

Fash hijack cops?

As 22,500 police marched through London demanding higher pay, who should lead their march but Richard Barnbrook, the mayoral candidate for the fascist BNP. Ex Brixton police chief Brian Paddick (who's boyfriend tokes the reefer so he can't really be a bad cop etc etc) says he was 'uncomfortable' about this. We can suppose the Black Police Association and Gay Police Association were too. Really?

"I spoke to one of the organisers of the march and I explained who I was and he was quite happy about it," said Barnbrook. "We did some interviews for BNP TV. I spoke to a few PCs and they were happy to talk."

Certainly the police couldn't have told him to get lost if they wanted too. Fancy the police telling a protestor to move on. Never happens ★



Subvert!

When going on demonstrations stay sober, don't talk to the police and if you're arrested give only your name and address then say 'no comment' to any other questions.

Visit www.ldmg.org.uk

February

1—Peter Gelderloos, author of the book 'How Non-Violence Protects the State' will be speaking in the Cowley Club at 6pm (followed by a gig at 8pm: Karaktermoord from Holland plus others) 12 London Rd, Brighton. Email cowlleyclub@yahoo.co.uk

6—Liverpool Defy-ID Meeting - campaigning against ID cards & the National Identity Register. 7pm Next To Nowhere, 96 Bold Street, Liverpool. Web: www.liverpool-defy-id.org.uk

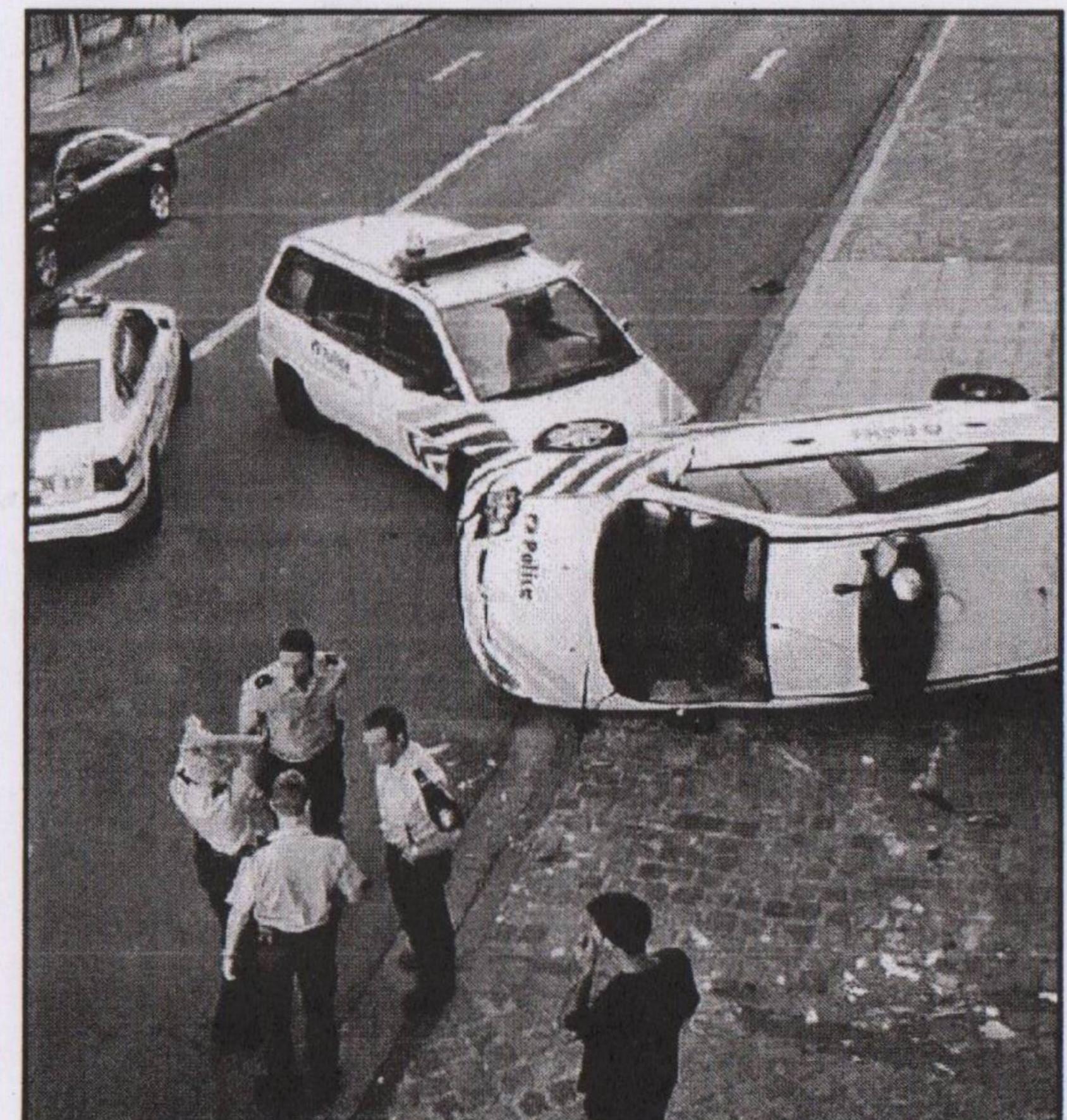
8—Anarchist Prisoner Support benefit gig. Inner Terrestrials, KilnAbey, Rejected & Dirty Revolution from 8pm at Tjs, Clarence Place, Newport. £5 adv £6 otd. Web: news. southwalesanarchists.org

9/10—UK Indymedia Network Meeting. Hosted by the Sumac Centre, Nottingham

9/10—National Squatters Meeting in Leeds. E-mail: squatmeetup@googlemail.com

March

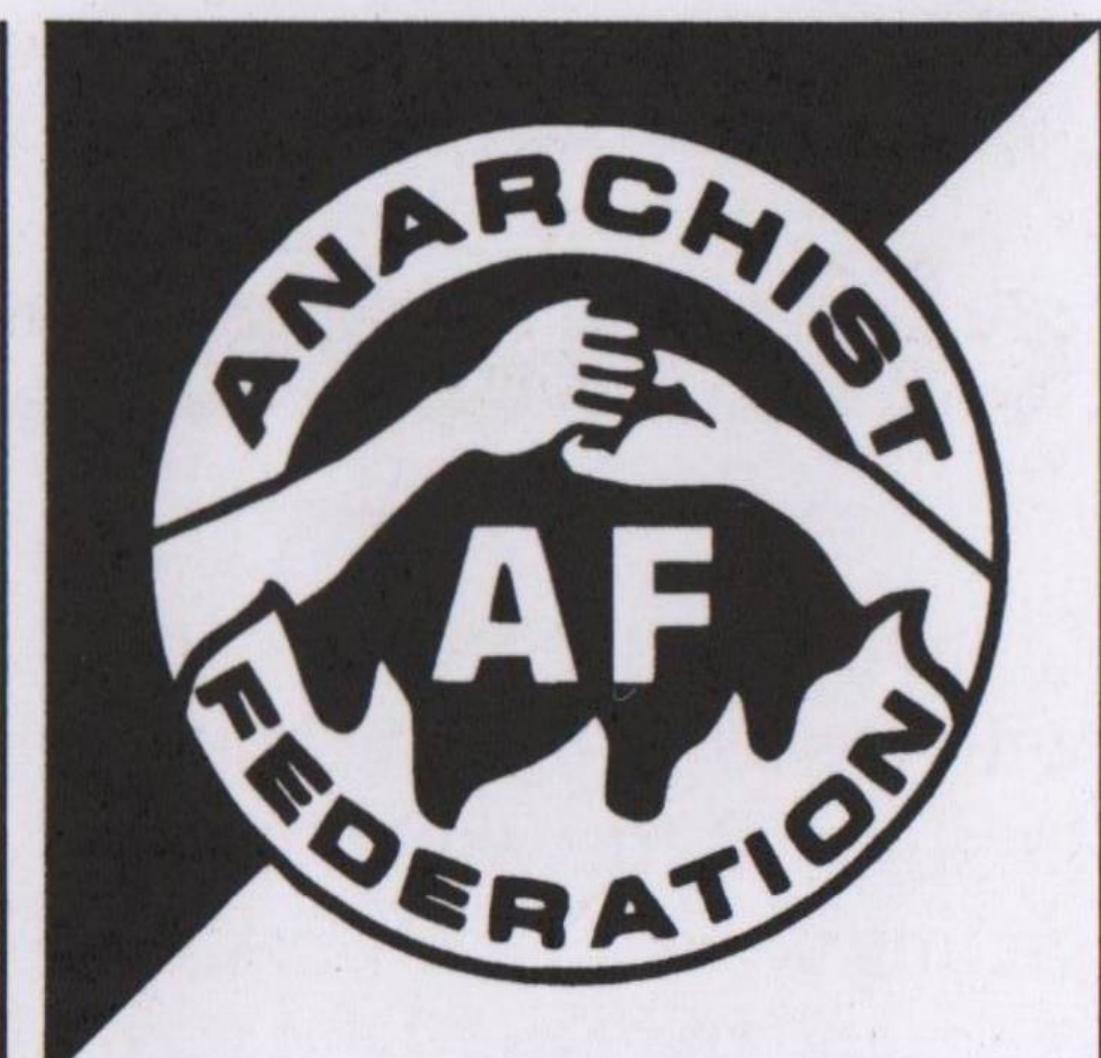
15—World against war demonstration against war in Afghanistan and Iraq. 12noon, Trafalgar square, London www.theworldagainstwar.org
Smash EDO Tour 2008: For nearly 4 years the Smash EDO campaign have been demonstrating outside EDO/MBM, the US arms manufacturers, in Brighton. The campaign will be touring the UK (or beyond) and will be screening the new full length Smash EDO SCHMOVIES film – On The Verge. Initially the campaign is looking for dates in March/April. The tour will allow those involved in the campaign to discuss tactics, get feedback, and organise for the future. If you want the tour to come to your town or city email: on-the-verge@hotmail.co.uk. View the On The Verge trailer at www.smashedo.org.uk or www.schnews.org.uk/schmovies



Cop hijacks cops

Hats off to PC Geoff Jackson of the Tactical Support Group (formerly SPG, formerly Riot Squad, formerly 'mercenary thugs'). Keen to prove the TSG is just like any other group of violent hooligans and likes a laugh as well as fight, he got blind drunk after work and nicked A RIOT VAN which he then crashed "with such force one of its wheels had been torn off". Beat that.

(from internal pig mag 'Police News' 22.01.08) ★



The Anarchist Federation is an organisation of class struggle anarchists which aims to abolish Capitalism and all oppression to create a free and equal society. This is Anarchist Communism.

We see today's society as being divided into two main opposing classes: the **ruling class** which controls all the power and wealth, and the **working class** which the rulers exploit to maintain this. By racism, sexism and other forms of oppression, as well as war and environmental destruction the rulers weaken and divide us. Only the **direct action** of working class people can defeat these attacks and ultimately overthrow capitalism.

As the capitalist system rules the whole world its destruction must be complete and world wide. We reject attempts to reform it such as working through parliament and national liberation movements as they fail to challenge capitalism itself. Unions also work as a part of the capitalist system, so although workers struggle within them, they will be unable to bring about capitalism's destruction unless they go beyond these limits.

Organisation is vital if we're to beat the bosses, so we work for a united anarchist movement and are affiliated to the International of Anarchist Federations.

The Anarchist Federation has members across the British Isles fighting for the kind of world outlined above. Contact us at—

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www.afed.org.uk / www.iaf-ifa.org

Subscriptions to Resistance cost £4 to the address above for 12 issues. A two issue subscription to our magazine, Organise!, is also £4. You can subscribe to Resistance by email via the website above.

for a free humanity, for anarchist communism

RESISTANCE

Bulletin of the Anarchist Federation – February 2008

100th ISSUE

Free / Donation

This is resistance



So the far-right makes its comeback, as the rulers and their mouthpieces blame anyone but themselves for the crisis.

The gap between the wealthy and the impoverished is at its widest in 40 years, and the bottom earners now live for an average of 20 years less than the highest in the UK. Still, everything must be fine, statistics show that this is the lowest period of class struggle yet, with the fewest strikes worldwide ever recorded. But those looking for million man marches and general strikes are looking in the wrong place.

We know that wages are falling and you can't get secure, skilled jobs. That casualised service industry work will never pay for a home as the developers snap up the last council stock and the well off buy-to-let in boroughs they don't dare walk at night. And on top of it all we have to learn to smile and "have a nice day" as we earn enough

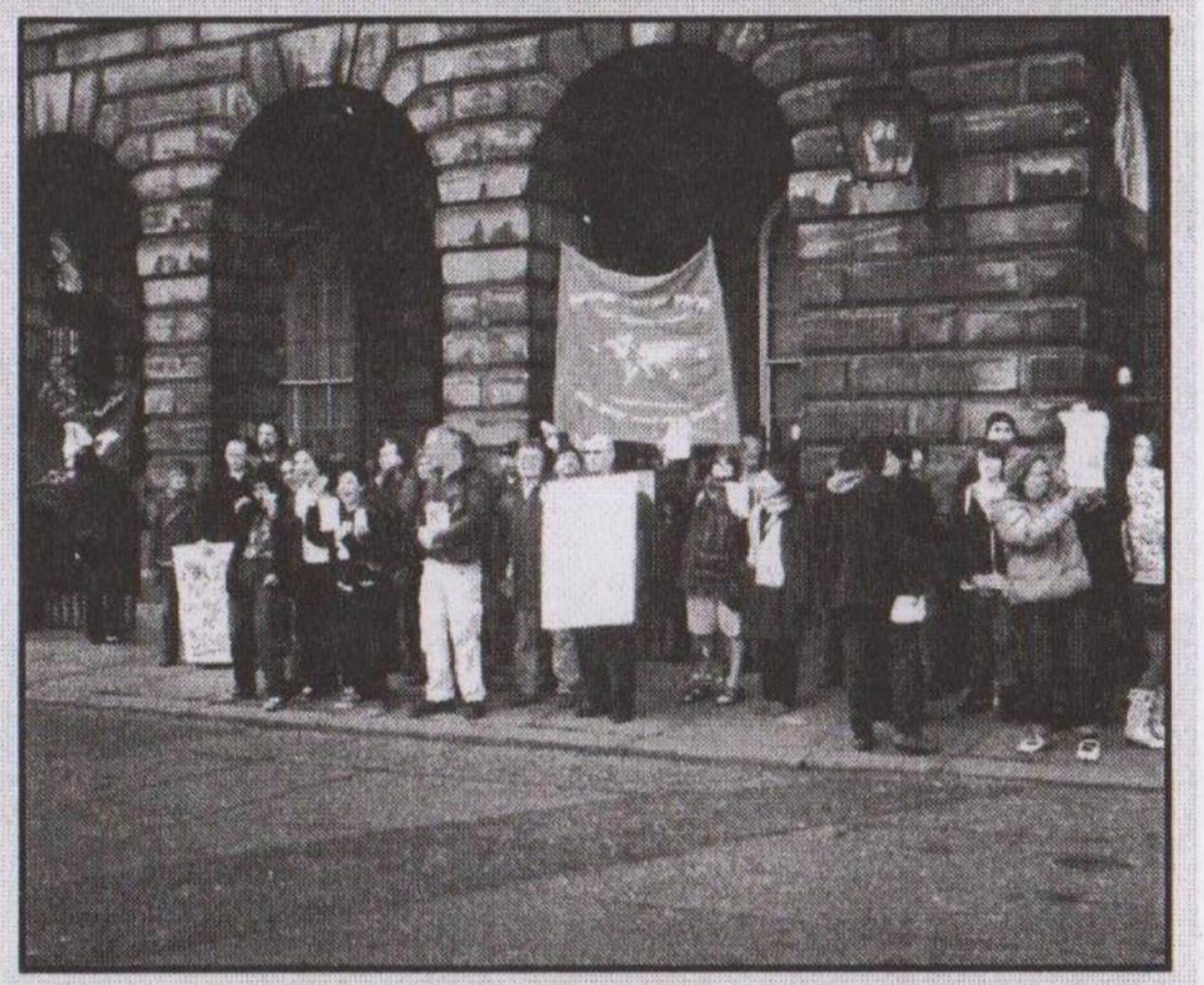
to buy the shiny consumables that keep the economy growing. In today's competitive marketplace, we must fight each other for the mangiest scraps from the bosses table.

It is when we stop that you will see it. When we stand up to the sell-offs and sackings in our services, taking all action necessary to increase our control. When we stop paying rent to the speculators and kick the landlords out of our communities. When the bailiffs once again will fear to tread in the streets that can't keep up the payments. When the boss can't offer us a middle management position to shut us up, and can't call in the agency workers because they are out too. When we get together to solve our problems without the cops. It can happen anywhere at any time, as long as there is a rich and a poor it will be there, we will be there: this is resistance ★

Sock it to SOCPA!

... And on the same day in other parts of Britain... Milton Keynes and Cambridge saw demonstrations in support of the right to protest. In Liverpool protesters marched through the town centre to the town hall. Welsh activists handed out copies of the consultation paper and held a series of protests in Aberystwyth. The monthly peace camp at Aldermaston staged a solidarity 'Freedom of Assembly' demo outside the Atomic Weapons Establishment.

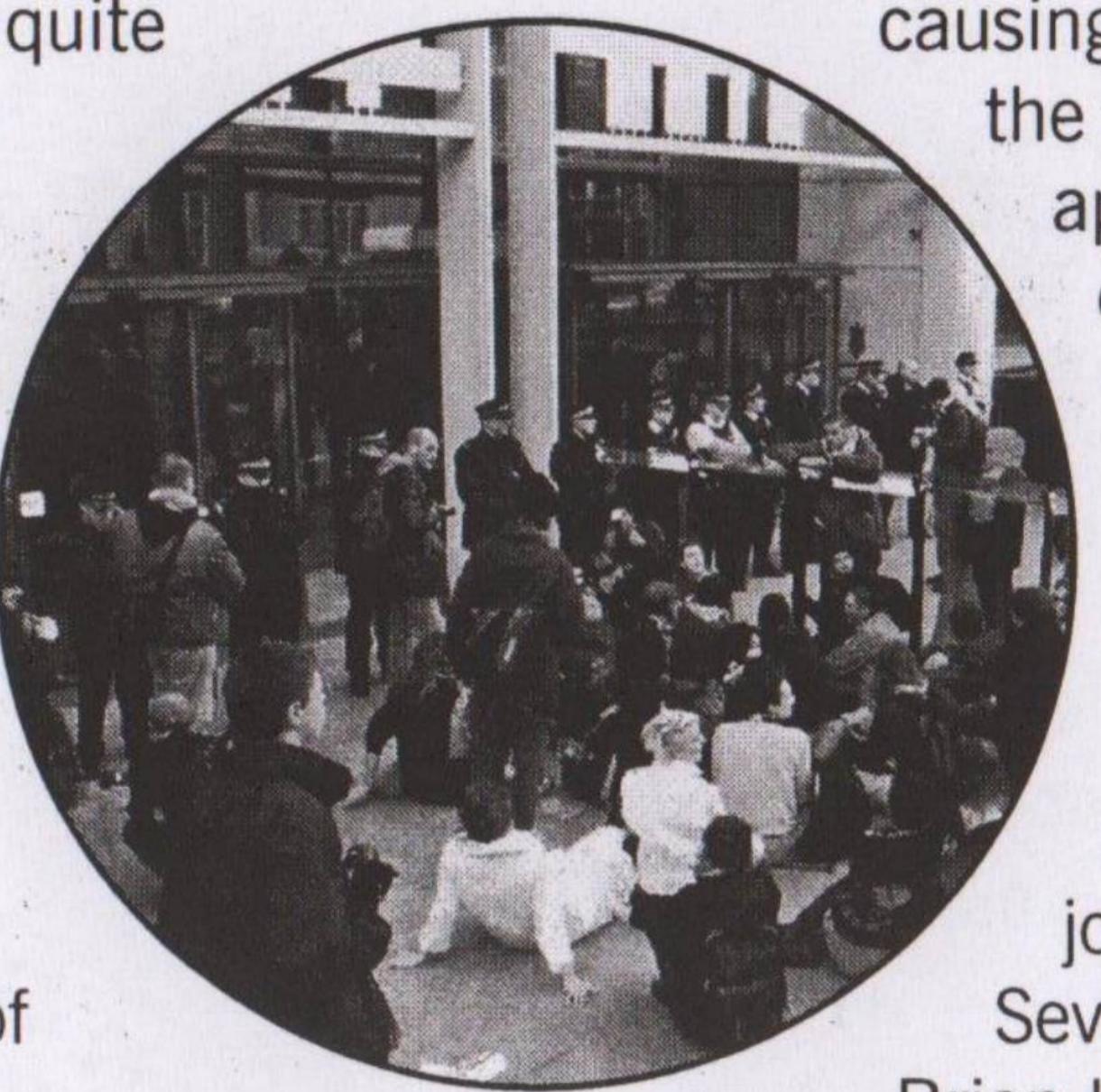
A demonstration in Oxford against a proposed new shopping centre took place in solidarity with the other anti-SOCPA actions as locals took direct action to prevent the fencing off of the square ★



Anti-SOCPA protest march

When Gordon Brown first took up the position as the new UK Dictator, he decided that the state should review the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (SOCPA). The areas of attention are the clauses which restrict protesting within one kilometer of parliament. However, this is nothing to celebrate, but quite the opposite. He aims to extend this exclusion zone to the entire country to 'simplify' police activities. On the 12th January the Campaign for Free Assembly organised a gathering of people at Trafalgar Square to challenge the extension of this exclusion zone.

About 200 activists arrived on the day and after presentations by several speakers decided to march in to the exclusion zone. What followed was an array of spontaneous tactics. The march mobilised at Parliament Square and moved to a number of key areas on the basis of consensus by those participating. These areas included



the Ministry of Justice and Scotland Yard. Throughout the march well known protest chants were vocalised enthusiastically. The march returned to Parliament Square and it was at this point that confrontation kicked off.

Protestors moved into the intersection between Whitehall and Bridge Street causing an interruption of the flow of traffic. The approach by the police quickly changed as they began to physically remove people from the area. The protest group then moved to Downing Street and a number of us joined the Kenya protest. Several protestors including Brian Haw were then brutally arrested by the Territorial Support Group police (TSG) outside Downing Street. Those arrested only began to get released from Belgravia Police Station at 3.00am the following morning. Further action is planned by the Campaign for Free Assembly.

Who's streets? Our streets!
Refuse, resist! ★

On the frontline

A round-up of workplace struggles around the world in January
Belgium—A wildcat strike by railway conductors began after two were attacked on a train. There was at least 30% wildcassing at Brussels. Four hundred strikers fought police trying to prevent them occupying group headquarters.

New Caledonia—Workers at Carsud, the bus transport system for the capital Nouméa, struck over a colleagues' sacking. They began a general strike, rotating between different regions. Two hundred police were deployed to prevent the strikers occupying. Picketing workers were attacked with tear gas grenades, rubber bullets and batons. Those caught were beaten in police vans. Workers responded with stones, and clashes continued all night and into the next morning. Sixty three arrests were made with 12 strikers remanded.

France—Fourteen strikers required treatment after police charged blockades at the Miko factory in Saint-Dizier in January. Workers had confined the manager to his office and occupied the site. The ice cream manufacturer

recently announced a restructuring plan sacking over half of the 493 employees. Management has since offered redundancy packages of one month's salary for each year of service, rejected by the workers. Over 2000 jobs are going in a 200 km radius, mostly 45–50 year old women with little chance of new jobs. In Paris, posties began an unlimited strike against a 'modernisation' plan which will relocate a sorting office over 15km away.

At the nearby Areva TD factory in Montrouge, 89 striking workers occupied and blockaded the factory for four days after management announced closure plans.

Italy—three of the main unions called for a nationwide ports strike after two workers died in a port near Venice.

Workplace safety is topical following a Turin steel plant fire in December which killed seven.

Bangladesh—garment workers continued the escalating protests and strikes over several weeks. Several thousand fought cops in the Dhaka Export Processing Zone pressing their demands for

improved pay and conditions and calling for the release of a leading militant. Three hundred and fifty factories closed for the day. As workers from 100s of factories converged, electric poles were used as barricades. Several factories were looted as the security forces struggled to regain control. Police baton charged and used tear gas; workers responded with missiles, burning tyres and blockades of main highways. The city's garment industry was completely paralysed. Strikers' demands centred on pay rises, holidays, medical facilities and immediate payment of arrears. Rampant inflation has constantly reduced real incomes and the grudging concessions won from reluctant employers ignore inflation.

Argentina—Check-in workers in Buenos Aires walked out after passengers stranded by a baggage handlers strike rioted on Saturday. Tempers flared as hundreds of travellers awaited word on suspended and cancelled flights ★

Thanks to Libcom for much of the above news and information. <http://libcom.org>

Government and the climate crisis

Climate change has already started, with devastating effects on people throughout the world. It's bad and getting worse, with workers and poor receiving the brunt and bearing the blame; we're 'addicted' to cars and air travel (not big oil) and the poor of Africa and Asia—already on the worst land—are the deforestation criminals.

Hot air (that smells bad)

It's the rich and powerful who, at first, ignored and then tried to deny that human-made climate change exists, despite the strong scientific evidence. Having been pressured to do something, they may have turned to cosmetic measures. Green wash is being used to soften dirty corporate images; a good example is BP's name change (formerly British Petroleum to Beyond Petroleum). When seriously pushed governments and big business prefer 'technical' solutions.

In bed with the enemy

Hold on, why target Big Business? Surely if we change our personal habits we can change the situation? It's true that we can do a lot of good by changing our obsession with consuming unrenewable resources. However it has to be pointed out that big business by far produces the largest percentage of CO₂ emissions. So why aren't governments forcing big business to change its toxic habits? The answer lies in the relationships governments have with big business. Their system (market capitalism), is based on the few—the

bosses and politicians—exploiting and dominating many, and the environment. This world wide system of production and domination needs to continually grow in order to function. To consistently increase profit, new markets have to be created, old ones more thoroughly squeezed. By taxing the company's profits, governments can increase the tight grip over their citizens (investing in cutting edge military and surveillance technology).

The relationship is not a one way road, with government screwing big business for tax. It's symbiotic. The government enforces the profit system (dept collectors can call the courts and police for back-up when payment is overdue). When big business is in trouble financially the state usually steps in to prop them up with your money (the £23 billion spent saving Northern Rock after the board carelessly speculated on capital markets).

All Doom And Gloom? No

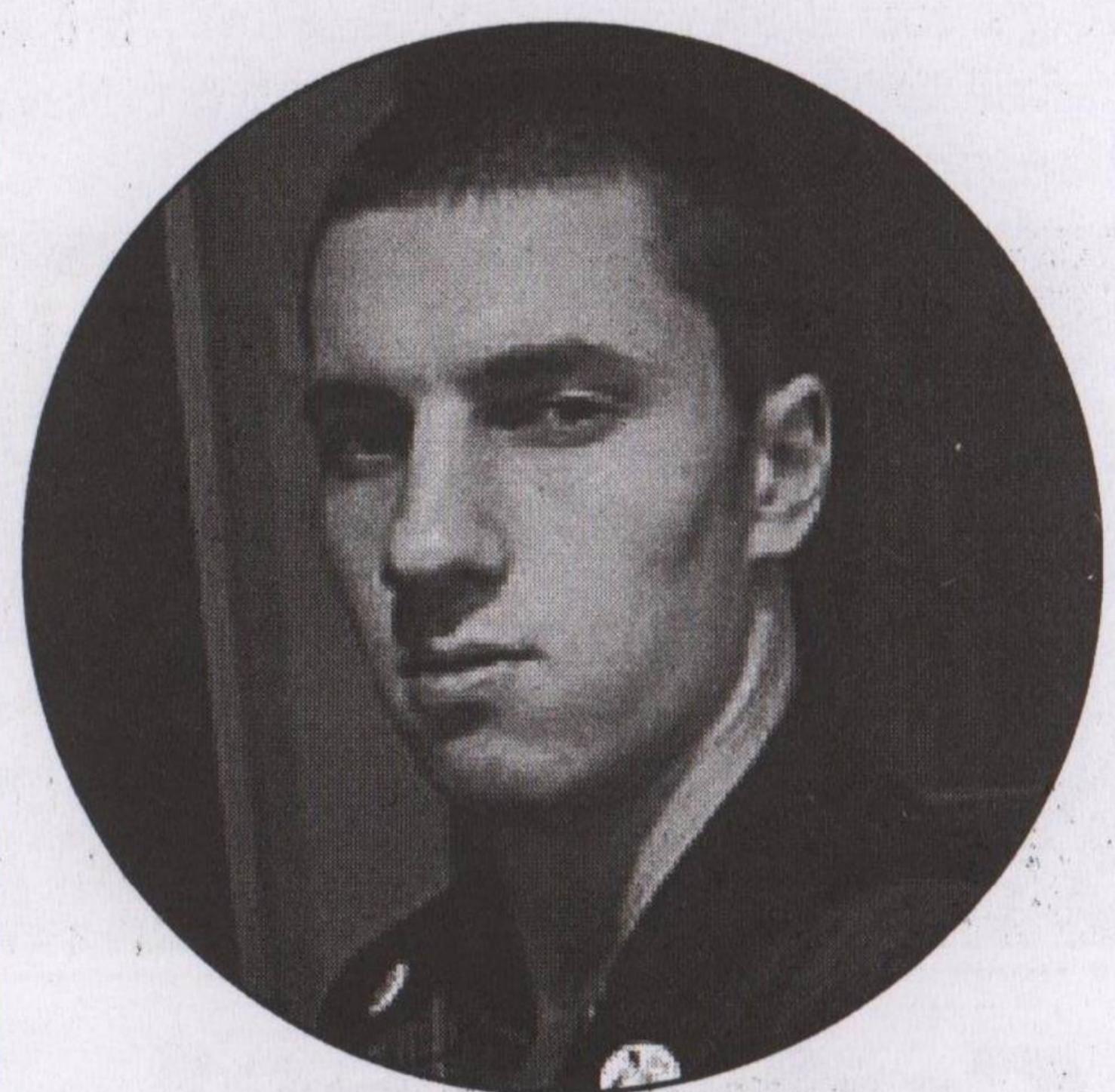
There are real solutions to climate change. Production must be for need determined by us, the working class majority, not profit. Bosses, politicians and leaders of all sorts are part of the problem, not the solution—a world run by the few for their profit and power. We need to organise, make decisions and act collectively, with our workmates and neighbours in order to maximise our power.

It's our world, lets take it back ★



RIP Jan Kucera

On January 18th in Příbram (a town 50km south-west of Prague) 20 year old neo-Nazi Jiri Fous stabbed 18 year old Jan Kucera in the groin and back about an hour to midnight. A group of Nazis had been looking for trouble in town when they came across Jan and his friends. Fous pulled a knife and chased a small unarmed group of them into an apartment block, where he stabbed Jan who fought to the last to defend his friends. His family have said Jan was a staunch anti-fascist and would never hide the fact. His honesty cost him his life. To join the fight against fascism, visit Antifa.org.uk ★



Arm the homeless

Around 40 young people made homeless by rising rents in Reading took matters into their own hands on the 4th of January. The group had come together whilst squatting a women's hostel that had been shut down and left empty by the council. With notice of their eviction served they set their sites on empty student halls which have been left empty for over five years now. The halls could provide housing for near 100 people and are less than a decade old, but the university has decided to knock them down ... to build student halls?! Entry to the building was swift and the power was soon on. Unfortunately university security spotted the group and a fire alarm was set off, which can only be switched off by the Fire Brigade. This forced the squatters out to face the police who had now been called. Because they stood together in overwhelming numbers and weren't intimidated, the cops had to let them go (squatting is legal). Reading and London AF worked together on this, and expect to take direct action again soon: the rent won't 'pay itself' ★