CLASS WAR

BRITAINS MOST UNRULY TABLOID

No. 55

40p

JUST DO IT!

INSIDE: DI... THE TRUTH, NEWS, GOSSIP, SLANDER, AND MORE.

CLASS WAR

BRITAINS MOST UNRULY TABLOID

THE ROYAL FAMILY ARE A WASTE OF SPACE. They stand for everything that is distasteful, dishonest and disgusting in this society.

A week doesn't go by without one of the scumbags being in the news.

The only good news is when one of them gets killed or drops dead. The not-so-good news: that Di tried to commit suicide but failed: a typical example that they're so useless that they can't do anything right. However, if she wants a few tips, we'd be more than happy to give her some sound advice. *The only thing that these parasites do well is spend OUR money on posh mansions, holidays and polo ponies.*

● CAN YOU FIT 4 IN A GUILLOTINE?

The Royals are NOT a charming link to our past heritage as the arse-licking press would have it. They are a constant reminder of our completely unjust class system, with the Queen, the richest woman in the world, as its corrupt, ageing, vile figurehead.

It's way past time that our archaic class system was destroyed. Whether our class chooses to shoot the Royals, hang them or sell them off to the Americans is not important.

The important issue is that ALL the ruling class are dealt with. Because, as long as they exist our society will always be based on one law for the rich, another to the poor.

CANARY WART

A BLOT ON THE LANDSCAPE

The Canary Wharf project has finally gone bankrupt. Ha Bloody ha.

This symbol of Thatcherite Britain has gone the same way as that other evil thatcheresque development, the yuppies, and even Thatcher herself.

The banks finally pulled the plug on this over-priced free market monstrocity, while the developers, Olympia and Yorks own debt reached an astronomical **£6 BILLION** in the beginning of June!

COCK-UPS

Whilst we like to gloat over the failure of such ridiculous capitalist schemes, we've also got to realise that **THEIR** cock-ups have hurt local working class communities.

Oh yeah, the developers will be squealing for a while but after that they'll find some other investment to cash in on, and recover their losses.

Even if such schemes are successful, they still hurt our communitiues. The working class neighborhood that had built up around the docklands was destroyed.

The Borough of Tower Hamlets where this enormous carbuncle is situated, has a massive homelessness crisis (1200 families), and a massive waiting list (14,000) for any vacant homes that come up.

Schemes like Canary Wharf just take the piss.

PARASITES

The London Docklands Development Corporation was set up to oversee the project, was given the power to override local peoples objections, and threw in **£1.6 BILLION** of public money. All to line the pockets of the parasitical investors.

Now the huge office complex stands empty. The developers a victim of their own market ideology.

It appears that the developers were so blinded by the £ in their eyes that they failed to suss out a proper transport system into and out of the complex.

The Tories gave it their full political blessing; a shining example of how the market system works. Laugh! We nearly voted Tory!

EMBARRASSMENT

Despite all their hype, the Tories dug deep into the public coffers. *None of the companies in the Enterprise Zone payed rates for the last 10 years .Olympia and York themselves,escaped paying corporation tax.*

Effectively a subsidy of some £1.3 Billion.

And now with no private companies to take up the empty spaces, the Government are looking at lessening the embarrassment by filling it with civil servants.

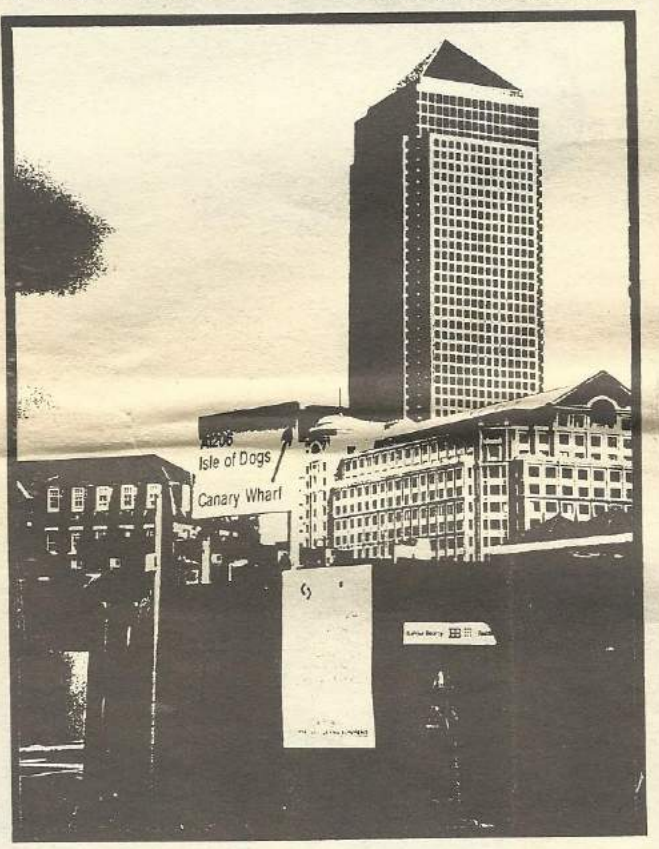
Meanwhile, **local** people have been against the wharf from the start. They argued that any development schemes in the community should be aimed at solving the housing crisis, sorting out the lack of health care and educational facilities.

But no! There would be no "hand outs" to the working class. That sort of thing only goes on amongst the ruling class.

SQUANDERING BASTARDS

Canary Wharf is just another example of how the ruling class squander the resources to benefit the few.

It is clear that the Tories won't ever try to solve our problems. But we can. **There are plenty of resources, all we have to do is take them.**



● *MONSTROUS OBSCENITY.. THE CANARY WHARF.*

JIM GREEN

CLASS FIGHTER

1951 - 1992

The working class lost a true fighter when Jim died suddenly, in Ealing, West London, on May 13. Typically, he'd have wanted to be called 'ordinary', not a hero.

Jim only came across Class War a couple of years ago, but he'd been fighting THE class war all his life. He had a natural hatred of the rich and all forms of authority, a healthy dislike of bureaucrats, carserists and the traitors of the Labour movement.

Perhaps the best thing about Jim was his instinctive sense of solidarity and desire to fight alongside others whenever they were in struggle.

He was involved in many solidarity groups as well as fighting, despite being 'on the sick' since the mid-1980s, at The Miners' Strike, Wapping, in the Anti-poll tax Movement - they were all focuses for his energy.

Around 150 family , friends and comrades attended Jim's funeral, and many comrades paid tribute to his fighting qualities. He was buried as the Internationale was sung.

He leaves behind a beloved partner and daughter. WE must not forget them.

Tim, West London Class War.

IDIOT UPDATE

- THE LAST DANCE

The curse of Class War striking again! Lord Henry Mountcharles, an Irish snob, was featured in the last two issues due to a run of bad luck - most notably a large fire at his country manor.

Last issue we asked "What will happen next?"

Well -the latest news on the luckless fool is that while dancing a jig he fell and now travels about on crutches. Let's all hope there isn't another fire - we'd hate to think that the poor chap couldn't hobble to safety.

Keep your fingers crossed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS...

OUT NOW!!

UNFINISHED BUSINESS...

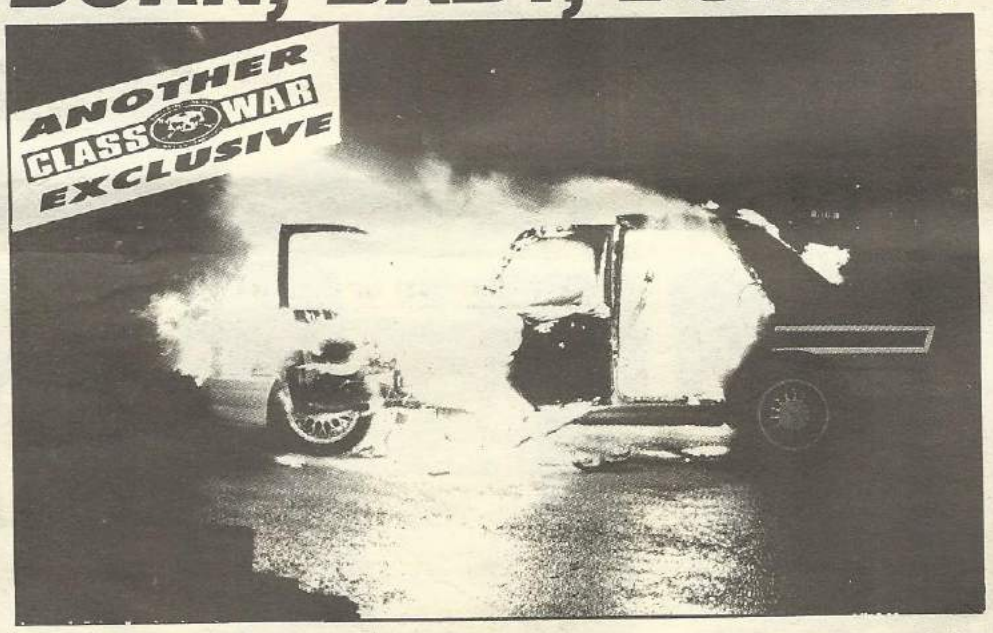
the politics of Class War

TALKING POLITICS, NOT BOLLOCKS

"UNFINISHED BUSINESS...The Politics of Class War" available from CW Merchandise, PO Box 772, Bristol BS99 1EL. £3.50 incl. P + P.

Cheques/Postal Orders/Money Orders payable to 'Class War'.

BURN, BABY, BURN...



The Greater Manchester Police were gutted recently when youths in Salford, nicked one of their £38,000 ford sierra cosworths.

After they entertained a large cheering crowd with a fine display of handbrake turns, followed by the torching of the car, the cops went apeshit trying to track down the photos of it happening.

But as you can see they failed!

SALFORD 1, GMP 0.

HOT WHEELS

Reports from Sydney, Australia, are enough to warm the cockles of yer heart:

A rich Aussie doctor found himself at the wrong end of popular justice, when 2 men forced him to pour a can of petrol over his new **£12,500** Mazda 929 motor and torch it. He recalls being educated by the men:

"This will teach you for being so rich".

YOUR NOT-AT-ALL SEXY PAGE 3

DEAD ARISTOCRAT

It's a good sign that rich folks are taking a lead from Prince "I talk to plants" Charles if the results are always going to be as fruitful as the recent case of Lord James of Rusholme.

DAFT BASTARD

The loony lord was boring one of his house plants with a discussion on the finer points of being a daft old bastard when he stumbled upon it, a twig penetrating his eye and killing him instantly. Many congratulations are due to the plant and let's hope that some other rich folk's house plants take a leaf out of it's book and twig onto some new ways to shut their owners up.

The Class War Horticultural branch have obtained some seeds from the plant involved which we've generously donated to toffs all over the country. Let's hope this phenomenon grows and grows.

A TREE-MENDOUS SUCCESS

Get the Max!

Kevin and Ian, the sons of the conniving, scheming, rich bastard of a father, Robert Maxwell, have at last been nicked!

After the press were printing the story, the cops finally got around to picking them up along with Larry Trachtenberg, the investment whizz-kid employed by the Maxwell Organisation, as their fund manager.

DIRTY DUO

Trachtenberg and the dirty duo are charged with conspiracy to defraud the Swiss Volks Bank of £1.9 MILLION last November, by lying about their ownership of shares in the language publisher, Berlitz.

Kevin and Larry are also charged with the theft of £37 MILLION worth of securities.

Now, Class War has never, ever looked to our perverse and unjust legal system to mete out any justice and we never will; and we're sure that the Maxwells won't receive any either:

The point is that these bastards, following in the footsteps of daddy, are just one example of the capitalists who have shown that they'll rob anyone in their totally unnecessary lust for more cash, more power and more luxury - as if the scum didn't have enough already.

EMPIRE EVIL

While the Serious Fraud Office dither about, prolonging proceedings with five inter-linked investigations of the Maxwell Empire, it only took two-and-a-half hours for the City of London Magistrates Court to bail the Maxwell boys and their mate, Larry.

The truth of the matter is that they'll be living in luxury until next January when the case eventually gets to trial.

BLOODSUCKERS

Another truth is that they'll be hiring the best solicitors going - and, 'doing an ***Ernest Saunders***'.

It's perverse and sickening that these bloodsuckers will probably receive sentences equal to or less than the sentences that many working class people receive who get caught for bettering their lives a little, or even simply feeding their families, or taking them on holiday more than once in a blue moon.

After a short sentence, with remission for 'good behaviour', probably in a low security, or open prison, these filth will be out again, ready to rebuild their empire, and continue to rob us and exploit the fuck out of us - that's capitalism!

We can't do one without the other: we're not just saying 'burn the rich', however much fun that might be - ***we've got to destroy the putrid system that keeps the likes of the Maxwells where they are...and that's the class war.***

● *PUSBUCKETS: KEVIN AND IAN MAXWELL*

BITTER BILL

the rich he'd kill!

T-Shout

I saw this bloke the other day sporting a triple Z beer gut. Pulled over it (as best he could) was one of those "put your own message here" T-shirts. His said "Yes, I think the world does owe me a living"

I wasn't sure how he meant it, but it set me thinking. The world as a planet spinning in space, on it's own hasn't an obligation to come up with the necessities of life for anyone.

But the greedy bastard landlords who fancy they own the world reckon they deserve every luxury.

If I was to write down what these thieving ruling class scum should give me back, I would need a hell of a size of a beer gut and a huge t-shirt to cover it with.

Coming up roses

Now into summer, and my thoughts turn to jungle of weeds in the patch beside my house.

After nearly burning out the motor of a neighbours strimmer hacking flat the undergrowth, I was seriously tempted to tarmac the lot.

Not to give up so easily, I battled on - sustaining cuts, stings, blisters and sunburn. Eventually I arrived at pure dirt.

Feeling a bit Percy Thrower after my efforts, I took off to B&Q for a few plants. Well, having just broken my back clearing the garden, I wasn't prepared for the shock of how much a few shrubs would cost me.

Swiftly moving to plan B, I toured a rich area that night and dug myself a prize crop of foliage from posh gardens. Having resettled the lot in my garden, the effect was completed with a few quartz rocks from a nearby vicarage.

Reckon now I might enter the Evening Posts best small garden competition.

Budget barby

Having done the garden I thought "why not have a bar- B-Que?"

So I took my hacksaw to an abandoned shopping trolley for the grate (Bill's bodging tips no. 11) and pinched some bricks and things off a building site for the base.

After firing it up I succeeded in under-cooking four drumsticks, burning eight sausages, and loosing all the rashers through the grill onto the coals. *The potato salad was great though..*

Following my frustrated attempts, I realised how much I hated the rich who could afford the big patios with one of them fixed in gas barbies, and accompanying olde worlde flickering gas lamps to match.

I've decided the next time I'm out stocking up on plants, and I come across one of these gas barbies, I'm going to light it, then bugger off and leave it there. ***Just wait till the rich tossers get their gas bill!***

Thrills and pils

With the warm weather as an excuse, I'm now chucking more alcoholic liquid down my fat neck than usual.

Having relied on cheap state pain killers to sort out my head the next day, I wondered whether all this would change with the creeping privatisation of the NHS.

No doubt plain old "Paracetemol B.P" would become "Para-marvel!" The revolutionary new pain relief - as used in hospitals. No doubt it would also double in price overnight.

Oh well, who wants to pay a "fair" price to be relieved of the pain of hangovers, headaches, period pains, back trouble injuries...

The rich, they're all bastards. If you've got an everyday complaint or moan about injustice, then don't write into me, Bitter bill, get it sorted out your fucking self.

summer of discontent

THE SPEAKING TOUR

speakers from Los Angeles, class war and the local community... on our class, our communities, and our way forward.

On the streets. In the area.

JULY	4TH	CARDIFF, Bute Town
	6TH	PLYMOUTH, Devonport
	11TH	DURHAM, Miners Gala
	20TH	LEEDS, Chapeltown
	21ST	SALFORD, Odsall
	22ND	LIVERPOOL, Toxteth
AUG	1ST	BRISTOL, Hartcliffe
	4TH	COVENTRY, Wood End
	9TH	BIRMINGHAM, Winson Green
	15TH	LONDON, Hackney
	6th	OXFORD, Blackbird Leys

● FURTHER DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED. ●

FABRICATED JUSTICE!

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN EIGHTEEN YEARS JUDITH WARD IS NOT BEHIND BARS.

Following the *Birmingham Six, Guildford Four* and *Maguire Seven*, what we've all known for years has been officially announced - that she was the victim of a police frame-up and anti-Irish hysteria.

Judith was arrested in February 1974 after an IRA bomb destroyed a coach carrying British soldiers and their families along the M62. At the time it was the worst bombing in Britain since WWII, with 9 soldiers and the wife and kids of one of them killed.

Judith was born in Britain but lived in Ireland for a few years. She was sympathetic to Sinn Fein but wasn't allowed to join and stayed at the fringes.

After her arrest forensic scientist, Dr Frank Skuse, claimed he had found traces of explosives on her hands, rings and bag. When quashing the convictions of the Birmingham Six in 1991 the Court of Appeal dismissed Dr Skuse's evidence on the Six as unreliable and declared that *the Greiss test*, also used on Judith, should never have been used as proof.

DOCTOR OR PUPPET?

By this stage the Skuse had been forced to take early retirement by the Home Office. Even in the hostile atmosphere of the early '70s, it's doubtful that a jury would have convicted on the strength of her confession alone - the scientific "evidence" played it's part.

In fact Judith had been questioned about IRA activities before the coach bombing and had made confessions about her involvement which the police dismissed as fantasy. But, with mounting pressure to catch the IRA bombers and scientific "proof" to back them up, the law had its scapegoat.

When she was arrested police questioned her aggressively for 2 days before she confessed to the M62 bombing. She gave a detailed confession, saying how she personally put the bomb in place.

But the police then discovered that at the time of the bombing she had been over **100 miles away** with friends, so they made her sign another confession saying she had helped the bombers. No attempt was made to explain how she'd signed completely different confessions. Still, she was charged with murder and conspiracy to cause explosions.

During the trial, the prosecution admitted that some of her statements were not true, AND the jury were never told that a prison medical officer reported that she was suffering from ***"acute psychotic depression"***, had changed her story several times and was *"most difficult to evaluate."* Judith herself says that she was ***"off her head"*** and suffering from emotional and psychological stress then.

The prosecution made much of the fact that she had links with Sinn Fein and hd attended Irish Republican protests.

Judith's fantasy world became evident in court when she claimed to have been married to Michael McVerry, a south Armagh IRA commander who had recently been shot dead by the British army. This was completely untrue and his family and fiancee were able to prove it.

The IRA issued a statement denying she had anything to do with them and suggested that she was psychologically unstable.

On the third day of the trial bombs went off at Guildford, killing five people, so no doubt the jury were in no mood to agonise over discrepancies in the evidence. Judith was found guilty on all counts and sentenced to life plus thirty years.

Judith never had the opportunity to appeal. Just after her conviction the Birmingham pub bombings took place, killing 21 people, and due to the anti Republican atmosphere at the time she was advised not to appeal. It then became too late for an appeal to be made.

JUSTICE IS OURS...NOT THEIRS!

And now, after 18 years, she's free and Britsh justice has been vindicated? Bollocks!

We should never refer to British justice, British injustice or miscarriage of justice. All of these terms are invalid as justice simply does not exist, in Britain or anywhere in the world. How can there be justice when a tiny minority own the majority of wealth in the world and impose their values on the rest of us? Justice, real justice, will only exist when we, the working class, the majority of this world, put it there - destroying their class ridden society and condemning capitalism and all those who run it, corrupting our lives and freedom, to the dustbin of history.

NICKY'S NIGHTMARE

There has been much talk recently of "Britsh justice" and many examples of how Irish people have been discriminated against in British courts.

Racism did play a part in these cases (*as it did in the case of the Tottenham Three and countless others*) but it's not the main factor. **No working class person can ever expect justice from an ruling class judge.**

A recent case shows that Irish people don't need British justice to stitch them right up: !

Nicky Kelly, sixteen years after his conviction for mail-train robbery in the Irish Republic, was granted a Presidential pardon - the first granted in fifty years.

Kelly was convicted on his confession alone, which was beaten out of him by the notorious "Heavy Gang", a group of cops officially sanctioned to brutalise suspects; the existence of which is denied to this day.

Even though the pardon means he is officially innocent, this means NOTHING to us: just another case of a working class person jailed for years, their freedom denied, and suddenly, the courts and legal system admit they got it wrong!

There is to be no inquiry, so the cops have been let off scot free, to add insult to injury.

Again, if we want justice, we're going to have to make it for ourselves, as a class at war with our rulers.

PICKLING'S TOO GOOD FOR HIM

THAT MOST UNCOVETED of all awards - the Picke-O-Meter - was named after **Judge James Pickles** himself, the bigotted, sexist, supporter of rapists, and writer for The Scum (oops, Sun) newspaper.

Having previously spewed his hate filled crap at women and racial minorities he recently turned his attention to gays.

After the Freddie Mercury/Aids gig, Pickles was on his soap-box again, slamming homosexuals as *"a promiscuous lot, a sleazy unloving sort of lot,"* and afterwards claimed,

"It's a heterosexual world and gay is an aberration. They can't help it - I'm sympathetic."

In a grand display of how bonkers he really is, the Yorkshire resident claimed that Aids *"doesn't seem to affect the North."*

On a TV show he told gay pop star Tom Robinson *"keep your hands to yourself,"* to which Tom replied, *"You should be so lucky."*

Well Pickles - if you should be so unlucky as to meet a group of working class, lesbian or gay people we won't be keeping our hands to ourselves. We will be a seriously unsympathetic lot. There'll be no sympathy and you'll no longer infect the North - or anywhere else, for that matter.

bloated, decadent effluent

Having a hard time surviving on your giro, trying to keep a roof over your head with "competative" wages?

Spare a thought for the rich scum who have to stay at fancy hotels to avoid riff-raff like ourselves.

At the Caledonian Hotel in Edinburgh, a bottle of plonk can leave you with more than a sour taste in your mouth at £495 for a bottle of 1959 Cote de Nuits La tache, Grand Cu (thats red Burgundy to you and me).

And how about a modest bottle of 1978 white stuff for only £155. Maybe it's time for another Edinburgh Class War social there! Those wishing to stay overnight only have to cough up £120 for their cheapest room. But then coughing up something else green, in the hotel foyer would do just nicely.

PLEASANT PEASANT PLANS

The recent return of serious class struggle in Nicaragua...

Not a lot's been heard in Europe about Nicaragua, for quite a while now.

The once-darling 'model of the revolution' of the trendy lefties seems to have been dropped like a hot potato. Maybe it's because the likes of Neil Kinnock and his yuppie socialist followers look more like hypocritical wankers when they support armed revolution abroad but go potty about law and order when a few coppers end up worse for wear in Trafalgar Square. Anyway, on with the news...

SOFT LEFT...HARD LESSONS

In spite of a full economic blockade against Nicaragua since 1985 (thanks to the good old U S of A), the majority vote in the first post-revolution election went to the soft left Sandinista government. Unfortunately for the people of the country, the 17-party coalition, headed by Violeta Chamorro and some fascist Contra henchmen, gained enough votes to topple them, with the limp and cynical promises of more freedoms, less inflation and more money and land for the campesino (peasant) population.

Not suprisingly, the promises have come to nothing. Worse still, the slowly improving conditions of health care, education, equality and land reform have taken a total slide.

BUT, there's a new breath of fresh air that's just up our street: Angry at years of oppression, poverty and hollow promises from dictators, civil servants, lefties who just couldn't deliver the goods, and the US, a new vibrant and growing revolutionary group has taken off.

Naming themselves "Los Revueltos" (literally, a 'mixed up' group from both Sandinista and Contra guerilla backgrounds), the group is made up of working class peasants.

They want equality, education, health care, and land rights to farm for the benefit of their communities and families, NOT the state and NOT some multinational corporation. Basically they're fighting the class war for themselves, not against each other.

They've already had demos, seized land and buildings and have thrown right wing and lefty politicians into crisis. When necessary, the Revueltos are armed (they have recently announced an armed women's group, devoted to opposing sexism).

As they say in parts of the Spanish-speaking world: "VIVA LOS REVUELTOS!"

(Watch this space...)

BAD ORCHARD

Surprise! surprise! after nearly three years of investigation *"there is insufficient evidence"* to prosecute any of the 226 officers of the disbanded West Midlands Crime Squad. We suggest that the officers who framed the Birmingham Six and the Guildford Four be put in charge of the case. The lads are more skilled at manufacturing evidence. They could save on labour, beat themselves up and then forge their own confessions.

Hollywood Shuffle

JUST HOW did our movie stars behave during the LA Uprising?

Unfortunately our favourite fighters, "Rambo" Stallone "Terminator" Schwarzenneger didn't get a chance to flex their powerful biceps - they were off in Italy playing at heroes for a (safe and fictitious war film).

Michael "Wacko Jacko" Jackson, who is famous for letting us know that *"It doesn't matter if you're black or white"*, wasn't so much "BAD" as shit-scared.

As soon as the first gang-member turned up in his neighbourhood he scurried off to his personal fall-out shelter and refused to come out 'till three days after the fun stopped.

But some stars showed their bottle. Sean Penn, hard cop in the film 'all about' LA gangs, "Colors" was out on the streets armed to the teeth... with a shovel. This was all after the riots stopped though: public-spirited Sean was helping with the mass tidy up.

Edward James Olmos, heart-of-gold lieutenant in '*Miami Vice*', slipped back into character and was heard to comment: *"I couldn't just watch now I'm a famous man. It's my duty to help."* He was later spotted scooting down the streets shouting *"I'm a hero! I'm a hero!"*

RACIST PILLOCK

Notorious piss-head, Mickey Rourke, was to be found propping up a bar and slagging off black film-directors Spike Lee and John Singleton.

According to Rourke, Lee and Singleton are *"middle class people pretending to be working class. Their films instigate riots of blacks against white - they create hate and violence"*. It turns out that Mickey's outburst was sour-grapes after Spike Lee turned him down for a film role... as Malcolm X. Mickey couldn't see why Malcolm X should be played by a black actor and was heard to comment *"I thought a bit of black paint could do the job."*

It looks like the only celebrities to get it right were Public Enemy with sound advice like "FIGHT THE POWER" and "DON'T BELIEVE THE HYPE".

RELAX... PAY NO TAX!

With poll-tax non-payment now into it's third year in England and the fourth in Scotland, non-payers continue to support and defend each other and the poll-tax prisoners.

It's vital that non-payment continues and is applied to any other bills that we can get away with!

SCUM

Other forms of direct action, such as retaliation against bailiff scum, are vital. It's no good relying on politicians who only care about themselves - there are more non-payers than Tory or Labour voters - we can only rely on ourselves to improve our lives.

The battle against the poll-tax proves that we have the power.

Poll-tax bills from different years are starting to pile up but because of our non co-operation and resistance the authorities will be forced to stop harassing people. Uncollectable debts will have to be written off.

WARRANTS

Also there are still 40 warrants out for Trafalgar Square demonstrators who didn't turn up to court.

An independent Anti-Poll-Tax (ATP) network covering all areas of the country can be contacted via the Trafalgar Square Defendants Campaign (TSDC) at:

TSDC
c/o 506 Brixton Road
Brixton
London SW9 8EN
Tel. (071) 738 7586

TIM DONAGHY

Two years after the poll-tax riot kicked ass in London only one demonstrator is still banged-up.

Tim Donaghy has repeatedly been refused parole (unlike all the other prisoners) because he is black and because he refuses to show any remorse for using a scaffolding pole to defend himself and others against a speeding police van being driven into the crowd. As he says, ***"The violence I was involved in was an instinct for survival."***

A campaign has been launched by the TSDC to demand his release before September otherwise he will miss his final chance to continue his film degree and the state will have succeeded in fucking up the rest of his life.

If his parole is not reviewed Tim will not be released for another year.

Messages of support to:

Tim Donaghy
(MW 0105)
HMP Downview
Sutton Lane
Surrey SM2 5PD

COLCHESTER 16

Four anti-poll-tax demonstrators from Colchester were recently sent down for up to two years each.

Another five were acquitted after the four month show trial, which cost them their jobs. Seven others are still awaiting trial.

Charges of **riot, incitement to riot and violent disorder** stem from an anti-poll tax demo in Colchester on 17 March 1990 when, once again, the pigs totally over-reacted to minor incidents and attacked the march with horses, arrested people who were not even at the demo (but were in fact shopping) and assaulted children.

Messages of support to:

Terry Frost (DL 1911)
Wayland Prison (D-wing)
Gisto n
Thetford
Norfolk IP25 6RL
(Two years for riot)

Andy Hester (NL 2430)
Brittania Prison
Knox Road
Norwich NR1
(18 months for riot)

Christine Hammett (TV 0063)
Drake Hall Prison
Eccleshall
Staffs ST21 6LQ
(9 months for violent disorder)

Christine has four children, one of which was assaulted by a copper.

Patrick Tyler - out on appeal. He wasn't in the demo but was in town getting his hair cut.

(sentenced to six months for violent disorder)

An excellent pamphlet giving more details of this whole farce and events on the day is available for £1.00 plus SAE from:

Colchester 16 Defence Campaign
c/o Terry Peach (Sec. Colchester APTU)
AEU Halls
Barrack Street
Colchester
Essex

WRITE ON

Dear Class War,

The following items may be of interest to you, regarding the Poll Tax.

1. The Swindon branch of John Crilley and Sons [Bailiffs] is at:

Pearl Assurance
House,
Regent Street,
Swindon,
Wilts, SN1 1JJ
Tel. (0793) 430000

I discovered this address in rather an unfortunate way - I applied for a job advertised as "Administration Clerk" at Pearl House, only to find I'd applied to work at a bailiffs!

2. I used to go to Wolverhampton Poly and a few weeks ago got a letter via the Poly from a group calling themselves the **Parcel Forwarding Agency,** saying they wanted to contact me urgently.

I was suspicious they may be trying to forward a summons to me, and when I rang them they refused to tell me who they were working got (so consequently I told them where to stick the letter).

Their address is:
Midlands Office,
Refuge Assurance House,
Market Street,
Bromsgrove,
Worcestershire B81 8DA
Tel. (0527) 33691

Pleas publicise this dirty little trick, as I would hate anyone to be caught out as I so nearly was.

yours,
Paul Stott

PITCHIN' IN, NOT FORKIN' OUT.

Some Irish folk seem to have just the right idea when it comes to what to do when the taxman comes a-calling - *set the dogs on him..*

and if that doesn't do the trick, try using a pitchfork.

PROTECTION?

Attacks on Irish revenue inspectors are now so common that they're asking for police protection. Seems fair enough - after all, dogs need a variety in their diet, an a bit of pork should make a nice change for 'em.

Now, about that poll tax bill...where did I leave that scythe?

SEND YOUR POLLTAX NEWS TO:
CW,
PO BOX 2027,
REDDITCH,
B98 0NT.

SAME PISS, DIFFERENT BOTTLE.

A LOOK AT THE COUNCIL TAX AND THE POLL TAX

The council tax, or new fair rates(?) system is set to be introduced in April 1993.

But, already , the costs involved in the introduction of this new tax are causing more than a few headaches among councillors.

Strathclyde council have predicted that changing over to the council tax could result in a bill of £2m. An extra £1.40 on the bill of every poll tax payer.

LONG YEARS

The reason behind this cost is that more than 600 extra staff will have to be hired to help introduce the tax. Council computers will have to be upgraded to deal with the excess workload, and the current poll tax staff will have to be kept on for another two years at least to deal with non-payment.

All in all things are not looking too rosy in the garden for our councillors. After three long years of unsuccesfully chasing non-payers of the poll tax, the new council tax hardly looks like the answer to their problems.

Currently, Strathclyde is owed over £600m for non-payment. Some of that cash has been got back through such things as wage arrestments, but success has been kept to a minimum due to the solidarity of local communities.

Warrant sales have yet to take place. Sheriff officers recently admitted that it would take at least five years to catch up on all the non-payers.

BIG MISTAKE

One thing is for certain. The government made a big mistake the day they tried to implement a tax that the people didn't want. They tried it in Scotland first and it failed, the rest of the country followed.

Labour councillors were also shown up for what they are, the lapdogs of the Tories. They paid dearly for stabbing the back of the working class.

They have lost another election and their party lies in ruins. Shit on the working class and we do not forget, you have been warned.

CLASS TRAITORS

The class traitors of the Labour Party are now making promises that the council tax will be a lot easier to collect. They think non-payers will not get away so easily.

They said the same thing about the poll tax when it was introduced, it now lies in tatters. We defeated that by mass action, we can do the same again.

Fuck the Poll Tax. Fuck the Council Tax. Fuck All Taxes.

standing firm

The poll tax may be on its way out, but councils are still trying to collect it - and we're still refusing to pay.

Special mention goes to the non payers of *Kerrier* district council where one in four people are taking a stand against the tax.

CRAWLING

The council now faces arrears of up to £4.6 MILLION and are crawling to the government to bail them out. But, of course, there aren't any plans to help the residents of Kerrier who've been financially screwed by the tax and the recession, with swome families trying to exist on £14 a week.

The answer seems to be for the non payers and payers to agree to pay nothing to the council, and share out their poll tax amongst each other.

Lift service NOT lip service!

Traffic on a Dublin housing estate was brought to a halt as locals came out to protest.

Residents of the **Ballymun** tower blocks took to the streets as part of a campaign to upgrade the blocks' lifts. The lifts are in a bad state, and seriously dangerous - there are 73 on the estate, and 20 are out of order at any one time; the reason being that the things are over 25 years old. Ignoring the truth and typical of local government, the Dublin Corporation have whined on about locals vandalising the machinery.

NO FLIPPIN' JOKE

Apart from the danger of trusting your life to such ancient machines, the breakdowns are a serious pain in the arse for the estate's 20,000 residents - having to climb endless flights of stairs is no joke, especially if you're a pensioner or a parent trying to carry kids and shopping.

SWAP

As they mount their protests, we certainly hope residents get their lifts.

And if they've got some energy left, they could always try force a housing swap... **with the Dublin parliament.**

CLASSY, CUTTING COMMENT WITH

SALLY SKULL

NIGHTMARE ON FREDDIE ST.

IT'S OFFICIAL. MONEY MAKES YOU MISERABLE, or so the women who have inherited £8m from Freddie Mercury would have us believe.

When the details of Freddie's will came out, Mary Austin wept as she said: *"There's just so much money... you can't envisage life will change so much."*

Mary, a caring sort, has decided not to make anybody else unhappy by sharing out the £8m windfall. Freddie, who died of AIDS, must have been working from the same logic when he decided to bequeath NONE of his vast wealth to AIDS charities. Well, put simply he didn't give a toss.

This view doesn't sit well with the image of Saint Freddie that's currently being beamed down from Media Mountain.

Queen's appearance in South Africa's Sun City during the cultural boycott suggests that Freddie was the Patron Saint of Greed, but since his death he's been cannonised into a gay crusader. *Anybody capable of remembering their own last name should recall that a patron of gay causes was the last thing Freddie was.*

MARTYR OR TOSSER?

Throughout his career he denied that he was gay; at one point even going as far as getting engaged to Mary Austin to allay media sus-picions. When he discovered that he'd contracted AIDS, Freddie could have released the information and campaigned to spread awareness. instead he tried to suppress rumours that he was ill. The news that he'd developed AIDS wasn't released until four hours before his death - too late to damage his career.

Queen's three surviving members were quick to realise that a Freddie Mercury memorial concert in support of AIDS charities could do them in the '90s what Live Aid had done for them in the 80's; revive a flagging career. Charity sells, but it's difficult to buy the idea of Freddie was anything other than just another aging rock cliche' whose main consideration was himself.

Singing songs about fat bottomed girls doesn't actually make this rockin' world go round; it puts money in the bank and tells us that **Freddie was a hypocrite.**

MANDELA: THE LUXURY MODEL!

All South Africa waits for power-sharing, but some wait in LOTS more comfort than others.

The majority of black South Africans are not only poorer than ever, they're also more likely to be murdered - with Inkatha's Zulu warriors on the offensive, the death rate in the townships has risen dramatically. Not that the townships' troubles will directly affect the ANC's *"comrade leaders"*; most of them have packed designer suitcases and left for more desirable properties in downtown Johannesburg or the wealthy Northern suburbs.

The pop song protesting about Nelson Mandela's 23 years in captivity, wouldn't have sounded quite so catchy if the hook-line had been *'the man's decided to buy a luxury - home in Houghton - Johannesburg's equivalent to Hampstead.'* Pricewise, at R500,000 (£100,000) the house was a 'bargain' by Houghton's expensive standards. Mandela has either bought himself a house that has an interior in worse shape than a drunk's tongue, or the previous owner made a cheap sale to arselick the country's future president.

Many ANC officials and South African business bigwigs are currently developing 'friendships.'

Before moving to his posh home Mandela stayed with multi millionaire businessman, Douw Steyn. In addition to gold plated taps in every bathroom, the Steyn home has a disco, cinema and 2 swimming pools. Mandela probably needed a relaxing float in one of the heated pools to help him get the wording right on his next Thatcher-praising speech.

He's obviously doing the Crawl when it comes to tackling the life threatening poverty of the townships.

ANC chairman Oliver Tambo is also partial to a dip; last year he moved into a R3m mansion complete with outdoor pool and marble floors throughout - the same house in Surrey would cost upwards of £2m.

Not all ANC leaders have bought flash houses, the shadow foreign minister Thabo Mbeki prefers Johannesburg's first class Carlton Hotel to the stresses of home buying. When not in his suite, Mbeki can be found zipping around town in his white top-of-the-range BMW.

The ANC must have a policy about expensive cars. One of the humbler members of the national executive recently likened the underground garage at ANC headquarters to the Mercedes and BMW showroom.

TRAITORS

Greed and opportunism comes in a range of colours. The difference between the lives of the majority of black South Africans and the men who are supposedly leading them into 'democracy', shows that top ANC officials have been corrupted by power before they've even got their hands on the real thing. The slide of the ANC is just another example of party politics in action. it's not hip to say it, but Nelson Mandela did more for black South Africans when he was locked up. Then he was a symbol of resistance; now he's an expensive liability.

LET'S FACE IT, when a black man praises the way Thatcher shaped Britain, the man is either a fully fledged carpet chewer or a race traitor, maybe both.

Crying All The Way To The Bank

IN THE JASON DONOVAN TRADITION of screwing those who can least afford it, Duncan Campbell's libel suit against the Pink Paper reached the high court and ended with Campbell weeping about his reputation, and the gay magazine having to pay Campbell £20,000 damages plus his costs.

Tearful investigative journalist Campbell would have had to cosh the judge with a string of rubber cliches and an iron bar not to win damages. Anticipating a long trial, the *Pink Paper's* lawyers had asked for an advanced payment of £20,000. Unable to muster up the readies, the magazine had no choice but to admit libel. That being so, the only thing that the jury had to decide was how much to award Campbell.

FEEBLE MUDSLINGER

Campbell, who sued the magazine because it criticised his attacks on alternative AIDS therapies, has a long history of dishing out dirt on other people, but can't cope when some of the mud he flings around lands on his own jacket. *The Pink Paper* had printed an apology but Campbell insisted that his feelings could only be soothed by hard cash.

If the payment had been based on ham acting, Campbell would no doubt have received more. His court room performance made Sue Ellen's facial contortions in Dallas appear restrained.

Duncan Campbell: Off for a wank?

He burst into tears no fewer than 7 times, and managed a veritable flood when he told the jury that supporters of the Pink Paper had gathered outside his office at the New Statesmen and called him a ***"total wanker."***

Modest to the last, Campbell told the jury that he was putting his own case because he could do it better than any barrister. *Whatt Campbell has done better than any lawyer could, is demonstrate that he wants one of the few magazines that actively challenges homo-phobia to be bankrupt and silent.*

Questions remain: would Campbell have accepted less damages if he'd have been called a 'partial wanker'? Isn't likening the enjoyable pro-cess of masturbation to a bastard like Campbell, giving wankers everywhere a bad name? Surely it's time that the pseudo bores at the New Statesmen shut up shop, and set off home to wank in peace rather than on paper.

LIFE BEATS FICTION

Hollywood bosses have had to scrap plans for over 20 films because the LA riots destroyed street locations. The biggest blow fell on the unfortunately titled looters. A spokesman for Universal Pictures admitted that the riots had delayed filming for over a year. As one real life looter put it: *"Who cares! the real thing's more exiting than fiction."*

SUGAR & SPICE

Football's full of mucky tackles. The shot of Vinnie Jones's vice like grip on the bollocks of another player proved that it's not always the missed goal that makes players weep. In comparison to football's boardroom games the antics on the pitch appear as innocent as a sleepy kitten.

Even when football's big businessmen get caught in the act of committing a foul, as Amstrad millionaire and chairman of Tottenham Hotspur Alan Sugar did, no ref leaps up to blow the whistle and disqualify them from the game. When negotiations for the television rights for football's Premier League were taking place, Premier League Executive, Sugar nipped out and rang BSkyB to tell them of the late ITV bid. Journalists overheard Sugar say: ***"Don't worry we'll blow them out of the water."***

To say that Sugar had a vested interest is stating the obvious since he owns the company that makes satellite dishes for BskyB. Sugar needed the deal to go through because he's down to his last £80 million - having lost £400 million during the stock market crash in '87.

The Shit Called Sugar

The rights went to the BBC and BskyB for a record £304 million. Personally, I'm bored rigid by 22 men and a little black and white ball, but I can't help thinking that the day that dirty boardroom fouls paid off was sweet for Sugar and a sour for football.

"Quotes"

"Mercury was basically a gay, working-class guy turned disco bunny who became a rock star and made a lot of money. He never had any sense of gay identity or insight into the gay cause. I shouldn't think that anyone will be surprised that he left nothing to AIDS charities."

Simon Watney, a Gay Times singer who knew Freddie Mercury.

"The evil of slavery has left a long legacy, but we have faced racism fairly and squarely and we have made progress"

America's Vice President Dan Quayle speaks after the Los Angeles riots - and shows that he hasn't a bloody clue about why they happened.

"An advantage of keeping Somerville College women-only is that you are never disturbed at night by bumping and grinding".

A student union representative on why Margaret Thatcher's old Oxford haunt should remain women-only. It seems that the upper class student has never heard of lesbianism, unless she means that blue blooded girls only bump and grind in the daylight hours.

"Women are fine to talk to and everything but what they really need is..."

Gene Simmons of Kiss fame (the band) inadvertently explains why the majority of band's fans are male.

"Those who play it probably enjoy it more than anything else they do in their whole lives - as long as it goes with sunshine, champagne and pretty girls."

Polo playing parasitic pillock, Alex Harvey enthuses about the upper class sport and the lifestyle of the idle rich.

"Any girl worth salt meets her husband on the polo field."

Fergie's mother, Susan Barrantes on the courting rituals of the upper classes. Every working class girl 'worth her salt' doesn't want a husband.

"He was seen during the Wapping dispute blatantly riding his bike past pickets to get into the Sunday Times while most journalists used heavily protected buses. 'They did try to beat me up, shouting Scab, scab, so I carried a padlock and chain ready to swing it.'"

Hunter Davies on football writer and scab, scab, scab! Brian Glanvile of the Independent.

"There is little wrong with British justice that wouldn't be put right by tougher laws, including the death penalty - televised if need be."

Gary Bushell, Sun columnist and friend of the NF.

"As you know, I planned a trip out there for some time, so it fits in very nice"

George Bush on La after the riots - he should have booked his trip a little earlier.

COME ON DOWN...

THE PRICE IS RIGHT!

Back in the 1970s, a common practice in Italy was "proletarian shopping". A crowd of people would descend on supermarkets and completely loot them - and then distribute the goodies around the local area.

The same has happened in this country, although people tend to sell the goods rather than give them away. But it's in the same tradition: forget money, lets take what we need!

MASS LOOTING

Obviously, this is a tradition that is expressed all over the world. In many ways, it is more of a necessity than a tradition. It's about the struggle to survive - it's about having some of the goodies that are placed behind those shop windows. Although there's nothing wrong with individual shoplifting, when it takes its collective form as mass looting thats when it gets really good!

MASSED MOBS

It's this that has taken place recently in one of Brazil's main cities, Rio de Janiero. In the last couple of months, over 100 supermarkets have been raided by massed mobs of locals. These attacks have sent shivers of fear down the spines of Brazil's bosses. The President has described them as "organised robbery" (sounds good to us) while another top bastard talked of "a social uprising". The right-wing army leaders live in fear at the prospect of even 10% of the Rochina favela coming on down to get what's theirs! (Rochina is Latin America's biggest shanty town, with 350,000 people living in poverty right next to Rio's richest beaches).

LOOTING FOR A LAUGH

One 'shopper' who was unfortunate to be arrested said: "I took the bus with everyone else and went looting for a laugh". But the bosses certainly aren't laughing. Not only are their shops getting thoroughly looted (what a shame!) but they're scared stiff that it will spread. A government minister talked of "a spontaneous mass movement looting supermarkets throughout the country". And maybe overthrowing the government?

VERY SENSIBLE

It's no surprise that this is happening in Brazil. The top 10% of the country have 52% of the wealth, while the bottom 50% have a mere 3.5% (and going down). Inflation is getting on for 300% and there are no welfare benefits. Looting supermarkets sounds like a very sensible idea to us in those circumstances, just like all other forms of survival in this world.

But in the words of an old cliche, "it's better to have the bakery than just a bit more of the cake". Sure, it's wonderful to have some more of the cake.....but how about having the whole lot?

GET OFF OUR STREETS!

Anti-abortion bigots in Ireland are finding that their anti-women attitudes will no longer be tolerated.

A recent anti-abortion rally (supposedly the biggest ever held in Ireland) was severely disrupted by pro-choice activists. About 200 people, many carrying placards with the phone numbers of Abortion information services (illegal in Ireland) heckled and jeered the bigots and eventually forcibly broke up the march and blockaded the street to stop their progress. Statements from the anti-abortionists in the wake of the recent controversy over the 14 year old rape victim has led many people to see them for what they really are, not caring "Pro-life" supporters, but twisted, bigoted fanatics.

FAMILY FEUD

In issue 53 we reported on the death of William O'Hara, a young Irish joyrider who was killed when cops threw a brick through the windscreen of a stolen car he was travelling in.

It now seems that killing one member of the O'Hara family wasn't enough for these scum and they now seem to be on a campaign against anyone with the O'Hara name. Recently William's brother was set upon by a number of cops, one armed with a hammer who administered a bad beating.

A file on William's death is now with the D.P.P. and it seems like he'll be looking at it for a long time. Of course, nobody is under any illusions about what sort of "justice" to expect - even if any charges were brought against he killer cop he'd still most likely get off scot free. However, on the nights following William's death locals took to the streets and got stuck into the pigs. With anti-cop feelings still running high in the area its likely that local youth will be out again, dealing out their own form of justice. Watch this space.

WE'RE NOT PAYING!

Due to the increasing rate of non-payment of TV Licences (and their obsession with privatisation) the BBC is handing over TV Licence "enforcement" to private companies.

To start off with there are two test schemes in Leeds and in Southwest London (from Battersea down to Croydon). In London the "job" has been given to the CSL Group (based at Consolium House, City Forum, City Road, London EC1). They should have plenty of experience at hassling people for money as they have spent the last couple of years "recovering" poll tax door-to-door. What's more they're being paid on a performance basis, so the more people they can harass the more blood money they'll get.

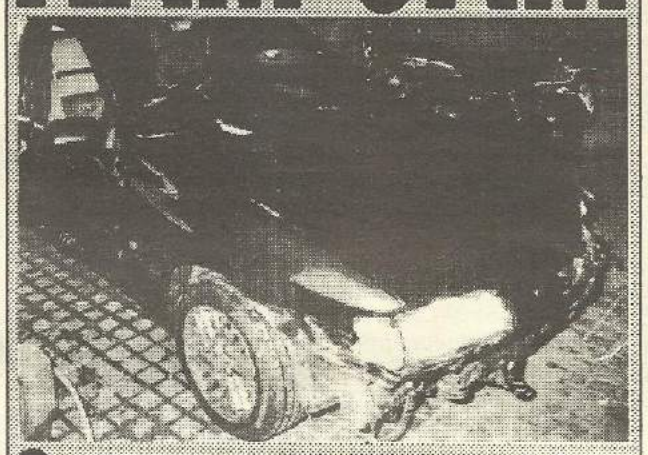
TECHNIQUES

They've been loaned the TV Licensing Authority's detector vans (you know, the empty ones with a bit of bent wire on the top), and they'll be going round to (or ringing up) all the addresses in their area without licences (whether or not you've got a TV) to demand payment. The Managing Director of CSL, Mike Croston, said they'd be using the same "techniques" as they learned collecting Poll Tax.

WAITING FOR YOUR CALL

Manky Mike and his "Licence Enforcement Manager" Len Ashdown are waiting for your advice on their test scheme on 071 - 982 0071. We're sure the CSL Group would enjoy a bit of "test" community resistance to welcome them into their new jobs and hopefully the people of Leeds and Southwest London will give them every assistance with this!

RAM JAM


CRUNCHED COSWORTH AFTER CLASSY CAPER

Ram raiding has continued throughout the country in grand style.

In the Southeast there has been at least seven ram raids on cash dispensing machines. Throughout March and April six raids took place on Abbey National machines, with the raiders using diggers, earth moving machinery and forklifts to smash into the walls and carry the cash dispensing machine off their mountings. Seemingly inspired by these successes, some raiders who don't have the Abbey habit, used a JCB to bulldoze their way into a Midlands bank in Sussex and carry off their cash machine.

"Traditional" ram raiding is still rampant. In Wiltshire a ram raiding gang gave themselves a head start by slashing the tyres of 12 cars at the local cop shop before going on a spree in a hi-performance Porsche and Sierra cosworth. When police finally got on the trail they were pelted with a volley of videos and camcorders, and at one stage the cosworth actually pulled in so the passenger could get out and batter a cop car with a crowbar before zooming off - never to be seen again.

DEEDS IN LEEDS

Our strength as a class lies in our unity. When we are united, we have the power to defeat all that is crushing our lives. That's why our rulers are always trying to divide us into individual boxes.

But however much they try to split us up, people still realise that the only way to keep what we've got and get something better is by working together - through this a sense of community can be developed.

GET TOGETHER

A classic example of community action was recently seen in Leeds. A family went away on their first holiday for 11 years - while they were away, a fire wrecked their council house. Rather than breaking the bad news to them, their neighbours decided to get together and completely redecorate the house before they came home.

GOOD AS NEW

And that's exactly what happened: the house was as good a new, if not better! No-one else would have done this - especially not all the insurance companies with their slick promises but vastly expensive cover or the council, despite all its words of caring: there would be too many forms to fill out.

This just goes to show that by sticking together we can make our lives a lot better. This is where our strength lies.

DIRTY DEAL

Bosses always push workers for the maximum amount of work - but the management of a Dublin fast food restaurant really took the biscuit.

Class War recently heard about 15 year old Alison Smith who was given pep pills to keep her working through the night shift. Her manageress told her there was "something on the shelf" for her, that would keep her "going through the night". The ultra relief tablets were unlabelled and no advice on their use was given. Alison ended up overdosing on them and being rushed to hospital to have her stomach pumped and an antidote administered. Afterwards she could not eat or sleep properly and her doctor is concerned she may have suffered long term liver damage. Needless to say no charges were brought against the Boss involved. Our idea would have been to feed the same shit to the Boss - but hold back on the stomach pump!

NO JUSTICE?

INTRODUCTION

A resident of Los Angeles, for the last 10 years, lays down the real truth of what happened during the massive uprising in that American city.
All the media lies, bullshit and racism are rubbished by his eye-witness account...out on the rioting streets of Los Angles. Read on...

It was April 29 in Los Angeles, California. Millions of people watched and listened as the verdicts on the 4 LAPD cops, accused of beating Rodney King, were broadcast live from Simi Valley, a white, middle class suburb, several miles outside the city, where the possibility of an inner city working class black man being tried by *"a jury of his own peers"* was virtually eliminated.

Confirming that those who make the rules would once again prove that their rules are there only to be manipulated to their own advantage. The strings were again being pulled on the puppet that passes for justice.

As the 'Not Guilty' verdicts were read out, you could feel the tension in the city begfin to build, and the scene was set for a battle to rage in LA's streets that even Hollywood in its worst movie nightmare, could not imagine. Although the jury chose to ignore the brutal, videotaped assault on Rodney King by the LAPD, they couldn't ignore the uprising in LA's black ghettoes, which ignited almost immediately, and would blaze for another 48 hours.

A CITY DIVIDED

I lived in Los Angeles for over 10 years and saw it as a city divided not only by class, but to a far greater extent by race. With the white minority using its wealth, power and political influence to keep the black population in its South Central section, the Hispanics on the Eastside and the Korean community at its centre. Ensuring that these largely working class neighbourhoods could only turn their frustrations in on themselves; denying them the possibility of improving their lives, and at the same time keeping them down in the ghettoes where the prejudices they had inflicted upon them could be ignored.

But the explosion of anger that had been growing since the Watts uprisings of the '60s would leave no part of the city untouched. Even the palm tree-lined streets of Beverley Hills, where the white ruling class stayed in their homes, petrified that maybe the cops couldn't do their dirty work for them.

It's unfortunate that in every conflict it's sometimes hard to look beyond the initial heat of battle to separate those who are innocent from those who're clearly guilty. But we won't forget that although the first media-publicised 'victim' was a white truck driver, there had already been many more black victims over countless years, who's stories had until now been untold. **These uprisings were NOT anti-white-only anti-white authority.** The same authority that created the injustices dished out daily by cops, the government, and biased economic structuring. As the buildings began to burn, and shots rang out, it was for these that the people looked for retribution.

As many of us know all too well, the ballot box rarely serves to change a system, it only gives a false justification of the system itself, despite its failures. In L.A, it wasn't signing a petition or writing to a member of Congress that offered a partial solution .It was the violence intruding not just onto peoples' TV sets, but into their homes; and if the racism and oppression was not stopped out of conscience, then it would be made to do so through fear.

NO JUSTICE...'TIL WE PUT IT THERE

That night, although I wasn't near South Central, I could smell the buildings burn, and the smoke hung above the city as cop cars raced down the streets to the riot area. There was radio and TV coverage all night. Each update brought an increase in the fires and the number of rioting areas. Motorway exits around the ghettoes were sealed off and despite their press statements, the cops had been well and truly caught off guard.

Next morning, the situation was **not** *"under control"*, and in the daylight, people had taken to the streets. On the car radio, reports said that a vast office block was burning out of control on Vermont Ave. and 6th St., **3 miles North of where the uprising began the day before.**

Driving towards it, I saw several cop and media helicopters above, and 5 or 6 fire engines trying to put out what was now just 1 of over 800 buildings that were burning or already in ruins. Three streets down on my left, cops had cordoned off a supermarket that had been looted minutes before. On the same side 50 or 60 looters were streaming back and forth with CD's, videos and tapes. One of the managers inside had put up a 'Black Owned' sign, but the crowd saw it as the blatant deception that it was.

The cops' tactics were not to arrest people at that point. Greatly outnumbered, and afraid of further resistance, they divided the crowd into samller groups, forcing them into side streets, but still unable to stop them. A squad car drove into one entrance of a small shoping mall being looted, and it was only seconds before the crowd responded by throwing a brick through its windscreen.

Business after business was hit, including some deliberately burnt down by their owners, in order to get insurance money.

A few in the crowd had lengths of metal pipe which they used to smash doors and windows, and as the alram systems were triggered, several more forced open the iron security gates. A furniture store was hit, then a clothes shop, then a car stereo business. The crowd moved up Vermont to Santa Monica Boulevard and a pawnbrokers was looted. People helped themselves to cameras, VCRs, guitars and whatever else they could carry.

BULLETS

"I've found the guns!" someone shouted. I watched as gang members ran out with several shotguns and rifles. A few moments later, a van pulled up with no licence plates, and a young Hispanic ran outside and loaded 5 or 6 looted rifles into the open door of the vehicle, got in next to the driver and sped off.

All this occured within only a short distance of dozens of armed cops; and undoubtedly these weapons would be put to use later that night as sit had now been decided that the city would be put under curfew from dusk 'til dawn. Once again underlining the fact that America is anything but "the land of the free", that is unless you happened to be one of the priviliged few living in its wealthy suburbs, *where you could be assured that the curfew would not be enforced at gunpoint as it was in the 'less affluent' parts of the city.*

But despite its attempted enfocement , the curfew was in fact deliberately violated by many of LA's residents in a mass show of refusal to be told when and how they could live: be it by government, cops or National Guard.

I drove over towards Western Ave and the area that the majority of the black population called home.

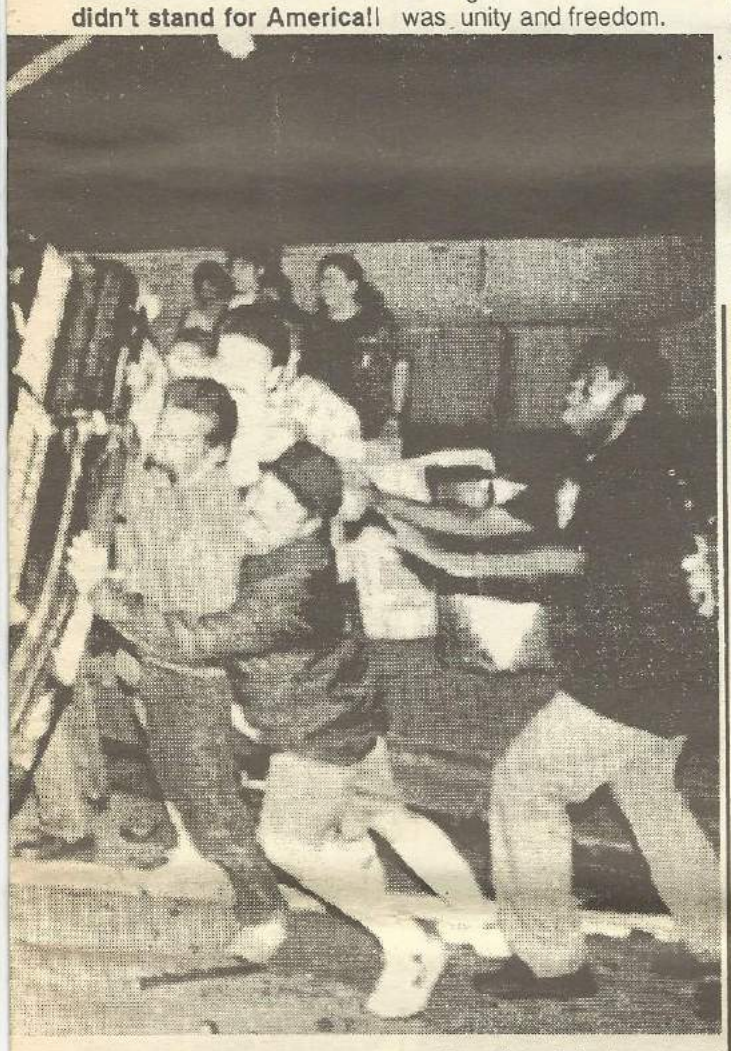
Either side of the street, for an area of several square miles almost every other building was looted or burnt out. People were loading up their cars and trucks with groceries, beer, anything of use they could lay their hands on, only this time, there was no checkout queue to wait in to hand over your last few bucks for the bare essentials.

I went across to the super-

COMMUNITY SHOPPING!

market, I was the only white anywhere in the immediate area, apart from 3 punks helping themselves to some lager. Although the media portrayed this as an anti-white riot, no one ever threatened or intimidated me. On the contrary, it was like a vast street party, to which everyone but the cops wre invited.

Outside, a stolen car drove up with 2 black youths inside. On one of the doors was painted a large capital 'A' with a circle around it...**and you can be assured the letter didn't stand for America!**I



did see some appently anti-white graffiti, but again, I don't reckon it was directed at the entire white population, just the racist elements within it.

SLOGANS OF THE DAY

The slogan of the day was ***"No justice, No peace!"***, which appeared on hundreds of walls and buildings throughout the city.

Another slogan of considerable interest was one saying ***"Crypts and Bloods together"***. The Crypts and Bloods are 2 of LA's biggest and most violent street gans, with several thousand armed members. Until this point they had been sworn enemies, but it was the realisation that only by uniting together, not fighting each other, would change occur. An unexpected alliance. It was later confirmed that members of these gangs were driving together around South Central LA, gunning soley for cops, giving payback on behalf of Rodney King , and many others.

Throughout this entire time, there were no cops, no army, and in effect, no government to offer the crowd any opposition.

And the circled 'A' I had seen, for a while was a reality. Unlike the establishment's definition of that symbol as chaos and violence, amongst the flames there was unity and freedom.

The alleged deployment of 2 to 4 thousand National Guard troops in the city was another myth being propagated. I travelled throughout the city several times that day, and I never so more than a few hundred guardsmen in total.

The death toll attributed to the riot was well over 60, but what they didn't tell you that this is about the same number of people who are killed on any average LA weekend. Almost all the victims were from minority groups.

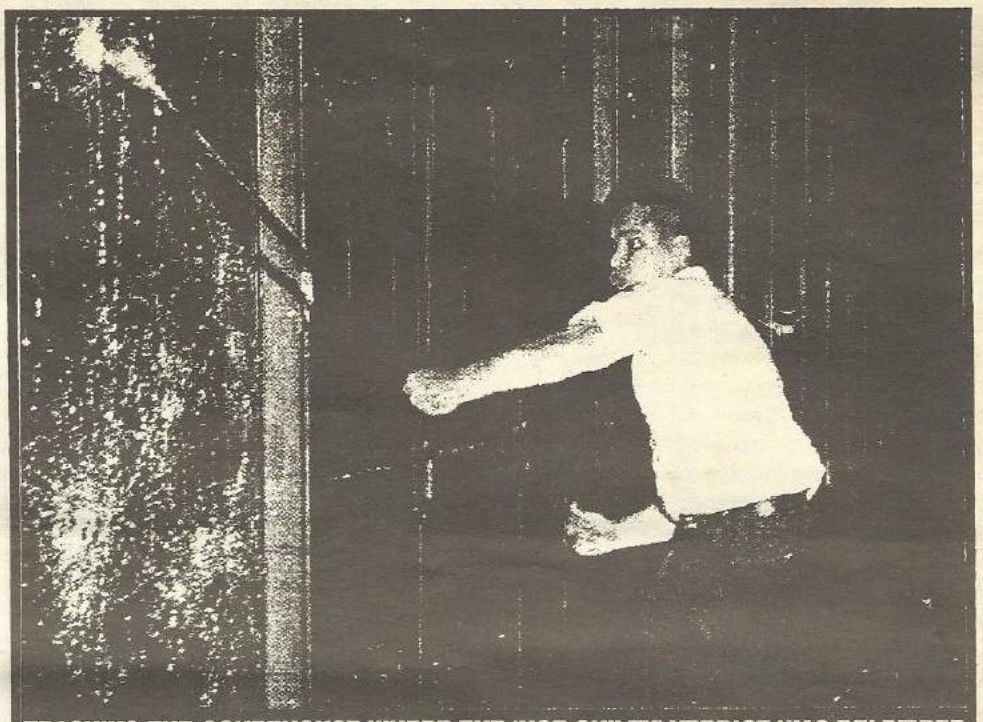
But one of the most sickening aspects of the uprising was the condemnation of the rioting by the white middle classes and the appeals for calm made by so-called celebrities. Despite earning more in a month than many in the ghetto areas make in a year, these scum believed they were in a position to make judgement upon a reality which they had helped to create, but about which they have no idea.

Despite the expected media editorials stating that civil disorder was not the way to promote change, they were forced to eat their own words.

MAKE THE 'POWER' BLEED

Millions of dollars are now being channelled into South Central LA for "*community development and rebuilding*", and extensive job training and creation schemes are being set up, along with the promise of improved education and housing.

Unlike before, the consequences of NOT keeping a promise to the people are very fresh in the minds of the in people who took the State to its knees.



TRASHING THE COURTHOUSE WHERE THE 'NOT GUILTY' VERDICT WAS DELIVERED

FROM THE ASHES

It's often difficult to see where riots and rebellion will lead - they just happen in the heat of the moment, not a lot of thought is given over to the future:an explosion of anger.

But where do riots figure in the whole set-up of class struggle. In reality we haven't got a crystal ball to map out how the riots will effect the struggle against capitalism in the USA.

But when the riots occur, like that which hit the inner cities of America, we can sure it will make it's mark permanently. The effects may take months or even years to surface; but historically it's exciting times in America. This could very well be the watershed in the fightback against white corporate America. But developments tend to take place after such an eruption.

WHA'PPEN?

First, the 'credibility' of the American 'justice' system has committed suicide. This is an important break for revolutionary politics. Often people realise the inequality in their jobs, but there is a fostered illusion that the state is an arbiter in this injustice; and at it's heart is the judicial system, which is supposed to right all wrongs. Bullshit! The state (like everything on this globe) is run by the bosses, whether they are the top state officials or the corporate bosses. **In critical times like these awareness of the corruption and power set-up becomes crystal clear in many people's eyes.**

Secondly, the rioting has broken the so-called 'social peace', the deal enforced on our communities by the threat of full-frontal violence by the state. People are now willing, and able, to fight back, BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY.

One of the most important aspects of this fightback is the confidence-building it produces: The state depends on our minimal co-operation to operate. This is usually got by pesuasion (heavy propaganda) or by fear (threatened violence).

When more and more communities, have no belief in their lies, and start to lose their fear of the power of the state, they (establishment), with good cause, start shitting themselves.

That is why they pull no punches.They send in the troops, and on the propaganda front the media goes full steam to try to restore the balance in their favour, within the hearts and minds of the public.

How do they handle such a crisis in control?

First, turn it into a black and white thing, ie 'blacks versus (all of) white America'. This is the most obvious tactic given the years of black oppression and segregation and white racism, which is as American as Mom's apple pie.

Propaganda was aimed at the white middle classes, as well as the white working class. The former to turn liberals into supporting reactionary measures to squash the rebellion; and to the working class, to drive a wedge between working class communities, by stirring up racism and hostility between those (despite obvious differences) have more in common in their relationship to the whole power structure.

LIES...AND MORE LIES

Secondly, CRIMINALISE IT, reinforce the racist myth, that **black=criminal**. Rioters were not rebels, but vandals and opportunist looters. This process at the same time criminalises the struggle as well as de-politicises it. You don't listen to 'criminals' you just arrest them and put them in jail.

That was the drive behind the media; behind all the pious shite of liberal reforms the reactionary message stands along side it. Liberalism mixes with the more reactionary.

That is why combative communities need their own voice, their own media to consolidate their fight. Quick reactions like what some activists did in putting together L.A TODAY (Tomorrow ...the World) - see inset and footnote to get copies. Such iniatives are essential with widespread rioting, and can have a heartening effect on rioting communities. More and more is needed from local communities.

Riots are chaotic and can be very unpredictable, and some unsavoury things happen - that cannot be denied, it must be faced. *But the basic solidarity gained from fighting a common oppressor must be built upon if anything will be achieved.*

This process needs to be carried on beyond the riot period and into the daily lives of the community. There is an excellent tradition of black self-determination and self-organisation in the ghettoes (lessons learned from the '60's).

Community action and iniatives; educational iniatives and the willingness of the community to defend itself against a racist state. These are part of the proud history of black militancy and resistance.

TAKE THE LID OFF THE ANGER

The power of it was inspiring; it could re-emerge from the ashes of the recent rebellion.

It would have to tackle and overcome the problems of drugs, inter-gang fighting and anti-social crime. These with the material poverty and the lack of mutual respect and solidarity, are as important as the police force, in keeping the lid on the ghettoes' anger. **We believe that all the ingredients are there to change this world.**

ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS LEARN THE RECIPE OF SOCIAL REVOLUTION.

For more info. on the uprising, send an SAE and donation to: Profane Existence, PO box 8722, Minneapolis, NM 55408, USA, for the excellent 'LA Today' newspaper.

NO PEACE!

PARA-NORMAL

The nature of the British occupation of the North of Ireland was again highlighted recently when British army paratroopers shot at least three people in Coalisland, County Tyrone.

By all accounts this was punishment to the whole town for daring to stand up to the long and brutal occupation of their town by the kings Own Scottish Borderers (KOSB) - hopefully the last in a long line of occupying regiments.

The Paras' were sent in after soldiers from the KOSB had taunted and abused a group of local people, and received the appropriate response of defiance.

Only a week before, Paras' had gone on the rampage through the nearby town of Cappagh. Of course none of them were charged by the pigs. But what do you expect from armed thugs like the RUC who shoot first and refuse to answer questions later.

The initial excuse of having lost a rifle may well have just been a manufactured excuse by the army to go in heavy. A local resident spoke of the

KOSB troops taunting local people by holding out their guns for people to grab.

Psycho-Para

When the Paras' did arrive, they did what they do best - shooting unarmed civilians. In this case they shot people in the legs. Thirteen years ago in Derry they shot dead 13 unarmed civilians on a civil rights march. No one went to trial in connection with Bloody Sunday, no one will go to trial in connection with 17 May in Coalisland.

The following day the army used a story about a missing machine gun to seal off the entire town and conduct house to house searches.

Strangely, in the early morning radio news, they reported having recovered all missing weapons. Later the same day the alleged machine gun was discovered to be missing again, and as the daily news wore on, the gun also suffered a serious drop in efficiency, from 1000 rounds a minute in the mid-morning, to "only" 750 RPM by the evening.

In the media recuperation exercise following the Coalisland shootings, apologists for the British occupation of the North of Ireland expressed "concern" that maybe the Paras' weren't the best people for the job, and shouldn't be used for "ordinary policing work".

Presumably her Majesties other 17,000 British troops across the Irish Sea are doing a wonderful job. The sooner British troops are out of Ireland the better.

Living dangerously

As leader of Strathclyde Regional Council, Europe's biggest public authority, Charlie Gray has £2 billion to spend every year. He has budget bigger than some nation states.

Boss Gray has been calling the shots for six years now, and when it comes to political muscle, he's yer man.

In that time he's closed schools and centres, sacked workers, sneered at community education staff on strike, carried out Tory cuts with a vengeance, and of course hounded poll tax non-payers. You name the dirty deed - Charlie's done it!

MOANY FACED GIT

"These are difficult times for us" says Charlie. Poor Chas doesn't know where his next council junket is coming from!

When it comes to a couple of million quid for "business development", a 37% rise to £105,000 for his Chief executive, another £5m for the polis and £20m to throw at the City of Culture - money is no object.

For years he put the boot into anyone who dared stand up and fight the cuts, like the teachers and community education workers, and slagged off and persecuted poll tax non-payers, Charlie boy has discovered it is time "to live a little dangerously" as he said about attempts to gain an independent Scotland.

With the Tories once again in the saddle, Charlie's been telling TV viewers, the Scottish TUC, and anyone else who'll listen that he is all for civil disobedience! Whoopee!

STICKING IN THE KNIFE

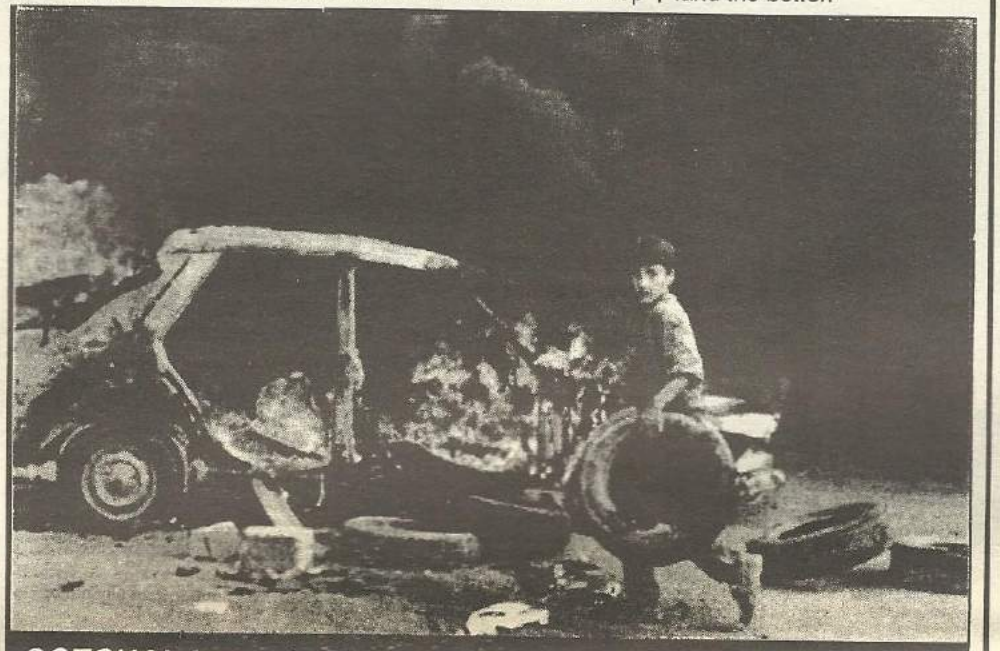
For someone who constantly attack the people power of the anti-poll tax movement, this is a great about turn.

Typically though, there are no lofty principals involved, just blatant self interest. The Tories want to abolish Strathclyde and Lothian regions as part of their local government/constitutional solution. This time it's his job on the line. All of a sudden he needs allies amongst the poor, the street activists and trade unionists, the very people he's been sticking it into for years.

No doubt this ratbag expects us to show the kind of solidarity he never even offered us, at least till he gets fed up posing with the victims of his party's treachery.

● FREE COMPETITION FROM YOUR CASUALLY CAUSTIC CLASS WAR!! ●

Caption the 'photo and win yourself a Class War mystery prize, and your witty and original caption (as they say) will appear in the next issue, all entries to the letters page address!



GOTCHA! An anti-inflation lobby on the main highway from Sidon to Beirut. Demonstrators also torched the finance minister's home in Southern Leabanon and ransacked currency exchange shops. The angry protests were part of a wave of strikes and protests against rising prices.

STRIKE FORCE

MID-APRIL SAW pay talks between Kohl's German government and public sector worekrs collapse, after the tight-fisted refusal of a poxy 5.4% pay rise.

By early May, the unions had at last found their teeth and bit back - after what was called years of "*social peace*".

For a nation that was said to "*have buried the class struggle*", **support for the strike was fantastic:** *96% of postal workers; 92% of railway workers; and 88% of the OTV general public sector union were out on strike action.*

As sorting offices ground to a standstill, many railway and bus routes ceased to operate, the streets filled up as refuse and cleaning workers downed tools.

This strike lasted for 2 weeks - the biggest industrial slowdown since WWII. The militancy and solidarity of these workers was excellent, but the slightly bitter note is that the acheived pay rise of 5.4 - 6% could have been higher with the bosses balls were in their hands.

INDUSTRIAL MUSCLE

But, as the militancy and anger spurred so much class action, the unions' leadership cuddled up to the bosses and sold out their own members, the rank-and-file strikers, by making piss-poor agreements. Could this be because bosses, union leader traitors and the government were shit-scared of a prolonged strike, possibly with East and West German workers linking up?

AND could it be that their rotten capitalistic system can't afford German 'reunification' as well as paying the workers a rise once in a while? WE THINK SO.

The lessons are simple - if we're out on strike, we have to organise in this way, putting out our own leaflets, and carrying out our own actions - as rank-and-file workers, equals - totally bypassing the sick bastards who claim to represent us:

They are bosses and we should treat them as such.

WITHIN THESE WALLS

Teenage prisoners at a youth assessment centre in Johnstone said no more to the constant harassment dished out to them .

They fought back with the only means left open to them - rioting. Staff at the Newfield Resource Centre had never seen anything like it.

BARRICADED

Inmates barricaded themselves into dormitories and wrecked whatever they could lay their hands on. When the cops arrived furniture was thrown at them through a broken window. A pool table was broken up to supply more weapons. One lad climbed onto the roof and hurled slates at staff and cops.

'NUFF SAID

The riot lasted well into the next day, and ended peacefully when the inmates felt that their point had been made.

Whether in assessment centres like Newfield or in the general prison system and beyond, the story remains the same: treat people like sub-humans and they will behave accordingly.

CORSICA says no!

French fascist, Jean Marie Le Pen attempted to visit Corsica as part of his election campaign. However he never reckoned on the "welcome" Trade Unionists and Corsican militants waiting for him. They prevented him from landing, then later when he did find an open airport, protesters stopped his meeting by sheer force of numbers. The forces of law and disorder suffered 17 casualties.

The problem in France (as in other countries with neo-nazi and fascist groups) is not just the Frente National (NF), but their role in helping all the other parliamentary parties move further to the right. Racist anti immigration laws are only talked about by the FN, but the "centre" and "socialist" parties actually do the dirty work of implementing them.

MEDICAL MIRACLE

The medical world is stunned by reports of Ernest Saunders' recovery .

Saunders was the boss of Guinness who was jailed for massive crooked dealings a few years ago.

But, after being banged up for a short time, top medical experts stated that the crook was suffering from **senile dementia** - an irreversible condition that leads to death. Due to his deteriorating condition and proximity to death Saunders was not only released a lot earlier than your average prisoner - he also had numerous charges dropped.

However, Saunders has made a miraculous recovery, to the astonishment of the medical world.

From being completely gaga with apparently nothing but a bag of marbles between his ears, Saunders is now running a company and addressing business conferences. A top doctor told Class War: *"I'm gob smacked - it's a miracle. Praise the Lord!"*

EGGED ON

Some hungry raiders really did a number on a breakfast feast in the American city of Baltimore. The hundred cops, politicians and "community leaders" had attended the breakfast to discuss the city's crimewave. Their discussion got off to a flying start - someone had stolen all the food during the night!

CLASS ACTION

About 150 striking dockers burned rubber tyres and threw paint and oil at the homes of two deputies who voted for a bill to overhaul dock labour practices recently in Bordeaux. The deputies, 'socialist' Pierre Garmendia and conservative Jean Valleix, were part of a majority which voted for the bill.

MUCK SPREADER

speading the dirt on the green front

MENTAL BLOCK!

AT RISK OF OLD MUCKSPREADER harping on about local community actions in the Bristol area: they're doing it all over!

Golden Hill is a quiet working class area in the north of the city. It's also home to a large patch of land full of plant and wildlife - enjoyed by adults, kids and animals alike.

Fair enough, you might say, we're bloody short enough of green spaces as it is.

You'd be right too - that is unless you hapened to be one of the profiteering bastards at **Tescos** (you know, the £Billion supermarket chain, with their heiress, the ultra-Thatcherite Lady Shirley Porter). Tescos have bought the site and thought they'd whack a superstore there.

Unfortunately for these particular capitalists, they didn't bank on the local community blocking off the site to diggers, getting massive support, and setting up 24-hour barricades against any intrusion.

Folk in Bristol have generally warmed to the circus-like protest, and the bosses of Tescos are sitting there seething..**Ha! Ha! Ha!**

THESE BOOTS WERE MADE FOR WALKING

CONTINUING IN Muckspreader's relentless task to uncover the dirty dealings of the filthy rich, here's the latest in the saga.

As Liberals and tin-pot Local council career-searchers whinge on about the need for *"green open spaces"* to enrich the lives of the *"inner city deprived"*, the real truth is that our land, our heritage, is being literally carved up with the help of these wankers and guess who's bene-fitting?

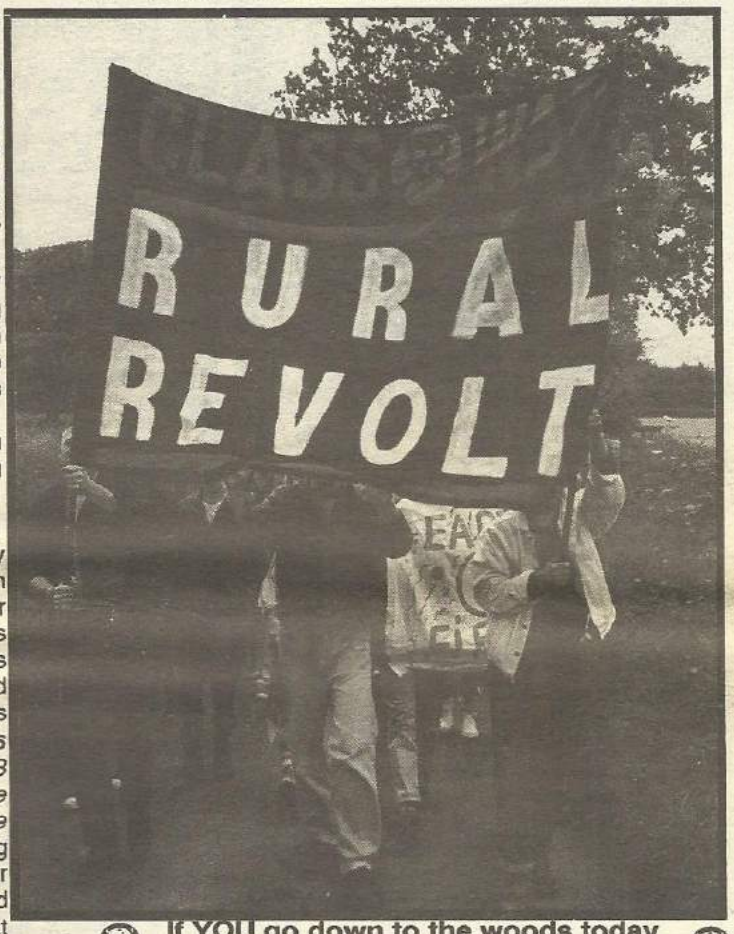
You guessed it in one: more rich parasites.

COMMON LAND

While the Forestry Commission, on government orders for government profit, is flogging off huge tracts of once-common land in auction-like sales frenzies, usually to *'his Lordship with the 3 double chins and the massive estate at the back'*; we are seeing 100,000 acres of our forests and moorland shut down so that 'owners' can enjoy the sight of selling off timber, developing and generally destroying some of the most beautiful areas of Britain.

In Scotland, a piss-poor 1,900 out of a total 37,500 miles of footpaths are open to the likes of you and me. The rest are controlled by the rich and the aristocracy

In the Trough of Bowland area, part of the **Duke of Westminster's** estate (this detestable ruling class 'man of the people' was mentioned in Class War 54), the bastard has been paid compensation by the county council, who are lovingly paying him another £1.5 Million. And it doesn't take Einstein to figure out where that county council gets its cash from in the first place...



If YOU go down to the woods today THEY'LL be in for a big suprise

to the tune of nearly £1.5 MILLION for having to introduce a little footpath, just 6 miles long, just so the locals and walkers can peer over his hedges.

Lord Rotherwick, the greedy dribbling pig who just bought up the 1,500 acre Wych Wood in Oxfordshire had a compulsory footpath creation order slapped on him

So, hated and unwanted taxes are paying wealthy idle scum huge sums so that we can enjoy our own heritage. BUT, resistance is growing.

The Ramblers' Association is pretty much steeped in cable-knit jumpers and jolly hockey sticks, but even their 80,000 members, and members of newer, more radical groups, like the socialist Red Rope, are more and more often coming into physical confrontation with that most hated of all rural employees: the gamekeeper, the countryside's version of the bailiff.

COUNTRY CONFLICT

Scuffles and direct action have taken place from Northumberland to Somerset and in the Central Highlands.

Muckspreader fully supports such action: As walkers, mountaineers and ramblers alike are realising that the law and land ownership are designed to keep us out - the only answer is to take our size 10 boots and march right back in.

The Ramblers' Association are again organising their "Forbidden Britain" day this September, and it'd be well worth going along, jazzing the whole affair up a little and seizing back OUR LAND.

In the words of Benny Rothwell, the 1930's Kinder Scout direct action tresspasser:

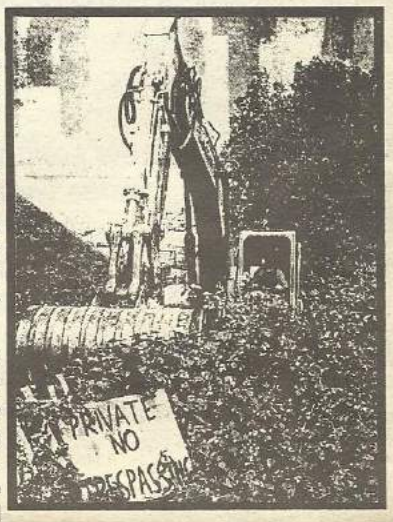
"What we won was very precious to millions of people. I would do it all again".

For Fox Sake

THE EARLY SUMMER WEATHER has seen some community defence in the Fishponds area of Bristol.

The local community around Royate Hill have been taking a spot of direct action against diggers and JCBs sent in by *Beechgold Developments, of Station Rd., Yate, Bristol.*

The machinery was sent in to flatten a piece of wild land around a viaduct bridge. For years, the land has been home to families of foxes and badgers. The foxes are friendly: the vixens and cubs are fed by locals and some will even eat out of your hand.



Beechgold, who bought up the land 6 years ago, want to make a fast buck by levelling the area and building, then selling 60 private houses - so they used the excuse of a council order to clean waste tipped there, to move in at 7am on a Saturday morning.

Obviously they didn't expect the result - over 100 locals heckling them, trying to stop them and occupying their machinery, while others stood in front of the bulldozers, refusing to move.

As the struggle to get the Beechgold profiteers to piss off continues with local people, especially women residents, nicking chainsaws and casuing as much of a stink as possible, it doesn't take David Attenborough to realise that the pursuit of profit will leave perfectly harmless city animals at risk, and probably force them on the scavenge, when they may well attack people's pets, rip the guts out of dustbins etc. just to get enough food to feed themselves and their young.

And let's face it, who wants rich developers causing more noise and inconveinience in an already densely populated area?

PUT HER IN A BODY BAG!

Very Striking...

In Class War 54, Muckspreader dug some dirt on Anita "loving relationship with my staff" Roddick's scams at the Body Shop.

Workers at the Dublin branch of the profiteering concern that does about as much against ecological dev-astation as a litre of diesel, had been on strike since last February, due to the sacking of 9 part-time workers, for NO reason.

REAL SHITS!

Actually, the work-ers in question had joined a union although Anita had dismissed such organisations as unnecessary unless *"the management are real shits"*.

Well, our under-standing has always been that that's what management are usually employed to be.

After weeks on the picket line, with loads of public support, the determined strikers, and their publicity forced the real shits to buckle and accept unionised staff.

Hopefully, the Service Industry Trade 'Union union members will start turning the screw and pressurise the Body Shop into giving staff higher wages, getting lower prices for their outrageously expensive stockso we can all afford to smell like wild strawberries.

SUMMIT PLUMMET

Recently, apart from the tales of Lady Di's sadly unsuccessful suicide bids (5 attempts and no luck - what an idiot), we've had full-colour centre pages, 'knowledgeable' scientists and heads of State, all gobbing off at Rio De Janeiro, Brazil's capital: the latest circus to con us all has been in town at a cost of christ knows how many £Millions of the world's working class taxpayers' money.

OFFENSIVE CIRCUS

After all the media razzmatazz, George Bush popped along, fresh from being teargassed by his loyal supporters in Panama, to state that capitalism is not going to give an inch, even when the future of the world, its peoples and its ecology are at stake. Without the support of the US state, the rest of the politicians/ bosses won't tone down their own pollution and environmental damage, very much, if at all.

Our very own Johnny 'I think I'll recycle my empties from now on' Major, bumbled in with a few poxy token suggestions.

But seriously, even the money to put this farce into being, in OUR hands, the hands of those who most suffer the cut throat ravages of capitalism, the world's working class, could have made a very healthy start.

But then, these wankers weren't there to save the planet, they were there to make capitalism adjust itself a little and seem caring.

You didn't have to look too far in Brazil, with brutal cops clearing the streets of 'undesirables', and impoverished street kids, to see how much these hypocritical dross care: about as far as their next photo-opportunity.

Save the world - plant a boss (6 feet under)!

LETTERS

WE WELCOME LETTERS ON ALL SUBJECTS PLEASE SEND TO;

WOODENTOPS

Dear Class War

The article on the Liverpool docks' demo (CW54) made me want to throw up!

This demo, organised by the pacifist dominated "Earth First!", had about as much impact as any other tokenistic protest. It failed to stop the timber coming ashore, and relegated the workers to being mere spectators of the whole event.

Despite protesters spending the night on the cranes (with food and blankets provided with the permission of the authorities), and others spending the day running around the docks - chased by a few coppers who were obviously glad of a days light entertainment - the timber came ashore as planned, by simply being diverted to neighbouring quay.

The police, media and timber importers were quite happy to accommodate the whole fiasco and let protesters indulge their egos to their hearts content.

Earth First issued instructions about how this was to be a peaceful non-violent action. If there was any trouble with the police, nearby protesters were to sit down and point to the incident rather than get involved (can't imagine that one working in the poll tax riot!).

When a demonstrator got stuck up a crane having "frozen" with vertigo, one of the organisers enjoyed himself driving around in a police car trying to work out how to get him down.

Earth First are supposed to be the radical wing of the Green movement, but they are obviously still suffering from the middle class liberalism that affects most green groups. This is definitely the case when they think the best way to challenge authority and change society is by acting like naughty school kids.

Meanwhile the class struggle for human and environmental liberation continues.

Yours in Solidarity,
Tony, Newcastle-Upon - Tyne

By all means?

Dear Class War,

Either you contradict yourselves with the front cover of issue 54, or there is something you're not telling us.

The section 'What We Believe' states; "Violence is a necessary part of the class war - but as mass class violence, out in the open. Not as elitist terrorist actions." By placing a target on Major's head on the front cover you get it wrong twice. Firstly, you are encouraging an action that, in the context of the strength of the movement in Britain at the present, is an action that could only occur as an 'elitist terrorist action'. Secondly, by implying that the removal of Major will mean a fundamental change in our society, you are falling for the fairy story that capitalism sells us - namely that we live in a democracy where our leaders are answerable to us. We don't and they're not.

It doesn't matter whose face is on the front of the capitalist temple, held up by its four pillars of the state, church, monarchy and judiciary. Unless we blow the whole fucking lot away, we're just pissing in the wind. That means a lot more bastards than Major getting it between the eyes, 651 M.P.'s are just for starters.

So own up, are you just contradicting yourselves, and misleading us, or are you taking the slogan 'By All Means Necessary' in its logical direction by taking co-ordinated militant direct action?

I'll shed no tears if Major's brains get splattered all over Norma, but unless it's the result of a mass popular armed rebellion, then its just another misguided illusion.

In solidarity, Tim, London

QUESTION TIME

Dear Class War,

I like your mag, it often speaks the truth, cuts to the bone and is a good laugh.

On a serious note, you rightly slag off bourgeois 'con ' democracy, but what is your alternative? What is meant by a peoples' democracy?

Could Class War support a real peoples democracy that sustained populist prejudice on issues like immigration or capital punishment?

The people may well vote against capitalist exploitation and nuclear power, yet also for the return of the rope and 'respectable' bigotry against gays and foreigners etc.. Would Class War support or deny them this 'choice' even if it was reactionary?

CM, Newcastle Poly.

What' are readers ideas on how society will and should be run be run?

REPLY

To set the record straight, we WILL NOT be the leaders of any future society.

Our role is to agitate, educate and participate in organising for a better world - a total change in society.

The society that we're fighting for with our class is one free of exploitation, prejudice and hierarchy - where all people are equal.

There's only one "f" in OXFAM!

Dear Class War,

I read your paper for the first time last week and found it a highly entertaining mix of intelligent comment and loony rantings.

But for me there is only one organisation which gets out there, gets up off its bum and fights capitalism all over the world by re-distributing some of the wealth - its name is OXFAM.

I would also like to correct your view on the Liberals on page 3. The only centrist party in Britain today is the Labour Party. The libs are far to the left of Labour and always will be.

This Labour Party have been totally pathetic as an opposition party. The Libs are not in between as you rightly point out, they want to change the system democratically by introducing PR. PR is the only method of getting socialism back into this country and that's why I voted for it.

Best Wishes, S.H, Bristol.

Well folks, write to us withyour dirt on the liberals and OXFAM! As far as redistributing wealth goes, we're sure the high-paid 'well-meaning' bosses of Oxfam won't be taking a pay cut...

THIS IS CLASS WAR!

The CLASS WAR FEDERATION is an organisation of groups and individuals who have come together to do something about the society we live in.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

This society is divided into classes based on power and wealth. The ruling class, who are supported by the middle class; and the working class. Such a society is the cause of all the problems experienced by working class people the whole world over.

This can only be sorted out by the destruction of the ruling class by the working class: This is class war.

Real change can only come about by working class people organising themselves to deal with the problems that they experience; using direct action against the institutions and individuals that cause them. There is NO alternative. Violence is a necessary part of the class war - but as mass class violence, out in the open. Not elitist terrorist actions.

Class society creates other oppressions based on sex, ethnic origin, disability, sexuality etc. To the ruling class, this 'justifies' extreme exploitation of people placed in such groups, and divides our class.

The class war must fight all these divisive oppressions, on all fronts.

Above all, the CLASS WAR FEDERATION believes that politics is life, and life is politics. We reject the boring character of the so-called 'revolutionary left'. Politics must be fun; it's a part of everyday life and must be able to take the piss out of itself.

OUR AIM

The aim of the CLASS WAR FEDERATION is not to lead, but to increase the militancy of working class peoples' attempts to solve their problems; through propaganda, active participation, and debate as equals.

WHAT WE DO

The CLASS WAR FEDERATION produces and distributes propaganda; a paper, theoretical journal, other books, local and national leaflets, newsletters and posters. We're involved in working class struggles and we encourage involvement in the Federation to do the above - for discussion, and for a laugh!

CLASS WAR FEDERATION
NATIONAL SECRETARIES
PO BOX 2027
REDDITCH B98 ONT

As the gutter press picks picks up on Class War's 'SUMMER OF DISCONTENT' tour, and tries to make us seem like crazed nutters who'd do anything for a spot of mindless violence, we're printing these 2 write-ups of recent fightback against the cops toillustrate the need for our communities to support each other and act in solidarity againstthe enemy.

RIOTOUS ASSEMBLIES

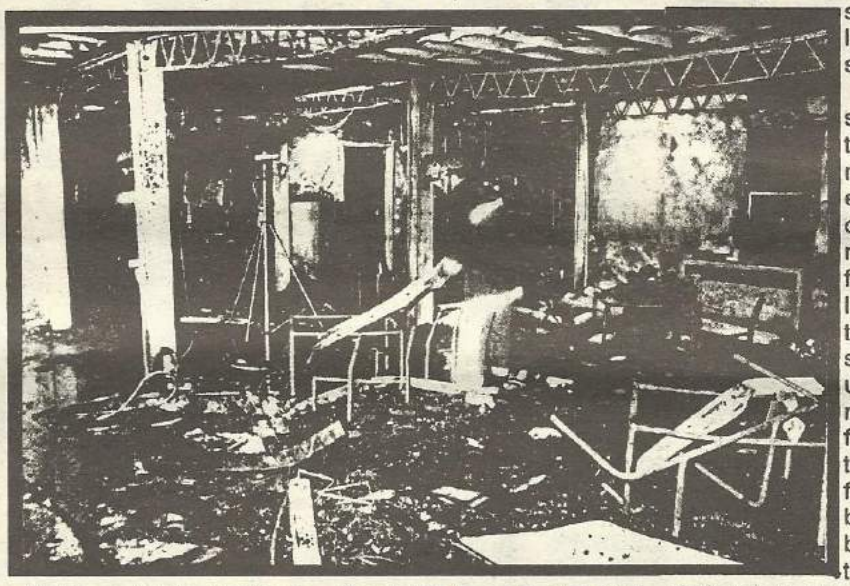
A LOOK AT ESTATES FIGHTING BACK...

Phew! It's not only the weather that has been hotting up recently Things have begun hotting up elsewhere - and the summer has only just begun.

Local youths on the Wood End estate in Coventry have been engaging in a spot of class warfare and, for four nights running, attacked police with petrol bombs, stones, bricks and anything else they could get their hands on. *It all started on the afternoon of Tuesday 12 May when th cops went into the area and nicked three youngsters riding on, as the police say, "stolen motorbikes", which is reported as being a nuisance hobby in the Wood End estate.*

The local news was full of lies to mask the real reasons for the riots - making out that all the locals were pissed off with the motorbike joyriders. But one local resident said to the Guardian, ***"the motorbike stuff just coincides with what everyone is feeling"*** and that ***"the Police came 'round in cars with two cops with a camera in the back and two in the front giving us the finger, we give it back."***

The motorbike joyriding in the area is just an excuse for the police to go in and start nicking people. They just love to get onto working class estates to stir up trouble. They never learn that when they use provocative and intimidating tactics our class doesn't stand for it and will fight back and give them a bloody good hiding whenever possbile



Coventry is just a taster for things to come in what should be a long, hot summer.

This summer is the time to make our estates and communities no-go areas for the police. It's time to keep the scum out using any necessary force - and if that means a few petrol bombs and bricks thrown in their direction to so be it. Our message is: Coventry is just the start. But, we can learn good lessons from LA and our own cities: there's no point in destroying our own resources, like the school pictured.

Of course, in the heat of the battle, nothing's totally black and white - but it's only common sense that we should be looking after our own.

But the message to the cops, the councils, the judiciary, the bailiffs and all the other anti-social bastards who try to divide us and make our lives worse: if you started it, we'll be finishing it.

BOTTLELESS BOBBIES

On Sunday 17 May in the inner city areas of Winson Green, Birmingham, around 150 youths attacked the police - hurling stones and bottles and resulting in two coppers injured and vehicles damaged.

Two members of Class War were present and were highly encouraged by the events that took place.

It all starred when the coppers tried to arrest two youths who has supposedly nicked a motorbike and were riding it around the local Summerfield Park, where a funfair was taking place and most of the community was out enjoying the entertainments and blazing sunshine.

Eventually the coppers, after a chase, caught up with the two youths and arrested them, but were quickly surrounded by a large group of angry locals who started to confront the filth with force.

The police called in reinforcements with riot gear, which didn't scare the locals, only making their anger toward the police grow, and missiles started flying in the cops' direction, which went on for about an hour until the police bottled it and left the area:

WINSON GREEN YOUTHS 1 - WEST MIDLANDS POLICE 0

After the riotous events in Coventry it looks like being a very promising summer - it's only the start- so here's to a long working class fight back during the summer months.

TO ADVERTISE IN CLASS WAR PHONE DAVE JOHNSON ON: 0737 778525

GET INVOLVED!

Class War is active in most towns and cities. If you want to get involved in your area please write to your closest Regional Secretary using the map below.

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WITH YOUR NEWS AND ENQUIRIES

"CALLING ALL SUPPORTERS..."

The Class War Federation believes in working class, anti- capitalist education, agitation and organisation.
Not lead by big mouths or intellectuals speaking down to us from on high. But from a politically aware and active class struggle movement.
It's easy to become cynical. Following the massive firepower unleashed in the Gulf to the rising tide of fascism of Europe is revolution just toy-town politics as Kinnock said?
WE THINK NOT. While the superpowers leading the new world order are rocked by class violence unleashed in it's own urban areas, in Germany massive strikes succeeded in paralysing the country.
These are just two of numerous recent examples of the will to fight back from our class.
Capitalism is truly global and (with the odd notable exception) has been on the roll for the past 200 years. But, as has been shown, it is also fragile. It is entering deeper into crisis.
But it's not about to self destruct - which is why we're asking YOU to join the movement to topple all those who now do (and those who if given the chance would) try to lead us from above.

SUPPORTERS' BULLETIN

NEWS VIEWS DECISIONS DEBATES UPDATES

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
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COST: £1.50 (Plus donation ____) Cheques/P.Os payable to Class War

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT JOINING CWF. PLEASE SEND ME INFORMATION

SEND TO: SUPPORTERS' SECRETARY, PO BOX 2027, REDDITCH, B98 ONT

APOLOGY: Sorry, but could anyone who has sent in a Supporter's slip please send another. We know it's hassle for you but our mail got messedup! Thanks for your time.

class war merchandise

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Back issues 19 - current issue are the only ones available. Please note that older issues are priced differently.

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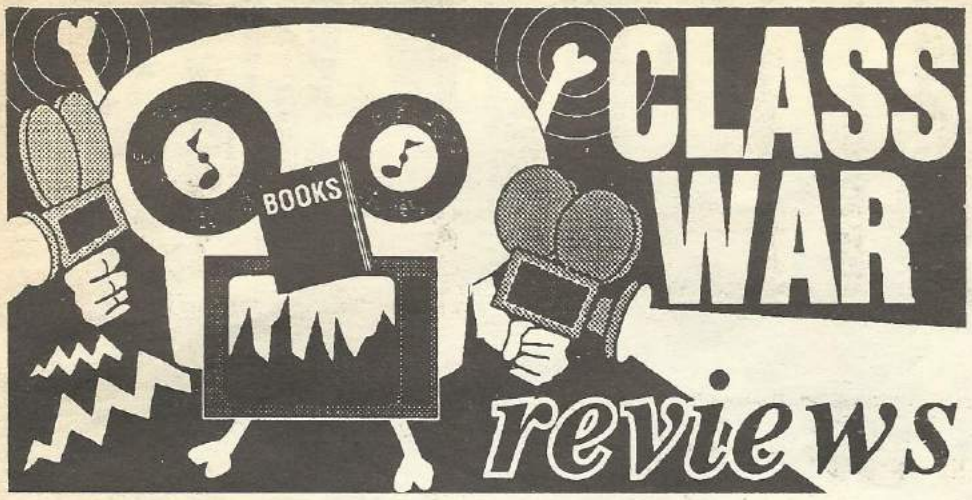


VINYL

THE 25TH OF MAY

"Go Wild" 7"

The 25th of May have been touring endlessly with their brand of adrenalin-rush dance music, their recent ***"Fuck The Right To Vote"*** single being bootlegged and flogged by the band themselves after their record company refused to release it.

"Go Wild" is a wild tumble of riffs and hard beats which tells the tale of the world out of time with people's needs. It's dynamic pop is fused with barbed and direct lyrics, frustration at the brutalisation of poverty and a call to attack the nightmare instead of just blocking it out.

This single is a good taster for the band's soon-released LP *"Lenin & McCarthy"*, out around the end of June. Go Wild!

THE DISPOSABLE HEROES OF HIPHOPRISY

"Hypocrisy is the Greatest Luxury" LP

This record is indisposable. Ex-Beatnigs mouth Michael Franti hooks into the cutting edge of rap with a combination of radio-friendly dance groovers and political venom aimed at the enemies of real change - from the ruling classes to ourselves.

Witty, hard-hitting, intelligent hip-hop which mixes a truly subversive recipe of catchy, melodic rap with direct and powerful lyrics. This is how it should be done! Making radical politics accessible... "Careerism, opportunism, can turn the politics into cartoonism... The bass, the treble, they don't make a rebel!"

At a recent London show, Michael Franti voiced complete support for the LA rioters, refusing to condemn the looting and murdering whilst the wealthy loot and murder our communities everyday. *"We're your children... and now we've learnt how to start fires!"* Here's the gutsy, powerful soundtrack to the summer of starting fires!

THE EX

"6.6" 12"

Known for their consistency and dedication to radical ideas in music - both through their uneasy brash noisescapes and their uncompromising anarchism - Dutch band the Ex never fail to come up with something fascinating. This, the sixth single in a series, rails against the 1992 Euro farce - in several languages, naturally!

Containing different sleeves, stickers and leaflets, the record is available from: **De Konkurrent, PO BOX 14598, 1001 LB Amsterdam, Holland.**

THE STREET

"She's Gone into the Sky" 12-inch E.P.

Liverpool band "the Street", who have played at many local benefit gigs, including Class War and Anti-Fascist Action, have brought out a new single containing four very differing songs. Although the band have a number of overtly political songs concerning such things as the police ("Blood Money") and war ("For Queen and Country"), this record is an example of the wider range of their material. Underlying each of the four songs are feelings of love and freedom, and of hope and resistance. If you like to listen to thoughtful melodic music it may be what your looking for.

The Street "She's Gone into the Sky" available from **The Street 051-228 4460 or Probe Records, Matthew St Liverpool 1.**

PIL

"That What Is Not" LP

There's something particularly nasty about outdated old punks who refuse to crawl off and die. John Lydon, one-time symbol of outrageousness and confrontation, gave up any pretensions to making challenging music a decade ago. Unfortunately he's still plodding on with the limp rent-a-quote conservatism so loved by the music press. This new LP? Middle of the road rock crap - **Die Lydon, die!**

SCREEN

"MY OWN PRIVATE IDAHO"

Where is this film going? If you're a fan of weird films, and specifically films where the plot is not immediately evident, you'd probably be initially surprised and interested by the stunning opening photography and the off-the-wall idea that the main character is a bloke who has some kind of affliction (for which there is a totally forgettable Latin name) which makes him suddenly, no matter what he is doing, keel over as our protagonist travels from the glories wide open country to a city low-life depicted with exaggerated seediness. We follow him through a series of bizarre experiences (I wont raise any expectations by calling them adventures), somehow ending up where he began; but without really going anywhere in between.

There's no real character exploration of the main man or all the people he associates with. That most of these drunks, street bums, drug dealers, hoods and drop-outs are portrayed as homosexual men - all displaying weird and anti-social behaviour - leaves a nasty taste in the mouth. Are we to believe from this that all gay men are by nature nasty and perverted? The overiding current of negativity in the film suggests either an unpleasant and distasteful homophobia or simply a badly put together cinematic story. Either way, it makes the film mundane and nauseous.

In the end, the experience of watching the film is neither moving or joyful in any way, and I think my falling asleep for a spell in the middle - ironically, in the unplanned imitation of the film's central character - was because the film's lack of purpose, direction, and story. Bluntly, the film lacks anything of any worth. Where is the film going? Up it's own arse

IN PRINT

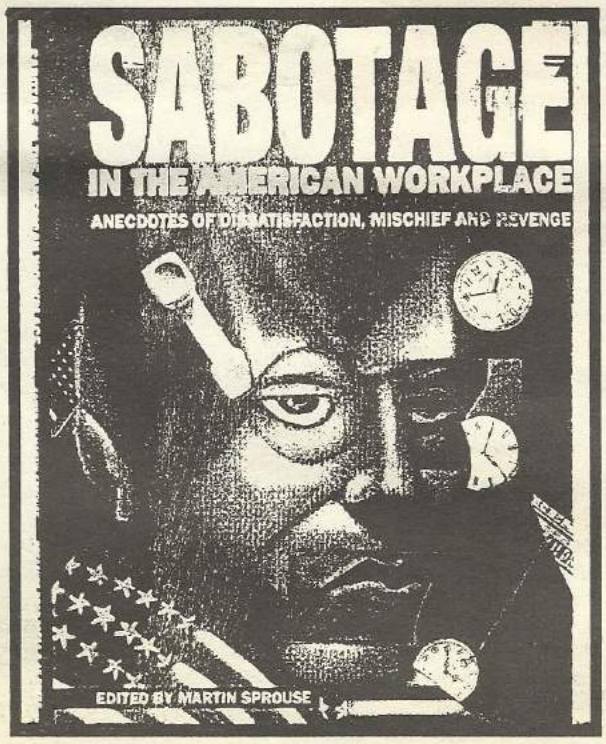
SABOTAGE IN THE AMERICAN WORKPLACE

Anecdotes of Dissatisfaction, Mischief and Revenge

Edited by Martin Sprouse £9.95

Published by Pressure Drop and AK Press

3 Balmoral Place, Stirling, Scotland, FK8 2RD



At last a beautifully illustrated coffeetable book that says more than 'possession' and does more than co-ordinate with the curtains. '*Sabotage in the American Workplace*' is the book for anyone who's ever dreaded yet another day at work. Few bosses would like their employees to handle a copy: It reinforces what many of us realised the second morning of our first job - work isn't fun but sabotage and creative revenge can make it a damn sight more tolerable.

First hand accounts from all over the United States provide the moving, witty, and at times downright madcap tales of sabotage.

The range of true stories and personalities prove that there's no such thing as the model worker, and that even the most mild-mannered employees are liable to have used some form of sabotage during their working lives.

Not all the accounts of sabotage are dramatic. Some of the contributors eased the frustrations and monotony of work with quiet acts of rebellion, like stealing time and company property.

Others went in for armed robbery, fucking up the stock market, placing computer logic bombs, euthanasia, beating up the boss, spiking cakes with dope, food poisoning and the mass destruction of expensive equipment. ***Phew!***

MODEL WORKERS?

Thought-provoking, it shows that no job or profession is immune from sabotage - most workers' first allegiance is to themselves rather than the company.

It's no surprise to discover that wherever there is harassment, low pay or poor working conditions people feel resentful; yet it's inspiring to find that the lower down the totem pole people are, the more likely it is that they'll hit back at the company with sabotage. In an age when strikes have been more or less outlawed it seems that sabotage has become one solution to the problems of the workplace.

The book exposes the way America works, but since work-is-work-is-a-pain-in-the-arse wherever its geographically located, people this side of the Atlantic will have no problem relating to the tricks that the Americans use to get them through the daily grind.

Read it! The cynical amongst us will be forced to concede that for every screamed supervisors' order there's an equal and opposite act of mischief and mayhem. The next time a wimp in a greasy suit hands you a form to fill in don't instantly assume he's a company 'yes' man.

Mail order Only, £9.95, AK Press, 3 Balmoral Place, Stirling, Scotland, FK8 2RD

FLUX 4

A Magazine of Libertarian Socialism

The flux collective explore lifestyle and class struggle politics and have the potential to produce an aggressive, and readable magazine.

But flux 4 lacks anger, humour, pages 3-4! and seems to be a poor attempt at a theoretical magazine. It has a plain and uninspiring appearance which suits its contents quite well. Cartoons and illustrations appear to be randomly inserted through the magazine. Some articles shine through the blandness. Part 2 of the essay *'Understanding the Irrational'* is well worth reading (part 1 in flux 2), if a bit heavy going. The translation of the French essay *'Questioning Ecology'* is an excellent criticism of the green movement.

Surprisingly the review section is the best bit of the magazine with a range of readable reviews from a libertarian perspective, including *'J.F.K'* and *'The Samson Option'*.

Flux probably isn't for you if you want entertainment or straight information and news, but does provide a vaguely interesting summary of some of the ongoing debates within libertarian groups.

Flux 4, spring 1992
75p from flux, Box A, The Rainbow Centre, 180 Mansfield Rd, Nottingham.

GRAFFITI COMPETITION

With the recession capitalism's dumped us all in the captain's of industry are trying to claw back as much in fees & taxes as they think they can get away with...

But NOT from the cheeky chappie who sent us this week's prime time wondrous winner.

Fred from Hull, you've got the picture. There's a atenner on its way - but doncha dare put it towards a bill, O.K?

ALL ENTRIES TO: CW, PO BOX 772, BRISTOL, BS99 1EL

CLASS WAR World of SPORT

Kicking Them Into Orbit

By now you'll probably be totally pissed off with the announcement that from next year those Premier League team supporters kicked off the terraces, or locked out of the ground may not even be able to watch their team from home unless they've got a satellite dish.

None of the people involved in the argument over the TV rights has the game or the supporters interests in mind.

SCUM SAMPLE

Here's just a sample of the bastards who intend to ruin our game:

Rick Parry Chief executive of the Premier League - Probably never seen a match in his life. Thinks he can market the game like soap powder - would like to turn all grounds into yuppie developments or supermarkets if he could.

Alan Sugar - financial backer of Tottenham Hotspur - sells the satellite dishes on which the Premier League may be transmitted. Guess where his interests lie!

David Dein and Co. The directors of Liverpool, Leeds, Everton, Aston Villa Man Utd and including David Dein of Arsenal - Pretending to be the good guys for once by opposing the satellite deal. This decision has more to do with the fact that they don't want to jeopardise their own chances of winning trophies by having to play games on a Monday night than to any allegiance to their supporters.

The TV Companies. Due to their long standing feud about who should televise football and other sports in general the BBC seems to have joined with BSKYB just in order to spite ITV. Rather an own goal for public broadcasting just in order to feed off the crumbs of the BSKYB table and televise edited highlights.

KICKING THEM ALL INTO ORBIT

While some people look pessimistic as the game of their youth is ruined by a load of money grabbing bastards others are not taking the situation lying down.

West Ham fans sick of facing second division football and unable to watch their team due to the board's bond scheme have given chairman Martin Cearns so much hassle that the poor man has been forced to resign.

We're sure that many other fans, although loyal to their clubs for years, will take a leaf out of the hammers fans book and make other chairmen and directors take a similar course of action. After all its us who still cough up most of the money..

These bastards try to milk the game for every penny either at the ground or through some TV deal. Their class doesn't care about working class supporters - whether we have safe grounds to stand or sit in or access to places to play the game - only about how much they can screw out of us.

STRUGGLE CONTINUES...

The struggle against this shit society we live in will always continue in its many forms whether they like it or not. The FA, directors, TV companies may be celebrating a new era in which to make big profits out of the game .

Well they ain't seen nothing yet!

OLYMPIC FLAMES!

This year's Barcelona Olympic Games, starting in July, have already become yet another example of big business using sport to rake off massive profits at the expense of working class people.

Like any other Olympic Games, Barcelona 1992 has been organised and engineered by the ruling class: a coalition between the Spanish filthy rich and the backward leaders of the International Olympic Committee. It's no surprise, of course: the boss of the pig-ignorant IOC was once a leading figure in Franco's fascist Spain.

SMUG

The farce of an "international festival of athletics" has always told the same story: the ruling elite using sport to reaffirm their hold on power. The Games' history since 1896 has seen royal families and state leaders smugly patronising the award ceremonies to distract their working class population from economic and political problems, with any attempts to rock the Olympic boat being put down by cops and the armed forces.

RIOTS

There have been full-scale riots before and during several of the 20th century Games. In 1906 a riot in front of the USA and UK hotels during the Games was put down by armed cops killing 3 people and injuring loads more, but not before providing plenty of fiery athletic entertainment for the shocked tourists. All this whilst the Greek royal family was entertaining the English Royal family for dinner! Of course the Games carried on. The London 1908 Games saw trouble after English team officials refused to allow the Irish team to carry the Irish flag. And in Mexico in 1968, 300,000 students and teachers were attacked by government troops ten days before the opening of the Olympics - hundreds were shot dead during a peaceful demonstration. The International Olympic Committee refused to take a stand, saying it was "an internal affair". The Games went on.

Now thats what we'd like to see made an olympic sport!

BLACK POWER

Later the same month, when black US sprinter Tommie Smith raised his fist on the victory podium in a black power salute, the IOC suddenly found it's political voice - banning Smith and condemning his behaviour as "shocking and disrespectful"! Then of course there was the Berlin Games in '36, when the IOC fully supported the openly fascist manipulation of the Olympics, right down to approving the Heil Hitler salute given by athletes at awards ceremonies. A special "Peoples' Games" organised to oppose the Nazi Olympics that year, was condemned by the blinkered scum on the Olympics Committee.

SHAMBLES

And now in Barcelona we can already see the Olympics causing havoc in the city. The TV revenue alone for the Barcelona Games is $630 million, and this above all else will dictate that the rulers in Barcelona must present a squeaky-clean, distorted view to the world, whilst the people of Barcelona are expected to fork out the 700,000 million pesetas invested in creating this tarted-up shambles. Huge areas of the city have been wiped out in order to build sports stadiums and accommodation for the 15,000 athletes and 5,000 journalists. Not forgetting the 6,500 leeching sponsors, given luxury new apartments and "floatels" around the city.

UNDER-PAID

Loads of new hotels are being thrown up by under-paid, over-worked immigrant labour under disgusting employment conditions. Poor areas of the city are being screened off, whole communities shifted to the outskirts, shoddily-built motorways and a new airport terminal now dominate the old part of Barcelona.

UNUSABLE

And after the three weeks of capitalist window-dressing is all over? The people of Barcelona will have to live with the legacy of yet another crumbling, unusable example of the ruling class demonstrating it's filthy decadence in the name of sport.

RUMBLINGS

But there are rumblings within Barcelona. People there have been speaking out against the Olympics for the past four years, and there is talk of the local Catalans turning the Olympics into a festival for the oppressed - with demonstrations of just what they think of these wealthy scum playing Games with their homes, their labour and their money,. Watch out for some real sport on the Barcelona streets this summer!

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CHEW IT OVER!