

Freedom

Anarchist Weekly

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GREEK FARCE

THE NEXT and crucial instalment of the Greek Embassy cliff-hanger ('What will the DPP think of Next?', or 'The Importance of Being Guilty') was due to start at the Old Bailey on Tuesday, September 12. For those readers who have missed or forgotten previous thrilling episodes, or who have just lost the thread, here is a resumé of the action so far.

April 21, 1967. Military coup in Greece brings to power a fascist government. Thousands of political prisoners are rounded up.

April 28. Greek Embassy in London 'liberated' by large and assorted crowd of anarchists, direct actionists, freethinkers, pacifists, solidarists, students, et al. Police thrown into wild flap by organisational and conspiratorial ability shown by hitherto presumed defunct libertarian left. More than a dozen captives escape from fuzz vans but 42 comrades are in the net. Panic measures (what the hell are we going to do them for?) bring charges and remands in custody for Common Law Affray and breach of the Public Order Act. Polite laughter at crass stupidity of fuzz lawyers; since when was the Greek Embassy a public place?

Brown apologises to Greek fascist junta for liberation of their Embassy. The predictable, lousy swine.

May 1. Bail obtained for all but one of the 42. (Terry Chandler, the exception to this as to many rules, was also up for the dollar 'forgeries'.)

May 23. Committal proceedings open against the 42. Original charges are replaced with Common Law Riot and Forceful Entry under an act of 1381. Defendants start to plan their appearance at the Old Bailey in costume from the Peasants' Revolt. Unfortunately for ad-

dicts of theatrical happenings in the Law Courts (and for the DPP) the magistrate throws out the charge. He also refuses to commit one defendant for trial at all, on the grounds that there was no evidence he was ever in the Embassy. Terry Chandler gets bail—at a price of £3,000. Forty-one comrades committed to the Old Bailey on the charge of Common Law Riot.

August. While everyone else is on holiday, the DPP does not rest. Out of the blue he springs a new charge—'Conspiracy to Trespass'—and uses a Voluntary Bill of Indictment to bypass committal proceedings. Obviously it is not to his liking that a mere magistrate should have the chance to question his use of law, and perhaps even oppose it, as Aubrey Fletcher had the temerity to do.

September 7. Defendants and lawyers hear that the case is to begin at the Old Bailey on September 12. Everyone (prosecution included) expected it to be delayed into October or November, and opposed the early start. The Judge asserted his own authority, apparently just for the sake of being bloody-minded, so September 12 it is. (No, it is not. The Judge changed his mind. The trial will start on October 3—Ed.)

The farcical behaviour of the DPP's office, changing the charges so often in a desperate attempt to make something stick, must not blind us to the fact that this is a very serious affair. It is easy enough to laugh it out of court; but the 41 are in court, now, and need your help. The 'Save Greece Now Defence Committee' still operates at 13 Goodwin Street, London, N.4.

Meanwhile, watch for the next thrilling instalment.

'114'

Obituary— Walter Caughy

WE HAVE JUST learned of the death of Walter Caughy, a young American comrade, who was stabbed in the hallway of his Lower East Side apartment in New York City.

It is difficult to convey the meaning of this terrible loss to those of us who had the privilege of knowing and working with him. This wonderful human being came to New York several years ago from Ohio and entered with all the fervour of his being into the anarchist movement. He was a very quiet, boy-tall, thin, restrained, a highly gifted writer and a thoroughly devoted, conscientious comrade, whose unassuming manner concealed a rich grasp and a penetrating vision of social problems. Walter Caughy was the finest type of revolutionist—he would want to be known by no other word—that could emerge from our time: a poet on the barricades. Comrades, give honour to one who has fallen.

BLACK FLAG ANARCHISTS,
New York City.

Referendum —Late Report

ANYONE engaged in employing assassins, who requires a job doing on the Spanish Head of State, should come to Gibraltar for recruits. The feeling is very bitter against the Franco regime in Gib! With the approach of the referendum here, the anti-fascist outbursts against the Spanish dictatorship are growing.

Unfortunately, the Spanish workers who work here stand to lose most, if they're stopped from coming in by Spain as a reprisal. This, if it is carried out, will mean unemployment for some and emigration for others, as there's not much work in the Campo Area, outside Gibraltar. These workers have always been underpaid in Gib., because nobody, even certain militants, fancied paying them more money to take to Franco's Spain.

T & G WORKER.

Price of Blood

ACCORDING to Dr. Mario Rodriguez and Dr. Martin Villar, a frightening situation exists in Spanish hospitals.

In general, people refuse to give their blood, despite the payment of 1,000 pesetas (£6) which is given for half a litre. Of the few blood-donors that there are, the majority are anaemic. People are not allowed to give blood more often than once every two months, but these people with pale faces and sunken eyes register under false names at several centres, and give blood as often as once a fortnight. Sometimes they implore the doctor to allow them to give blood: they need the money to buy food for their families. Sometimes the doctor simply gives them the money they need, from his own pocket—but he can't always do

Big Brother in blue

BRISTOL, it is to be feared, will be the next city to experience a system of police surveillance by means of closed-circuit TV cameras and 'commando' squads, similar to the system already in operation in Liverpool. On August 22 the local press and BBC news reported that Bristol police chiefs were being treated to a Home Office demonstration of closed-circuit TV in one of the city's busy shopping-centres.

Two days later an article by one Roger Bennett appeared in the *Bristol Evening Post*, stating that the Bristol police had 'not yet decided whether to add this to their growing armoury of space-age weapons' and adding that 'if they need advice they could do worse than talk to Liverpool Central CID chief... whose force has been using TV since 1964'. There followed a lyrical description of the Liverpool system. 'A police operator is stationed in each building where a camera is in use. If he spots someone prowling around parked vehicles he flashes a warning and description immediately to the "Commando Squad"... Once TV has given the tip-off, the "Commandos" take over. Arrests are often made as criminals are in the act of stealing.'

The Liverpool CID chief was quoted by Roger Bennett as saying: 'Apart from bringing in a steady stream of car thieves, they (the TV cameras) have also helped us to spot other offences. If the operator sees someone on the screen carrying a suspiciously bulky package, we can send a man along to stop him and investigate.' (So it almost seems that

to carry a bulky package is in itself an offence. If anybody carrying a large parcel is liable to be pounced on by the police, how many people will be deterred from doing so through fear of the ensuing embarrassment and inconvenience? Obviously it is now the duty of all good citizens to carry packages only of the approved sizes and shapes...)

Alarmed by these developments, I sent a letter of protest to the *Bristol Evening Post*, which was duly published in the following truncated form:

'For the first time, the police have used TV cameras to spy on pedestrians and motorists in this city. Is it realized that any constable mounted on a high building can focus a TV camera closely on any person walking below, and follow that person's every movement all along the street? Are Bristolians really going to put up with such a monstrous encroachment on their privacy?

'Where is this new development going to end? Logically, it can only end with TV cameras everywhere in the city, and with constant police surveillance of the entire population both by day and (using infra-red cameras) by night. What sort of a world will we be inhabiting then? Answer: the Orwellian police-state.

'Police TV is obviously a vast potential menace to our freedom, and it must be stopped now.'

Underneath that letter, the editor printed the following comment from Bristol's Assistant Chief Constable: 'The cameras were there for only

two days, for experimental purposes. Far from "spying", they are used for the protection of the public, and law-abiding citizens have nothing to fear from them.'

The most significant features of that peculiarly defensive statement are, first, that it contains no assurance that the use of TV cameras will not be carried to its logical, Orwellian conclusion; and secondly, that the tenses of the verbs 'are used' and 'have nothing to fear' seem to imply that TV cameras are in fact going to be used regularly in Bristol ('would be used' and 'would have nothing to fear' would have been more natural if the decision to use the cameras had not already been made). Incidentally, I should like to know how the Assistant Chief Constable would define the verb 'to spy'. According to the Oxford English Dictionary, 'to spy' means: 'to watch (a person, etc.) in a secret or stealthy manner'.

So, any day now, we can expect the news that Bristol's 'space-age' TV cameras and 'Commando' squads have gone into action, and that one more step has been taken towards the complete, totalitarian control by the State of everybody and everything in this country. But will anybody in Bristol care? One letter, in reply to mine, has so far appeared in the *Evening Post*. It comes from a good lady who writes: 'If we have nothing to hide why should we worry? I think it is a great idea and the police do work hard for our safety.'

FRANCIS ELLINGHAM.

SOMETHING WRONG SOMEWHERE

WARRANT SALES ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE

BRITISH POLICE

Dear Sir, I AM SORRY TO

Further to your call on **POLICE** Welfare Organisation of th

Means test is not inhuman—Gunter

WANTED INLAND REVENUE

Dear Sir, you will be sorry to hear

The Sweet Smell of Success

ARTHUR MOYSE

WARRANT SALE, Household Effects, James Stead, 109 North Street; Wednesday first, 11 a.m.

WARRANT SALE, Second Hand Cars, John McP. Craig, 8 Park Gate Lane; Wednesday first, 2.30 p.m.

WARRANT SALE, Household Effects, John McClure, 17 Bald Street; Tuesday first, 11.20 a.m.

WARRANT SALE, Household Effects, Mrs Elizabeth Croall, 51 Wallace Street; Wed. first, 11.15 a.m.

WARRANT SALE, Household Effects, Mrs Margaret McGrory, 15 Park Terrace; Thurs. first, 11.20 a.m.

WARRANT SALE, Household Effects, Miss Ann, 142 Barlanark Street; Thursday first, 12.10 p.m.

WARRANT SALE, Household Effects, Neil Ormsby, 22 Birkenshaw Street; Thursday first, 12.20 p.m.

WARRANT SALE, Robert McF, Thursday first, 12.20 p.m.

WARRANT SALE, Robert McF, Thursday first, 12.20 p.m.

WARRANT SALE, Benjamin Mulholland, 77 McIntosh Street; Thursday first, 12.5 p.m.

WARRANT SALE, Household Effects, Mrs Isabella Fury, 76 McIntosh Street; Thursday first, 12.5 p.m.

WARRANT SALE, Michael Speirs, Thursday first, 12.5 p.m.

Child in creche

Girl in cot

Father and children 60

Orphaned girl

Children's ward

Pieces of Victorian Furniture

OF COURSE I KNOW there are those who would say serves them jolly well right for getting into debt; to them I'd like to relate the following TRUE story.

Mr. X owned a small business, developed a conscience and eventually was forced through his new activity to surrender his shop, etc. While serving a prison sentence the Electricity Board had posted a bill for £1 7s. to his business premises. Naturally Mr. X knew nothing of this as he was in jail.

Some months after X was released, and slowly with the help of friends, squared all outstanding accounts, although he was still not aware of the this, and so the donor is sent away—only to re-appear at another centre, where he will get his thousand pesetas for his half-litre of blood.

London MUJERES LIBRES.

Electricity Board's account, and that the Electricity Board had in his absence taken him to Court.

Two years later after a return from a holiday he found his door had been SMASHED in and that all his furniture had been chalk-marked and on a table a bill from the Sheriff's Officers amounting to about £8 telling him that his 'Household Effects' would be sold by 'Warrant Sale'. This was positively the first Mr. X knew of the account! (Fortunately his wife and children stayed on holiday and were not there to see this.)

Naturally annoyed X went to the Sheriff's office and saw the people dealing with this case, they told him that they had been trying to trace him for years, and that the reason the account had gone up from £1 7s. to around £8 were Court expenses, etc. X explained that it was utterly impossible for him to have known about the debt as the shop had been handed over to the factor and locked up

by him with new locks and anyway his wife, not he, was the householder—therefore what right had they to break into her home and mark her furniture? Reluctantly X paid up rather than worry his wife who still does not know.

But surely there is something wrong here or somewhere? M.W.

WAR CRY, FREEDOM, TWO WORLDS, POLICE GAZETTE, MORNING STAR, SOLIDARITY, ANARCHY, SOVIET WEEKLY—Editors and readers!

Bring your literature to the gates of Speakers' Corner, Hyde Park, and resist all intimidation!

Sunday, September 17, from 3 p.m.

ANARCHY 79

ON SALE NOW DISCUSSES ANARCHISM IN LATIN AMERICA

ANARCHY is Published by FREEDOM PRESS at 2s, on first Saturday of every month

Report Attacks the Joint Sites

THE REPORT of the Court of Inquiry into the trade disputes at the Barbican and Horseferry Road building sites has at last been published and it does not hold any surprises. Its criticisms were predictable and, as was expected, they are mainly against the unofficial London Building Workers' Joint Sites Committee and the shop stewards who still picket the two sites. Employers and unions are also criticised and the final recommendation of the Report, if carried out, will restrict the union organisation on the sites.

Dealing with the Myton dispute on the Barbican, the Court agrees with the action of the management in sacking three steel-fixers for alleged lack of output. This was

during a work-to-rule when the men were required to reach basic target figures. The site took strike action and the company gave notice to all operatives. When the men returned to work, on the advice of their union officials, they thought that the notices had been withdrawn, but this was not so and all workers were sacked.

The Court recommends that the site reopens, but without the six stewards that Myton's refused to re-employ months ago. So, in fact, the position is the same as in March, when the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives agreed to open the site without these men. In this decision, the Court is only backing up the union executives who wanted to reopen this site and it is trying to restore the authority of the executives and undermine that of the stewards.

In the case of the Sunley site, in Horseferry Road, the evidence was so damaging that the Report says, 'In our opinion, the immediate responsibility for the total stoppage at Horseferry Road lies squarely on the shoulders of the directors of the company, who deliberately created a situation designed to produce a strike, and dismissed the works' committee on a ground which, in our judgement, was both contrived and flimsy.'

The Report recommends the site be reopened and that all the members of the works' committee should be offered re-employment, but that they and the Federation steward, Jack Henry, should be 'disqualified from again holding office in any capacity on the site'. The Federation stewards from both sites are criticised in the Report. They rejected Jack Henry's denial that he was a member of the Joint Sites Committee.

Although Lou Lewis, the Federation steward at Myton's, said in evidence that he had been chairman at several of the committee's meetings, the Report finds his statement about its constitution both 'bizarre and incredible'. 'It is fair to Mr. Lewis to add that we do not think that he intended some of his evidence to be believed. In any event we did not believe him when he said the committee had no officials, no constitution or means of calling meetings or that its finances depended on the casual contributions from collections taken by unspecified persons in the course of meetings.'

COMMUNIST BOGEY

Both Lou Lewis and Jack Henry said they were members of the Communist Party, but the Report uses this, and the fact that the *Morning Star* gives publicity to the committee, to say that 'It is not open to doubt in our view that this committee is also associated with, if not controlled by, a political party'. Because Lou Lewis happens to be a Party member and a contributor to their paper, the Report says, 'We do not believe that his association with the committee is merely an accidental coincident of his membership of the Party'.

Of course, one could not expect a Lord, an employer and a union executive member to comprehend the flexible nature of an unofficial organisation. The influence of the committee was behind these disputes, but in both cases it was the men concerned who voted to take the decisions throughout. What the Court does understand is that the union executives lost control of the members. The very fact that union executives are not prepared to fight employers is one of the reasons why unofficial organisations exist. **STRENGTHENING UNION LEADERSHIP**

The Report makes recommendations which will enable the union leaderships to strengthen what are already considerable powers and will limit the powers of shop stewards and the rank and file members on the sites. It calls for changes in the way works' committees and stewards are elected and the supervision of these elections by union officials. The formation of disciplinary committees by the NFBTO to deal with breaches of rules is also recommended.

The Report recognises that there should be union organisation on the two sites, after they reopen. The works' committee should be appointed on each site by the unions and the Federation, to act for an interim period. 'We also recommend that in this interim period particular care should be exercised by the NFBTO to see that the existing rules are complied with and that the works' committee and Federation steward act strictly within their powers.'

The pickets at Horseferry Road have said that the Report is a continued attack on democratic procedures in the industry and we feel it "bizarre and incredible" that Lord Cameron should recommend such proposals. In the guise of "stability" the Report calls for site procedure agreement for every major contract. We agree with site procedure agreements, but agreements can only be effective and fair if negotiated by the workers' representatives on the site, along with local union officials.'

However, what the Report recommends is that more of the vital decisions affecting the men on the sites should be taken by union executives and the NFBTO. It is small wonder that union leaders have welcomed the Report, for it gives them the go-ahead to tighten up and strengthen their hold over their members. **It is up to building workers to resist any attempt by their executives to encroach on or take away the control and autonomy which many have won on their sites.**

P.T.

We hope to deal with the Cameron Report more fully in the next supplement. Eds.

Workers' Paradise

Dear Comrades,

I believe a lot of people think of Scandinavia as a workers' paradise.

On March 21, 1967, a Danish family's struggle for a place to live was printed by a newspaper here, *Ekstrabladet*. The story is typical, about people without means seeking a home. The family consist of seven children aged 3-17 who returned to Denmark from Sweden about a year ago. With nowhere to live, some of them stayed with the grandmother in her 1-roomed flat while others stayed with a sister. Meanwhile they tried to find a place, but in vain. So, for four months during the summer, they lived in a tent, moving round Denmark and Sweden, after having been turned away

Freedom For Workers' Control

SEPTEMBER 16 1967 Vol 28 No 28

When the Shadow-Boxing has to Stop

ONE FACTOR that stands out clearly in all the negotiations with the printing employers is the latter's desire to drop the sliding scale COL arrangements as soon as possible.

The Society of Master Printers of Scotland announced that they have reached a settlement with the Scottish Lithographical Association on the basis of an increase of up to 5 per cent on the basic wage, in return for increased efficiency and other savings. But, the settlement contains no provision for continuation of automatic increases related to the movement of the Index of Retail Prices.

In an official hand-out by the printing unions to their members there is a paragraph relating to the Cost-of-Living Bonus which is worth reprinting in full. **Cost-of-Living Bonus**

Throughout the discussions, all the union Executives continued to attach considerable importance to the retention of the cost-of-living bonus, but this was just as vigorously resisted by the employers who repeatedly quoted the 'recommendation' of the National Board for Prices and Incomes in their Report on the last settlement that 'the cost-of-living bonus in the printing industry should be eliminated when the next national wage agreement is made'. Whilst continuing to feel strongly that it should be retained, during subsequent meetings the unions, in order to make progress, decided not to press the principle of the continuation of the scheme until a later stage. One of the points made on behalf of the unions was that if, in order to assist the employers, the unions had not agreed to annual adjustments (instead of at six-monthly intervals which had been the practice for many years), there would have been an increase made in the bonus in respect of the first half-year of 1966 and, therefore, members would not have fallen so far behind in the amount due to them. The unions felt bitter that this new arrangement, made to meet the convenience of the employers, was now costing them money. In spite of the union arguments the employers made it clear that so far as they were concerned the cost-of-living bonus scheme was at an end.

Another interesting paragraph from the same hand-out relates the attitude of the TUC to the printworkers' claims. This is also worth reprinting. **Trades Union Congress**

At the outset of the negotiations the TUC were informed of the details of the claims, and the General Secretary, Mr. George Woodcock, informed the unions that the General Council's Incomes Policy Committee had considered the claim, and was of the opinion that

it was 'not compatible with the requirements of the period of severe restraint. In the existing circumstances, it should not therefore be pursued'. Since that time the unions twice modified their claims, and kept the TUC informed of the position. Following the breakdown of talks with the employers on 15th August, the TUC Incomes Policy Committee asked to meet the unions for a general talk on the situation.

In the issue of FREEDOM dated 9.9.67, on the back page it was stated that 'The workers' parliament, the TUC, have already declared their interest; they say the printworkers can expect NO support from the TUC unless the printworkers modify their claim. George Woodcock was very quick to deny this position attributed to the TUC, but stated that the TUC Incomes Policy Committee had asked to meet the unions for a general talk on the situation.'

It is obvious that the printing unions are breaking their backs to accommodate not only the TUC but the employers as well. In one form or another, the original claim has been watered down, the employers are beginning to 'taste blood' and are digging their heels in.

Since the breakdown of negotiations with the British Federation of Master Printers (BFMP) and the Newspaper Society, the printing unions are endeavouring to negotiate increases with individual companies. Claims for a straight 15s. a week have been submitted to two of the largest companies in the business, British Printing Corporation and the Thomson Organisation. Both of these organisations have been instructed by the BFMP not to negotiate with the unions and report any approaches.

To date the whole affair has been like a gigantic chess game with moves and counter-moves from both sides, but at some time, and soon, the shadow-boxing has to stop. The slogan must be **Defence of the Cost-of-Living Agreement at ALL Costs**. If it is the only safeguard workers have in a long-term package deal. If printworkers are defeated on the Cost-of-Living issue, then other industries will come under fire; some sections have already been warned that their new agreements will make no provision for Cost-of-Living and these sections contain lower-paid workers.

Printworkers will have to struggle to hold what they have; on the other hand the printing employers have taken heart, strengthened by the Government, the TUC and the PIB, a formidable combination, but completely useless if printworkers decide on a policy of NON-CO-OPERATION. It is in their own hands, they control the pace.

BILL CHRISTOPHER.

they when 300 people every day appear at the town hall with the same request? And if they do get a place, which they might since the public's attention has been called on, it will just mean that some other family will be in their situation. *Copenhagen* ALICE PETERSEN.

Harlow Anarchists
SATURDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER
(Council Election Day)
11 a.m. onwards
Public Meeting
THE STOW, HARLOW
Speakers-Leafleters WANTED

Contact Column

This column exists for mutual aid. Donations towards cost of typesetting will be welcome.

Anarchistic Accommodation. Anarchist needs room or flat cheap. Please leave name at ARC 1239. Lenny Payne.

Literary Contributions. Poetry, extracts of prose and short polemical articles on current literary themes required for an expanding (but still primevally duplicated) **SOMETHINGS MAGAZINE**. All MSS and correspondence (with s.a.e. for return) to the editor, Geoff Charlton, 8 Lightwoods Hill, Smethwick, Warley, Wores. Original, previously unpublished work only, please.

Accommodation: East Coast. Teacher (m. single) seeks unfurnished apartment/accommodation Hull. Any leads welcomed. Box 65.

Barnaby Martin explains his ideas for Pacifist Work Camps and answers your questions. Friday, September 15, 8 p.m., 13 Savernake Road, London, N.W.3.

Community. Men and women with radical socialist orientation, introverted, with reasonable IQ, pagan sentiments and interest in the group family. SAE to Selene Community, Rhydcwmrau, Llandeilo, Carmarthen, Wales.

For Sale. 7 doz. Roneo 750 stencils, 6/6d. doz., for benefit Press Fund, Freedom Press.

Sane Person required to organize YCND. Some typing required, also imagination and sense of humour. Hard work, but rewarding. Apply to YCND, 5 Caledonian Road, London, N.1 (phone 01-837 9254).

Public Meeting. Ealing Green. September 16, 3 p.m. 'Peace on Earth'. Speakers include: Doug Kepper, Jim Huggon, John Rety, Malcolm Miles.

Free University: Manchester. Any interest in forming one? If so, write to me with any questions or ideas. Box 66.

Broadmoor patient soon to be released needs job. Replies to A.R. Reading Group.

Former Junkie. Wants job and accommodation in London. Box 54.

Just off the Press. Anthology of protest-poetry by Flemish, Dutch and English poets, with many drawings and photo-collages. 125 pages, only 10/-. To be had from Freedom Bookshop or direct from Gerda Ides, Post Box 772, Haarlem, Holland (send Int. M.O. in latter case). A Dutch anarchist publication.

Books Hand-bound and Engraved to Order. De-luxe Leather Bindings—Mosaics—Full-leather Parchment—Half-leather Bindings. All books hand-sewn and repaired. Designs for Parchments, Mosaics, are original. For further information contact Mr. J. B. Wagner, c/o American Consulate, Calle Serrano 75, Madrid 6, Spain.

Accommodation. Wanted two comrades to share flat (three rooms and kitchen). Allan Harrison, 285 Alexandra Park Road, N.22, or phone ARC 1239 leaving address.

If you wish to make contact let us know.

AFB Conference

will be held on

Saturday, October 7,

9.30 a.m.—10 p.m.

Sunday, October 8,

10 a.m.—6 p.m.

at ASQUITH ROOM,

ACTT,

2 SOHO SQUARE, W.1

Provincial comrades requiring accommodation, write to London Federation of Anarchists