

NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION

STOP THE WAR



Assemble 12 noon, Hyde Park, London. Supported by CND

For details of transport from Nottingham contact
Mark 07947609401

**Nottingham & District
Trades Union Council**



The Nottingham Trades Council is where branches of all the different local trade unions come together to exchange information & ideas.

- ★ To provide support to workers in dispute
- ★ To encourage all workers to join their appropriate trade union.
- ★ To campaign on issues of concern to trade unionists at local, national & international levels.

The Trades Council is the Nottingham area's representative of the TUC and feeds back our views into the national movement.
The next meeting is Wed
21st November at the
International Community

Any branch of each Trade Union affiliated to the TUC and based in the Nottingham & District Area is entitled to become a member of the Trades Union Council. If your branch is not already a member then invite a speaker to come to your next branch meeting to talk about why you should join, or simply fill in the form enclosed with this mailing. Nottm & District TUC is supported by branches from the following Trade Unions.




Leveller



Newsletter of Nottingham Trades Union Council

STOP THE WAR

Demonstration

**Sat Nov
3rd**

Assemble
Forest 12 noon
March 1pm
Rally in the
Square 2pm



BRING BANNERS & MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Want To Contribute Something to Nottingham Trades Council Newsletter?

Articles, reports on Union
activities, whistle blowing on
bad practice, news- in fact
anything that would be of
interest.

We'd love to hear from you!

Send your contributions to
Nottm & District TUC

C/O Nottm City
UNISON, 4/6 Perth
St, Nottm NG1 3LU

or E-mail

maydayuk@

yahoo.co.uk

By 15.12.01



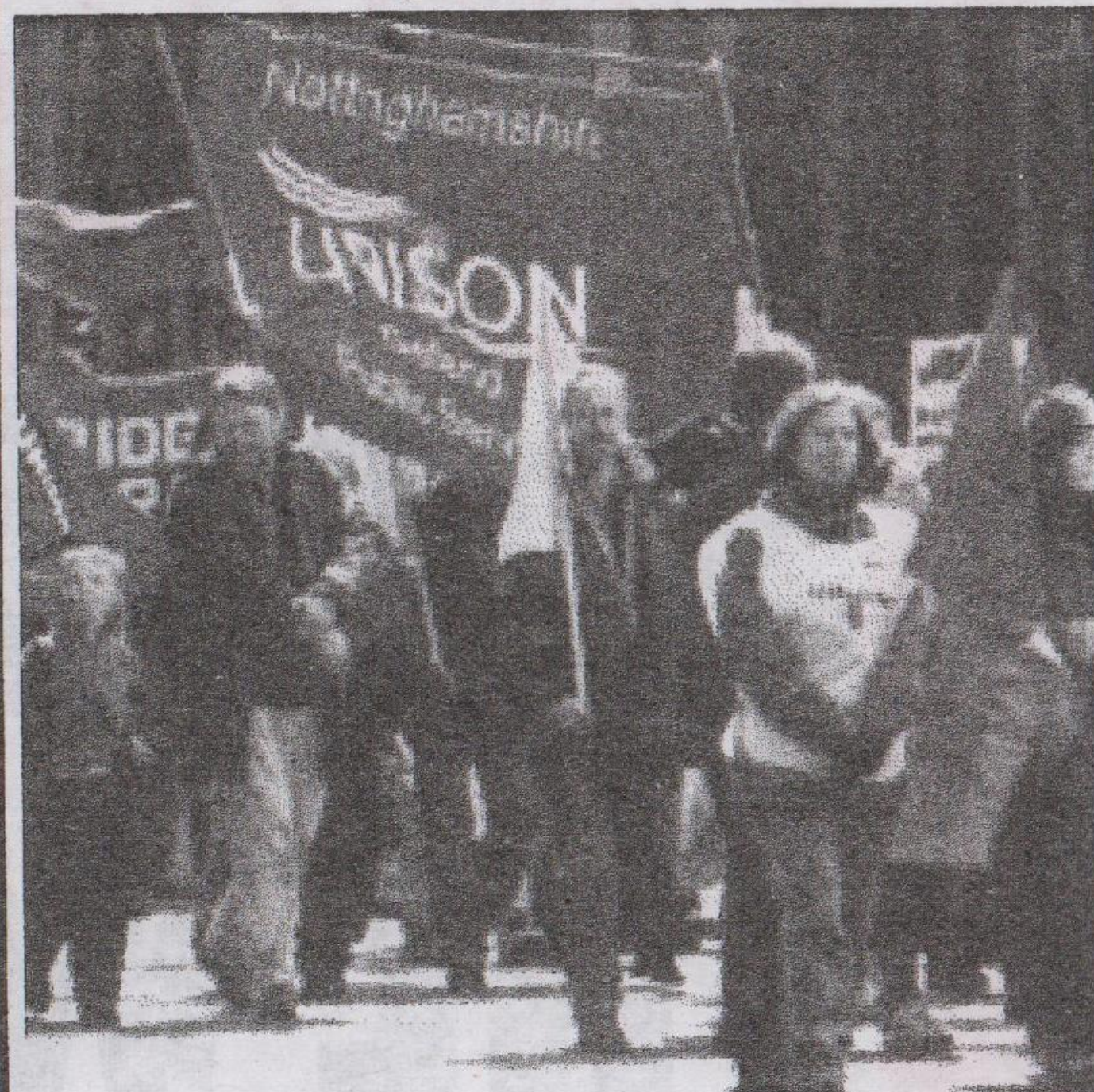
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS

This newsletter can
be available in a
range of accessible
formats.

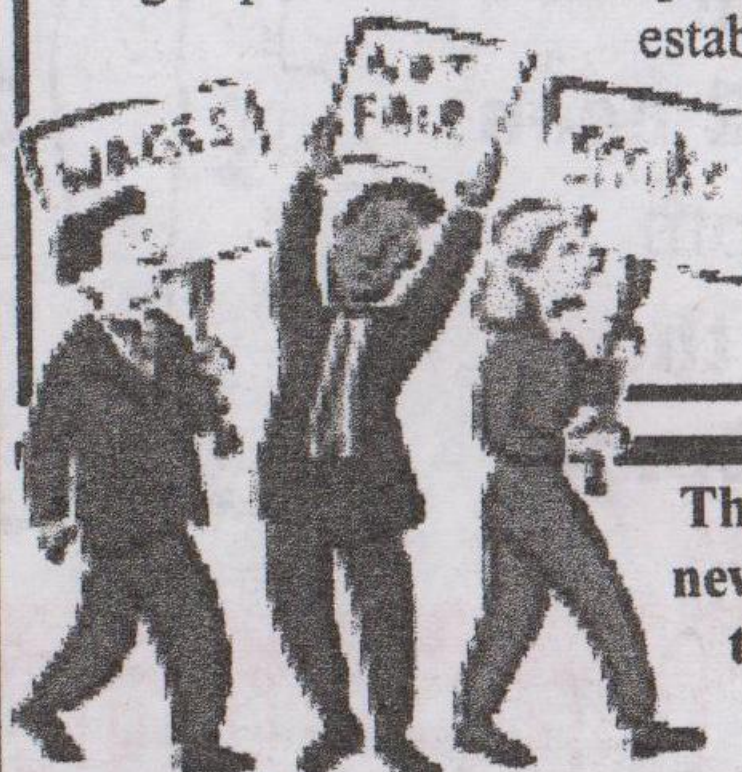
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contact
details on
back page.



£20 million of public services in Notts up for sale!



Once a local authority which prided itself on quality in-house service provision, Notts County Council is currently looking at a PPP (that's a private/public partnership to you) worth £20 million to the lucky bidder. The proposed package will see the take-over of a range of support services – IT, finance, personnel and public access points – involving 600+ employees. We are not a “failing” authority. All the services involved have already been subject to Best Value reviews. What supposedly started as the development of a Best Value procurement strategy has become a Trojan horse for a flagship exercise in privatisation, including the establishment of a regional call centre that will not only take County Council jobs into the private sector, but will also



The Views expressed in this
newsletter are not necessarily
those of Nottm & District
Trades Union Council

look to take-over the running of public services throughout the area.

UNISON members have reacted angrily to the proposals. Packed union meetings resulted in a mass lobby of the Council on September 20, and a campaign group has been set-up by UNISON. Support has been forthcoming from other public sector unions, such as the GMB and TGWU, as well as pledges of solidarity from unions who do not have members directly affected, such as UCATT. UNISON speakers are visiting other union branches to warn them of the implications if this PPP goes ahead.

The bid will take about 18 months to formulate, if it goes ahead. Although a working party is also being established by the council to look at an alternative to PPP, all the current emphasis is on the need to privatise. We can only hope that the those members of the Labour Group apart from the 6 who voted against the privatisation route come to their senses and look at the facts, rather than the spin - massive public opposition to privatisation and an endless catalogue of horror stories where the private sector has moved in. If they don't, they can be sure that UNISON will do everything possible to remind them!

Gail Squires, Notts UNISON.



know your rights line

0870 600 4 882

Lines open every day 8am-10pm Calls charged at the nation rate.

26 reasons to phone this number.

There are 26 new rights for people at work. Call the TUC know your rights line to order information leaflets on these new rights and other workplace issues including:

Health & Safety, working time, bullying, pensions, agency workers rights & other rights as they become law.

WORKERS



TOGETHER

The next meeting of
Nottingham & District
Trades Union Council is
Wednesday 21st Nov at
The International
Community Centre,
Mansfield Rd, Nottm.

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Minutes of previous meeting
- 3 Matters Arising
- 4 Correspondence
- 5 Reports
- 6 Motions
- 7 Disputes
- 8 A.O.B
- 9 Date of next meeting

The Alpdogan family Must Stay

Mahmut and Zeyneb Alpdogan and their children, a Kurdish family from Northern Kurdistan in Turkey, have been living in Nottingham since December 2000. Between 1981 and 1996, the Turkish military frequently came to the family's village, arresting and beating up villagers. Mahmut was detained twice and badly beaten. In 1996, soldiers came to arrest him, Mahmut was not at home and they detained his wife for 3 days at the local barracks. It was at this point that the family decided to flee Turkey.



They first went to Germany. Their application for asylum was refused and three years later they lost their appeal and were told that they would be returned to Turkey. They then fled to England to seek asylum here. They spent a few months in London before coming to Nottingham as part of the Home Office dispersal programme. Mr. Alpdogan is not in good health and is receiving treatment here. The children have settled well in school and have made friends.

The family's application for asylum was refused but they were given a further 3 months to make their case after an intervention by John Heppell MP. Their second interview was due to take place on August 18th at Dover but in the week prior to this date they received a letter telling them to present themselves at Stansted Airport for deportation to Germany on August 21st. An application for judicial review has now been launched by their solicitor so the deportation order has been stayed until their case goes to the High Court.

A campaign is being launched to prevent the deportation of the Alpdogan family. If you would like to be involved or to receive further information, telephone Myra 9603355, or Rob 0794 674844.

Letters of protest to: Lord Rooker, Minister for Citizenship and immigration, Home Office, 50 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT.

Quote the family's Home Office reference number A1078481. Copy letter to: The Alpdogan Family Campaign, c/o NNRF, 67 Lower Parliament Street, Nottingham, NG1 3BB. Donations to the campaign welcome since we will need to print leaflets and petitions and fund other campaign expenses. Please make cheques payable to Refugee Campaign Group.

Please Act quickly as the situation is becoming urgent

Notts Anti-Fascist Alliance

Notts Anti-Fascist Alliance meet on the last Tuesday of the month at The Newcastle Arms, North Sherwood Street, Nottm.
Next Meeting
Oct 30th
7.30pm



Free Mumia Abu-Jamal

Mumia Abu-Jamal is a former Black Panther and an award winning journalist/ Mumia has been on death row since 1982, after he was wrongfully sentenced for the shooting of a police officer. New evidence, including the recantation of a key eyewitness as well as new ballistic and forensic evidence, point to his innocence.

For the last 19 years, Mumia has been locked up 23 hours a day, denied contact visits with his family, had his confidential legal mail illegally opened by the prison authorities, and has been put into punitive detention for writing his book, Live From Death Row.

His case is currently on appeal before the Federal District Court on appeal before the Federal District Court in Philadelphia.

Mumia's fight for a new trial has won the support of ten's of thousands around the world, including Nelson Mandella, the European Parliament and Amnesty International.

Mumia Abu-Jamal's fate rests with all those people who believe in every persons right to a fair trail.

Mumia's Case was rigged:

■ The judge, Albert Sabo, has sentenced more people to death than any other sitting judge in the USA

■ The public defender didn't interview a single witness in preparation for the trail, and didn't have funds for the defending the case.

■ The prosecutor removed 11 qualified African Americans from the Jury. He also argued



for the death penalty because of Mumia's membership of the Black Panther Party, a practice later condemned as unconstitutional by the US supreme court.

■ The racial bias of Philadelphia's court has resulted in 120 people on death row, all but 13 non-white.

www.mumia2000.org

America's Racist Death Penalty

- The imposition of the death penalty is racially biased
- Nearly 90% of persons executed were convicted of killing whites, although non white people make up over half of all murder victims in the United States
- In illinois, Oklahoma and North Carolina, killers of white victims are four times more

likely to receive the death penalty than the killers of black victims.

➤ As of 01.01.97, African Americans made up 11 of the 13 people executed by the State of Alabama

➤ Nitey per cent of people US Government prosecutors seek to execute are Black or Latino.

Information from The Alliance For Workers Liberty "How to beat the racists" Pamphlet

Death Blossoms- Mumia Abu-Jamal

Uncompromising, disturbing...Abu-Jamal's voice has the clarity and candor of a man whose impending death emboldens him to say what is on his mind without fear of consequence.



NOTTINGHAM STOP THE WAR!

**Weekly Organisational
and discussion meetings**

**Every Wednesday
7.30pm @ The International
Community Centre
Mansfield Rd**

**Stalls and Petitioning
Slab Square (Market place
central Nottingham)**

**Monday - Friday: 12-2 and 4-6
For further information contact:
Pat 0115 9620412/ Stuart 0115
8417901/Frank 9112726
Volunteers Needed to
staff the Stall**



www.bushwatch.com

STOP THE WAR

Hundreds of New York trade unionists have taken a courageous stand against Bush's war drive. Below is an extract from their statement that they have signed:

We believe that George Bush's war is not the answer. No one should suffer what we experienced on September 11. Yet war will inevitably harm countless innocent civilians, strengthen American alliances with brutal dictatorships and deepen global poverty - just as the United States and its allies have already inflicted widespread suffering on innocent people in such places. War will also take a heavy toll on us... It will redirect generate further terror in this country against Arabs, Muslims, South Asians, people of colour and immigrants, and erode our civil liberties. It will redirect billions to the military and corporate executives, while draining such essential domestic programmes as education, health care and the social security trust. War will play into the hands of religious fanatics - from Osama bin Laden to Jerry Falwell - and provoke further terrorism in major urban centres like New York.

Nottingham Stop The War Group urges people to become involved in the local campaign to stop the war. We condemn the

attacks on the World Trade Centre on 11th September. We believe that working class people in the US have born the brunt of this atrocity and we stand in solidarity with them.

We also condemn the war drive launched by the US and their allies. The bombing of Afghanistan that began on the 7th October will only mean an escalation in the violence and will not bring an end to terrorism. The US and their allies are themselves complicit in acts of terrorism against civilian populations, and in imposing policies of inhuman brutality across much of the third world. In Afghanistan itself the USA armed, trained and funded Osama Bin Laden and the Taliban.

The most fitting memorial to those who suffered in New York and Washington would be the building of a mass movement internationally against the war, and for supporting the building of genuine democratic movements against the fundamentalists in these countries. The bombing of Afghanistan will make this more difficult - it can only result in more terrorism, oppression and repression by right-wing movements.

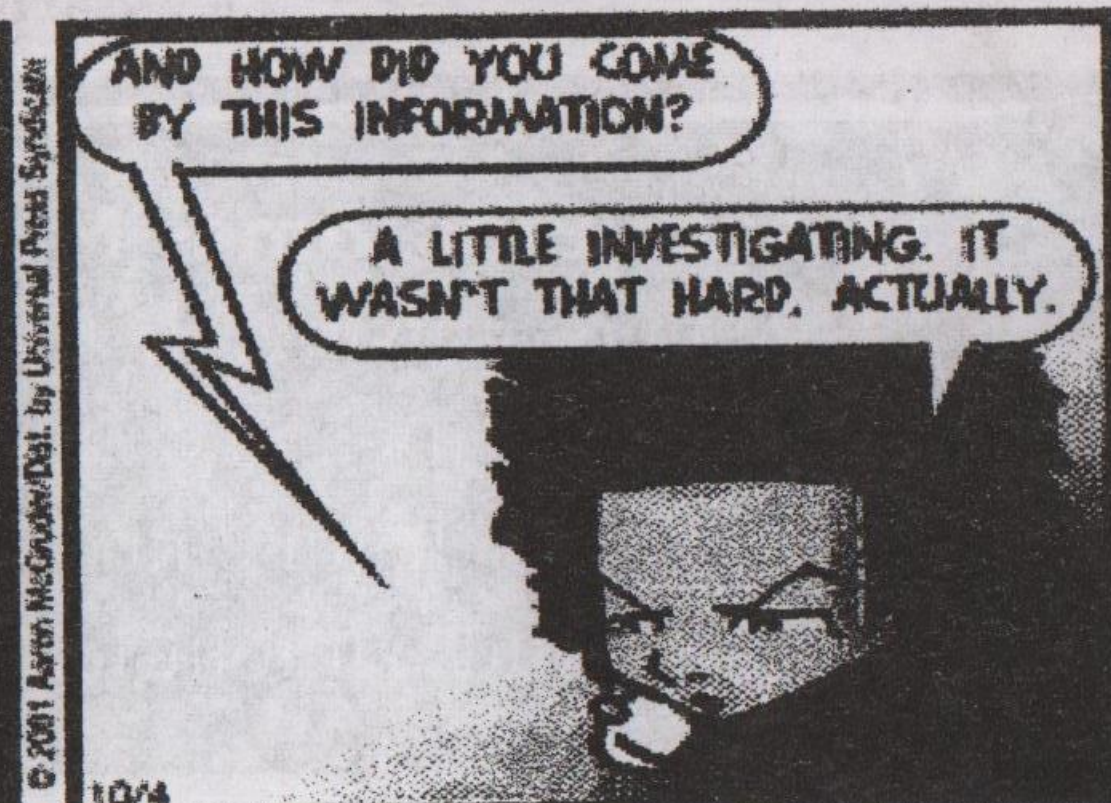
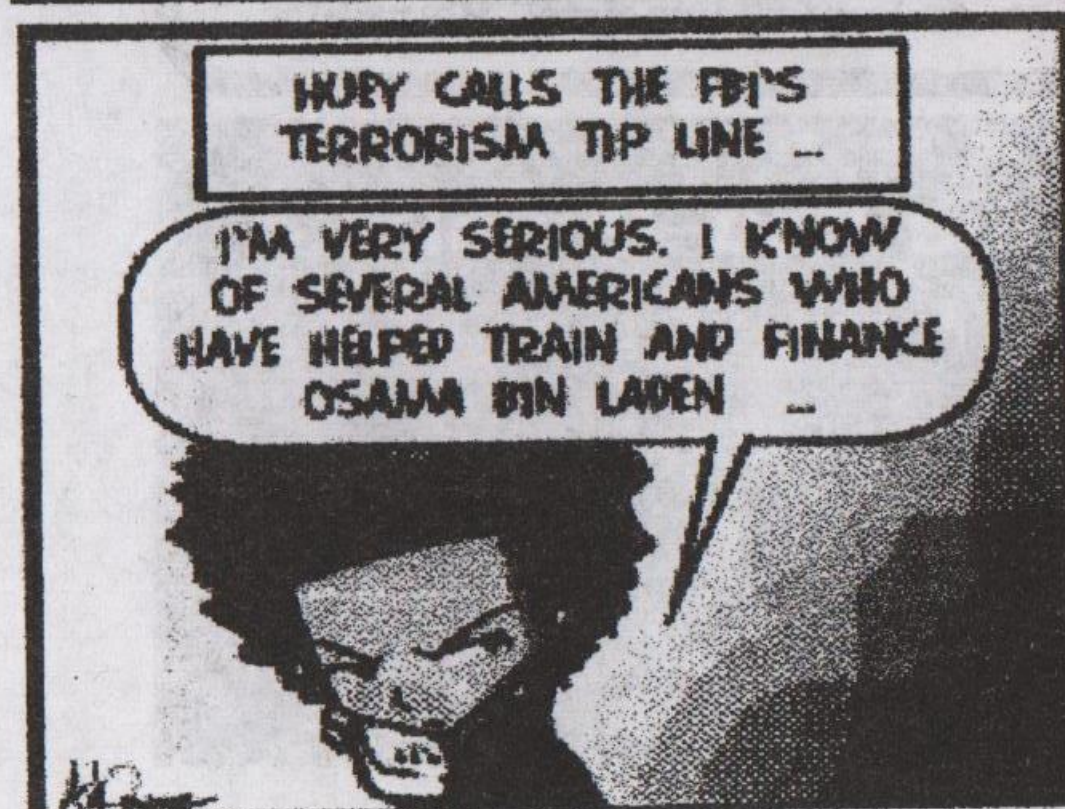
Stop The War, PO Box 154 48 Derby Rd, Nottm NG1 5FQ



STOP THE WAR Egroup

A stop the war email group has been set up to keep people in the Notts area up to date with Campaigning information and discussion. To join email NottmStoptheWar-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Gentlemen! You can't fight in here, this is the War Room! - President Merkin Muffley- Dr Stranglove



New Labour Prayer

Almighty Bin Laden
somewhere up the Khyber

Thanks for getting Tony
off the hook
with the TUC

we'd send you some
shares in McDonalds

but our vibrant
intelligence services
says you're a veggie

you evil swine

so we'll keep them
for ourselves.
for ever and ever
AMEN

Lord BIRO

JOIN NOTTINGHAM CND HERE

JOIN NOTTINGHAM CND HERE

Adult £5 ☐ Household £6 ☐ Unwaged £2 ☐

Name

address

I enclose £

membership

Please make cheques payable to NCND and return
to NCND, The Voluntary Action Centre,
7 Mansfield Rd,



Little Thorn Books Co-op founded

With the loss of Mushroom Book shop in Nottingham two years ago, its good to see that Little Thorn Books in Leicester is getting support. Members of the newly formed little Thorn Co-op signed up at the first official meeting in September.

Membership of the co-op costs the bargain price of £1 and is open to everyone who accepts the principles.

As Little Thorn are able to take order and can delivery to the Nottingham area The Leveller will include details in future editions, In the meantime you can contact them at 75 Humberstone Gate Leicester. 0116 2512002

UNIONS FIGHTBACK

An organising conference for the rank and file and community fightback

- ★ For public services
- ★ Reclaim union rights
- ★ For a workers' voice in politics

Speakers include (in personal capacity)
Mark Serwotka-(General Secretary PCS)
Shirley Winter -(United Campaign for Repeal
of Anti trade Union Laws)

Saturday 3rd November 11.30-
5.00pm St Mary's Neighbourhood
Centre Upper Street/St Mary's Path,
London (tube: Angel or Highbury &
Islington) For further details tel
07759834118 or email
tufightback@hotmail.com

Columbia Trade Unionists Under fire

Trade unionists in Columbia are increasingly becoming targets of paramilitary and guerrilla group attacks. The statistics make grim reading. At least 112 trade unionists were the victims of extra judicial executions during 2000. In the first three months of this year alone, 35 trade activists were killed, four times as many as last year, three 'disappeared' and five survived assassination attempts. Over 300 trade union members have asked the Colombian government for help in leaving the country.

Why are trade unionists targeted?

Trade unionists are targeted both to undermine their campaign for socio-economic reforms and to destroy trade union structures. The majority of the attacks have been carried out by army backed para military groups, although guerrilla groups have also targeted activists they believe to be collaborating with the security or paramilitary forces.

No protection for trade unionists

Successive Colombian governments have shown a clear lack of political will to tackle the problem of attacks on trade unionists at its roots, by dismantling paramilitary groups and bringing to justice all those responsible for attacks on trade unionists.

Evidence has shown that that state agents are linked to violations against trade unionists.

One example of this was the attempted murder of trade union leader Wilson, Borja

Diaz in December 2000, in which several active and retired military and police officers were found to be implicated. Immediately after the attack, national paramilitary leader Carlos Castano admitted responsibility for it.

Luis Eduardo Garzon, president of the Colombian Trade Union Congress, recently condemned the low rate of arrests in case of killings of trade unionists:

"since 1987, 3100 trade unionists have been killed and only the case of the failed attempt on the life of Wilson Borja is being investigated.

It is vital that the Colombian government urgently addresses the direct responsibility of state security forces in human rights violations. International solidarity has a key role to play in keeping up the pressure on the authorities to improve the human rights situation in Columbia for all.

Take Action!

Please write, calling on the Colombian authorities to:

- Provide adequate resources for Trade Union protection programmes.
- Disband paramilitary groups and sever ties with state agents.
- Investigate fully and impartially all cases of human rights violations against Trade Unionists and bring those responsible to justice

Send Appeals To:

President of the Republic, Senor Presidente Andres Pastrana Arango, Presidente de la Republica, Palacio de Narino, Carrera 8 no.7-26, Satafe de Bogota, Colombia

Report edited from Amnesty International Trade Union Alert. To join AIUK contact the Membership Department, Amnesty International, Freepost, London, EC1B 1HE

The Navigators

One of the most gratifying successes here is Ken Loach's The Navigators, a return to the arena of British working class life after the LA adventure of Bread and Roses. His movie is about a gang of railway-workers, bullied into redundancy by privatised firms and then forced to do the same job at cut-price agency rates, without regard for holiday, sick pay - or safety. "You might expect a very grim tract, given that the screenwriter, first-timer Rob Dawber, actually died of cancer caused by exposure to asbestos as a railwayman. But this is a very genial, sparky script, a remarkable achievement for a first-timer with no (credited) collaborators. As so often, Loach casts unknown club comedians in middle ranking roles, professional non-professionals combining authenticity with presence and canny comic



timing. His main players include Steve Huison from The Full Monty, and the whole thing has an exuberant Monty-ish feel, until the tragic finale. The ordinary business of daily work is so rarely glimpsed in any type of cinema that Loach's lucid, sympathetic depictions, filtered through his old-fashioned social realism and humanist optimism, will always be welcome. The Navigators will be shown on Channel 4 on 2nd December at 10pm

Amnesty International



To find out how to get in touch with your local Group please contact AIUK on groups@amnesty.org.uk

www.amnesty.org.uk

What do you call a protester in the UK?



The Terrorism Act 2000 attracted little attention when it was first introduced by the then Home Secretary Jack Straw despite the serious threats it posed

to the civil liberties of British citizens. Even less publicity followed the issuing of proscriptions of some 21 international political organisations under the new Act in February this year. This targeting of mainly refugee and ethnic minority communities was regarded as another attack on refugees and asylum seekers from a Home Secretary whose stock-in-trade had been to try to outdo his Tory opponents in fostering prejudices against outsiders.

Belatedly the full implications of the new law has started to awaken those people concerned with the future of civil liberties and democratic rights both in this country, long seen as a safe haven by those fleeing repression overseas. This repression, incidentally, is almost invariably sponsored by the Foreign Office and its allies through the instrument of British foreign policy. Now the former Home Secretary in his new role as Foreign Secretary will try to impose the same repressive legislation throughout Europe – especially in the present climate.

The Terrorism Act 2000 has proscribed groups such as the Kurds, Tamils, Sikhs,

Kashmiris, and Algerians; and journalists, trade unionists, lawyers and campaigners will be affected professionally by the new law. CACC exists to fight back with the following objectives:

- To overturn the banning orders on 21 groups
- To fight any government attempts to extend the ban to other groups
- To support groups challenging the ban in the courts, such as the PKK who launched its challenge on the 28th June
- To lobby for the repeal of the powers of prescription
- To campaign for the repeal of the entire Terrorism Act

Campaign Against Criminalising Communities (CACC) c/o Haldane Society, Conway Hall, 25 Red Lion Square, London, WC1R 4RL.
TEL: Stephanie 0796 87 87 762 or Estella on 020 7250 1315
www.cacc.org.uk



A Terrorist

Socialist Alliance

Nottingham Socialist Alliance meets at 7.30pm on the second Monday of the month at The International Community Centre, Mansfield Rd

www.nottinghamsocialistalliance.org.uk

Message from Gothenberg



A message to those who think a riot shield or prison sentence will protect them: The anger doesn't fade believe me, not for a moment, not by a long way. Some of us fight to keep alive, some of us are alive because we fight, either way the battle is one & the same.

As one riot cop said in court when justifying the need to get his gun out & start shooting people, "they kept coming, we couldn't stop them". Remind me again why we do this, remind me again why all this is fucking worth it.

Humanity is not the future you try and create, the future is the humanity you refuse to let go of. We hold it all in our hands... Love Paul Robinson.

Paul Robinson a UNISON Member, was given a year for 'violent rioting' at the Gothenburg EU demo in Sweden in June.

Paul Robinson 1090, Goteborg Remand Centre (Haktet), Goteborg Polis HQ (Polis Huset), Box 429, 40126, Goteborg, Sweden.

For further details check out the indymedia web site

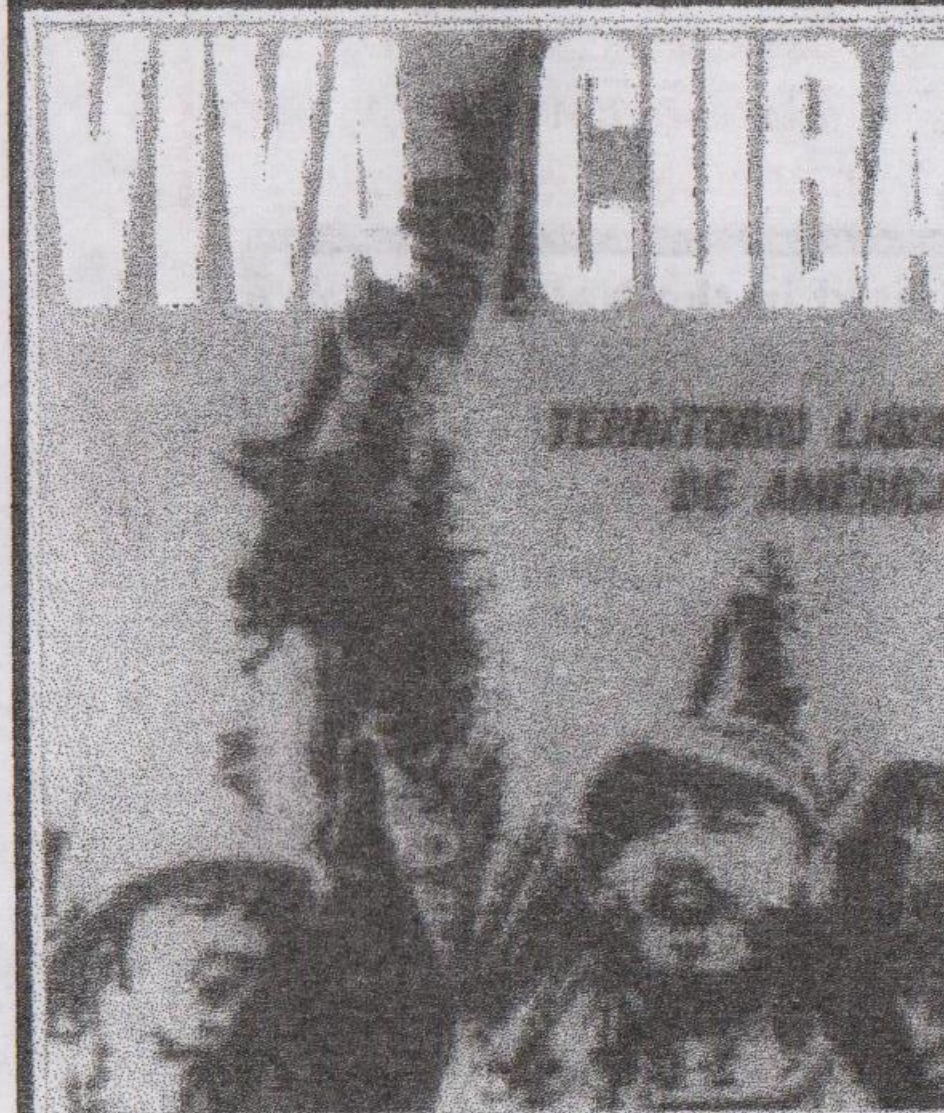


Indymedia is an open network of information produced by groups and individuals, that address the bias of mainstream media. To report on action in your

own words visit the publish section of the IMC Uk website at www.indymedia.org.uk

AMERICAN EXCESS

Consumers Welcome



Sign Up For Cuba!

The Cuba Solidarity Campaign is the British campaign for the defence of Cuba and its peoples' right to self-determination and national sovereignty. For further details contact: CSC, Red Rose Club, 129 Seven Sisters Road, London N7 7QG.

www.cuba-solidarity.org

Cuba Connect

Bringing you the best products and services from Cuba and beyond. Over 100 Cuban related products on catalogue including books, posters, music, gifts, postcards and t-shirts. FREE CD Offer!

www.cubaconnect.co.uk