; Students end a week-long strike.

30/3/87

SCOTLAND: Workers at Caterpillar vote to continue their occupation in defiance of a court order.

SPAIN: Defendants in the trial of those implicated in the manufacture and sale of toxic cooking oil in poor urban areas which killed 586 and disabled 25,000, are attacked with stones and bottles.

31/3/87

ENGLAND: Petrol bombers in Wolverhampton ambush a patrol car outside a high rise after a hoax 999 call. Simultaneous attack 3 miles away is thwarted. Police admit possible grudge motive after the murder of Clinton McCurbin.

1/4/87

BRAZIL: In Sao Paulo one man is killed and others injured as police burn down shacks during a squatters' protest. 100,000 sites had been squatted during the previous month in a bid by the homeless to get the government to allow them to build houses there.

SPAIN: Hotel, airline and shipworkers go on strike.



Riot on the streets of Sao Paulo

2/4/87

SPAIN: Madrid metro workers go on strike demanding pay rises; their action cuts services by 50%.

BANGLADESH: Hundreds of secondary school students attack teachers and set fire to a school building demanding the right to cheat during exams.

8/4/87

SPAIN: Traffic is brought to a standstill in Madrid by a demonstration of 20,000 medical students, council workers and teachers. In Leon 6,000 coalminers go on strike.

11/4/87

ENGLAND: 4 cops injured, 8 people arrested in street battles in Oxford.

13/4/87

SOUTH AFRICA: 10 trains are firebombed during a rail strike which involves at least 13,000 workers.

14/4/87

SPAIN: 24 hour strike begins from midnight by 90,000 air, sea and rail workers over a pay claim.

15/4/87

TURKEY: 100 students are arrested after fights with cops in several cities. 300,000 from petroleum, textile and other industries have either planned or are already on strike about issues of collective bargaining and labour rights.

SOUTH AFRICA: 8 railway carriages are set on fire and passenger trains stoned by striking railworkers.

SPAIN: A mass demonstration in Seville organised by the workers of the Sevilla, Puerto Real and Huelva shipyards, protesting against the introduction of new technology, is brutally put down by the cops.

16/4/87

SCOTLAND: Perth jail siege ends when the 3 prisoners who had been on the roof since 14/4 were rushed by prison officers.

17/4/87

SOUTH KOREA: Violence breaks out at 24 universities as government continues to crack down on dissent. 10 people are hurt as 600 people hurl petrol bombs and stones at cops, shouting slogans against dictatorship.

18/4/87

YUGOSLAVIA: Union leaders refuse to back miners' strike.

19/4/87

SOUTH AFRICA: Police kill black striker who was attacking two white scabs in Welkom, Orange Free State.

SOUTH KOREA: 358 arrested in Seoul after thousands of people attack riot cops in a demonstration commemorating the people who died in a 1960 uprising which toppled South Korea's first president.

20/4/87

SOUTH AFRICA: In the rail strike which has been going on since March, more than 60 coaches have been destroyed or badly damaged in arson attacks on trains; the cost of the damage has been estimated at £8m.

SPAIN: Rioting in Guernica after a music festival commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Guernica bombing.

21/4/87

ENGLAND: Caterpillar strikers refuse to end their occupation.

Thousands of Warwickshire and Staffordshire miners stage a 24-hour strike demanding the reinstatement of 21 men sacked during the 84/85 strike.

Three 8-year olds cause £2,000 worth of damage in a Leicester children's home. A spokesperson said "It was as if the youngsters were imitating a film of a prison riot".

22/4/87

SOUTH AFRICA: Six striking railway workers shot dead by the cops in clashes around Johannesburg. The State-run South African Transport Services announce that the 16,000 black strikers have been dismissed after a deadline for a return to work expired.

ENGLAND: Production of Vauxhall cars at Luton halted as company lays off 2,500 workers after strike by welding and maintenance workers. Layoffs will cost Vauxhall Motors £4m a day in lost production.

23/4/87

POLAND: 1,700 miners in Labin, NW Poland, defy a management ultimatum to go back to work.

SPAIN: Pilots at Aviaco and Iberia airlines begin work to rule in demand of a 7% pay rise.

27/4/87

SCOTLAND: Caterpillar go back after 103 days of occupation.

SOUTH AFRICA: Running battles with cops involving black and white students at the University of Capetown. Barricades are erected and set on fire at the main entrance to the campus. At least 4 people are injured by birdshot.

LONDON: Over 300 Bengalis facing eviction by Tower Hamlets council (on the grounds that they made themselves intentionally homeless by leaving Bangladesh to join their husbands) invade council chambers after the council refuses to hold an emergency debate on their plight. There are skirmishes with cops who are called to evict them. 6 are arrested - the demonstrators go to the police station to demand their release.

28/4/87

SPAIN: 11 cops hurt in fighting with dockers in Cadiz. Workers are protesting against planned job cuts that will get rid of 1,000 jobs.

ENGLAND: Prison authorities release details of an attack on prison officers which occurred the previous week at Strangeways Prison. Prisoners were told to put their shirts back on in the exercise yard when they wanted to sunbathe and a fight broke out.

SOUTH AFRICA: Over 300 students clashed with cops in protest against the shooting of 6 black railway workers. They carry placards saying "Botha's necklace is ready", "Death to the South African police" and "Long live the spirit of no surrender". There are 21 arrests.

29/4/87

SCOTLAND: Production workers at Babcock Engineering Plant in Renfrew, near Glasgow go on strike in protest at the recruitment of outside workers after the sacking of 12 men at the plant.

LONDON: Stoppage by busworkers in the Kingston area. A meeting is held at Norbiton garage over management attempts to cut wages and change working conditions.

Many of Westminster City Council's 2,000 white collar staff begin a 24-hour strike over pay and conditions.

30/4/87

ENGLAND: 30,000 civil servants are on strike in the Midlands and South-West in protest at a pay offer.

Postal workers in Brixton, South London, go on strike in protest at postmen being transferred from Nine Elms to fill staff shortages. The wildcat strike cuts off mail from 100,000 homes in S.W. London.

MAYDAY

BRAZIL: 300 homeless families occupy an abandoned housing project in Itaipava, Rio de Janeiro.

WEST BERLIN: Riots in the Kreuzberg area. Barricades are set up, shops are looted and burned. 50-60 people arrested, damages come to between 15 and 20 million DM.

DENMARK: Squatters clash with cops in Copenhagen on a demonstration. 19 arrested.

ENGLAND: Doncaster coalfield stopped by lightning pickets from Kent and the Midlands. Yorkshire miners respect picket lines at 7 pits.

COLOMBO, SRI LANKA: Buddhist monks throw rocks at police. 1500 people, including 500 monks, defy a government ban on Mayday rallies.

SPAIN: 3 cops and 1 shipyard worker are hurt in a 5 hour battle sparked by protests at job cuts. Cops use rubber bullets and tear gas to disperse the crowd. No arrests.

SOUTH AFRICA: Cops break up an indoor rally in the Indian town of Lenasia, on the outskirts of Soweto.

POLAND: Several violent clashes between demonstrators and cops at Mayday celebrations in many parts of Poland

5/5/87

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: 3 day strike by 12,000 electricity workers begins in anticipation of an open-ended stoppage the following week. Strikers reject a 3% pay offer, demanding 12% plus fringe benefits which include cheap electricity for their families. Strikers intend to cut capacity by 50%.

ENGLAND: 90% of CPSA and SPCS members in unemployment and social security offices go on strike in London and the South East. Most London local authorities, except Hackney, give emergency payments. The strike also affects customs services, magistrates courts and air traffic control. Over 100 claimants (swelling to 300), supported by a few civil servant strikers, occupy Camden Town Hall to demand emergency payments. Security guards tried to prevent entry by punching people. The Council Chambers are occupied for 6 hours, until the council agrees to pay all local claimants about £28.50



SOUTH AFRICA

Teargassed rail strikers lash back at police in a pre-election incident. But worse may lie ahead.

per person. But the council makes claimants sign a form saying the money could be taken off their future benefit. In Hackney 40 claimants occupy the Town Hall for 2 days before being evicted by cops.

SOUTH AFRICA: Fights with cops and soldiers in 11 townships on the day before the whites-only election. More than 2 million workers are involved in a 2 day stay-away against the elections and the killing of 6 black railway workers. The strike is 90% solid in the Eastern Cape.

6/5/87

BARRANCABERMEJA, COLUMBIA: 2 day strike begins in protest at the death of a 14 year old girl who had been a witness to an attack on pro-Communist Union Patriotica party leaders by a death squad.

REINOSA, N.SPAIN: The death of a steel worker from injuries by the Guardia Civil on April 16th sparks off rioting. The railway lines to Santander and Madrid are cut off when 2 coaches are set on fire. A 2-day strike begins in Reinosa. CCOO and UGT unions call for a general strike in the whole Cantabria region on 7/5.

NIGERIA: 24 condemned convicts are killed in a prison riot.

ENGLAND: 70,000 workers in a one day stoppage in the fifth week of the Civil Servants dispute. Transport and Post Office drivers refuse to cross picket lines at Downing Street. Pickets outside government offices.

7/5/87

ENGLAND: Beginning of 3 days of clashes with cops in St Pauls, Bristol.

8/5/87

ENGLAND: Cops in riot gear in a violent clash with gypsies at a site in Bedford. Several vehicles are damaged, including 2 police vans and a police car. 1 cop slightly hurt.

In Harringay, London, Tottenham Claimants Union calls for claimants to rally at the Civic Centre. CPSA strikers and WALGO union townhall workers agree that payments should be made by the council. 120 Claimants occupy the Council Chamber. The council say they'd agreed to pay out but one WALGO union official refuses to let "his" members sign the cheques. After 4 hours, Council leader Bernie Grant orders staff out of the Town Hall and calls in the cops, who violently evict the occupiers. 80 people then go and occupy the nearby finance department and talk to workers. Cops arrive in 15 minutes. After a meeting in the nearby community centre, they marched down the High road chanting "We want money" and 30 occupy a social security office before going home.

NIGERIA: 16 inmates in Death Row are killed and 17 injured when 70 condemned prisoners riot in Bendel State Prison in Lagos, barely 24 hours after another protest was crushed at Benin City Prison in south-west Nigeria.

SOUTH KOREA: 26 students arrested in protests at Chosun and Hang-Yang universities in Seoul.

9/5/87

ENGLAND: 2 cops are injured when their patrol car is attacked by stones and other missiles in the St Paul's area of Bristol on the third day of disturbances.

SOUTH AFRICA: Violence in black townships after the whites-only general election.

WEST BERLIN: Hundreds demonstrate against a compulsory government census.

10/5/87

ENGLAND: 24-hour bus strike in London by almost 20,000 bus workers over intended private tendering of some routes. An arson attack destroys a double decker bus in Shepherds Bush Bus Garage.

SRI LANKA: University of Colombo brought to a virtual standstill by militant students. On 5/5 students held staff hostage for over 5 hours. An Action Committee links students on all 9 campuses and has clashed with cops and a moderate student organisation, the Independent Students' Union. The staff kidnapping was a protest at the police murder of a student and another youth on May 1st during a banned demo. On 3/5 9 people are arrested for anti-government graffiti and poster sticking and in response 5 law faculty and another staff member are held. After an initial refusal the university authorities granted the students' demands that the detainees would be released and no action would be taken against the hostage takers. Disturbances followed at 3 campuses in the next 24 hours. A total of 35 lecturers were seized and 28 students released from custody. Colombo University has been surrounded by cops for 6 months.

11/5/87

YUGOSLAVIA: Miners end their 33-day-old strike after securing many of their demands including the resignation of several managers and up to 46% pay rises.

13/5/87

ZAMBIA: Rioting youths in Kitwe wreck shops and assault a cop in actions against traders refusing to lower their prices in line with the new economic policy.

WALES: Production at Penallta colliery, Mid Glamorgan, stops when 250 miners walk out claiming that they should be allowed to come to the surface to change into dry clothing during shifts.

SOUTH KOREA: Nearly 10,000 students hold rallies and clash with riot police in anti-government protests throughout the country.

17/5/87

SPAIN: 500 drinkers go on rampage in Pamplona in protest at earlier closing hours. The angry crowd throw paint over the walls of the town hall, smash windows and then fight with cops until early in the morning.

18/5/87

SOUTH KOREA: Thousands of riot cops in the South Western city of Khangju prevent repeated attempts by students, workers and religious activists to stage street demonstrations on the anniversary of the army's crushing of the city's 1980 civilian uprising.

19/5/87

TAIWAN: Riot cops seal off main roads in Taipei to stop thousands of demonstrators marching on the presidential office to protest against 38 years of martial law.

SPAIN: Workers are locked out of the state-owned Astilleros Espanoles shipyard in the town of Puerto Real near Cadiz. The shipyard has been the scene of violent clashes between cops and workers since the beginning of the year, as a result of a plan to reduce its losses. Management now announce they are closing the plant. Strikes break out in the Asturias and Leon mines in protest against restructuring plans. Reinosa experiences new disturbances as workers cut the main railway line to Madrid to protest against proposed layoffs.

20/5/87

HONDURAS: Peasants seize land in protest at the failure of the government to implement land reforms. The 7 peasant organisations involved claim to have mobilised 20,000 members to demand more than 400,000 acres of land, of which they demand that 60,000 be distributed immediately. Heavily armed security police eventually dislodge the protesters.

22/5/87

ENGLAND: The London bus dispute continues as 20,000 bus workers are recalled to their

garages by their union at lunchtime for disruptive meetings. The unions move, initiated without prior warning, brings most services to a standstill. London Buses have revealed plans for major pay cuts throughout the capital over the next five years.

25/5/87

SCOTLAND: 130 men stop work at Ravenscraig Steelworks in Motherwell in protest at the sacking of 2 workers for leaving the plant without permission.

26/5/87

ENGLAND: Shops are looted after open air concert in Harlesden, London.

27/5/87

SCOTLAND: The strike at Ravenscraig escalates when 300 men walk out.

SOUTH KOREA: Thousands of demonstrators in street battles with cops.

SPAIN: Shipyard workers in Cadiz battle with cops for the third day, a few hours after taking part in violent clashes that left 14 people injured. In Puerto Real workers blockading the Cadiz-Madrid road are attacked by cops, leaving 50 wounded.

28/5/87

ECUADOR: The government order troops to occupy all installations in the pacific port of Esmeraldas after municipal authorities announce an indefinite strike for better amenities in the city.

30-31/5/87

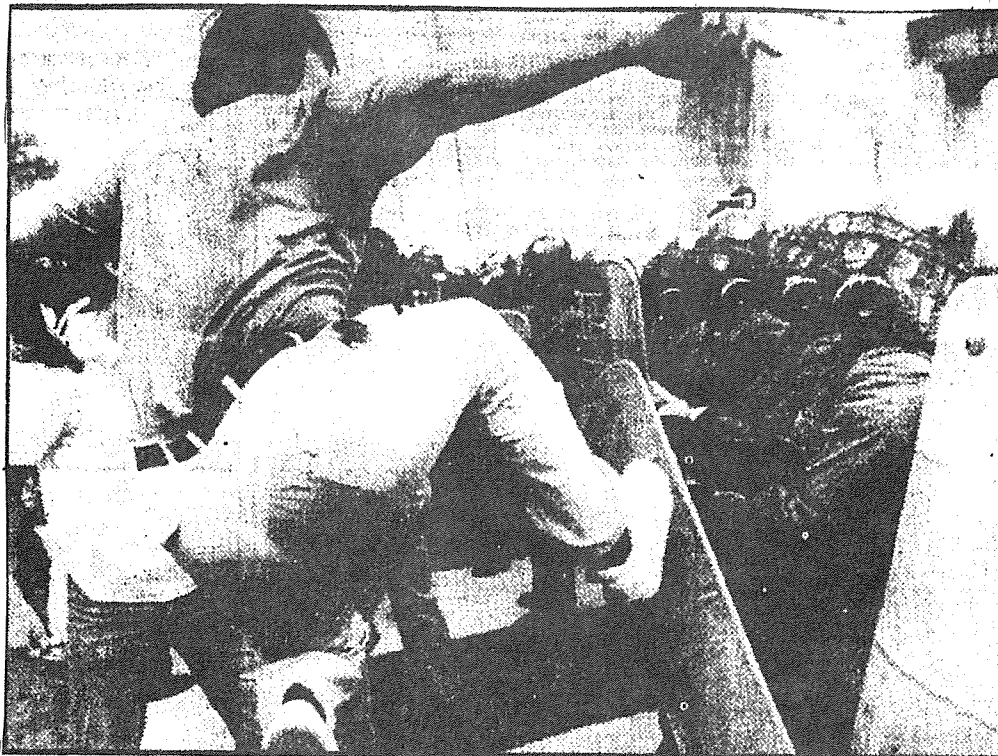
INDIA: A peasant uprising breaks out in the East Indian state of Bihar. A 700 strong crowd of lower-caste landless peasants attack 2 villages in the Aurangabad district and kill 7 landlord families. The killings are believed to be in retaliation for an earlier attack by landlord groups which killed 7 peasants last month.

SOUTH KOREA: 600 Buddhist monks and lay people fight riot cops with their fists during an anti-government demonstration in Seoul.

SPAIN: Puerto Real workers' mass assembly decides to organise activity with workers in the largest firms in the region.

2/6/87

ENGLAND: In London, Bloomsbury and Middlesex hospital workers hold a 1-day strike in protest against cuts in jobs and services.



A student takes a flying kick at riot police during demonstrations outside Seoul University

USSR: About 150 youths rampage outside a cop station in the Soviet Far East, overturning cars and smashing windows. The trouble was sparked off when a crowd of youths went to the cop station to rescue three friends arrested after fights at a dancehall.

3/6/87

ENGLAND: A Conservative party headquarters in Stamford Hill, N. London is gutted in an arson attack one week before the General Election.

Vandals wreck the campaign car of Tory candidate John Heddle hours before he is due to ferry former defence minister Michael Heseltine around mid-Staffordshire.

With events that can be portrayed as struggles for democracy, it's acceptable for the Western "democratic" press to show the police getting some stick, without the intention of inciting sympathy for the cops.

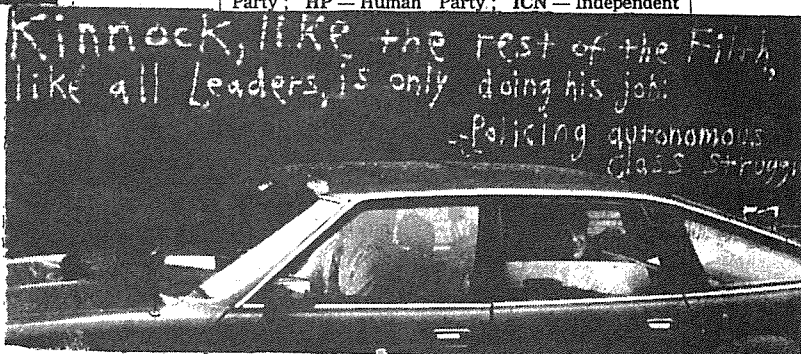
ELECTION 87: FINAL RESULTS



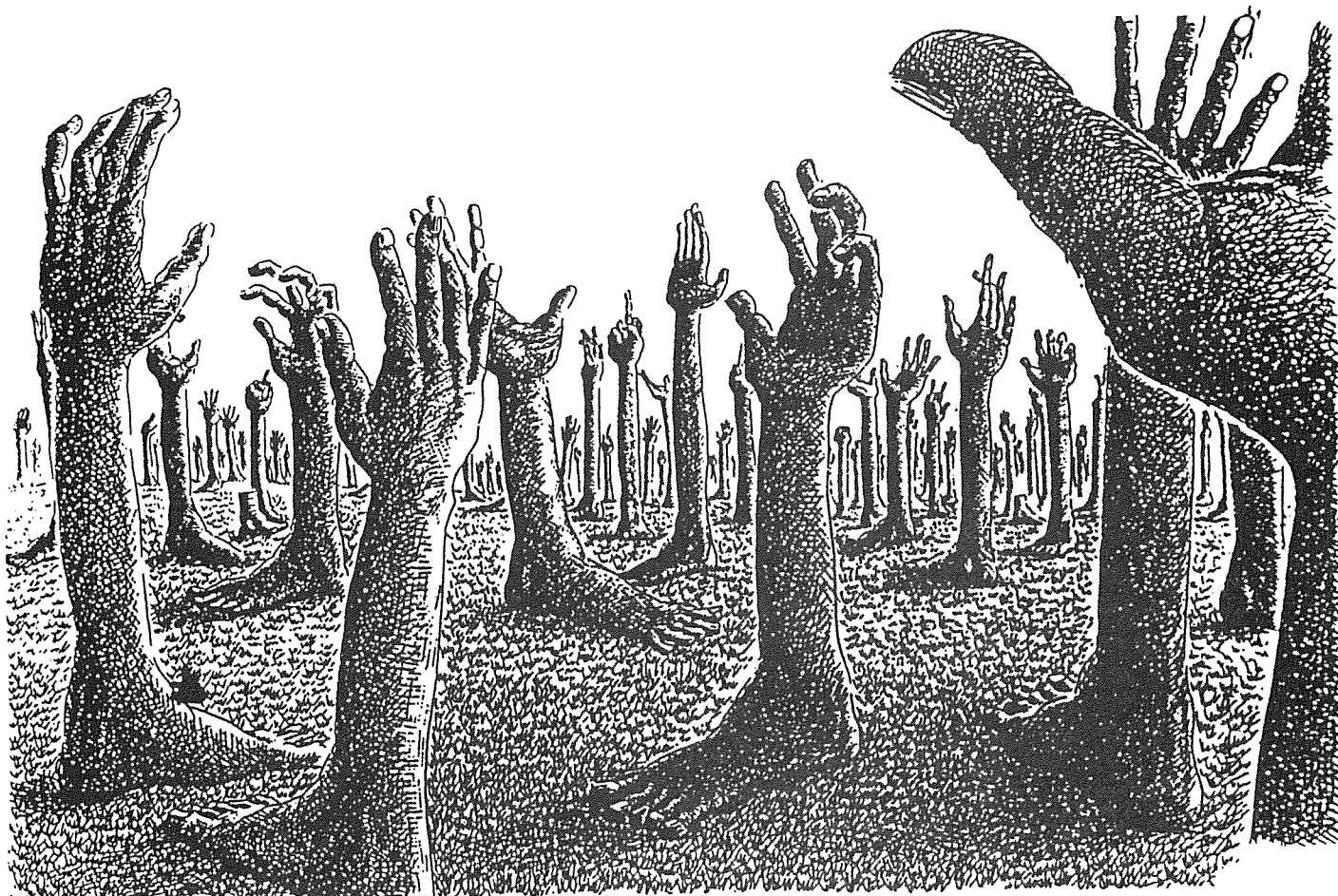
Key to the parties

C — Conservative; Lab — Labour; Lab Co-op — Labour and Co-operative; L — Liberal; SDP — Social Democratic Party; SNP — Scottish National Party; Comm — Communist; Workers Rev — Workers Revolutionary Party; RF — Red Front; OUP — Official Unionist Party; DUP — Democratic Unionist Party; Pop U — Popular Unionist Party; SDLP — Social Democratic and Labour Party; SF — Sinn Féin; BN — British Nationalist; Bread — Creek Road Fresh Bread Party; BT — Blamange Thrower; CC — Independent Community Campaigner, East Oxford People; CD — Christian Democrat; CMNHY — Common Market No, Hanging Yes; CPRP — Capital Punishment Referendum Party; CPWSML — Capital Punishment Will Save More Lives; CSOSMG — Christian Socialist Opposing Secret Masonic Government; DC — Democratic Commonwealth Party; Dem — Democrat; Ex Lab Mod — Ex Labour Moderate; Falkland — Right of Falkland Islands to Elect Westminster MP; FDP — Fancy Dress Party; FF — Feudal Party; GP — Gold Party; HP — Human Party; ICN — Independent

Christian Nationalist; Ind — Independent; LAPP — Let's Have Another Party Party; LO — Law and Order; Loony — Official Monster Raving Loony Party; ML — Moderate Labour; NFFG — National Front Flag Group; NPR — National People's Rally; OFP — Official Fidgeyious Party; OOBPC — Only Official Best Party Candidate; OSM — Orkney and Shetland Movements; PIP — Public Independent Plaintiff; Prot U — Protestant Unionist; PRP — Protestant Reformation Party; Rabies — Rainbow Alliance Brixton Insane Extremist Section; Rainbow — Rainbow Alliance; RCP — Return Capital Punishment; Real U — Real Unionist; RRRPC — Revolutionary Reform Party Representative of Christ; SE — Spare the Earth; SPGB — Socialist Party of Great Britain; WP — Workers' Party.



DEMOCRACY



5/6/87

SOUTH KOREA: Riot cops fire teargas to disperse 4,000 students demonstrating at 3 universities against the student Park Chong-Chol's death by police torture in January.
SOUTH AFRICA: A trade union leader announces that 16,000 black railway workers who were sacked in April after a two month strike - during which 6 workers were shot dead by cops - will be re-employed. The sacked workers will resume work without loss of any benefits, and some of their grievances will be redressed.
ENGLAND: Bricks are thrown through the window of a Labour Party headquarters in Stoke Newington, North London, two days after the arson attack on a Tory Party headquarters, only yards along the same road.

6/6/87

ENGLAND: 5 cops are sprayed with teargas in a pub fight in Stoke Newington, North London.

7/6/87

ENGLAND: 5 cops are sprayed with teargas as they try to quell streetfighting in Shrewsbury, Shropshire. The gas is thought to have come from CS canisters bought on the Continent.

8/6/87

EAST BERLIN: Youths who assembled to listen to the sounds drifting over the Berlin Wall of a rock concert in West Berlin are involved in clashes with cops. Scuffles break out when cops push forward and charge the crowd of 3,000. Motorcyclists with their lights on full beam drive up from behind the crowd, dazzling cops and breaking through their lines before being arrested. Slogans shouted include "Gorbachev", "Down with the pigs", "The Wall must go" and "Rosa Luxemburg". Over 20 people are arrested.

WALES: Production at 4 South Wales pits stops when 2,800 miners at Abernant, Bettws, Blaenau and Cyheidre collieries strike for 24 hours in protest at British Coal's new arrangements for the supply of concessionary coal. The miners say that the quality and amount of the coal they receive is being reduced.

SWEDEN: Clashes between cops and stone-throwing demonstrators in Stockholm outside the hotel where Nancy Reagan is staying. 90 people arrested.

BRITAIN: Flights over Britain are cut by half as 300 air traffic control assistants walk out in a 24-hour stoppage.

Social security and employment office workers are on a 2-day stoppage. 15 people at GCHQ communications centre defy the ban on unions there and walk out.

9/6/87

SOUTH KOREA: More clashes between students and cops. Nearly 10,000 students demonstrate, demanding the resignation of the president. 2,000 are arrested.

10/6/87

SOUTH KOREA: Anti-government demonstrators stage some of the most violent and widespread protests since President Chun Doo seized power. A deployment of 120,000 soldiers and cops fails to crush protests in 18 cities which leave one student close to death and another severely injured. At a soccer match in Mason between South Korea and Egypt players walk off the pitch overcome by teargas. Over 2,000 are arrested.

11/6/87

PANAMA: The government proclaims a national state of emergency after 3 days of demonstrations.

WEST BERLIN: Anarchists and other protesters smash bank windows and fight cops in an anti-American demonstration on the eve of a visit by President Reagan.

SOUTH KOREA: Violent anti-government demonstrations continue with combat police besieging hundreds of rock-throwing protesters around the Catholic cathedral in Seoul.

WALES: Police in South Wales call for reinforcements in their campaign to catch organised gangs of raiders who have hijacked over £10,000 worth of coal this year from trains travelling down the Cynon Valley. Much of the booty from the raids is rumoured to be sold cheap or given free to those in need.

12/6/87

SOUTH KOREA: Clashes between cops and thousands of demonstrators continue.

13/6/87

SOUTH AFRICA: 6 people and 2 cops injured in riots on the first anniversary of the state of emergency; cars and buses stoned and schools set on fire in Kwandebele homeland.

MID JUNE

SCOTLAND: 21 workers at the Ardbride factory in Androssan finish their strike which began in September '86. They went on strike in protest at unhealthy working conditions and demanding higher pay. The TGWU refused to give strike pay and hardship payment

was only offered after strikers gatecrashed a union meeting to demand it. Solidarity pickets were mounted in USA, West Germany, France, Denmark and at least 19 branches around Britain by claimants and workers. In April the boss, Ross, offered the strikers £1,800 each to call off the strike which they refused to do. Later in the month they were offered their jobs back as "new starts" making them more vulnerable to redundancy on the "last in, first out" principle. The TGWU withdrew all backing after the strikers refused a union directive to accept the latest offer by the bosses. 6 weeks later the strike ended.

15/6/87

SOUTH KOREA: 7,000 students fight fierce running street battles with the cops, in Seoul, just hours after 200 students' siege of the Catholic cathedral ends peacefully. 64,000 students demonstrate in 45 universities across the country.

16/6/87

SOUTH AFRICA: 1 million people in Soweto stay away from work on the 11th anniversary of the Soweto uprising.

ENGLAND: 28 people are arrested at a rally outside the South African Embassy in London to mark the 1976 Soweto uprising.

SPAIN: Workers and riot police clash at Euskalduna shipyard in Bilbao.

SOUTH KOREA: More street battles between cops and thousands of demonstrators.

17/6/87

DHAKA, BANGLADESH: Nearly 100 students are arrested after clashes with the cops, and 1,700 expelled from college, as the government tries to stop a wave of cheating in examinations that started last week. Cops fire birdshot at 5 examination centres to disperse crowds trying to pass notes to friends inside.

SOUTH AFRICA: A hunger strike is begun at Modderbee jail, on the East Rand, by 45 South African prisoners being held in detention without trial under the country's state of emergency. They describe it as a "life or death" protest against "long months of pain and suffering" and are demanding their immediate and unconditional release.

SOUTH KOREA: Massive street battles continue. In Chinju 300 students occupy a stretch of motorway and briefly threaten to blow up 2 liquefied gas tankers. In Seoul the trial of 5 cops accused of murdering the student Park Chong-Chol, opens with angry courtroom scenes. The uproar forces the judge to adjourn the case for 3 days.



South Africa; shooting down police helicopters is child's play - they won't always be toy guns.

18/6/87

SOUTH KOREA: Fresh clashes break out between cops and huge crowds throughout the country. Street fighting breaks out at a rally to mark "anti-teargas Day" in the capital, Seoul. Cops break up the gathering - with teargas. In the southern port city of Pusan, the scene of several violent clashes recently, 80,000 people demonstrate in the streets.

18-19/6/87

SCOTLAND: Claimants occupy Lothian regional council HQ in Edinburgh to demand emergency payments after giro's are delayed by civil servants' strike action.

19/6/87

BELGIUM: 24-hour strike by public sector workers. The stoppage virtually paralyses Brussels airport and disrupts rail, postal and other services across the country.

SOUTH KOREA: Violent demonstrations in provincial cities continue while most of Seoul is calm. In one clash demonstrators in a van mow down a line of riot cops, one of whom later died - the first death in 10 days of violent protests and rioting. In Pusan, students run riot into the early hours of the morning, while in Taigon rioters set fire to a police van seriously injuring 4 cops. At Seoul's Korea University, 3,000 students armed with iron bars and clubs battle with cops for 4 hours. At Hankuk University, cops send in a martial arts squad to tackle students hurling firebombs. During the past week's clashes, cops have been surrounded by demonstrators, had their weapons and gas masks taken from them, their riot equipment set on fire and been physically beaten by the crowd.



Plainclothes police (left) trying to seize a militant during clashes in Seoul

21/6/87

MALTA: Rioting outside the law courts by Labour opposition supporters. The crowd enter and damage the buildings, scatter documents and loot nearby shops.

PANAMA: The government orders an indefinite extension of the 10 day old state of emergency.

ENGLAND: Rioting in the Chapeltown area of Leeds. About 70 youths smash shop windows, loot and attack the cops after they arrest a young man and beat him.

BANGLADESH: A general strike called by the opposition in protest against proposed new taxes brings the country to a standstill.

SOUTH KOREA: Street demonstrations continue.

22/6/87

ENGLAND: Rioting in Chapeltown continues until 4 A.M.

SOUTH KOREA: Over 20,000 take to the streets in the twelfth consecutive day of demonstrations, ignoring an early summer recess called by the university authorities in the hope of quelling the disturbances.

23/6/87

ENGLAND: Rioting in Chapeltown, Leeds, continues. Shops, cars and police vehicles are petrol bombed and stoned. A sex shop, believed to have been used for police surveillance, is burnt out.

5 cops are injured in 2 outbreaks of street fighting involving gangs of youths on the Sparrowhall estate at Fazakerley in Liverpool. In the first incident the car's occupants escape after touring the estate apparently inviting a chase, according to the cops. Pursuing officers are then stoned by youths waiting at street corners. 2 youths are arrested and charged with assaulting the police. After the second incident,

2 other youths are charged with theft and another 2 with threatening behaviour.
SOUTH KOREA: 20,000 students from across the country gather at Yonsei University in Seoul and vow to continue the struggle to topple President Chun's regime.

24/6/87

SOUTH KOREA: Hundreds of demonstrators clash with cops in Seoul causing chaos around one of the main railway stations.

ENGLAND: A 2-day strike by civil servants in London and the South begins. Unemployment, social security and jobcentres are affected.

ISRAEL: Thousands of Arab citizens come out on a one day strike, dubbed "the day of equality", in protest at what they describe as the governments' "apartheid policies" towards 17% of Israel's population. Businesses, schools and factories are closed in the big mostly Arab towns like Nazareth and Acre, but government offices and bus companies operate normally. Many employees defy the stoppage call and turn up for work as usual. Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza generally fail to respond to the call to strike in solidarity with their comrades in Israel, but security forces close down 2 universities in Nablus and Bethlehem in what is described as a "preventative measure". In Nablus, however, masked men achieve a total closure of shops in the old casbah in the town centre by throwing stones at shopkeepers.

25/6/87

FRANCE: Flights over France are disrupted by a 24 hour strike by air traffic controllers. The strike marks the escalation of a 10 week campaign of industrial action by France's 2,000 air traffic controllers.

CHILE: Cops arrest over 100 students in Santiago during a peaceful protest over state grants.

SOUTH AFRICA: 800 troops and cops raid a densely populated squatter camp outside Capetown, arresting 110 blacks.



SOUTH KOREA

26/6/87

SOUTH KOREA: The centre of Seoul becomes a huge battlefield between tens of thousands of demonstrators and massed ranks of riot police. Traffic is stopped in front of students hurling rocks and petrol bombs amid exploding teargas canisters. Bus and car drivers blow their horns in support of the students, while passengers raise clenched fists and lean out of the windows, chanting "down with the military

dictatorship". Riots break out in Pusan and other big cities. The cops make hundreds of violent arrests.

ENGLAND: Post boxes in the WC1 and WC2 postal districts of London are sealed and collections to and from 20,000 addresses halted because of a strike by postmen. Over 900 staff at the New Oxford St sorting office walk out in a dispute over the employment of casual staff to handle a record increase in mail.

6 youths appear in Leeds court in connection with the Chapeltown riots. They face various charges, including robbery, burglary and arson, and are remanded either in custody or into the care of the local authority.

29/6/87

ENGLAND: A mass meeting of workers employed at General Motors' van plant in Luton reject a company ultimatum to accept Japanese-style industrial relations. The company, which is insisting on a strike-free agreement and acceptance of 500 redundancies out of a workforce of 1700, has said that it would shut the plant and call off its joint venture with the Japanese motor manufacturers Isuzu unless the new working practices were agreed in outline form by the local workforce by tonight. The proposed practices include changes in arbitration and collective bargaining procedures, and changes in pay grades, job specifications and pay structures. About 370 redundancies are also required.

Building workers employed by the direct labour building department of London Transport go on all out strike demanding the lifting of 13 compulsory redundancies.

SOUTH KOREA: The head of South Korea's ruling party, Roh Tae Woo, capitulates to weeks of popular protest and urges President Chun Doo Hwan to accept direct presidential elections.

HAITI: Haiti is paralysed by the second general strike in week. Shops and businesses close, all public transport is halted, and demonstrators in provincial towns build barricades in protest against the government's dissolution of the main trade union federation and its refusal to accept the authority of the independent council set up to supervise the elections culminating in a presidential poll next November. Troops fire on stone-throwing demonstrators in the capital Port-au-Prince.

30/6/87

HAITI: Demonstrators seal off all roads into Port-au-Prince with burning barricades on the second day of the general strike. Troops in newly-supplied US riot gear fire on protestors who block streets with telegraph poles, parts of vehicles and burning tyres. Occasional shots ring out around the city as soldiers fire warning rounds into the air to disperse protestors. Groups of protestors in the slum area of Martissant tell reporters that if the Ruling Council of National Government did not resign within 60 hours "then we'll burn, burn, burn."

BRAZIL: Rioters set fire to buses and attack police vehicles in the centre of Rio de Janeiro to protest against a 50% rise in bus fares. The rise was authorised by a judge



BRAZIL

and the damage at the end of 7 hours of rioting included 200 wrecked buses, 20 burnt out, 40 people injured, including several cops, and 70 people, including children, detained. But the rioters get their way - the fare increases are withdrawn. The entire centre of Rio de Janeiro is transformed into a battlefield with huge clouds of teargas, burning buses and running battles between cops and rioters. The bus passengers hurl stones, shouting "Sarney (the president) out" and "Death to Sarney." A few days earlier, also in Rio, hostile crowds surrounded a bus in which President Jose Sarney and a committee were carrying out a programme of cultural visits and stoned it.

PANAMA: Thousands take to the capital's streets just hours after the government lifts a 20-day state-of-emergency. The demonstrators, protesting against US intervention in Panama's affairs, stone the American embassy building.

1/7/86

HAITI: Organisers of the general strike aimed at forcing Haiti's military government to resign say they will continue the stoppage after troops and cops shot dead 10 people in the worst violence since the 29-year Duvalier family dictatorship collapsed last year. The strike is partly suspended for 24 hours to allow people to recoup their forces to prepare for today's resumption, according to strike leaders. Earlier, trees and burning tyres block all of the country's main roads and scores of blazing barricades halt all activity in the capital. Lorries carrying helmeted cops and troops chase demonstrators back into the city's slums with rifle fire and teargas. Anti-government protests erupt in most provincial towns.

SOUTH KOREA: President Chun appears on TV to endorse the plan for political reform put forward by Roh Tae Woo.

ENGLAND: High Wycombe - 4 cops injured, 1 badly after chasing a suspected car thief into a festival.

2/7/86

ENGLAND: In London striking women textile workers protest outside the Baker St headquarters of Marks and Spencers after being told to take a pay cut or be sacked. The 14 women are machinists, packers and examiners for the Corah textile group, Ashton Under Lyne, where they make underwear for M & S.

The anniversary of the Keetons strike in Sheffield is marked by a demonstration outside the picketed plant, attended by nearly 200 people. The 35 workers were sacked a year ago for refusing to work on more than one machine.

3/7/87

SPAIN: About 120 prisoners mutiny and seize 16 prison workers as hostages. The mutiny starts in Badajoz jail after 2 prisoners armed with pistols demand an escape van.

HAITI: 7 people are shot dead by troops in Port-au-Prince after organisers of the general strike which has paralysed Haiti for the past week reject as inadequate government concessions aimed at solving the conflict. 20 people have been killed by security forces during the unrest. Anti-government demonstrations and burning street barricades appear in many provincial towns and troops fire rifles into the air in Cite Soleil, the capital's rebellious main slum, throughout much of the night.

4/7/87

ENGLAND: Street fighting in the Brick Lane area of East London. At the Alma pub in Hanbury Rd, white racists abuse Bengali youths. This develops into a pitched battle in which Bengali bystanders join in. Shop windows are smashed and cars damaged before cops quell the fighting. 3 whites and 4 Bengalis are arrested.

5/7/87

SOUTH KOREA: More clashes between students and riot cops, sparked by the death of the student Lee Han Yol from head injuries after being hit by a tear gas cannister during a demonstration over 3 weeks ago. Cops fire volleys of tear gas at 2,000 students chanting "Down with the military dictator" at the gates of Seoul's Yonsei University where Lee was wounded. Students reply by hurling rocks. There are also clashes in the southern city of Kwangju between about a thousand people and riot cops.

HAITI: Tens of thousands protest for the second day running against the government of Henri Namphy by honking car horns, banging metal posts and ringing hand bells.

6/7/87

SOUTH KOREA: At Seoul's Yonsei University, where students have built a shrine for the student who died yesterday, riot cops used teargas against 4,000 protesters who try to march out of the campus gates. The government frees 177 political prisoners.

ENGLAND: 1,700 workers at General Motors plant in Luton, vote 789 to 605 in a secret ballot to accept the introduction of Japanese-style work practices. The company had threatened to close the plant within days if the proposals were not accepted.

A petrol bomb is hurled into Lavender Hill police Station in Battersea in South London. The petrol bomb causes extensive damage and puts the station out of action. One cop is treated for smoke inhalation. A man is later arrested.

7/7/87

FRANCE: The government, deadlocked in a 12 week pension dispute with air traffic controllers, announces it is planning a tough new law to curb the controllers' right to strike.

8/7/87

EL SALVADOR: Some 20 people are injured, including several cops and two journalists, when cops open fire to break up a clash with striking government workers in the capital, San Salvador.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Officials announce that thousands of tribesmen armed with arrows and spears have disrupted vote-counting in national elections. Election officials fled polling booths carrying ballot boxes, and, in some cases, recounting had been ordered in order to avoid nasty incidents.

EARLY JULY

BORNEO: Over ten tribes in Northern Borneo have united to fight for their homes against timber companies owned by government officials, who are cutting down the rainforests, leaving five million acres of "moonscape". Roads are being blocked, company bridges and machinery sabotaged and blowpipe attacks launched against logging camps.

SOUTH KOREA: Another 357 political prisoners are freed. The Ministry of Justice said that another 86 leading members of "radical leftist groups" and other "unrepentant" offenders, were not released.

A South Korean riot police officer beats one of his men to death for disobeying an order at a demonstration, watched by 40 other cops. Young men have been conscripted into the police during the recent unrest.

9/7/87

ENGLAND: 500 workers end their 4 day sit-in at a Lucas aerospace factory in Birmingham. They were protesting over the disciplining of 2 shop stewards who were taking apprentices to see Neil Kinnock.

10/7/87

PANAMA: Troops use teargas to break up demonstrations as thousands of protesters defy a ban on public protest and take to the streets of Panama City to demand the resignation of the country's military strongman, General Noriega. At least 9 of the demonstrators, most of them from Panama's flourishing middle class, were injured when cops fired shotguns into the crowd.

HAITI: Over 10,000 demonstrators shouting abuse against the US and the armed forces march through the capital. Some carry coffins representing the score of people shot dead by troops during the week-long general strike. Over 300 are arrested.

AUSTERITY AND ANGER



Police cars burnt by protesters in Brazil

11/7/87

ENGLAND:Rioting prisoners at Dartmoor Prison burn down a shed,smash windows and throw lumps of masonry at cellblocks,causing about £600 worth of damage.The men are protesting about cuts in recreation periods because of staff shortages.

SPAIN:Civil guards clash with demonstrators in the northern town of Riano,whose inhabitants are protesting at the destruction of their homes to make way for a dam. Rioting started after an old man shot himself dead - apparently because he was worried about his future once his house had been demolished.There are also more clashes in Reinosa.

12/7/87

BANGLADESH: Cops baton charge nearly 10,000 anti-government protesters who are trying to march to the parliament in Dhaka.Over 100 people are injured.

BRAZIL: Thousands take part in an anti-government rally in Sao Paulo's cathedral square to call for presidential elections which would be the first in 27 years.

SOUTH AFRICA: Cops fire shotguns at a group of stone-throwing black youths,injuring 18 of them,in Mohlakeng township west of Johannesburg.

14/7/87

ENGLAND:Postal services in the Ilford,Gants Hill and Seven Kings areas of East London are badly disrupted when 200 postmen walk out in a row over overtime payments.About 120 postboxes are sealed.

TAIWAN:The president decrees the end of 38 years of martial law,which has been in force since 1949 when the Kuomintang Nationalist forces fled to Taiwan after being defeated by the Maoist "Communists" in China.This follows recent protests demanding its abolition.

BRAZIL: More than 300 people,desperate for food steal over 100 tonnes of soya beans and coffee from 2 trains in the coastal town of Guaruja.

15/7/87

ENGLAND: 6,000 miners at 6 pits in South Yorkshire come out on strike in response to visits by flying pickets.The dispute is over the new disciplinary code introduced by British Coal.At Frickley pit,near Barnsley,900 men have been on indefinite strike since 13/7.They are supporting 6 miners who were told to attend a disciplinary hearing because,they say,they refused to go back to work in the middle of a break.

16/7/87

ENGLAND: 9 more pits join the strike,bringing the number at a standstill to 16 out of 18 in the South Yorkshire coalfield.



ZUSMIECHEM PRACUJE SIĘ LEPIEJ

*« Avec un sourire
on travaille
mieux »*



" One works better with a smile "

Lenin snub

AN angry Soviet collective farm chairman ordered a statue of Lenin to be buried in a ditch because he said it had been imposed on him by the local authorities. Pravda reported yesterday. Alexander Rodionov from the Lenin Memorial farm at Meshchorka, in the Yelets region of central Russia, said: " We didn't order it or pay for it. It was sent by them in Yelets. " - Reuters

GAMES FOR A LAUGH

February '87, USA: The Georgia State legislature passes a bill that will prevent Mickey Mouse from receiving legal votes in Georgia elections. Mickey is a popular choice for voters who would rather write in a name than vote for a candidate on the ballot. The cartoon character must have received plenty of votes for them to have taken such action.

27/4/87, JAPAN: 3 people dressed in business suits spray shit in 3 branches of the Sumitomo bank in Tokyo's central business district. The three are arrested but refuse to answer questions.

15/5/87 PERU: Striking policemen occupy 3 police stations in Lima. At one station they chant "The police united will never be defeated" while raising clenched fists. Their demands include wage increases, shorter working hours and the issue of spare uniforms and more bullets.

17/5/87: The cops give up after the president threatens to send in troops to evict them from a barracks they have been occupying.

22/5/87 USA: Prison officials and police in Canon City, Colorado are trying to figure out how inmates were able to produce \$213,000 in counterfeit money in a prison print shop. A spokesperson called the bills low quality but "passable" and said none of the money was believed to have been circulated outside the prison.

SOME BACKGROUND ON RECENT EVENTS IN SOUTH KOREA

According to an article in Business Week, 15/8/85 - "The Unrest that could Stall Seoul's Growth Engine" - the strikes of 1985 in South Korea, caused by the slackening of economic growth, were "organised" by students who went to factories after the repressing of the 1980 students riots. For the first six months of 1985, 146 strikes broke out, twice more than for the previous year. Managers said; "If we don't improve labour relations now, it will become the country's biggest problem." In a car factory (General Motors), 2000 workers went on wildcat strike and got an 18% pay rise; 5 "leaders" were put in jail. Another strike in Daewoo Apparel Co. sparked sympathy strikes at 7 other companies. For 5 days, 250 strikes were blockaded without food and water by the police so that pro-management gangs could beat them out. 700 workers were fired and 35 "leaders" arrested. Another top manager told the newspaper "The labour problem has become the eye of a typhoon".

STON PRESS

SOME RECENT PRISON STRUGGLES IN FRANCE

11 & 12 /07/87 : Women from Fleury-Merogis prison on the outskirts of Paris refuse to return to their cells following the afternoon exercise period.

13/07/87 : 200 detainees from the Fleury-Merogis women prison refuse again to go back in the cells , protesting against overcrowding in the prisons . Riot squads intervene inside the prison . Also , in Loos-les-Lille men's prison , 6 detainees climb onto the roof-tops .

14/07/87 : 18 women are transferred to other prisons when the punishment cells are filled . 20 detainees from the mens prison in Fleury-Merogis climb onto the roof-tops . The prison is surrounded by cops . They try to shout from the roofs , " No slow death " , " Solidarity with the women " , " No to the crushing isolation " , " No to the punishment blocks " , " No to the overcrowding " . Also in Douai , 50 prisoners climb onto the roof-tops .

15/07/87 : Agitation occurs at Fleury . In Rouen , 100 prisoners climb onto the roof-tops . The authorities reply with transfers to other prisons and confinement in punishment blocks . In Fresnes (outskirts of Paris) , prisoners announce they will go on strike from the 20th of July regarding exercise time , workshop , solicitors visiting time . The prisoners will also refuse the food offered by the authorities (as a form of collective resistance which causes disruption in the prison) and survive on the food they can buy in prison. They protest against a fellow prisoners' death. He died after a six-month hunger strike.

16/07/87 : In the morning , about 100 detainees climb onto the roof-tops of the prison of the Baumettes in Marseille . They take possession of a crane , destroy the entrance of the woodwork shop and set it on fire . They destroy also most of the cells of the B wing of the prison . Mattresses , furniture , the dining-hall are set on fire . The riot squads intervene violently with CS gas , truncheoning detainees . 15 injured , one seriously .

17/07/87 : Lord Chancellor (Albin Chalandon) announces all agitators will be judged immediately and that the detainees will have to pay the damages from their own money . In the Baumettes , agitation continues . Riot squads intervene again to prevent a group of detainees climbing onto the roof-tops . All family visiting time is cancelled .

18/07/87 : Prisoners in Colmar refuse to return to their cells , and they destroy furniture in the cells , setting mattresses on fire , after hearing of the death of one of their mates in the infirmary two days before . Riot squads intervene . Also in Amiens , detainees refuse to return in the cells .



PRISON REVOLT IN FRANCE, MAY 1985

Background to the Frickley dispute

Dayshift, 22/6/87

5 men sent to work a face, normal manpower is 9. The men said they wanted more men to be able to work face. Management refused to send any more men, so after futile discussions men said they would go home rather than cut so short-handed. These 5 then received a recorded delivery letter at home telling them that they had to face the manager and be interviewed under the new disciplinary procedure. All 5, along with branch officials, faced the manager as a group and were told that their unofficial action would not be tolerated. They received a formal warning and were informed that any future occurrences could result in their dismissal.

Nightshift, 26/6/87

This was the last shift before Frickley's annual holidays. The 5 men at the centre of the dispute were deployed onto a face to carry on with work that had been taking place all week (not cutting, but dinting, which is cleaning the floor up to give a higher seam section). The men worked through their meal break (none of them had a watch), completing 26 metres (12 metres more than the previous best for a complete shift) before deciding to have their break, intending to recommence work after the 20 minutes due to them. After 10 minutes the deputy came along and told them that he wanted them back to work as the break time had finished long before. They told him they wouldn't until they'd finished eating. The deputy went away and on returning a couple of minutes later told them that he'd phoned the surface and stopped their time as of now. The men said that if their time was being stopped they'd leave the pit, which they did (the media tried to make out that they'd just left work early for the holidays). During the holidays each of the men received a recorded delivery letter telling them they'd be interviewed by the manager under the new disciplinary code on resumption of work, 13/7/87. The letters gave specific times for the interviews and when the men compared them they discovered they were to be interviewed individually, with a representative of their Trade Union or they could be represented by a fellow worker (both of these were dependant on management's approval). The men contacted their branch and said they wouldn't be interviewed individually. On 13/7/87 the NUM branch approached the manager and asked him if he would interview the men as a group as had been the format with past incidents of this kind, but he said, "No - I will see them on my terms or not at all". The branch tried all day to get the manager to change his mind but he wouldn't. The 5 men were on nights that week and the manager said they wouldn't be allowed to work Monday night because they hadn't been interviewed; he was busy all day Tuesday and couldn't interview them so they wouldn't be allowed to work Tuesday night, so in effect, they were suspended. The Frickley branch called a special meeting for that night (13/7/87) and the branch officials recommended calling a special S. Yorks panel meeting to consider the problem, but the meeting rejected this & voted 534 to 30 in favour of striking and sending pickets out.

SOME ASPECTS OF BRITISH COAL'S NEW DISCIPLINARY CODE

The code allows management to sack workers for "gross misconduct", which will "result in summary dismissal for a single breach of discipline". "Gross misconduct" is defined, amongst other things, as "tampering with safety lamps or other safety equipment" ("tampering" to be defined by management), "fighting underground and contraventions of support and transport rules...failure to carry a self-rescuer" (often miners, when they have to squeeze through a seam, will take off their self-rescuers & put them aside: in such cases, if management doesn't like them, they could get the sack) "concealing...property of any kind belonging to British Coal...fighting, intoxication by drink" (this applies to workers outside of work: even in Victorian times workers were allowed to get pissed and have a fight) and "any other act of misconduct which is deemed to be sufficiently serious to constitute gross misconduct" (i.e. anything management doesn't like). On top of this, the code allows management to sack workers if they get arrested, even before they are tried, and even if the trial finds them 'not guilty'. In practice, though, things are even worse: in one Notts pit village an NUM miner was involved in a fight over sexual jealousy one Saturday night with a pit deputy, whose family were UDM members. No one was arrested but on the Monday management, who'd heard about the fight, called the NUM guy to his office and suspended him. Needless to say, the deputy wasn't disciplined in any way.



Echanges et Mouvement publish a review of radical publications which includes some useful information.

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Electronic 'Ankle of the Law' Jails L.I. Man

By CLIFFORD D. MAY

Special to The New York Times

MINEOLA, L.I., Dec. 8 — A Nassau County man has been jailed, caught by a computer that contends he paid two unauthorized visits to his girlfriend.

The prisoner, 25-year-old Barry W. Ryan, was convicted in October of attempted petty larceny and was one of the first criminals sentenced to serve time at home under the county's new electronic detention system. He was ordered detained for 90 days.

Mr. Ryan is now the first in the county to be accused of violating the electronic system, which is also in use in West Palm Beach, Fla., and a few other communities.

Transmitter Strapped to Ankle

The system calls for a transmitter to be strapped to the convict's ankle and worn 24 hours a day. An electronic connection through the home telephone allows a computer at the Probation Department to register the convict's comings and goings, which are restricted.

"For example, when he leaves to go to work, the computer printout says 'LEFT HOME 8 AM VALID,'" explained a Nassau County Probation Department spokesman, Beatrice Soman.

Twice last month, however, the printout for Mr. Ryan said "LEFT HOME VIOLATION," and as a result, he was arrested this morning and taken to the Nassau County Correctional Center in East Meadow.

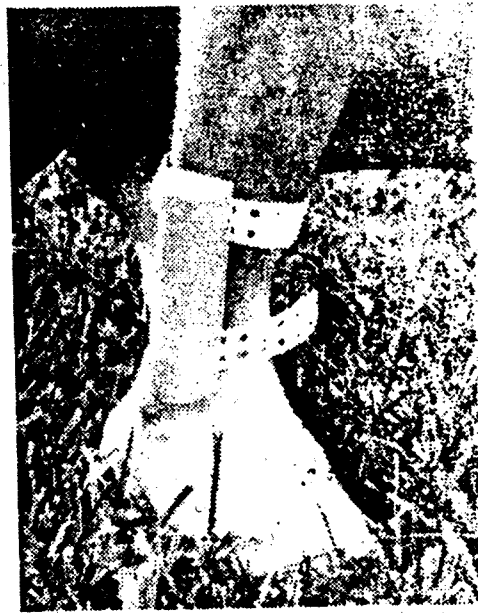
'Social' Violation Charged

Ms. Soman said Mr. Ryan was not suspected of intent to commit a crime during his illegal wanderings. "It seems he made two early-morning visits to his girlfriend," she said. "I think it was for social reasons."

Seven other Nassau convicts now wear the "electronic ball and chain," as it has been called. It is seen as a way to save taxpayers money and reduce jail overcrowding. The system is expected to cost about \$187,000 in its first year.

However, some legal experts oppose the idea as too lenient. Nassau County's District Attorney, Denis E. Dillon, has compared it to sentencing someone "to go to his room" and has said it is not an effective deterrent.

Mr. Ryan is scheduled for a hearing Wednesday before Judge George Decker in District Court. If found guilty of violating his detention, he could be resented to up to 90 days in jail, according to Edward Grill, a spokesman for Mr. Dillon.



The New York Times

A radio transmitter is strapped to a convict's ankle, allowing officials to monitor his whereabouts.

LONDON EVENING STANDARD - 14/7/87

Just projecting the increase in the prison population between 12 June and 11 July, there will be 2090 more prisoners in our jails by the end of this year—more than enough to fill those four new prisons.

Electronic tagging

The latest Commons Home Affairs Committee report suggest perhaps the only feasible way out of the crisis. As well as calling for a time-limit on remands (currently 10,000 unconvicted prisoners spend an average 58 days in our jails) and custodial sentences only for violence and drugs offences, the all-party Committee proposes the experimental "tagging" of non-violent offenders such as burglars (fully 45 per cent of the prison population) with electronic devices worn round the neck or the wrist, so that they would be kept harmlessly under surveillance.