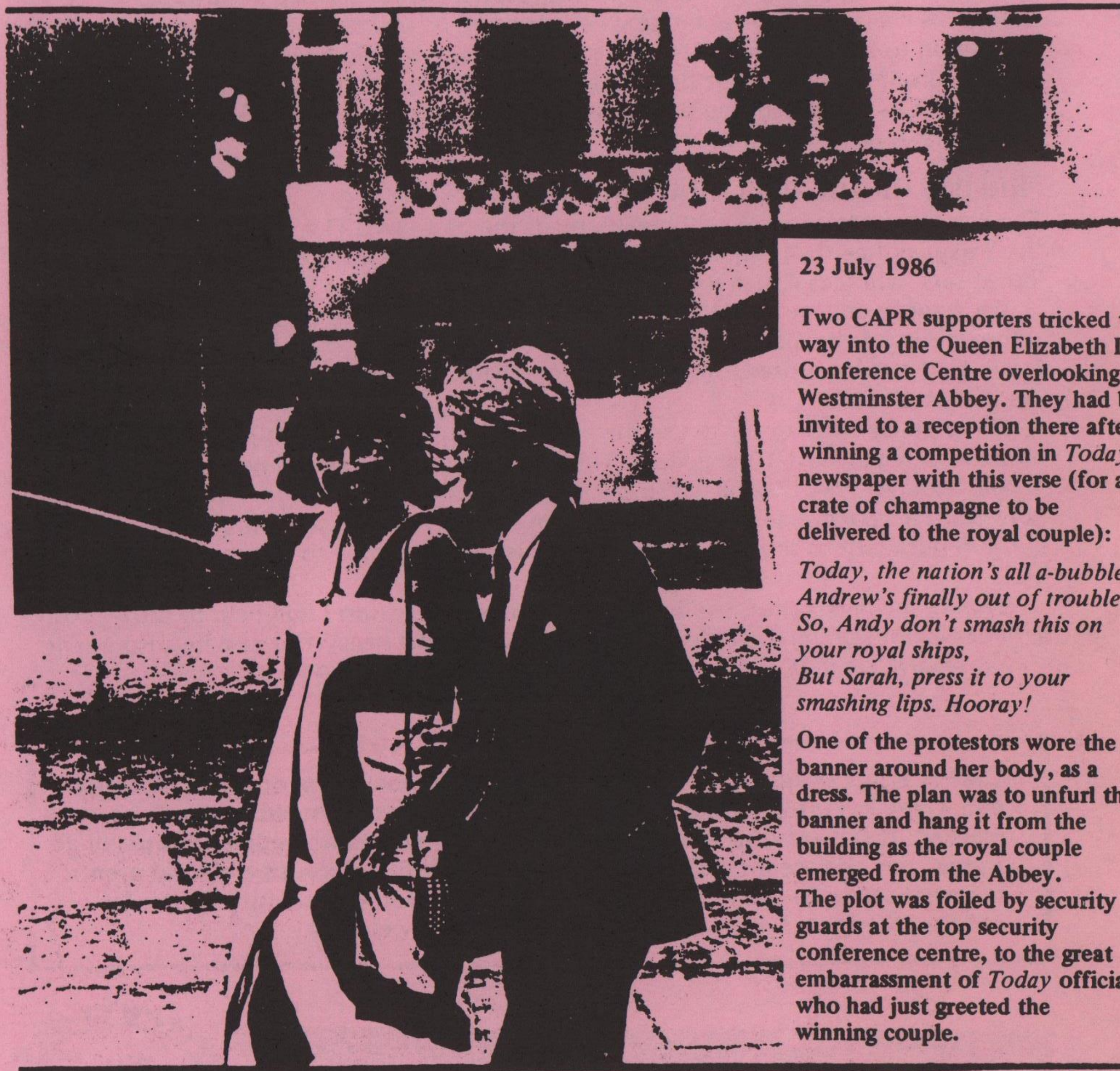


THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1986

FREE



23 July 1986

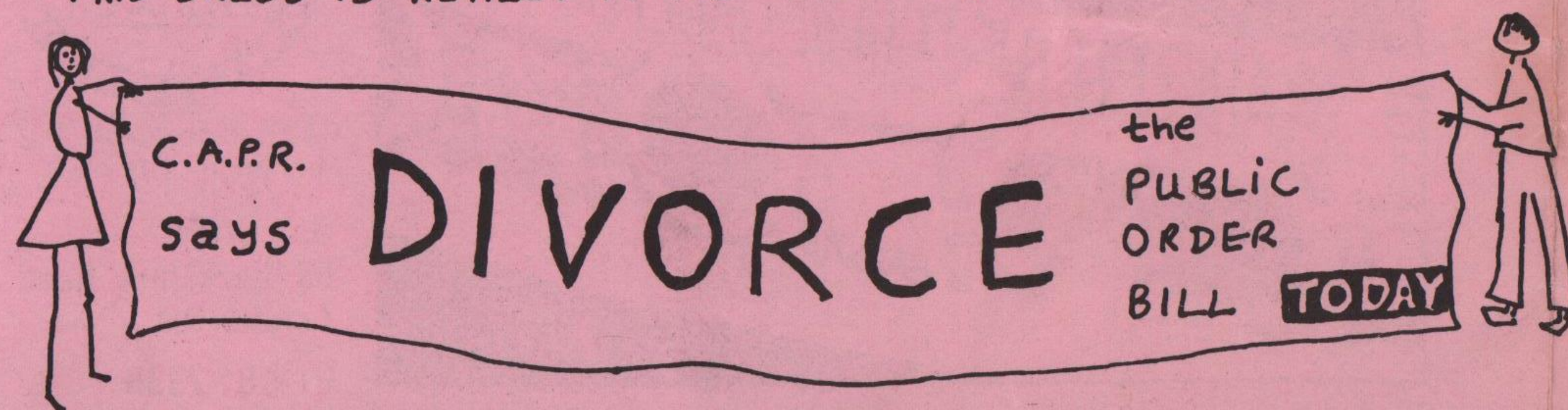
Two CAPR supporters tricked their way into the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre overlooking Westminster Abbey. They had been invited to a reception there after winning a competition in *Today* newspaper with this verse (for a crate of champagne to be delivered to the royal couple):

*Today, the nation's all a-bubble,  
Andrew's finally out of trouble.  
So, Andy don't smash this on  
your royal ships,  
But Sarah, press it to your  
smashing lips. Hooray!*

One of the protestors wore the banner around her body, as a dress. The plan was to unfurl the banner and hang it from the building as the royal couple emerged from the Abbey. The plot was foiled by security guards at the top security conference centre, to the great embarrassment of *Today* officials who had just greeted the winning couple.

PHOTO: G. LIVETT, FRAME

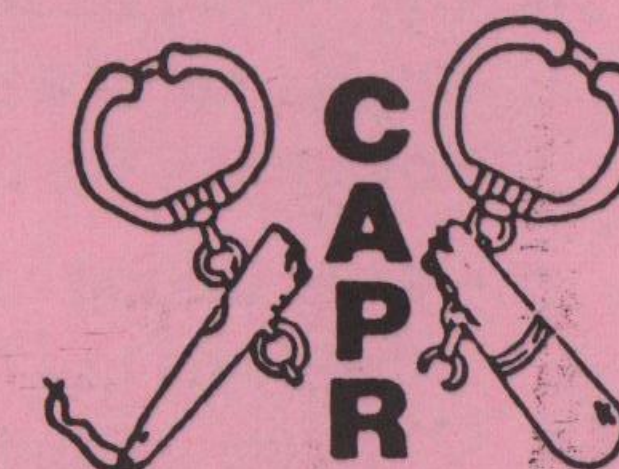
THIS DRESS IS REALLY A 25' LONG BANNER:



## Campaign Against Police Repression

## Update

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1986



## WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING—JUNE &amp; JULY

- Day of Action against the Public Order Bill. Held jointly with CROWD (Campaign for the Right of Assembly & Dissent).
- Supporters hung a banner opposing the Public Order Bill on the outside of New Scotland Yard; and from the river frontage of County Hall (former HQ of the Greater London Council) overlooking Parliament.
- We supported many demos including the Anti-Apartheid March, the Broadwater Farm Defence Campaign March, the Viraj Mendis anti-racist march from Manchester to London, plus actions by Anti-Fascist Action and others.
- We had stalls publicising the campaign at several festivals; we raised money, leafletted and collected signatures.



Dave Modell/Frame



## WHAT NEXT?

- The Public Order Bill is now in its last stages in the House of Lords, and is likely to be passed as soon as Parliament reassembles—i.e., this November. We must act now!
- We are calling a CONFERENCE in London for all groups and individuals to (1) Increase co-ordination of opposition to the Bill; (2) Organise the SATURDAY AFTER march; (3) Discuss subsequent tactics and actions. The conference is on Sunday September 28, from 12 to 4pm, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1 (tube: Holborn). No creche. Access good.
- *Subversives' Sponsored Stroll Round State Surveillance Sites*  
CAPR has organised this to raise money, increase awareness of secret police activities and their locations, and get a bit of exercise at the same time. The 'Stroll' is on Saturday Sept 27 — the day before the Conference—so if you're coming into London, make a weekend of it. There will be 'guides' on the 10-mile walk, which is in central London. Send off now for sponsor forms. We need money urgently. Meet 12 noon outside Imperial War Museum (Lambeth North tube). Route map available on the day.
- We will be producing a new booklet on how different groups will be affected by the Bill. We are interested in short articles on any aspect of police repression. Meanwhile our current booklet is still available (20p).

**ACT NOW!** Affiliate — send your phone number and get on our phone-tree — send a donation (however small) — publicise by distributing leaflets — sell badges — get signatures on the declaration forms — start a local group, etc. We can put you in touch with other people in your area.

## The Saturday After

WHY A 'SATURDAY AFTER' MARCH?

Some people have expressed doubts about the point of holding a march the Saturday after the Public Order Bill becomes law: they don't see the point of marching against something that has already become law; they are put off by the lack of a definite date; they're worried about signing the declaration form and don't see the point if they're not really an 'organiser'.

We've written the following to clarify our own ideas about the march, as well as to explain them to others.

### AIMS OF THE MARCH

Most basically, we are holding this march because we believe that demonstrations are an essential, effective and morally justifiable way of expressing opinions, giving solidarity to others and voicing protest. Without freedom of expression there can be no justice, only state repression enforced by a political police. The Public Order Bill is a direct attack on our civil liberties, and we must fight it. (In addition, it would seem that the establishment thinks there is something to be feared in demonstrations. Perhaps we should draw strength from this.)

In practice, there is no hope of stopping this Bill becoming law. The large Tory majority in Parliament and the muted opposition to the Bill, ensures it will pass. Consequently, our only hope is to make the new laws *unworkable*.

To do this, we must *defy* the new laws. Just by carrying on with the types of marches and pickets, etc., we had before the laws were passed will itself constitute a campaign of civil disobedience. But if small groups are left to do this in isolation, they will be picked on by the police and their protests will be silenced unnoticed.

What is needed is *immediate, open defiance by a large number of people in explicit opposition to the new laws*. This will put the police on the defensive and give courage to small groups. If the police do arrest hundreds of peaceful demonstrators on the Saturday After, the resulting publicity will make people start to wake up to the threat the new laws pose to civil liberties.

### PURPOSE OF THE DECLARATION FORM

The Saturday After march will break one of the new laws. The police will not be given the 7 days notice they require. All participants could be arrested and fined; the 'organisers' will face a maximum sentence of £1000 fine plus three months in prison.

We want to collect over 1000 signatures of people who declare they are co-organisers of the march. When we reach the target number, if particular individuals are singled out for prosecution we will present the list of organisers to the police and use it in court.

If the police were to try to use the list they would face the almost impossible task of prosecuting at least 1000 people. The time and expense would be enormous.

We, however, can use the list to our own advantage. We can use it in court to show how arbitrary are police decisions to pick out a few individuals as 'organisers'. We can use it in publicity to show the strong commitment of people to opposing an unjust law.

Signing the declaration (we no longer call it a 'confession') will help to protect other activists — not signing it will leave them vulnerable to a heavy fine and imprisonment.

**WE HAVE TO BREAK THE LAW BEFORE THE LAW BREAKS US.**

### PLANNING MEETINGS

CAPR holds weekly meetings to organise opposition and protest, direct action, etc. There is a lot to be done. More people are needed, otherwise we will be over-worked. It is helpful to send money but we also need more people to actually do things; this also means we can keep in touch with other groups and local events. We meet every Tuesday at 7.30pm, Stoke Newington Community Centre (the old Fire Station), Leswin Road, N16. Everyone is welcome.



CAPR badge (actual size)  
Min. price - 20p each.

Box CAPR  
83 Blackstock Road  
London N4.

01-881 2938