INTERNATIONALISM

INTERNATIONALISM, THE solidarity of revolutionary parties across national boundaries, is a key part of working class struggle.

The last two hundred years or so has seen national states glorifying patriotism and nationalism. As a tool of social control it has been very effective, indeed millions of people have sacrificed their lives for the national cause.

The First and Second World Wars are just the clearest examples of a continual process of aggression carried out by nation states against their rivals.

The process of aggression carried out by national cause.

Yet nationalism which has been so powerful in the 20th century goes against the whole development of capitalism. If nothing else, capitalism is internationalist, at least as far as the major corporations are concerned. These enterprises are huge, employing thousands of workers in several countries and often possess capital in excess of some of the world's second rank nations. Firms like ICI, Eso, General Motors, Coca Cola, Sony etc., whilst being based within national states, owe no country loyalty. Their goal is growth and increased profits. They are unwilling to be held back by mere national governments.

Partly in recognition of this fact of capitalist life and partly to secure the domination of the world's markets, once again major imperialist rivalries are beginning to emerge. The Canadian-USA-Mexican free trade agreement, the EC, and the courting by Japan of countries around the Pacific Rim, are all aimed at securing domination of the world's markets.

Unity

For these reasons alone, it is vital that the revolutionary working class movement looks for unity. However, workers' internationalism is not simply a response to the international threat of capitalism. Internationalism dates back to the 19th century, especially to the formation of the International Workingmen's Association (The First International).

There was a recognition of the need for international revolution and thus the necessity of an internationally-organised revolutionary movement. Despite the cynical manipulation of socialists such as Marx, who preferred to wreck the First International rather than let it fall under the influence of the anarchist Bakunin's supporters, and the patriotism and chauvinism displayed by the social democratic parties which wrecked the Second International on the eve of the Great War, internationalism has been a continuing threat.

Lenin's Third International was a tool of the Bolsheviks, becoming under Stalin a shameless conveyor belt for Soviet foreign policy.

These pseudo-internationalisms do not invalidate the necessity of international solidarity, they make it all the more vital. Unlike capitalism which seeks conformity on a world scale — Big Macs and Pepsis from New York to Peking — internationalism welcomes and supports the diversities of peoples. It is anti-racist and advocates a unity based on the recognition and celebration of our differences and similarities. Internationalism is a positive statement about the solidarity of all exploited and oppressed working people.

End

Internationalism is also a tactical device to enable the revolutionary working class to overthrow capitalism. If capitalism is internationalist, so must be the working class.

Given the wide differences in economic development between nations, it would be surprising to find revolution breaking out on a world scale simultaneously.

No, far more likely will be revolutions occurring within the national boundaries. Then, international solidarity becomes vital to defend the isolated revolution and spread it onto a wider and wider scale.

Revolution

We should not fall into the trap of believing that revolutions must necessarily succumb to the forces of world imperialism. Just because the USA, for example, has a vast arsenal at its disposal, does not mean that it can use it, or that, if used, it can be effective.

The recent example of the USA's inability to defeat the warlord Aideed in impoverished Somalia is an example of the limitations of armed intervention. So, the young working class revolution, even if initially restricted to one or two countries has a good chance of success, if there is international working class support.

Such support might include strikes, boycotts and agitation for revolution on the 'home front'.

Finally, internationalism is not only a means to the end of revolution. It is an end in itself, in the sense that national barriers and parochialism will be broken down.

There will be an international federation of peoples. For the first time the world will belong to no-one and everyone. Long live the International!
WANT TO JOIN THE ACF? WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

I agree with the ACF’s Aims and Principles and I would like to join the organisation.

I would like more information about the Anarchist Communist Federation.

I am particularly interested in the Anarchist Communist Federation’s views on:

Name:

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Sell Organise! Although our sales are rising, we need to keep boosting circulation, so try and sell one or more copies to your workmates. By selling Organise! you can help our ideas to reach more and more people.

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Organise! will improve through a two-pronged process of criticism and feedback, and will better reflect the reality of struggles through readers communicating with us. Please write with ideas.

Articles to be considered, contributions for Organise!, requests for papers and Press Fund money (payable to ACPF to the London office).

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2 Organise! No. 33 Jan-Mar 1994

Back issues of Organise! (from issue 14 to issue 28 inclusive) are still available, from the London group address, as are a few copies of the forerunner Virus. They cost 20p per copy and include:

Organise! 26: SOLD OUT
Organise! 27: LA Riota; Yugoslavia; Malcolm X.
Organise! 28: ERM; Racist; Detective Fiction.
Organise! 29: Debate on the Unions; Italian Workers Fight Back.

Organise! 30: SOLD OUT
Organise! 31: Somalia; Travellers; Natural Laws.
Organise! 32 SOLD OUT

Photo credit: THE PHOTOS for ‘M11—The Battle of Wanstead’ continues

The attempt to protect the tree was crushed by brutal police violence. On Tuesday, the 7th December 1993 at 4am, 200 members of the Metropolitan police force, supported by security guards, started to remove 150 peaceful protesters who insisted they would not retaliate, from the area around the tree.

The ‘Battle of Wanstead’ lasted until the early afternoon, when the tree was finally bulldozed. Some 18 people (one of whom was an ACF member) were arrested, two were charged with ‘Breach of the Peace’ and ‘Assault’. Ironically ‘breach of the Peace’ and ‘Assault’ were once again proven to be rather a speciality of the servants of the public.

Several demonstrators ended up with broken fingers or ribs, had their teeth knocked out or, at best, suffered bruises and strains. Many people were dragged away by their hair, one woman had her arm broken and a 17-year-old protester suffered a spinal injury. An 11-year-old boy also suffered injury.

At least four people got run over by the ‘cherry picker’ lorry, a device the police used for removing protesters from the top of the tree.

In an interview for the Six o’clock news, the responsible chief constable talked about how proud he was of “the sensitive approach of the police”.

Symbol of resistance

This mindless act of violence, carried out even against children and elderly residents present, certainly didn’t deserve the peaceful nature of the opposition it encountered. The loss of the Wanstead tree, which for the last six weeks had been the symbol of local working class resistance to the ‘buildup’ state can only highlight the fact that the struggle continues. “They took the tree, but they can’t take the common” The tree was brought down after a brave fight, but as the campaigners say, the tide is turning and we can win now that action is broadening. In Hackney a new alliance amongst the M11 has been formed up recently. This is an area which will be badly affected by this first of many plans to develop the area around Stratford for the Channel Tunnel and East Thames Corridor development.

Anyone who would like to get involved or would like to make donations of any kind should contact the No M11 Link Campaign on 081-520 0717. Further information can also be obtained from 081 530 6369 (General info) or by writing to them at PO Box 1547, Leytonstone Delivery Office, 6 Joseph Ray Road, London E11 1AA.

M11—The Battle of Wanstead continues

Organise! urges all like-minded working class people to join the fight against the planned link road between the Hackney Marshes and Redbridge, North-East London.

If the construction of the link motorway between the A12 and the M11 goes ahead, it would mean the destruction of 400 homes and 300 trees as well as the division of whole communities in Leyton, Leytonstone and Wanstead by the pollution and noise of a four-lane motorway.

Organisations

Almonst four months into their contract Norwest Holst Construction have hardly started building the road. On November 6th several hundred demonstrators tore down fencing around George Green, Wanstead and a 400-year-old chestnut tree there. The site was also occupied and continuous actions take place every week. Houses due to be demolished have been squatted and repaired.

The support locally has been very good, with various groups including pensioners and schools supporting the
Peace in the Middle East?

ONE OF THE great set-pieces to usher in the New World Or- der, the Pax Americana, is the Israel-PLO accord.

With one swoop of a pen peace was declared in the Mid- dle East. In front of the world's television cameras, Rabin and Arafat sealed the accord with a handshake at a razzmatazz ceremony in Washington pre- sided over by President Clinton. Clinton promised US in- vestment in the Middle East, in the same way as he had promised it in South Africa.

Dissent

But behind the showmanship lies the grim truth. The Gaza-Jericho accord has not ended the fighting in Pale- stine. The murder of Palestin- ians by the Israeli security forces has continued, with renegade PLO and Hamas (Mawali fundamentalist) commandos retaliating with the slaughter of Israeli set- tlers.

Within the PLO, dissent flared up with attacks on the supporters of the Arafat line, including the killing of Mouin Shatataysa, a leading military leader and Arafat henchman in the Lebanon.

The accord was over- whelmingly to the benefit of Israel. It will allow the PLO to take over the running of Jer- usalem and Gaza. What this means is that the PLO will police these regions and con- trol dissident Hamas and Hizbollah factions there, with the right being reserved for Israel to send in its troops if things get out of control. This will stifle protest at home in Israel, as well as taking pres- sure off the pressurised Israeli armed forces. Even this lim- ited concession to the PLO does not involve the greatest part of the occupied terri- tories. The dissident PLO fac- tions and Hamas and Hizbolla- h realised this and will continue to resist the accord. Doing so, they will recruit to a greater extent among the mass of the Palestinian popula- tion, who will continue to live in squalid conditions in the refugee camps. Israel will still insist on its right to make counter-attacks against the Hizbollah forces based in southern Lebanon.

South Africa

All over the world peace seems to be breaking out. The talks between the British Government and Sinn Fein/IRA, the Israeli-PLO accord, the end of the Ethiopian-Somalian Eritrean war, and the talks between the African National Congress and the South African government all appear to point to peace on earth. Nothing could be further from the truth. With the collapse of the Soviet bloc, the United States is keen to see things up where before there were possibilities for its leading role to expand. Nothing could be further from the truth. With the New World Order, the United States is putting pressure on its opponents to exploit the situation to its advantage. As part of the opposition movements, as in Palestine and South Africa, all allies to sort out some sort of democratic fix, where agreement can be reached with the emerging new ruling class in the opposition movements, as in Palestine and South Africa.

In South Africa the African National Congress and its ally, the South African Communist Party, has been at the forefront of this democratic fix. Nelson Mandela spoke at the United Nations General Assembly about the need to lift sanctions and normalise the situation in South Africa.

Normalisation

As part of the normalisation process, sanctions are being lifted by the US and the Commonwealth. New York will lift sanctions and $40 billion would be released from foreign aid funds frozen by the ANC's allies under municipal anti-apartheid laws, to be invested in South Africa. As part of this effort to shore up South African capitalism, Mandela is appealing for foreign invest- ment. This is part of the deal between the ANC and the South African state apparatus — a move towards power-sharing, in return for the end of sanc- tions and embargoes, and the encouragement of foreign in- vestment, in order to save South African capitalism, which is in deep crisis. For the part, the Stalinist controlled Anti Apartheid Movement in Britain called for a "new economic environ- ment... for democracy and non-racialism to flourish in South Africa. New trade and investment relations need to be encouraged and promoted to stimulate economic growth."

The transition to power-sharing between the ANC and the Afrikaner ruling clique will not be smooth. Elements opposed to these moves include the hard-Boer right wing, including armed fascist elements organised around the AWB, and Zulu tribalists in Inkatha, who have been used up to now as an auxiliary of the Afrikaner state, will oppose the new or- der and may attempt to mount armed insurrections. There will also be attempts at destabilisation from amongst elements in the mili- tary, police and secret serv- ices. An alliance with the alli- ances of Inkatha and the Boer right. The new regime that is being created will also face trouble from amongst the black industrial working class and from the urban and rural peasantry, particularly in the townships, shantytowns and squatter camps. Part of the move to a new order will be the creation of a new capitalist class and upper middle class, recruited in the main from the ANC. The economic and po- litical situation for the mass of the black population will not have changed in the slightest — in fact the chances are that conditions will deteriorate with attacks on living stand- ards, rent rises, and speed- ings up at work.

Expectations are still high that real change can come about, and when the ANC fails to meet them, a new wave of radicalisation may develop. When and if that happens, the ANC will do its utmost to crush any dissident.

Ireland

The Peace Talks between John Major and Nelson Mandela, as well as the Prime minister of the Irish Republic, on one hand, and President Mandela on the other, are yet another facet of the New World Order.

Major hopes to emulate Clinton's role in talks over South Africa and Palestine, and also to use the talks for a power-sharing, in return for the end of sanc- tions and embargoes, and the encouragement of foreign in- vestment, in order to save Sinn Fein/IRA on the other, are yet another facet of the New World Order.

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Lebanon: political situation

All the Arab Communist Parties are presently suffering from the disastrous consequences of the rapid collapse of Stalinism which has been the sole reference point for a long time. This evolution of things could have pushed them to a radical revision of their positions... but we must say that unfortunately it has not been more of an evolution to the right. The Lebanese Communist Party is one of these. At its last congress, it managed to keep its name, but evolved the democratic and democratic orientation, calling for a policy of ‘class conciliation’. We will content ourselves with saying that this party thinks that the state of war in Lebanon with the accord of Taif is due to ‘struggles and conflicts’, and that this is the Lebanese patriotism and democrats and their ambitions for liberalization, national unification, democracy and progress.

Extreme left

At Badil Al Taharrouri goes on to speak about the small organisations of the extreme left, the Organisation of Lebanese Communist Action, the Lebanese Communist Union, and above all the Revolutionary Communist Grouping (Lebanese section of the 4th International) of Trotskyist persuasion. These have avoided the immediate repercussions of the collapse of Stalinism, but have no self-critical demands. They go on to speak about a group of libertarians who are attempting to progress because the road is now open. The actual evolution of things proves how correct were the positions of the comrades of ACE. The struggle against bureaucracy starting in 1917, against centralism, bureaucratic state capitalism, for self-organisation, workers’ councils, revolutionary federalism and genuine individual liberty. They feel that the Lebanon, a land of a multitude of communities and of a barbarous capitalism, is very much a land open to these ideas. They feel that these are honest working class people who have fought for the above-mentioned organisations, with whom dialogue must be opened, whilst pointing out that the left has played the confessional game itself, long before perestroika.

They finish by talking about the collapse of Ed Left, the resurgence of market capitalism, the reinforcement of dictatorial regimes in the Arab world and throughout the South, and the widening gap between the poor and the rich. Only the conscious gathering together of people of the dominated classes, of all sorts of oppressed, around innovative revolutionary ideas based on the libertarian communist tradition, offers a way forward.

Friends and Neighbours

If you like what you read in Organise! you might be interested in these publications:

Counter Information.
Quarterly newshheet produced by Independent Collective. Information on struggles worldwide. Free copy with SAE from: Pigeonhole COE, 11 Firth St, Edinburgh EH1, Scotland.

Subversion.
Quarterly magazine of group of same name, with politics close to those of ACE. Free copy from Dept 10, 1 Newton St, Manchester M1 1HW.
The paper was now given to an open, rotating collective to be based in Montana. It was now much more open to periodic collective meetings and to getting all sides of an issue.

And certainly arguments did continue because E! was still a very diverse organisation. Some members were interested in the practical issues. For example at the 1988 Gathering in the Stormy Petrel series, I putes, E! came under attack from the outside. Firstly direct physical attack by failing to recognise E!'s diversity came across as attacking E! as a whole, adding further to E!'s paranoid 'bunker mentality'.

Repression

As the level of state repression against E! intensified this paranoia grew. In May '89 an E! frigate operation entered post and four leading Arizona activists were driving guns. An E! agent had infiltrated Arizona E! and talked people into bomb-proof lines. Of course it was set up. A year later the car in which two leading Californian EFFs were driving was blown up. These are just the two most serious cases of harassment and repression by the FBI, there have been many others which go unreported.

A group of anarcho-environmentalists such as the Washington-state-based 'Albert Nation'. This group had already published an introduction by an ACF member, 'anarchist history. Included: an important moment in anarchism and studies of people then left E! (One person I spoke to was a student who had left because of a feeling of isolation). The majority wanted to retain the open 'movement' style of the paper. Despite the internal political dispute within E! it seems to have improved in quality and circulation in the last year or so.

Redwood Summer

Summer 1989 saw another turning point in the activities of E! The Northern California 'Redwood Summer' gathered a series of mass actions and publicity stunts to protect some of the last of the Redwood forest from being chopped down. For the first time E! made links with the workers in the logging industry. The activities of the EFFs and the Northern California EFFs added further to E!'s paranoid 'bunker mentality'.

The internal political dispute within E! came to a head at the Summer '90 Gathering. The 'Old Guard' lost its control of the E! journal. Internal discussions have continued about splitting off more socially active members who saw E! as a very political organisation. People were given the option to leave E! and join the 'New EFF' or 'Redredneck' types. People then left E! (One person I spoke to was a student who had left because of a feeling of isolation). The majority wanted to retain the open 'movement' style of the paper. Despite the internal political dispute within E! it seems to have improved in quality and circulation in the last year or so.

The Friends of Durruti

New pamphlet

LONDON ACF have produced a pamphlet 'On the Friends of Durruti', a much misunderstood group that attempted to defend and extend the Spanish Civil War. The pamphlet presents the leadership of the anarcho- syndicalists in the 'Friends of Durruti' as an important moment in anarchist history. Included: an historical introduction, a biography of the Friends and two political statements from the Friends. This will be the first in the Stormy Petrel series. Further pamphlets will be a pamphlet on the Italian Fascists and two copies of the Friends of Durruti pamphlet available from ACF (London) S4, 59 St Pancras Rd, London, B1 7tq inc. postage.

The government's flagship legislation is being discussed as part of the 'Police and Criminal Justice and Public Order Bill. It is one of the main pieces of legislation introduced by the government and it is their hope that it will prevent the recruitment of right wing rebels behind Major and perhaps prevent the recruitment of people who have defected to the British National Party.

The main features of the Bill include:
- The increased use of detention against young offenders
- The re-introduction of electronic tags and curfews as evidence of the government's introduction of new stop and search powers
- The introduction of new stop and search powers and other anti-terrorist, offences.

The introduction of an offence of disrupting a lawful assembly.

The most striking feature of this legislation is its apparent lack of cohesion. Law and order has been centralised, but for a government which claims as its top priority the protection of the state and society, the legislation does not reflect the state's concern for property and freedom.

A number of initiatives are planned that will harm the environment, particularly valuable at a time of deep economic crisis.

The class interests can be seen in the other legislation. The lawful action is showing it will not tolerate dissent. One of the more striking examples is the legal action against the Runciman Report, which had led to the Runciman Committee on crime. The government set up a Royal Commission to look into 'miscarriages of justice. However while Runciman and Co. were holding their enquiry and in the period since they reported, the government and the media have been holding a concerted campaign under the slogan 'Think about the victims.' This victimisation of the victims by the police has been basily digging up stories of teenagers being sent on safari and of social services flying them to court by helicopter. Meanwhile the government showed what it really thought of the victims by slashing the maximum payments in compensation in the name of 'efficiency' and allegedly quicker payment.

So in the name of the victim we are going to have more children in prison, to be taken away from a parent, to be refused bail when re-arrested by police acting as judge and jury, and the weakening of the right of silence. In this course, the government claims to be doing the right thing. The right argue that if a person does not want to work with crime, then they are not going to have an option. They are also connected with another aspect of this bill, cost-cutting. The police's desire to make a charge stick to convictions. The police's desire to make a charge stick to conviction.

Curfews are also connected with another aspect of this bill, cost-cutting. The police's desire to make a charge stick to convictions. The police's desire to make a charge stick to convictions.

Class

The class interests can be seen in the privatization plans for the new borsete and prison ship that will start its campaigning in 1994. The prison ship will be a pamphlet on the Italian Fascists and copies of the Friends of Durruti pamphlet available from ACF. In the notes that accompany the pamphlet, I wish to provide an update on the longer-term future of the organization as a whole.

Conclusion

An issue of Wildout included a scathing attack on the British Earth First movement. This attack was an important moment in anarchist history. Included: an introduction, a biography of the Friends and two political statements from the Friends. This will be the first in the Stormy Petrel series. Further pamphlets will be a pamphlet on the Italian Fascists and two copies of the Friends of Durruti pamphlet available from ACF (London) S4, 59 St Pancras Rd, London, B1 7tq inc. postage.

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SQUALL
Magazine for squatters and the homeless. For up-to-date info on the attacks on squatters and the homeless and the frightback. Free. Send an AS SAB to Squall, 2 St Paul's Road, London N1 2QN.
Fact: There are 818,000 empty homes in the UK. (Department of Environment figure, April '92, quoted in Squall.)

Abortion: some concerns

The control of a woman's fertility is one of the central issues which is ignored by the medical profession. There is no place that fertility into the hands of obstetric 'expertise' is another argument which an aliance of women and men must recognise that its premises are different.

It is not enough to dissemble those of us with concerns about an industry which embodies a male ethic and the individual management of fertility, as with female functions as closet catholics. The state legitimizes the control of fertility by devaluing the management of fertility.

The history of distorted ethical practice, money making and human damage. It is not within the scope of this article to discuss the extent to which doctors have shown an inexcusably complacent attitude to the history of abortion in all countries. [Quoted in Squall.]

The control of fertility in societies like, for example, the American Indian, whose known spokespeople rarely seemed to have more than three siblings. John M. Riddle's book Contraception & Abortion from the Ancient World to the Renaissance looks at contraceptives and abortifacients in ancient civilisations, from which we can conclude that the multifarious herbal remedies catalogued must have been available to aboriginal peoples. The remedies include such common plants as buttercup, blackberries, cranberry, mint, willow, garlic, willow, gentian and osery. He comments on the census of the nation (admittedly from 1880) as if he were a woman for whom contraception and abortion had never existed.

We must distinguish here between our revulsion at the exclusion on biological grounds of any group from institutions to which those so classed are not allowed admission, and our tendency to wish those institutions prolonged so that they may all admit equally. Whilst rejecting discrimination of any sort, how many of us would wish to strengthen the US Army, the Dutch Reform Church, the Garrick Club by fighting for the recruitment of gays, blacks and women into their ranks.

Medicisation

While allowing that women are active producers of pregnancy and childbirth and are not being prevented from protecting their lives according to their wishes (I am not thinking of women for whom childbirth means danger or death — although I appreciate that even this is not allowed insufferably high levels of contraceptive and post-natal care, and our desire to prolong those institutions.) It is obvious that contraception and abortion have replaced the directed control of fertility in all manner of societides. Because of the history of the control of fertility in societides like, for example, the American Indian, whose known spokespeople rarely seemed to have more than three siblings. John M. Riddle's book Contraception & Abortion from the Ancient World to the Renaissance looks at contraceptives and abortifacients in ancient civilisations, from which we can conclude that the multifarious herbal remedies catalogued must have been available to aboriginal peoples. The remedies include such common plants as buttercup, blackberries, cranberry, mint, willow, garlic, wild carlow, fennel, gentian and osery. He comments on the census of the nation (admittedly from 1880) as if he were a woman for whom contraception and abortion had never existed.

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Continued on page 14
ORGANISE! Usually concentrates on giving an anarchist communist analysis of issues both past and present. However, in the ACF we are also involved in political activity and the pages of Organise! don't always reflect our activism. This interview is an attempt to show what people with broadly similar ideas to ours are actually doing. It is particularly important to show what women are doing, as their activities are often neglected in the mainstream anarchist press.

Bad Attitude has been going for a little over a year. The paper has had considerable success and the ideas of the women who produce it should be of interest to all those who claim to want an anarchist revolution, with the abolition of all exploitation and oppression. The interview was conducted with two members of the Bad Attitude Collective. We wanted to claim to represent the views of Bad Attitude as a whole.

Organised: What motivated you to start up the paper?
Rosanne: We thought that there wasn't much on offer in terms of women's publications that had what we wanted to read: that would have humour, a class struggle orientation and be feminist.
Kay: For me there wasn't much around in general in terms of left or anarchist or feminist type publications that covered much international news. I really wanted to get something that would do that.

Trouble
Organised: What do you hope to achieve by publishing Bad Attitude?
Rosanne: We hope it makes trouble and that it provides a forum for women who don't have anywhere to say what they want to say. A couple of us who have done writing before have found it difficult to get any thing radical published that doesn't fall into the established ideologies. It's a forum where women's struggles can be publicised and it's also meant to enter into the debate.
Kay: Definitely spread more news and information. Stories that we run in Bad Attitude are often picked up by other publications. We can see slight snowballs with the information getting passed on.

Organised: How do you get articles for Bad Attitude and do you have an editorial policy?
Rosanne: There are only five of us on the Collective but maybe twenty people with various bits and pieces. We don't operate on a commission basis. When we get the morning post and there's an article then we're really excited.
Katy: We're aiming for a reasonable amount of diversity in what can be expressed as long as it has got politics that's important. We're not trying to keep stuff to a really narrow line that only the Collective can contribute to.
Rosanne: I think we have some criteria about who we would like to see as contributors. It's important for all these viewpoints to be represented. Anarchism is about non-hierarchically. We also have volunteer meetings for women who are interested in contributing in some way. They can come to these meetings and discuss their ideas.

Organised: What are your priorities in terms of types of articles - activist rather than theoretical?
Rosanne: Yes, mainly activist. But actually I would like to see more theoretical articles that are not removed from activity. There's a danger of simply reporting various struggles but not developing any understanding of how they come together and their relationship to each other.

News
Organised: Where do you get your information from? You seem to be able to get 'real', first-hand news.
Rosanne: There is a tradition of anarchist journalism which involves rewriting articles from the Guardian and then tacking on something at the end about the working class uniting and smashing the state, a few slogans to anarchify it. We do try and avoid that. We try to contact the people who are taking part in struggles. This can often be a roundabout process: go to a meeting and then there is a friend of a friend who is involved or they have contacts somewhere. It does take quite a lot of tracking down and following leads. We also have various international exchange publications so sometimes we get information from there.
Katy: It's a bit difficult when it comes to things happening outside Britain. So for that a lot of the time we're relying on these publications.
Rosanne: Or else you have to ask a friend from another country and get them to ring up their mum and see what their mum says and then write it up.

Organised: How would you summarise your politics?
Rosanne: Feminist first and foremost. It's not strictly anarchist. Some in the group would call themselves anarchist, some wouldn't.
Katy: Anti-authoritarian, anti-state -- everyone would agree with that. Also class struggle.
Rosanne: Both class and race politics.

Organised: Feminism is often seen as a dirty word in some circles, how would you define it?
Katy: That feminism is oppressed and that feminism is middle class?
Rosanne: Feminism is often seen as a dirty word in some circles, how would you define it?
Katy: That feminism is oppressed and that feminism is middle class? Also that feminism is middle class but not developing anything. And then there's a lack of discussion of this. It's such reactionary times that it's quite easy just to get caught up in political criticism.

"That's no lady!"

R: Yes, mainly activist. But actually I would like to see more theoretical articles that are not removed from activity. There's a danger of simply reporting various struggles but not developing any understanding of how they come together and their relationship to each other.

Organised: How would you summarise your politics?
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Rosanne: Both class and race politics.

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Katy: That feminism is oppressed and that feminism is middle class?
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**Abortion**

**Organisational Questions: What do you think could be done to get things going on a bigger scale?**

K: It seems a lost cause.

R: It's a lost cause.

**Organisational Questions: How do you see the relationship between sexual and class oppression?**

K: It's a lost cause.

R: It's a lost cause.

**Organisational Questions: How can Bad Attitude help?**

K: Bad Attitude can help.

R: Bad Attitude can help.

**Organisational Questions: Do you see the paper as making a contribution to a future revolution?**

K: It's a lost cause.

R: It's a lost cause.

**ABORTION: cont from p1**

enemies being given despite specifics: milk problems can only be addressed by being

**FEATU REs**

worldwide things within the organisa-

K: We're at a rally tonight - Com-

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**REVIEWS**

**Review of:** Bad Attitude

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**Pragmatic**

women who attempted to do things themselves

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for the humour to disappear."

---

**Local organisations**

**Dear Organise!**

was surprised to read your sectarian attack on local organisations such as "Solidarity" groups in Organise! 30. In Haringey the Solidarity groups are an attempt to carry on some of the political work built up by the successful local anti-Poll Tax movement. The alternative would be to go back to square one. Some time a single issue campaign came to an end. Contrary to your article, these groups have not all collapsed. The four groups in Haringey are involved in a range of anti-Poll Tax and anti-fascist work, campaigns against the child-support act and Workfare and environmental issues. There are undoubtedly many problems — but they are not the theoretical ones that your magazine suggests. We hope that other activists in the anti-Poll Tax movement will set up non-sectarian libertarian socialist/anarchist organisations in their own areas. The SWP's battle cry was that there was recently set up with the support of AFP members.

---

**Cuba**

**Dear Organise!**

I found Organise! 31 ex-territorially interesting and informative. How about an article on the situation in Cuba?

A.O. (Warrington)

---

**Eddy reply:** We intend to publish an in-depth article on Cuba in a forthcoming issue, in particular as many Lost Boys of Stalinism and Trotskyism are flirting Cuba, as a last bastion of "Socialism".

---

**Confused**

**Dear Organise!**

To begin with, we are all bored by our use of language, and certain words together with others have been lumped together to be and the subject of local comment.

---

**Eddy reply:** Over the last couple of years we have defined and clarified our positions on the unions. We, of course, reject the Unions, even more so now. We have also have deep criticisms of anarcho-syndicalism.

---

**Tory economics**

**Dear Organise!**

When the capitalist controlled minority has control over the masses with unions Trade Unions and thus to a confused conception of their role, they from the con-man tactics of Maxwell, they will have lost their capitalist dirty work, but they see the content of the consumption watch! They hated Max- well because he dared to support the Labour Party not be- cause he was a co-man. All capitalists are co-man by definition.

---

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As regards black and Asian capitalism, we believe that the vast number of black and Asian people in this country are working class, and that this is pretty apparent, at least to us. How do you black capitalists know you are capitalist? Even if what you are calling capitalism is true, which it painstakingly, this would not be a justification to discriminate against people because of race. We believe in class solidarity and unity. Don’t be a mug and fall for the crap that the capitalist comes out with. We’re opposed to all bosses, whatever their colour. Equally we believe that the black class are in our blind in its exploitation of the vast mass of people on this planet.

Intifada

Greetings,

I am writing in relation to a recent Intifada bulletin called 'Worldwide Intifada' (since you mentioned sharing the views held by this bulletin, I believe this point concerns you as well). The more intolerable (yet not the only) quotation was one saying that the real conflict is not between Israelis and Palestinians, but between the bourgeoisie and the working class. Such an outlook is an ideological trap, a point of view, not simply 'materialist' but solely economic. An economic interpretation of social powers and their conflicts is not theory but the pursuit of a strictly economic notion — this mistake is, in itself, what

JOIN US!

5. We believe that the revolutionary alternative is the only way to advance democracy and because the Liberal Democrats, whose policies now differ little from those of the Conservative Party, and from the Labour Party, are determined to preserve the status quo, the Labour Party is the only way to advance democracy.

8. Genuine liberation can only be achieved through the complete self-activity of the working class on a mass scale. We believe that it is only possible to achieve such a self-activity if we have some form of organization that is truly representative of the working class. We believe that this can only be achieved through the General Union of Labour in Britain. We believe that the General Union of Labour in Britain is the only way to achieve genuine liberation.

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