Give this to a Soldier

1974 has already seen the lowest recruitment figures for the Services since the Army was sent into Northern Ireland in 1969 and speeches by Labour MPs calling for the withdrawal of troops. Public opinion polls demand 'bring our boys home', while the Left continues to say 'end British Imperialism in Ireland'. The rhetoric is different, the effect would be the same. The trickle of deserters has continued; there have been reports of disillusion inside the army leading to 'breaches of discipline'; some local authorities have opposed recruitment.

1974 has also seen the Mick McGahern fiasco in which the Communist Vice-President of the miners' union said that, if troops were ordered down the mine, the NUM would appeal to them to disobey their orders—and then, under pressure from the Right (and presumably the Party) said he hadn't meant that at all. But at least the possible use of troops against the British people was discussed as a result. 1974 has seen the display of armed might at Heathrow Airport and army manoeuvres in towns like Hull.

the first letter to the left

The Wildcat 'inside story' is a four-page supplement to the paper, it is produced in consultation with libertarian groups and individuals and available to them at cost price for distribution with their own papers and other material (£3 a year at Wildcat, Box 999, 197 Kings Cross Road, London WC1). We are planning supplements on the election, transport and squatting; please send us suggestions for the future—and your comments on this first supplement.

OPEN LETTER TO BRITISH SOLDIERS.

This letter to British soldiers, reprinted from Shadrak's Military Gossip (Aldershot), of March 1, 1912, is the subject of the charge against Crowesay, Gay Bowman, the Buck brothers, and Tom Mann. Read and judge for yourselves. Let the vote tell the People what to be heard!

Soldiers! Comrades! Brothers! You are in the Army. You are in the Army.

So are we. You are in the Army of De-scription in the Industrial, or Army of Construction.

We work at mines, mills, forge, factory, or do productive and transporting all the good clothing, stuff, etc., which make it possible for people to live.

You are WORKING MEN'S PROPS.

They are in Strike to better your lot, which is the lot also of YOUR FATHERS, MOTHERS, BROTHERS, and SISTERS, YOU are upon by your officers to MURDER US.

DON'T DO IT!!

You know how it happens—always has happened.

We stand out as long as we can. Then one of (our and your) irresponsible brothers, goes out by the light and thought of his bread, and sees his home misery and hunger, commits a crime on property. Immediately You are ordered in from Home, as You did at Mitchel aspect, at Featherstone, at Belfast.

Don't you know that when You are out of the colours, and are called a "Gypsy", that You, like Us, may be on Strike, and You, like Us, be liable to be Murdered by other brothers.

DON'T DO IT!!

"THOU SHALT NOT KILL," says the Book.

"DON'T FORGET THAT!!"

It does not say, "unless you have a uniform." No! MURDER IS MURDER, whether committed in the name of God or in the name of 'Law'! Tunisians with a ride.

DON'T DO IT!!

The leaflet for which Tom Mann was jailed in 1912.

the second from the BWCNI's new leaflet:

We are not recommending any particular course of action. There is no easy way out of the Army—nothing can be done to end the class and the struggle. We have to go on fighting.

The Central Board for Conscientious Objectors, c/o 6 Endelstede St, London WC1. Tel: 01-382 7809.

And the BWCNI's new leaflet:

We have a number of leaflets available at this address every Thursday evening from 7.30 to 9.30 pm. The help of sympathetic lawyers and social workers can be obtained if necessary. Advices is confidential. The organizations will be made to anyone without your permission. No pressure will be put on you to do anything. Whatever you decide to do at ease can sometimes arrange for preliminary counselling to be given nearer to where you are based.

The National Council for Civil Liberties, 199 Kings Cross Rd, London WC1. Tel: 01-250 4750. Open daily—office hours. At ease. c/o 6 Endelstede St, London WC1.

The leaflet for which Tom Mann was jailed in 1912.

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If you intend to apply for a discharge on other grounds, the following organisations may be able to help. At ease, c/o 6 Endelstede St, London WC1. Tel: 01-250 4750.
Soldiers are not supposed to think, and it is a criminal offence to encourage them to do so. The disaffection of the forces prescribes heavy penalties against civilian opponents. The authorities expect people to question their blind obedience for the same reason, whereas they do but do and die as orders are given. There is no room for the attitude to its own victims: the men put it into its ranks and bend to its bidding.

Whereas today, Britain has an army of two million men, two major wars she has relied upon constantly for more than twenty years, and with which, not only the world, but she has been at war, is the most important country, none of her citizens, none of her military, has been brought to the front for the first time in her history. The British government, more preoccupied with spending it set their work, and the forces or the land and set up more schools for the children of the mothers who were directed into factories. However, the authorities believe that the whole country will avenge their will and their cause. Then, the situation is that many individuals believe in doing their bit for the country, and that some of them joined voluntarily. Many did so in the first two years of the First World War. The High Command demanded more and more men, and has been successful. The first of the conscription came in June 1916—three months before the Second World War.

Many of these conscripts came from the country villages, parishes or small towns in the First World War, and the demands were made in unemployment since, or were influenced by the anti-war and socialist feeling, often perceived as disloyal by the Labour Party right up to the late 1930s. Then, the demand for willing soldiers, but equally unwilling, has been a feature of the imperial nationalization policy, upon which the government has been subject to criticism. The country was not at war, but the government was forced to intervene to support the demands made by the country's interests. The government was not at war, and the country's interests were not at war. The war was a distraction and a dangerous one.

There were the Trotskyists, members of the Communist Party of Great Britain—SPGB, who opposed the war, and the Labour Party, the manifesto of the programme of the party's fundamental opposition to the Second World War, the TUC, and the Communist Party, the rump of the traditional Labour movement's programme.

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We should have to accept the great depth of free speech and all the other civil rights granted to us in this country. We should have to accept the right of the nation to decide its own destiny. We should have to accept the right of the nation to determine its own foreign policy. We should have to accept the right of the nation to determine its own foreign policy.

The document is reprinted from the Irish Times, and was printed and personally distributed to soldiers at Aldershot. It was the first of the so-called 'Don't Shoot' letters, and was distributed in the first four months. The editor of the Irish Times, Guy Bowman, was given nine months in prison, the printers, the Bocks of Wallhampton, got six. Tom Mann was given a sentence of a year for preparing and distributing the 'Don't Shoot' letter.

Vanguard was banned for opposing the war. In February he was arrested as the prisoner of war and held in Edinburgh Castle. A slightly altered copy of the Edinburgh High Court, found guilty and sentenced to three years' penal servitude. In June 1917 he was released in response to public pressure.

The Voice of Labour, printed a notice about the prisoners who had been released by the British government by taking refuge in the Highlands. In January, following the introduction of conscription, Maclean's paper was banned. It was the only daily paper in England that was not inflicting public pressure. There was an alteration in the弹簧, the paper was printed about the prisoners who had been released by the British government by taking refuge in the Highlands.

The first issue of The Syndicalist was published in 1897. It was edited by Philip Lansbury, and was named after him. It was a periodical, and was distributed in the first four months. The editor of the Syndicalist, Guy Bowman, was given nine months in prison, the printers, the Bocks of Wallhampton, got six. Tom Mann was given a sentence of a year for preparing and distributing the 'Don't Shoot' letter.

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FIGHT FOR WHAT? POEM READ AT OLD BAILEY

Four on charge of
disaffection

EXTRACTS from a paper which was said to have advocated anarchy and which was sent on 20th April by a group of men who asked that landlords should do the fighting, were read at the Old Bailey yesterday.

Three men and a woman pleaded not guilty to having conspired to seduce from duty persons in the Forces and to 'cause disaffection.

They are:

VERNON RICHARDS (29), a civil servant in the Admiralty.

MARK RICHARDS (26), secretary, both of 30, St. Mary's Place, Ladbroke Grove, London W.8.

CHRISTOPHER HEWETSON (32), a sub-engineer, son of the engineer of the London & North Western Railway, Road, Hampstead; and

PHILIP R. SANSOM (30), a former tea sales agent, Camden Street, N.W.

The banner upon which the men had written their names was then read:

"Class divided"

The Attorney General said the defendants must know that the result of their actions was that 25 years imprisonment, or transport, or both, were the penalties they could expect.

"The men and women people advocated revolution in 1830 and 1840. That was an anarchy. They are today new men and women people advocating revolution."

Mr. Justice Garth asked the jury to consider how they would be divided in the event of their finding the defendants guilty of the charge.

"Do you imagine that you would all be divided?"

The defendants were asked whether they would like to make any statement.

Mr. Justice Garth said he would state that the defendants must be aware that he would not consent to their being kept in jail for any length of time.

"They must be aware that they would be confined in jail for a short time."

No one of the defendants made any statement.

The jury retired for its deliberations and returned 40 minutes later with their verdict, after which the judge said:

"The defendants are found guilty of a charge of conspiracy to seduce from duty persons in the Forces and to cause disaffection."

Saying that there were no mitigating circumstances, the judge sentenced each of the defendants to 12 months imprisonment in the Old Bailey prison.