

# Freedom

Vol. 34 No. 26 30 June, 1973

## WARS WILL CEASE

THE CAMPAIGN for British Withdrawal from Northern Ireland has had a mixed reception. By a coincidence there has grown up a petition campaign to bring the soldiers home, from the parents of a young serving soldier, which has gained 20,000 signatures in three weeks and is now aiming for 100,000 signatures.

Meanwhile the BWNJ group were reported in the *Observer* (10.6.73) as saying they "planned to provide 'a safety network' for deserters in Britain". Previously (3rd June) the *Observer* had an article on deserters from the British Army in Sweden. Their main interview was with an Army 'carpenter' named John Beaumont from Maidstone, Kent, "the third British deserter" to be granted asylum in Sweden. On June 23rd the *Daily Mirror* which tries to combine a pretended social and political conscience with titillation had an article (*Mirror* exclusive) "Death of a Deserter" complete with picture of a female friend - carefully posed so that the sun highlighted her nipples. The deserter was John Beaumont.

The *Mirror's* lead para from Joe Gorrod in Sweden read in withering prose, "Something died in the heart of British Army deserter John Beaumont long before his body was fished out of a Swedish lake two days ago." Not long before, judging from the *Observer's*



A WATERGATE TIP?

twenty days before - when John Beaumont seems to have been cheerful enough. The *Mirror* touchingly puts it: "British boys miss the atmosphere of England. There are no pubs, no Leeds United, no English-type mates - and no way back." However, the *Mirror* ups the deserters in Sweden from three (*Observer*) to six.

The *Mirror* reports that John Beaumont's friend said that John "had joined the army to be a carpenter and when they told him to oil his rifle and go to Ulster he couldn't bring himself to get in-

involved in shooting people. All he ever wanted to do was to help everyone". After a *Mirror* put-off bringing in vegetarianism, teetotalers, herb-growing and nude sunbathing and John's strange lack of a sex-life (itself damning enough for *Mirror* readers) the *Mirror* story proceeds to an inevitably moral climax on the dangers of desertion and for good measure adds: "Bill Sullivan [his friend] believes that the last straw for John came when he got mixed up

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## PASS LAWS AND WITCH-HUNTS

THOSE WITH inconvenient political memories may recall at the time of the 1971 Census being assured by Establishment figures that information collected by one Government department would not be used by another. In particular, immigrants were assured by the Government's Community Relations Commission that the information required by the census concerning the country of origin of one's parents could not conceivably ever be used to plan a repatriation programme. No, no, British Governments wouldn't do things like that! Cricket, old boy, all part of the system.

But now the situation is becoming rather different. Immigrants requiring national insurance cards will have to produce their passports to prove they are not illegal entrants to Britain. In the House of Commons, Mr. Paul Dean, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Department of Health and Social Services, explained: "If in the process of the transaction suspicions of illegal entry arose then the immigration service would be informed." It has also been claimed that such procedure as asking immigrants for their passports when their children come of school age is being implemented by some education authorities. Yet the Government claim there is no witch hunt, even though the liberal *Guardian* complains of a pass law system growing up in Britain. Reports of Pakistanis stopped for trivial driving offences being asked to produce their passports are appearing, and there is growing tension and uneasiness amongst the entire black community in Britain.

Mr. Sibghat Kadir, secretary of the Pakistan Action Committee, speaks of "such a feeling of insecurity, of rejection, of loss of faith in the Government" that a "massive mobilisation" of the Pakistani community is anticipated. The Indian community has, through the Indian Workers Association in Southall, endorsed a policy of non-cooperation with Government-financed race relations bodies, and Paul Harrison in *New Society* (21 June) writes an interesting piece about confrontation between West Indian youths and the police in Brixton in the recent fair-ground riot at which 200 youths fought 100 police.

Those who have argued for the development of a civil rights movement in Britain, independent of the Government, see the failure of the State bodies to establish some influence over Government policy as the obvious indicator of the dangers of allowing control in these matters of civil rights to become enmeshed with State machinery. Whether the black community is going to react by setting up some such organisation on the model of the former Campaign Against Racial Discrimination and similar to the American civil rights bodies is questionable, there are so many influential immigrants with a vested interest in maintaining the present position it seems unlikely. Words of militancy are often the means of letting off steam, a sort of danger signal but the flexing of real muscles in the area of community relations is long overdue for the black community. What is certain is that it is actions not words that will speak to this Government and unless some action is taken the slow drift towards a more vicious racism in Britain is assured.

J.W.

## VICTORY OVER CHRYSLER'S

THE STRIKE by car workers at Ryton brought the Chrysler Corporation very nearly to its knees. Had their action continued Chryslers would have been forced to close down all its plants in this country and pay out massive sums to those covered by lay-off agreement totalling 65 per cent of normal wages.

As it is the Ryton workers have fought out and won a dispute on a principle of management. Their victory gives them the 1½ hours wages and holiday money lost as a result of being sent home early by the management. It is a victory about the right to manage and the establishment of workers' strength of organisation to assert their control.

After Chryslers' tough stand at the outset they have been humiliated by the terms of the return-to-work. Most of those on strike will return on Tuesday being paid for the Monday. They said they conceded the original disputed payments "as a gesture of good-will and not as an admittance of responsibility for the difficulties that occurred". This was greeted by derisive jeers at the mass meeting and one shop steward said it was more like "abject surrender".

Management have got the union to agree to setting up a new procedure for dealing with problems of quality control. However this has still to be worked out but it is obvious now that Chrysler will not be able to act in the high-handed way again when it comes to so-called "shoddy work".

### How it started

The dispute started after men had been recalled to work after a strike at the company's Linwood, Renfrewshire, plant had been settled. Despite having three plane-loads of body panels flown down to Ryton, management forced men to use sub-standard panels "scrounged

from all over the place just to keep the lines going". Management say that because of the build-up of car bodies the line had to be stopped six times. Because of this they sent the men home 1½ hrs. early. When the men realised they were not being paid for this time and the holiday payment the strike started and soon spread throughout the plant.

Many of the shop stewards think that the dispute was engineered by management as part of its "get tough with the unions" policy dictated by Chryslers at Detroit. If this is true, they picked the wrong time for a showdown because their new range of cars is in great demand.

Over a number of years the car industry has been changing over from piece work to the measured day-work system. At almost all the plants where this system has been introduced workers have fought it and gained as many concessions as possible to avoid the worst effects of this form of exploitation. The resistance at Ryton was long and dogged and they forced Chryslers to pay the highest wages in the industry in return.

### A Mecca

This was not just coincidence, because Coventry has a long history of piece work whereby they have with strong shop-floor organisation forced up their earnings. Coventry to the engineering worker has always been something of a

BRITISH WITHDRAWAL FROM N. IRELAND CAMPAIGN. Anti-recruitment group meeting on Sunday, 1st July Toynbee Hall, Commercial Street E.1. at 2 p.m. Everyone interested in participating in anti-army-recruiting activity is invited to attend.

Mecca. At the same time many considered themselves craftsmen and prided themselves on their work. Even with the advent of the mass production line the craftsman still managed to use his skill and this helped with his piece work earning. Piece work meant that workers and boss were constantly arguing about and disputing the rate for the job. Any small alteration to an operation meant that it had to be re-negotiated. Although piece work might have suited the manufacturer at one time\*, once car workers combined together and organised this system of payment became too costly and afforded too many stoppages.

### The Gang System

However, under the piece work system a certain amount of control was maintained by the workers, but with the measured day work the track is really king. Even under mass production methods the Midlands and especially Coventry have been known for the use of the gang system.

In *Anarchy 2* on Workers' Control, Reg Wright described this system of working: "Technically the gang system is a method of payment for piecework - a form of collective contract. In practice it follows the natural tendency of men to group up around the job. Gangs can be of any size from three to three thousand - the latter being the approximate size of the Ferguson tractor team."

The national papers during the Chrysler dispute discovered all about the "boredom and frustration" of working on the line. Reg Wright described how this was avoided with the gang system.

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# THE BOVVER BRUVVERS



**THE BROTHERHOOD**, by Leslie Payne, Michael Joseph, £2.50  
**AL CAPONE**, by John Kobler, Michael Joseph, £3.00  
**MAGAZINE**, by Brooks, Plant and Watkins, Student Union, Singleton Park, Swansea

VIOLENCE IS one of the dominating themes of ourselves as individuals. We are attracted by it and repelled by it according to our conception of its use or abuse. Our industrial, social and educational way of living is built on the accepted fact that if we deviate from the accepted norm then at some point in time we shall be the victim of that violence for every society, no matter how liberal, will in the final analysis use physical force to maintain its authority. A sad fact and to me an obvious fact and the cynical but logical conclusion must be that only the strong and the selfish can make the sacrifice for the good society for when we plead for a non-violent way of life and a socialist sharing of the material wealth that we produce then only those who daily gain their ends by the use or control of physical violence can make the surrender not for themselves but as an altruistic gesture to those who they are daily robbing or controlling.

It is not my problem for I am not a pacifist and I hold that there comes a time when one is called upon to stand and physically defend what one believes to be just. If one is not prepared to surrender one's seat in heaven when the companions of the left hand of God are on the physical defensive then one must accept the luxury of the mystic, smugly dying in isolation cursed by the weak and rejected as they fight for the only right that men have, the right to live. The 'Brain' Michael Joseph the publisher would appear to have cornered the market in extra curriculum confessions of robbery with and without violence but their latest publication on the life and times of the Kray brothers met with a bleak reception at the typewriters of the critics for the events and the telling was too near in time and distance for them to approve or admire. The book is told by Leslie Payne who claims to have acted as the 'Brain' of the Kray brothers' operations and told is the operative word for it has an easy bar-room style in the telling full of small gossip and an ability to create and destroy characters in a sentence.

The Kray brothers were no more than a pair of moronic thugs who would have terrorised the east end of London before being beaten to pint size by the local law

and wafted off to prison, but their misfortune was to meet Leslie Payne, a crook who despised violence, but knew how to channel it for his own profit. He introduced the Krays to the 'long firm' fraud game, order goods on credit sell them cheap and run, and it is doubtful if even now these pathetic thugs even understand that most simplistic of frauds, but the Krays were the frighteners for the men who took the profits and they loved their small cut and the pictures in the News of the World and the People. They recruited men without loyalties and despite all the press stories money was always scarce in that the money for one week would be £2,000 with an army of hangers-on to be paid, for the Krays lived with one hand permanently in the till. Their violence was emotional, swift and irrational and men rightly learned to fear them but as Payne states at any time these small time hoods could have been stopped if the local traders and club owners in the East End had stood and chopped them down to size.

### King of Soho

The reporter Duncan Webb faced up to the Soho villains, was assaulted in punch-up after punch-up but destroyed the international ponces the Messina and helped to break Jack Spot while we the innocent bystanders peered through the pub windows. One caught rare glimpses of the Kray brothers primping through Soho and Jack Spot the self-styled King of Soho lording over his non-existent manor. One sat in the gods, among the muscle men, at the Old Bailey and watched Jack Spot, now Mr J. Colmore, slashed and beaten giving evidence against his enemies and Billy Hill and the Messina brothers laughed to see such fun.

The Krays and the Richardsons are all inside for they were small time villains who loved the publicity and the company of Lord Boothby and associated. But men like the social leper Peter Rachman had no use for them for he and men like him counted their profits not in £100s but in £1,000s and when they wanted strong arm protection they applied for a court order and the police arrived to strong-arm that order. The Krays were too fond of violence as an end in itself to make their fortune and while they were literally crucifying a Mr Byrne to a Soho wall or their competitors the Richardsons were using a pair of pliers to break, one by one, the toes off an unfortunate Cyril Green, Rachman and the big time villains were wining and dining with the Establishment and waiting for their name to appear in the New Year's Honours list. The Krays and the Richard-

sons are now wasting out their lives in a top security prison and the corrupt police and the faceless men are living well for they know their law and they employ and discard only legal force.

One remembers with affection, for all those Warner Brothers films, the rise and fall of Al Capone and Joseph has published what must be the definitive biography of Greasy Al. It is by John Kobler and his hagiology of poor poked-deceased Al cuts our favourite gunman down to size for Al died broke and lived his final miserable years on a pension from the mob while his son Sonny crept into isolation as a failed café owner so die our cinema dreams of the gun the muscle and the money.

### Use Three Weapons

All this brings us to the matter of the unfortunate Professor Eysenck and the rough handling he received at the LSE. My attitude is that you don't break up minority meetings only majority opposition meetings and I dislike seeing small and inoffensive religious meetings being broken up at Speaker's Corner and academics being manhandled but are there areas where violence must not intrude. If one accepts the violence of the demonstration, the picket line or the Town Hall then why must it end at the door of the university lecture hall. If in 1932 Joseph Goebbels was invited to speak within a German university, as I do not doubt he was, why must the violence of German politics of that period be in bad taste within the university ground. Most of us within the anarchist movement have the weapons of our wit, our intelligence and an understanding of the use and distribution of the leaflet. If we use these three things as weapons to propagate our ideas, and we do, can we object if tongue-tied individuals or economic or racial groups fight back with the only weapons they have, their fists and their boots?

And for the Student Union of Singleton Park many thanks for their review magazine. In 1936 Dennis Wheatley the Crime Writer published his 'dossier' of 'Murder in Miami' complete with a collection of genuine clues. Student Union with their 'magazine' have produced a folder of surrealistic leaflets and photographs for our well merited interest and I have seen the past and the future and it works meanwhile I ask does the university lecture hall take over from the medieval church in offering sanctuary from violence, though not arrest, for those who are acceptable on academic terms?

Arthur Moysé

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 R.A.W. 65p. TOTAL: £7.12  
 Previously acknowledged 742.23  
 TOTAL TO DATE: £749.35

## LESSONS OF 1926

**LESSONS OF THE GENERAL STRIKE 1926**, by Bob Dent, Millennium, 9 Sefton Drive, Liverpool 8, 10p. Obtainable from bookshop.

THIS POCKET SIZE pamphlet is a good introduction for anyone who wants to read about the 1926 General Strike. It gives the background details leading up to May 26 and recounts the events during the preceding year when the government agreed to give a subsidy to the coal industry. The threat of joint action from the transport unions in support of the miners forced the government to climb down. That July 31st became known as Red Friday.

The tragedy was that while the government prepared itself for a possible strike the TUC and the trade unions did next to nothing. When the Commission, chaired by Sir Herbert Samuel, made its report in the March they included the ending of the subsidy and a reduction in pay.

In 1925 the government was not ready for a general strike, by the May 1926 they were. They had created the Organisation for the Maintenance of Supplies and it soon became clear that the Commission had been just a device in order to bid for time.

However when the confrontation did take place the widespread support and

enthusiasm surprised both the government and the TUC. The rank and file members made all the running while from the outset TU leaders like J.H. Thomas were trying to negotiate a settlement. The government took a hard line and said the strike must end first. They were out to smash organised labour once and for all, and the TUC campaign of action did not match this challenge and within a fortnight they threw in the towel.

The miners carried on alone until the end of November when, starved and demoralised and defeated, they returned to work to be victimised and pushed around.

'The pamphlet has an interesting section on the role of both the Communist Party and the Labour Party. Neither seems to have changed since those days. Then as now the CP was a left-wing pressure group demanding this and that from the TUC instead of them 'suggesting concrete proposals for rank and file self-activity'. As for the Labour Party they had always feared - like they did with the Suez crisis - industrial action. As far back as 1911 four Labour MPs proposed in a Bill that strikes should be illegal unless 30 days notice was given in advance. In their 1922 election manifesto they said they were 'the best bulwark against violent upheaval and class war'.

Little has basically changed since those May days of 1926. The action of the rank and file is still an inspiration but the lessons still have to be learnt. We should learn from those experiences and defeats. The pamphlet sums it up that the message is always the same: 'Unless ordinary people take the power and initiative to change their lives for themselves, then nobody else will do it for them.'

P.T.

From one reader to others

### FREEDOM MUST SURVIVE

Comrades!

FREEDOM must survive, must spread the message week by week. But, comrades, we who strive in our personal way to bring the anarchist society nearer are too few, as yet. "They", who have yet to get the message need FREEDOM bringing to their notice. How? Easy ... ever so easy ... I declare so, having for a long period succeeded in winning a local newsagent's interest, persuading her to display 6 copies each week. Never a week goes by without some sales. The newsagent gets the discount, FREEDOM has extra sales.

In London and the provinces there are hundreds of potential newsagents who might willingly take the paper on sale or return if approached. Volunteers are needed, urgently needed, to try to get copies placed in local newsagents. For example, you could leave six sale or return - we could post you the copies unless you can collect from us - and you collect cash and returns (at discount) each week.

You, comrade reader, may wish to help increase the circulation and so speed the day when "Freedom" becomes much more than the finest word in the language or the most important message in the land, but a living reality, a Freedom Society of non-authoritarian humans.

Fraternal greetings,  
 Mark William Kramrisch

# The Crutches of Organization

IT MAY BE just the swing of the pendulum, but anarchism at the moment seems to be going through a phase of organisation fever. We have two major groupings, ORA and ASA, with the Syndicalist Workers Federation showing signs of a positive revival. The Black Flag group continue their work for political prisoners, on the positive side.

We at FREEDOM have nothing against organisation; we ourselves have worked as an organisation for a long period with a regular scheduled production of a newspaper, but our functions are limited and concern (save in the matter of readership) only a few people but each one of them has a specific task and fulfilment of this is a voluntary project of co-operation.

The organisation of FREEDOM cannot by its nature be an end in itself. The end product is a newspaper, whether that newspaper fulfils any function or what function it fulfils is a different question.

In London recently meetings for a hoped-for revival of the London Federation of Anarchists have been attended by members of the already mentioned groups. We at FREEDOM welcome this revival in that we feel that such a federation could bring much closer co-operation between the groups and promote action on issues which affect us all. The old Federation did this very successfully for a limited period. Those delegates from the area groups who attended the meetings of the Federation went with thought out proposals which had been discussed and agreed by their own group. We even managed to finance the Federation, something which those who are attending the present meetings leave to the generosity and goodwill of a couple of comrades.

It has been asserted that the British anarchist movement has suffered from 'structurelessness'. From observations of other groupings it is possible to discern organisation developing in a group which is too highly structured. Anarchists believe in organisation but we should not be deceived by the apparent success of some on the "left" and create a sort of libertarian hybrid version of the International Socialists. We do not need the organisation to look after us and fall back on. Organisations should not be crutches but groupings of comrades who desire to work together in order to make propaganda for the anarchist cause and the social revolution more effectively. Structure should always be kept down to a minimum necessary to carry out the tasks in hand. If structure becomes too formal and rigid with voting, membership and powers of expulsion then these organisations will become an end in themselves and the purpose of the group will be lost in a steady concern for the organisation itself. Organisations should be informal, creating only the necessary structure to enable groups to carry out what practical tasks they are engaged in, whether it be Spies for Peace, a jazz group, or a booze up every Sunday night. They have their 'stars' but too often they are shooting stars who ascend momentarily and come down like a stick, their work completed, their group dispersed with no harm to anyone. But an organisation with a constitution, members and funds can theoretically maintain itself forever by democratic processes, and by virtue of its mere solidarity can claim to represent the movement - meaning only those who are members of the organisation.

Sadly, comrades often place more emphasis on the hyped-up part of their anarchism. Some have even substituted libertarian socialist. But the important thing is that a comrade works in a group where he or she gets on with the other members and that they are working on activities and making worthwhile propaganda. Groups should not be exclusive and inflexible. A movement should naturally grow from activity in which the different groups carry out what they feel is

## NO QUALITY OF MERCY

THE APPEALS of John Barker, James Greenfield, Hilary Anne Creek and Anna Mendelson against sentences of ten years each for conspiracy to cause explosions were dismissed last week in the appeal court by the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Widgery (who presided at the Londonderry enquiry), Lord Justice Lawton and Mr. Justice Milmo.

Despite defending counsel's appeal that the conspiracy charge was woolly and imprecise Lord Justice Lawton hinted that better grounds for appeal was that the length and complexity of the case made it burdensome and therefore it was unsafe to convict.

The Defence called photographic evidence that Greenfield had received a black eye whilst in police custody and if that photograph had been available at the Old Bailey weight would have been given to Greenfield's allegations of police assault.

The usual stringent police precautions were observed, passes were issued and handbags and brief cases of those attending the appeal hearing were searched.

A special plea was made for Hilary Anne Creek referring to a medical report that she was "extremely ill" - suffering from anorexia nervosa (the inability to eat) brought on by mental and emotional strain. She had lost two stones in weight and treatment, it was indicated by counsel, could only be effectively given outside prison. Lord Widgery said that it was a matter of some concern to the court that Miss Creek receive the treatment she needed; however the Home Secretary would doubtless be informed and act as necessary.

A concession was made that subsequent sentences for forgery, etc. should be changed to concurrent sentences from consecutive sentences. The appeals were dismissed.

In the following hearing of the case of Jake Prescott the sentence of fifteen years was reduced to ten years, apparently to match those of the other four. Thus is even-handed justice measured out. They will all, if they conduct themselves well, serve six years and eight months.

It may have escaped notice (particularly since little space was given to it in the Press) that the Handsworth (Birmingham) boy sentenced to fifteen years' detention for 'mugging' also had his appeal dismissed recently. Thus is the quality of mercy strained in British courts. J.R.

## SQUATTERS UNITE

ON FRIDAY, 22 June, 300 squatters and interested people gathered at the LSE to discuss the problems that might arise from the recent ruling of Judge Denning.

Whereas previously a court order was needed before squatters can be thrown out, this learned gentleman has interpreted the law to read that people who squat are trespassing. An owner of property can take the law into his own hands and, using 'reasonable force', get rid of squatters.

The meeting was disrupted from the very start by some members of the formerly Living Theatre who insisted on doing their own thing, poetry reading included, much to the annoyance of all present. ("Bloody anarchists!" was murmured in many aisles and along the rows.)

Then when the people in the meeting had convinced them to piss off, they heard a radical lawyer tell of points of law and how to use it. Discussion ensued on the merits of using the legal system or working completely outside the law.

The bulk of the time was spent in a futile squabble between those who favoured a centralised organisation of squatters and those who

Organisation for organisation's sake, which it is always capable of becoming, is a mere crutch which deforms those who use it. Conditioned by the comforting feel of crutches some hobble about forgetting what it is to walk about free and upright.

Peter Turner  
Jack Robinson

Wars will cease... con'd. from p.1

with a group who were trying to persuade other British soldiers to desert. 'They put a lot of pressure on him, and that really got him down' said Bill."

According to the Mirror the sad climax to this was, "It was ten days ago that he took a boat out on to the lake saying that he was going to watch the sunset. He never came back and his body was found in the water last Thursday. Police have not ruled out the possibility of suicide. (My underlinings.) A Times report puts it rather differently and more briefly, "Police today tried to trace the parents of 25-year old Sapper John Beaumont, to tell them that their son, who deserted from the Army when due to be posted to Northern Ireland, had been found dead in a Stockholm river near a capsized boat."

No doubt the Mirror, like its up-and-coming rival The Sun, is widely read by troops in Northern Ireland, and no doubt too supplies of reading matter for the troops to read are controlled by the authorities. On Monday, June 25, the Mirror printed another story by Joe Gorrod called "Operation Temptation" and jointly headed: "Mr. X Arrives Today in Bid to make Ulster troops desert". We will not go into this story over-much save to glean the fact that one more deserter, a twenty-eight year old Royal Engineer, arrived in Stockholm this week-end (June 23-24) and "has been given a home by a sympathetic Swedish family".

But alongside this is another story with a small reproduction of Saturday's front page at its head, it reads, "Army Chiefs in Ulster last night praised Saturday's Mirror disclosures about British deserters in Sweden" (then follows a cagey summary of their weak 'suicide' story). "A statement from the Northern Ireland Army H.Q. at Lisburn said the revelations showed 'the bitter disillusionment which follows from this sort of defection'." The statement goes on, the Mirror claimed, that Army morale in Ulster was high and predicted that Operation Temptation 'will not have many customers!'

Why then should Army Chiefs praise the Mirror if they're not worried and morale is high?

According to the Observer (3rd June) "a spokesman for the Ministry of Defence in London said last week that it would be impossible to find the total number of soldiers who had deserted because of the Northern Ireland situation. Between January 1966 and September 1969, 6,500 soldiers went absent without leave for more than three weeks. By the end of that period 620 'hard core' deserters were

thought that an organisation covering London was not necessary. The latter seemed to feel that all that was necessary was local informal contact.

During the time the wrangling was going on, some East London squatters collected addresses of squats which will be mimeographed and sent to everyone on that list, thereby obviating the need for a centre.

It is hoped that squatters in each area can organise themselves to defend the houses against bailiffs and provide assistance in order to widen the scope of the squatting movement.

This communications network could be used by any of the squatters to put out their own communique, bulletin, leaflet.

If there are any squats which were not represented at the meeting who want to be part of the network please write via FREEDOM.

Kingsgate Squatter.

## READING MATTER FOR PRISONERS

Some "detainees" in Long Kesh are trying to set up a left-wing library. They get a number of papers from left wing groups "but this past few months we don't seem to be getting any in", so before you part with treasured books, pamphlets, etc. it might be a good idea to write and say what you wish to send, to Pat McClure, Hut 16, Cage 2, Long Kesh, Lisburn, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland.

M.C.

still absent. Between October 1969 and March 1973, 5,100 soldiers were absent for more than three weeks and there were 510 'hard-core' deserters two months ago... the spokesman said the figures appeared to show desertion was a decreasing trend... troops did not generally desert from Northern Ireland, they deserted because they did not want to go there".

It is not possible to put complete faith in official figures. According to the Observer the number of American deserters (presumably largely arising from the Vietnam war) varies in estimates from 40,000 to 100,000. In AMEX-Canada (paper of the American exiles in Canada) the FBI figure for 'absent without leave' is given as 32,718 and it quotes from a writer in The Nation (from Dept. of Defence figures) that the number as of January 1972 was 134479. It is never useful for a government's purpose to admit that they are running an unpopular war. Desertion has a cumulative effect and the Mirror's Swedish 'horror stories' may be an attempt to stem an already moving tide of opinion.

We do not know the complete picture of morale in Ulster, we only know that the officials are very careful which soldiers are sent to Ireland - indeed it would seem (logically enough) that no 'loyal' Northern Irish soldiers are serving in Ireland.

But the morale of American soldiers in Vietnam only began to crack after years of fighting had shown the futility of it all. Then came the desertions to Canada and Sweden, the 'fraggings', the sabotage, the demoralization and (alas) the drug-taking. Now the war is nominally over the Swedes have turned legalistic about political asylum and it is now only open to well-behaved English deserters from Ulster. With the following conditions (reprinted from Peace News):

- Come directly to Stockholm.
  - Come in as a tourist, but if they give you problems at passport control you can tell them that you have come to Sweden seeking POLITICAL ASYLUM because of Northern Ireland.
  - Contact someone on the list before going to the police.
  - Make sure you insist on registering for POLITICAL ASYLUM when you're at the police station, even if they try and talk you out of it. You should put political asylum after the question "purpose of stay" on the application for residence and labour permit.
  - Make sure that you point out that your reason for seeking asylum in Sweden is because of Northern Ireland, that you don't want to fight in something you feel is wrong.
  - You can't enter Sweden without a passport, using only your military identification card. But try to come in with a passport (try for a social security passport if the military have your original).
  - Bring your military ID card.
  - Try to bring some money, £30-£50.
  - Wait 10 days after entering Sweden before going to the police.
  - Enter Sweden only through Stockholm. DO NOT enter through Malmö or Göteborg (Gothenburg). Contact list: (the following services are all free)
- LAWYERS**  
Hans Göran Franck, Kungsgatan 24, Stockholm. Tel 200550 or 200600.  
Bengt Söderström, same as Franck. Office tel 102502, home tel 332013.  
Svenska Flytningradet, Drottninggatan 16, Stockholm. Tues 6-8 pm, tel 210732.
- SOCIAL HELP**  
Desmond Carragher, c/o KFUK/KFUM, Birger Jarlgatan 33 (2 tr), Stockholm. Tel 206729.

Even though the war is nominally over for Americans in Vietnam the American military authorities are denying amnesty for the thousands of deserters and imprisoned conscientious objectors who had the humanity to see the wrongness and the intelligence to see the uselessness of the war in Vietnam. Long before the President had made his patched-up 'peace with honor' they had made their own more honourable peace with and for themselves. Must they now be punished for forethought?

Let us hope that enough British soldiers will act similarly in Ulster. An old and corny poster of the Peace Pledge Union (for which they were prosecuted in wartime) read 'Wars will cease when men refuse to fight'. It is still true.

Jack Robinson.

# LETTERS



# Strike Chrysler

...Continued from page 1

"It provides a natural frame of security, it gives confidence, shares money equally, uses all degrees of skill without distinction and enables jobs to be allocated to the man or woman best suited to them, the allocation frequently being made by the workers themselves. Change of job to avoid monotony is an easy matter. The 'gaffer' is abolished and foremen are now technicians called in to advise or to act in a breakdown or other emergency."

Obviously the gang system is preferable to the "American system of management technique, which attempts to squeeze every last second out of every working hour". This was said by a former Chrysler boss, Mr. Chattell. He also spoke of the days when management and employee relationship was good, but had to admit that then their "product became uncompetitive".

Mr. Chattell and the national papers are not going to draw the obvious conclusions from this and condemn the exploitative system of capitalism for these production techniques. Certainly no sane society would use these methods of production whereby a man has to do a repetitive operation with a 1.6-minute job cycle for eight hours a day.

### Only the Exploitation has Changed

But as more is invested into industry so the use of the machinery becomes more intensive in order to recoup their investment in profits. The type of exploitation has changed from the back-breaking physical effort to the soul-destroying mindless tasks that are expected of men and women on today's production line.

I wouldn't predict that similar methods of production wouldn't be necessary in an anarchist society. Certainly some sort of gang system could be used to soften the effects of such work if mass production on such a scale was necessary. However, if one wants a blueprint of the methods of production, the centralisation necessary for this type of mass production at Chryslers are quite alien to an anarchist society. Work would become an integrated part of our lives and not something separate as it is for so many people today.

What is important about the victory of the Chrysler car workers is that they have asserted their control rather than management's. It is around these aspects of work that so many disputes take place. Contrary to the image, the worker is not a money grabber like his employer but consciously seeks control of his work place.

P.T.

\*Fords have, at least in Britain, always used the measured day work system of payment.

N.B. *Anarchy* 2 (1st series) "Workers' Control" is out of print. (Most of the first and second vols. are available only within the complete bound set.)

property will show that private property is usually protected by privilege. Privilege is also one of the pillars upon which the state rests. Are anarcho-capitalists promoting a new state to replace the old? If private property tends toward inequality, how can anarcho-capitalists claim to be libertarians?

I disagree with Mr. Joseph that quarrelling over economics is a sad affair. It seems evident that how people organize their community economically will be a co-efficient of that community's political organization. I think it is vital to hash out our ideas regarding economic organization if we are ever to move out of philosophy and once again back into history.

Lastly, Mr. Joseph's article offended my sensibility. He repeatedly used the words "man" and "men" as substitutes for the human race. Women are also members of the human race! Sexism should have no place in anarchism.

David Waters  
Hempstead,  
New York.

PROFESSOR

EYSENCK'S

NOSE

Dear Comrades,

It looks as though, having accepted an invitation to write an article on the attack on Professor Eysenck by commie bully-boys, I will have to run a weekly column on the subject to counteract some of the sheer mis-information and misunderstanding that surrounds the whole topic. Maybe I should have kept my mouth shut, or the readership of FREEDOM will dwindle out of boredom with the whole issue.

Andrew Williams writes of "... Eysenck's theories that Blacks and Irish are less intelligent than Whites..." While being tickled by the idea that Irish are now, by implication, to be classed as "non-Whites", let me assure Mr. Williams (and other readers) that Eysenck has advanced no such theories. If you take this paper you are literate, so why not read what Eysenck has said rather than taking things at second-hand from The News of the World, The Morning Star, or Mr. Westall? Let me quote what Eysenck himself has written:

"I do not believe that Negroes are innately inferior to whites with respect to intelligence; I have never held this belief and I have written nothing to encourage it. In fact I believe that such a statement makes no sense genetically, and I have quoted evidence in my book to show why this is so."

A lie once shouted loud enough in the popular press tends to stick, as we anarchists have cause to know. We try to expound our social theories, but many people "know" that our social theory concerns the best way to throw bombs. The News of the World has told them this too, alongside the latest news about Blacks and non-white Irish.

But Mr. Williams has a sound point. He points out that "It is not a glorified position to be intelligent, but to be liberated--is!" I thoroughly agree. All the disgusting slush that has been dished up in pseudo-righteous indignation about the measured differences between so-called "white" and so-called "black" schoolchildren in the United States, and what a shocking thing it is to do genetic research, is only important because of the basic intellectual snobbery which passes a value judgement on a man's worth in terms of his intelligence. Sure, we all vary in levels of intelligence, and it can be measured pretty accurately nowadays in its various functions. I have known and worked with many women and men of much higher intelligence than myself - and right bastards some of them are! And those of lesser intelligence than myself are, by definition, inferior in this respect only, just as a man of 5ft. 5ins. is my inferior in height.

Tony Gibson

Dear Comrades,

The correspondence on race that has been going on in FREEDOM for some time now must be one of the oddest ever to appear in the columns of the paper. Everyone seems to agree that there probably is something in the idea that different races have different degrees of intelligence. Tony Gibson, and practically everyone else, seems to think that it does not matter, while Jeremy Westall thinks it does, and wants to hush it up.

But the emperor has no clothes. No one has ever been able to define the term "race", although many have tried since the 18th Century. For newspapermen the term still has a meaning, perhaps, but scientifically speaking it is useless. Although the different parts of the world are inhabited by people with certain

physical characteristics in common, more or less, this generalisation is so general that it is useless for any practical purpose. There has been so much migration and intermarriage over thousands of years that it is impossible to draw a line anywhere between one so-called "race" and another. There is no Jewish race, and the black Americans who cry "black is beautiful" have almost all of them English, Scottish and Irish among their ancestors.

But while it is impossible to define "race", it is little better with the concept of "intelligence". How do you define "intelligence"? Certainly some people seem better able to cope with the world than others, and there are of course the seriously mentally deficient who cannot talk or move properly, or control their bowels and so on. But as far as the mass of the population are concerned how are you to say who is "intelligent" and who is not?

It would seem to be mainly a matter of skills, and skills that are socially approved at that. A brilliant mathematician is highly valued, even though, outside his particular skill or talent he may be rather a fool; a gipsy who is a brilliant poacher, but illiterate, is not likely to be valued by society or thought of as a man of high "intelligence".

Intelligence Tests, however carefully planned to eliminate the least suggestion of bias on the part of those who set them, are still only going to test the kind of aptitudes that those who prepare them consider important and therefore marks of "intelligence".

If "race" cannot be defined, nor "intelligence" either, it seems rather absurd to argue whether one indefinable thing possesses a particular indefinable quality or not. Or whether one indefinable thing possesses more of this indefinable quality than another indefinable thing does.

Inspired by the whole bizarre controversy I went to my local public library to see if I could get a copy of Eysenck's book. "Oh," said the girl behind the counter brightly, "you'll have to wait. There's a long waiting list for that book." Evidently people are obsessed by the question, and yet it is a pseudo-issue, a modern example of those "popular delusions and the madness of crowds" which fill the history books.

A.W.U.

### ANARCHO-CAPITALISM

Dear Friends,

I would like to take up some of your valuable space so as to reply to Mr. Joseph's article on "Anarcho-Capitalism". (FREEDOM 2/6/73)

One of the main thrusts of this article seems to be, in greater or lesser degree, a conceptual clarification of the much used term "anarcho-capitalism". On another level it seems to be a sincere effort for unification of the different schools of thought which attach themselves to anarchism.

Mr. Joseph's comments were somewhat enlightening, but his article raises more questions than it answers. I would agree somewhat with the anarcho-capitalist's notion of free-will, but how does one avoid having free-will only for the successful champions of the "free market"? How do anarcho-capitalists guard against imperialism? It seems to me that imperialism is not only a product but a function of any capitalist's search for the ever-expanding "free-market". Furthermore, it would seem that if one believes in capitalism, then an underlying assumption must be that of private property. The history of private

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Published by Freedom Press, London, E. 1. Printed by Vineyard Press, Colchester.