VICTORY TO THE HIT SQUADS
BREAKING THE RULES

As the strike has gone on so the tactics of picketing, and therefore of necessity fighting the police, have developed from the set piece, static pushing and shoving against the police lines of a few months ago. These ritual surges and shoves were accepted by both sides... a few people would be hauled out, a few coppers or miners clouted... but nothing to stop everyone having a chat together half an hour later. Since World War II this has been the British way of industrial disputes... played to certain agreed rules where everyone knows how far to go and when to call it a day.

No nasty, violent scenes like on the continent where lorry drivers and steel workers go on the rampage.

Sure, the police can sometimes lose the battle of the streets as at Saltley Coke Depot during the 1972 miners strike. But what happened then... the police simply decided they'd lost this particular skirmish, closed the depot, the Tory government called a general election and lost, Labour settled the strike.

SO WHAT? NOTHING CHANGED! The ruling class gave the appearance of losing but in reality won again... the rules of the game were kept to. In the song popular at the time... 'Labour, Tory, same old story Edward Wilson, Harold Heath Them on Top, Us underneath'

THE RABBLE

Scabs are ambushed on their way to work; their houses and cars are smashed up; they themselves are beaten up in the pubs or on the streets.

Mobile squads of pickets move through fields and footpaths to launch surprise attacks on scabs or NCB property; they block the Humber river bridge or motorways with their cars; huge numbers of pickets turn up where the police are least expecting them.

Chief Constables come on t.v. bleating that it's not fair, it's dangerous, that the miners are not keeping to the rules of the game.

And then this continual guerrilla warfare against the scabs and the law begins to turn into all out attacks on the police. After the battles at Orgreave the violence continued almost daily at nearby Maltby. The police station was besieged and attacked night after night and individual coppers beaten up wherever possible. Years of image building 'local

THIRTY-SIX people were in custody yesterday after a police sergeant had been knocked unconscious while making an arrest at Bredington.

Humberside police said that when Sergeant David Reeves and a colleague arrested a man in the Bredington coach park at about 2am after a reported burglary, a number of people, some of them miners, surrounded the police van and helped to free the man.

Sgt Reeves chased him, but was set upon by a number of men and knocked unconscious.

O Scenes of pit mayhem on TV are breeding a vast upsurge in assaults or police away from the picket lines. Warwickshire Chief Constable Peter Godden claimed yesterday. He said there were now 20 assaults in a fortnight, compared with 40 all last year.

There is harsh poverty and hardship, beyond doubt, but it is also true that many young miners are beginning to enjoy the striking way of life and to view the prospect of a return to work with distinct lack of enthusiasm. The comradeship and laughs to be had travelling round the country, the new friendships and people to meet, the boozing, the fighting the police, the sunbathing seem a lot more attractive than slogging your guts out below ground. The idea of 40 years below ground before picking up your redundancy check no longer seems either possible or desirable to young miners.

THE top policemen who arrested miners' leader Arthur Seargill was brutally beaten up yesterday as a mob rampaged through don't know.
But during this strike the rules of the game have been ignored by many miners in gradually escalation of the level of violence. The static moves continue, but not in isolation. Miners stand back from the police lines and hurl bricks and rocks at them; property is smashed up and set ablaze; telegraph poles and huts are pulled down and thrown at police lines; police cars and vans are overturned. It is of course a matter of deep regret that so few old bills have been hospitalised but this cannot be put down to lack of effort!

**RAMPAGING** miners and police fought a pitched battle in a busy street yesterday.

**HURLED** bottles, bricks and even petrol bombs at police.

**UPROOTED** lamp posts and telephone poles to add to their terrifying hail of missiles.

**BARRICADED** the 300-yard stretch of road leading to the plant with three blazing cars and explosive gas cylinders. The scrap vehicles, which had been hijacked from a nearby garage, were set on fire.

The mines themselves and other NCB property is systematically vandalised at night. Arson attacks are made on working pits and haulage companies and shops which refuse to let strikers have credit. Most significantly, the confrontations and attacks, the whole struggle itself, has not been confined to the work place to the pits. Just as the Trade Union/Police Queensberry Rules of acceptable picket line behaviour has been thrust aside by the increased ferocity of the pickets, so even more importantly the accepted rules about the venue of the game about where the battle can be confined to have also been given the boot.

Now even militant local NUM leaders get worried about what's going on. Events seem to have escaped from their control. They try to blame the troubles at Maltby on 'skinheads' and 'outsiders'. But the people arrested at Maltby all turn out to be miners or unemployed from the village. If they happen to be skinheads... so what anyway. The police, the government and the union leaders are united in their fear that the strike is getting out of their control and is no longer confined to a demand to keep open uneconomic pits. In such a strike the ruling class could not lose one way or the other. Whether they kept open or shut down a few pits the miners would still return to work afterwards and no threat would be posed to the basic fabric of our boss run society.

But in 5 months of striking attitudes have changed a lot. At the start many older miners were pleasantly surprised to see the younger miners respond with such enthusiasm to the strike call and identify with the militant traditions of the NUM. But the strike has shown a significantly different attitude to work itself between the older and younger miners.

Picket army's bloody battle with the cops

The communal way of life of shared meals, of moving in with others to save money, of whole villages working towards a common purpose of winning the strike and surviving meanwhile by looking after each other is a welcome change from everyday life under capitalism with each individual obsessed with their own private interests. In South Wales several groups of miners have already said they will never go down the pits again even if the strike is won. They echo the words of the striking miners in 1972 who replied to management stories about the dangers of pit flooding by saying that they couldn't give a toss if all the mines collapsed and they never worked again. The Left and the trade union leaders are wanting to sew on 1984 to the NUM banners' roll of glory, but the reality is that this strike has nothing to do with past battles.
Mob fights police

The younger miners are the ones who will at least have seen the 1981 riots on TV and who will have learned the tactics of barricade building and rock throwing. In the past inner city rioters have shown little interest in the struggles of industrial workers and vice versa... the attitudes towards work often being completely opposed. Thus the state has been able to survive an upsurge of rioting or wave of strikes because the two never occurred at the same time... a 'struggle of the working class and the marginalised have never linked up'.

Pit village riot

Violence in Hemsworth occurred throughout Friday night and early Saturday morning. Over 150 youths, not all miners, were involved in pitched battles with the police, who again used riot equipment.

There were two coppers every 50 yards throughout the town. Kids were leaning against the walls, stoning the vans as they passed. It was just like what you see in Northern Ireland on the television.

Now for the first time we can see distinct possibilities of this happening. Among the younger miners traditional attitudes to work are breaking down; the violence has escalated beyond levels acceptable to the police; scenes of rioting and disorder are again appealing to the creative young minds in our cities; the clashes are no longer confined to the workplace but spill over into the communities, streets and all aspects of everyday life; the miners strike is no longer about keeping a few pits open.

During the NGA picketing of Eddie Shah's print works at Warrington last year kids from the local estates joined in rock throwing, setting up barricades, setting petrol ablaze and attacking police cars. During the miners strike school kids have rioted and fought their way out to join in the action.

A 6,500-STRONG army of miners' pickets fought with 3,000 police yesterday in the bloodiest battle yet of the bitter pit dispute.

Stone-throwing mobs went on a five-hour orgy of violence and destruction.

The best solidarity we can give is not to tail end the picket lines. Plogging papers as the Lefties do but to get out on the streets in our own towns and cities. Once the spirit of Maltey and Orgeave meets up with the spirit of Trelawny, Brixton and Moss Side 1981 then the streets will have a fight on its hands it cannot handle.

Already there has been trouble again at St. Paul's in Bristol this summer... but it went escalate in isolation.

Now's the time to open up a second front in the cities to back the miners and vent our own anger on the bosses, the state and the police who protect them. Many miners are intending to come on the Stop the City rampage on Sept. 27th... Good, but no point waiting till then! If we can take the struggle back on to the streets of London, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham and elsewhere then we can make sure that not only do the miners win, but that we all win - once and for all!

Have you ever noticed how in Leftie papers they only ever print pictures of miners being beaten up by the police. They never use pictures which would really cheer us up of the police being given a good kicking or being carted off to hospital. They always portray us as passive victims of police violence. They then come up with a load of moral crap about how nasty the cops are... as if we should be surprised about it! Just occasionally they will say that people fought back against the coppers - but this is only when they've been attacked first by the police and had to use self-defence! They continually seek to morally justify any violence used against the police.

Look wankers... we don't need any moral justification to attack the cops, we won't wait to be attacked before we fight back. The police and the bosses are the enemies of the working class and class violence is not a moral issue but a necessary part of our daily struggle to get rid of these bastards. Class violence never needs to be justified... it just needs to be carried out more often! We need to attack first not be on the defensive. The Lefties can sob themselves to sleep about pictures of beaten up miners or memories of Blair Peach. We'll never print this crap in Class War, but pictures of smashed up coppers or bosses... yes please... we look forward to the time we can fill the whole paper up with them!!
OPEN UP THE SECOND FRONT NOW!

By the time the pickets' convoy arrived the numbers had swelled to 1000. The first target was the local community police constable's car, which was overturned and damaged.

More bricks and stones were hurled at miners' cars and NCB buildings. Seven cars were smashed.

POLICE forces in two counties today launched an all-out drive to smash a highly-organised secret network of militant miners responsible for increasing commando-style raids in the northern coalfields.

In the pit car park, furious strikers caused thousands of pounds of damage to working miners' cars, they pelted them with stones and shattered windscreens with iron bars. Thirty-three vehicles were wrecked.

Four police officers were injured during the night of violence. One had a broken arm.

Then, as quickly as they arrived, they jumped into waiting transport and departed. Orders were relayed over CB radios and the pickets headed for Bircotes on the Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire border, where they attacked Harworth Colliery.

They even rammed a police car with a van, overturned another... and stoned a bus carrying working pitmen.

But they disappeared when police reinforcements arrived... only to strike elsewhere within minutes.

HERE WE GO!

Over a thousand miners trash collieries, wreck cars, overturn police cars and ram police vans. They move quickly, using CB radios to co-ordinate their attacks and to melt away before the police can turn up and reappear miles away for another attack. A truly magnificent example of organised, collective, violent resistance to the bosses and the state.

The Chief Constable is troubled out on t.v. to bleat on about 'somebody must be organising these people'... he can't believe that the working class are quite capable of organising their collective resistance themselves. Just as in the '61 riots the press were running stories that the riots were organised by 4 people travelling round the country on a motorbike!

Labour wankers like Kinnockio condemn the miners for fighting back. In reality the Hit Squads show the way forward... the violence of the police will go on being met with an even more ferocious response from the working class.

VICTORY TO THE HIT SQUADS
The people at 'Class War' are always interested in hearing peoples views on the paper and/or the groups views in general, any constructive criticism is valued as is fan mail, etc., etc., so if you've nothing better to do why not write a note and tell us exactly what you think... Address: Box CW, 36 Albany Street, NW1.

LET THEM EAT BRICKS!
Capitalism, the state and the class system cannot be changed through bourgeois parliament or through the bourgeois courts simply because these institutions were set up by the ruling class to smother real class anger. Asked nicely the ruling class will never give up its stolen, spoiled lives. It will never give up its power unless we violently take it as a class. The only language the ruling class and its paid mercenaries the cops and army, understand is that of class violence. WE FIGHT FOR A WORKING CLASS REVOLUTION.

Class unification and class consciousness is what the capitalists fear most. To offset this they erect artificial barriers and deliberately foster ideas, based on ignorance, such as racism, sexism, heterosexism, wage slaves against dole slaves etc. When it comes to housing we are told to blame the Indian family on the corner, not the capitalists who own 3 or 4 houses each costing hundreds of thousands. When jobs are lost the blacks of the inner city, middle class hotels, going on flash holidays or pretending to be poor social workers while their bank accounts swell. Wankers. We may now be able to afford a video recorder, after slaving away in a posh office or stinking factory for years, but the power and wealth always stays firmly in the hands of the capitalists. The mystification and deliberate attempt at confusing class is vital to the ruling class.

One of our tasks as class struggle anarchists is to expose these false divisions, mystifications and lies that prevent the working class from uniting and destroying capitalism and the state. The working class, as I said earlier, consists of wage slaves; but it also consists of all those who are unable to work because of the eratic way capitalism operates, such as unemployed, disabled and retired workers etc. Also all those who due to their age or sex do not work for bosses, but work in the home or at school. Apart from the odd few—those the media gleefully throw at us as an example—this class stays constant. Because of its position in society, the working class is the revolutionary class. Obviously as the class war comes to a head vast numbers of the middle class will flock to our side. This is fair enough, and they should be treated as equals and as comrades. But we will not tolerate those who try to keep a foot in two camps: one with the revolutionaries, another in mummy and daddies bank account. Live with us or die with the bosses. Those who choose to stay with the bosses will suffer the same fate. The same is true for all those working class people who are the paid mercenaries of the capitalists: the cops and army. The working class must attempt to win over the more intelligent sections of these organisations, but those who prefer to stay as class traitors will be dealt with the class violence coming to them.

without them. Without the rich capitalist parasites and their protectors the police and army. We want a world where the working class are in charge, not a small, pampered elite. A world where working class pensioners don't die of hypothermia, while some toe-rag plays with more money on one roulette wheel than we've see this year. A society where work is done for need, not greed and capitalist profit. The working class has no country. Our only enemy is the international ruling class and all those who maintain it, and apologise for it!

FORWARD TO ANARCHISM

& WORKING CLASS REVOLUTION!