

**'UNEASY LIES THE HEAD'**

IT WOULD BE ridiculous to join in the howls and moans which greeted the news that a clumsy unsuccessful attempt had been made to kidnap Princess Anne and her husband, Captain Mark Phillips. The Economist, the only weekly yet to make comment, made the usual silly remark that 'only an anarchist or a madman...' etc., etc., etc., and there have been the usual deplorings of the anarchy of our time, and this age of violence.

Let it be made clear that anarchists are, largely, in favour of judicious assassination. This was no assassination and it was far from judicious. Anarchists are not republicans, indeed such bungling is the kind of thing likely to make royalty popular.

This was a feeble attempt at kidnapping by what was undoubtedly a single solitary man. Kidnapping for ransom is concerned with the

acquisition of money and anarchism is concerned with the abolition of money (as a power-symbol) and property, not with its transference. Such kidnappings as occur elsewhere in revolutionary South America etc. are the products of an extreme situation and cannot be judged out of context. The Hearst kidnapping in America is something else again and its Robin Hood overtones and the distribution of food to the poor strike one as ridiculously romantic and impractical. As Oscar Wilde said, 'Some people think the cure for poverty is to keep the poor alive'. Such sporadic hand-outs from kidnapping ransoms are no solution but merely playing to the gallery.

Furthermore, one has reservations about the mental torture involved in kidnapping which inclines one to compare it with the prison systems of the State

to which anarchists are opposed.

Indeed this Pall Mall attentat or whatever it was seems highly non-political (despite a Times letter from the Marxist-Leninist group claiming the credit). It would seem, like many other affairs, to have been the imitative work of a disturbed isolated individual. That the world is full of such wasted lives knowing nothing but ambition, envy and greed is eloquent of the condition of the sick society.

Symptomatic too are the glorified wasted lives of those set up by Press and State to be the objects of our ambition, envy (disguised as pride or patriotism) and greed (disguised as consumerism and admiration). A man embarked on such a project must be as suicidally inclined as, say, those who risk their necks in horse-contests or motor-racing. His life must

Continued on Page 6...

**INFLATION AND COMPETITION**

INFLATION HAS NOW become the number one issue facing governments. Prices are soaring out of sight and reach, while wages lag behind. It is no longer the South American countries which have galloping inflation but also the European economies are threatened with runaway increases. Projected figures for this year suggest that in Europe inflation will be about 5% higher than in 1972.

But inflation is not just restricted to the American continent and Europe, it is a world-wide phenomenon. In fact if the present increases continue the world's entire economic and political structure may collapse and we could have a repeat of the 1930s depression. Some economists are making such predictions. Although new remedies have been found since the thirties the basis of these has been expansion. But this remedy of expansion brings inflation. This has meant that governments have to continually tinker with the money flow into industry and being paid cut in wages.

If inflation is a world-wide problem it is obvious that any solutions must be accepted and applied on the same scale. However the very nature of the system means that one country's gain is another's loss and so co-operation does not appear, or the sur-

face, to be in their interest. Even within the economic power block of the European Community competing interests are at the moment threatening its very existence. Such power blocks create wider competition unless agreements can be reached. This is happening now with America feuding with both the European Community and the Japanese. Because this multinational co-operation has not been achieved, inflation within the individual countries has rocketed.

Mr. Ash of the US administration says that "We cannot deal with inflation in a purely national context any longer." The past suggests that such co-operation will not be forthcoming and that the remedies will be based on previous situations rather than on the present day. Economists and governments stick to the use of monetary and fiscal policies to manage their economies and manipulate the flow accordingly. No one seems to have an answer. Mr. Galbraith of Affluent Society fame has only pointed out the general role of governments. "The purpose of economic management is a stable currency and a high level of employment and no government should settle for less."

Capitalism does have remarkable powers of recovery or at least it manages, like a sick old man, to get assistance or a partial remedy from some source. Rather than solve its problems it gets by. The system continues to make profits.

Anarchists however do not think that a period of economic decline and chaos will necessarily bring about a situation when people will turn to a revolutionary alternative. In fact because there are a number of weak governments (minority ones) in power, including Britain's, people might turn to a more authoritarian system. We would rather see people seeking an alternative outside the materialistic satisfactions which the present systems can provide by desiring to control their own lives and decide on the commodities to be produced. Rather than to seek continued industrial expansion, basic requirements of enough food and adequate shelter would come first on the list for any society which placed needs before profits.

We seek co-operation between people and not the economic competition of economic power blocks.

## Spanish Resistance

# BISHOPS AND GENERALS

OUTSPOKEN BISHOPS and "revolutionary" generals are always good news for the bourgeois press and that is probably why the political affairs of Spain and Portugal are being scrutinized by the "expert" eyes of Madrid and Lisbon correspondents of Fleet Street.

So in long, "deep" and well-balanced articles, the familiar "official" and "opposition" lines on the recent events in the Iberian peninsula since the beautiful send-off of Carrero Blanco are are duly reported for the sake of objectivity and impartiality. Spokesmen for opposition parties and official Press are quoted extensively, and without having to travel more than half a mile from the city centres foreign correspondents make up their stories which are faithfully reported in London papers as gospel truth. What the people in the streets, in the factories, in the fields, at home or at school think is of no interest to Fleet Street; what are the objectives of this "illegal" party or what the aims of radicals who daily resist fascism seems to be irrelevant and rarely put across by foreign journalists sent by their bosses to Spain or Portugal.

Political prisoners, political police don't seem to exist and political repression of course is the preserve of communist regimes.

Fascism, for professional journalists is an abstraction that could be removed by passing a few liberal laws in one-party parliaments. In this context the peripeties of outspoken bishops and nervous generals are closely scrutinised by the western press in

the hope of seeing the possibility of fascist regimes being "overthrown" without much fuss and loss of political power on the part of the liberal bourgeoisie.

With the exception of anarchists, the left political parties of Spain and Portugal that today 'oppose' fascism are off course, playing the political game according to the rules of class alliances in a bid to stay afloat and cash the benefits of legality inherent in social democracies. In order to play this game, the communists and socialists are once again helping Iberian fascism peacefully to change their coats and present themselves to the people and their paymasters in Europe as liberals, god-fearing christians and even social democrats.

Although the bourgeois press chooses to ignore the existence of anti-fascist militants in Spain and Portugal, we know that Iberian fascism can be smashed if the present situation of agitation in factories, universities and in the streets is sustained long enough. The money that we are collecting for the Spanish Resistance Fund will help our libertarian comrades to carry on the struggle that in recent months has forced Arias Navarro, the new prime minister of Spain, to show his fascist hand by unleashing an unparalleled wave of repression against those who are ideologically strong enough not to indulge in flirtations with bishops and the so-called liberal wing of the armed forces.

Claude.

Spanish Resistance Fund, c/o T.P. and P.T., 84B Whitechapel High St. London, E.1.

## IS PROTEST ENOUGH?

IT IS POSSIBLE that FREEDOM is the only left-wing publication which has no university (ex- or current) students on its editorial committee. This makes it rather difficult for us to evaluate the present wave of unrest, principally in Essex and Oxford universities.

In protest-politics it would seem (as it did with the Committee of One Hundred) that a time is reached when one is protesting about a protest about a protest, so that the original object of the first demonstration is receding into the distance and is sometimes quite forgotten.

It would seem to be so with the students. What started as a protests about low grants (at Oxford

and Colchester) fanned out into students sit-ins and demonstrations, and was succeeded by protests against the disciplining of those taking part in demonstrations. At Colchester this emerged as a full-scale blockade of the University and the subsequent involvement of the police with ninety or so arrests has led to an intensification of the sit-in with a blockade continuing (pointlessly it seems) throughout the Easter recess.

The low grants to students would seem to be the cause of the student rebellion (one cannot call it revolution) but this so swiftly passes into the background that 'who runs the university?' takes over as the theme, ignoring most

### LATEST NEWS

ON 9 MARCH at 1 p.m. a group of demonstrators protested in Lisbon in front of the Iberian Airways office, against the garroting of our comrade Salvador Puig Antich. The demonstrators just had time to smash Iberia's windows before the police arrived. No arrests were made.

The Financial Times reported on 22 March: "Spanish Police today announced they had arrested another 32 people said to be members of illegal political groups. This brings the admitted number of political arrests this year to around 250."

"In Barcelona two anarchist cells are said to have been smashed and 22 arrests made. Police claim that among those held are the ones responsible for bomb attacks on a police station and on a civil war monument. The other ten arrested are all students from the Valencia region."

"Meanwhile the authorities in Pamplona in Northern Spain have summarily fined a local parish priest £7,500 for delivering a sermon. It is believed the sermon dealt with the problems of the Basque people."

LAST FRIDAY (22 Mar.) delegates of various Portuguese and Spanish political organisations and immigrant workers held a meeting at the Centro Iberico to discuss the possibilities of coordinating the efforts of those in London who wish to demonstrate their solidarity with the victims of Iberian fascism.

Claude.



---"MY GOD WE'RE RUINED!  
BUCKINGHAM PALACE HAVE  
OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED  
THEY DON'T WANT HIM BACK---"

of the time the question, 'Why a university?'

It may be the lack of a university background, but one who  
Continued on Back Page...

# A PRIVATE OR A PUBLIC HELL

Review

THE EXORCIST. Director: William Friedkin. Writer-Producer William Peter Blatty. Photographer: Owen Roizman. Stars: Max von Sydow, Jason Miller, Ellen Burstyn, Lynda Blair.

IF ANY MAN DESERVES AN OSCAR it is the advertising genius who sold the film The Exorcist to the Western World, for the world and his wife are standing in those long queues to see this film with the same dedication that they wait to view the body of Lenin, receive a hand wave from the Pope or collect two gallons of petrol for £1.

With three cans of beer and a paper bag of still warm pork sausages I took my place in the front row with the rest of the groundlings and for payment of 70p waited to enjoy 122 minutes of sheer horror and we were well rewarded, for The Exorcist is a good and gory horror film. I doubt if it will pass into screen history for the classic horror films are but a handful and they stem from Murnau's Nosferatu of 1922 to Tod Browning's 1931 Dracula and his rarely seen Freaks, Frankenstein and The Old Dark House, but in between there has been a good and solid output of the screaming horrors for the graveyard shift to suck a sausage on. As all the world should know, The Exorcist is the story of a young girl who is literally and physically possessed by a devil and as a final resort two Jesuit priests are called in to exorcise Old Nick. The film is extremely well made and competently acted, and apart from levitation and bed leaping the horrors are sights and acts that we are expected to find physically revolting. The girl's face and body becomes a ruinous mass of dead flesh, she pees on the carpet and vomits a mess of green slime and shit into any inquiring face while a basso profundo voice growls out obscenities. In other words all good fun for the teeny boppers born to the Rolling Stones and reared on Alice, pop not lit. There has been the inevitable cry that this film should never have been made and show, but in print we would accept it as no more than good escapist reading stemming from Walpole's Castle of Otranto (1794) to the News of the World (1974) and a Victorian theatre that had Sweeney Todd and Varney the Vampyre as staple fare. that has merely found a new medium, a new audience and better make-up men.

There are now those who choose to attack the film for social and philosophical reasons, arguing that it is a wicked thing to delude people that there is a devil and that one can become possessed, but comrades remember all the crap about grass, LSD, Flower Power, Zen and all the rest of the rubbish that has been hawked by the underground over the last ten years and accept that if the Catholic Church do not believe in the literal existence of the Devil and the power of Exorcism then they should not be in business. The Exorcist is based on a novel of William Blatty and the point is made that Blatty was once Policy Branch Chief of the United States Air Force Psychological Warfare Division and that there is a fell and invidious reason behind the book and the film, but by virtue of the fact that people are queuing and paying to see this film it means that the audience do not believe in God or the Devil for if they did they would not be in the cinema but knees down within the nearest church. We all have our favourite for the horror stakes, be it Manson or the Marquis de Sade, but my graveyard pin-up never made the big time media. She was Countess Elisabeth of Hungary and in the early years of the 17th Century murdered 650 young girls to use their blood for magic. In Book XVII of Morte d'Arthur in the 1526 edition Sir Thomas Malory had described these horrors as fiction but Elisabeth put them into practice and despite the frantic letter of the Reverend Ponikenusz during the year 1611 to the Superintendent of the dioceses of Trencsen the murders continued and Elisabeth died protected by Church and State so beat that, Blatty.

PAPILLON. Director: Franklin J. Schaffner. Screenwriters: Dalton Trumbo, Lorenzo Semple Jr. Photographer: Fred Koenekamp. Stars: Steve McQueen, Dustin Hoffman. ATTICA, at the Electric Cinema Club.

IT IS Papillon that contains the full horror of man's evil to man, for it is a film of Henri Charrier's autobiography. Charriere, known as "Papillon", was sentenced to serve a sentence for murder in the infamous penal colony of French Guiana, and the camera takes in the full documentary of what was once Devil's Island. It is a good and worthwhile film but one of the major flaws in all these types of films is that it cannot put across the months and the years of mind and soul destroying boredom. Of sheer necessity a film can only heap incident upon incident so that the audience is forced to believe that every day was a day of some minor or major excitement, so that two and five years' solitary confinement pass on the screen in those same number of minutes.

In the 'old' days, Warner's did a whole series of these horror prison films and one doubts if they ever achieved a single reform, but we felt good for two hours enjoyment and a feeling of liberal indignation. There was an open prison in the Southern States of America where the murdered bodies of convicts were found, murdered and buried by prison officials and was anyone arrested, charged or sentenced? Steve McQueen and Dustin Hoffman give good solid performances as the two convicts and we watch the prison routines, watch the escapes and can now say that we have seen Devil's Island at a remove. But I think of all those prison films from I am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang to The Big House and feel that this is one more to tuck away in the memory bank. What saves this film as an act of social conscience is the final few minutes when the camera is allowed to roam free among the ruins of the Devil's Island prison among the weeds and the flowers, the broken walls and the rusting bars and one can now contemplate all the horror and the cruelty of those wasted lives, both guards and convicts', that wealth might be safe. John Coleman of the New Statesman writes that it is 'the implication that prisoners are somehow inevitably better than their gaolers that registers as facile, contemporary crap' and Coleman is talking rubbish for every prisoner is there against his or her own wishes. But every gaoler chooses to be in these awful places. Prisoners can be all things but not one of them chose this final degradation of the human spirit, for each man and woman stood their trial and fought against their condition and the gaolers chose it for economic or mentally sick reasons that they must impose by force their bruised egos on other men or women. In a time of full employment men still choose to be prison wardens so who is the better man, the escaping prisoner or the self-imprisoning warder? And at the Electric is Attica on the 1971 prison riot in Attica Prison, USA. The prisoners fought and they won and once more the State took over and increased repression was their reward with 65 prisoners with fresh charges to answer. The camera roams once more among the ruins but these are our ruins, comrade, and they still exist for the bars of Attica are back in place.

Arthur Moyses.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS to FREEDOM

SURFACE MAIL all countries One year £3.25 (\$8.10)  
AIRMAIL One year USA \$13.00 India, Africa £4.75  
Australia, N.Z., Japan &c. £5.25  
Europe £4.00 Middle East £4.25

(six months pro rata)

# RECENT PAMPHLETS

IN 1972 Harold Rosen published a pamphlet called Language and Class (Falling Wall Press, 12p). It was based on a paper given at the Ruskin College History Workshop on children in May 1972 and was subtitled "A Critical Look at the Theories of Basil Bernstein". Bernstein is a British sociologist who has made his (high) professional reputation by investigating spoken language and relating differences in usage to social class, especially by linking the use of "elaborated" or "restricted" codes to membership of the middle or working class respectively. Rosen attacked this class-based sociolinguistics for building an elaborate social theory on a restricted factual basis. He has now produced Language and Class Workshop number 1 (15p plus postage from Harold Rosen, 41A Muswell Avenue, London N10 2EH), a report on progress in the positive critique of Bernstein--that is, in rescuing working-class speech from the academic patronage of middle-class sociology. He says in an editorial that the people who produced the report "share socialist political convictions" and a "powerful conviction that working-class language was being misrepresented and that the misrepresentation was being used for reactionary ends, namely as a means of subjugation".

The bulk of the report consists of transcripts of working class speech and a few writings on the subject of working-class people. Anyone who has ever tried to transcribe a recording of spontaneous talk will sympathise with the difficulties met by the group who have produced this fascinating collection. There is a discussion among remedial children in a secondary modern school of life after death (they described the transcript the teacher made as "the best play they had ever read"); a discussion among two Cockney students about their language-teaching at comprehensive school; an interview with a young Jamaican boy about how to play the game of Black Cat; a description by an old Cockney building-labourer of his work; a political speech by a Cockney docker; an interview with an old Welsh miner; an extract from Dave Douglass's Ruskin College History Workshop pamphlet Pit Talk in County Durham; a written account of a one-man strike by a Welsh boiler-fitter; a written account and an interview from a Lancashire woman of working-class life in the old days; a "letter-tape" from an Austrian brick-worker to his

family in England. The various comments are interesting and illuminating, but there is no doubt that the main value of the pamphlet is the wealth of original material, the record of actual speech, which certainly gives the lie to Bernstein's theories.

\* \* \*

THERE HAS been a lot of discussion recently about the nature of the South African slave-state. Rosalynde Ainslie has now produced a pamphlet called Masters and Serfs (International Defence and Aid Fund, 20p), subtitled "Farm Labour in South Africa", and concentrating for once on the rural system of class and race exploitation. She is a veteran journalist and agitator in the Anti-Apartheid movement, and this is an excellent summary of what is known about the basis of the system. The basis because, as she says, "The roots of apartheid are to be found not in the white cities, nor even in the endless tunnels of the gold mines of the Rand. They are buried deep in the red soil of the white-owned farms, where for some two hundred years, before ever South Africa became an urban industrial economy and the word apartheid was thought of, relationships were being forged between white masters and black servants." The present system is an extraordinary phenomenon, a feudal system working within a wider capitalist system, and one in which the workers are deprived of any status at all so that they lack not only property rights in but also any right of residence on the land they work. The result is a serfdom worse than slavery, a terrible oppression which she says will sooner or later lead to a terrible revenge.

\* \* \*

FISH OUT OF WATER (Autonomous Revolution, c/o Rising Free, 15p) is an anonymous pamphlet subtitled "Documents Towards The Development Of The Revolutionary Movement". According to the epilogue, "The revolutionary movement, in Britain, is like a fish out of water... We must learn how to swim." But it is not clear how far this pamphlet helps to teach this lesson -- after all, how can a fish out of water learn to swim? There are some disarming attempts to forestall criticism. According to the foreword (by "Commandant Pepe"), "This pamphlet...is simply putting onto paper what the class struggle has been doing for a long time. ...You may call it 'limited', 'generalised', or 'abstract' --

## FREEDOM PRESS

84b WHITECHAPEL HIGH STREET  
LONDON E1 Phone 01-247 9249

Aldgate East underground station, Whitechapel Art Gallery exit and turn right - Angel Alley next to Wimpy Bar

A B C of Anarchism, Alexander Berkman  
25p (1pst 4p). USA 75¢ post free  
About Anarchism, what anarchists believe, how anarchists differ... Nicolas Walter  
12 1/2p (post 3p). USA 40¢ post free  
Anarchism and Anarcho-Syndicalism, Rudolf Rocker  
20p (post 4p). USA 65¢ post free  
The State, Its Historic Role, Peter Kropotkin  
20p (post 4p). USA 65¢ post free  
Lessons of the Spanish Revolution, 1936-39  
Vernon Richards  
cloth £ 1.50 (post 15p). USA \$4.00  
(paperback temp.out of stock - binding)  
List of other titles, including annual vols. Selections from "Freedom" 1954-64; back issues ANARCHY 1961-71 &c on request

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**Books**

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**BOOKSHOP** open Tues-Fri 2 - 6 p.m.  
(Thursday to 8.00 p.m.)  
Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Any book not in stock but in print can be supplied. Please add postage as in brackets.

Roel Van Duyn: Message of a Wise Kabouter (on Peter Kropotkin) £0.15 (6p)

\*George and Louise Crowley: Beyond Automation £0.10 (4p)

A. Powell & B. Butterworth: Marked for Life: a criticism of assessment at universities £0.20 (14p)

Leo Tolstoy: The Slavery of Our Times £0.25 (6p)

\*Lysander Spooner: No Treason £0.50 (6p)

Carlos da Fonseca: Introduction a l'Histoire du Mouvement libertaire au Portugal £0.25 (4p)

\*Gregory P. Maximoff: My Social Credo £0.20 (3p)

Alex Comfort: What Rough Beast? £0.15 (4p)

Index No. 1/1974: On Censorship £0.75 (10p)

\*Peter Kropotkin: On Law £0.06 (3p)

Peter Buckman (Ed.): Education without Schools £0.80 (9p)

\*Jo Labadie: Anarchism 15p(4p)

\*Geo. H. Sabine (Ed.): The Works of Gerrard Winstanley with app. of documents relating to the Digger Movement £6.00 (28p)

\*Poster: Joe Hill Large (33" x 24")

Lino cut. Black & White. £1. including post & packing

Postcards: Sacco & Vanzetti and Joe Hill. Each in packets 1 doz. assorted colours, 30p per pkt.

\*denotes title published in USA

Please send SAE (9" x 4") for full list of titles carried

you can call it any adjective you like; but it is one of those documents, especially for revolutionaries, that must be studied, criticised, and expanded; and whose role at the moment is invaluable as a catalist. ...The professional ideologues of the different avant gardes will start writing libels, not on the material covered, but on its 'vulgarity', its 'populism', or its 'abstraction' and 'confusion'. Nevertheless; say the publishers, "Feedback, Criticism and Suggestions" are requested; so here goes.

The pamphlet is described as "communist and revolutionary". More specifically, it is Marxist and libertarian. It contains not so much a single text as a series of texts which run on but don't really join together. The style shows marks of translation from or imitation of French or Italian originals, but they have been written up for the British context. The pamphlet is based on the premise that we are moving from national competitive capitalism to international monopoly capitalism. (This transition is dated from the 1960s, which seems several decades late, but never mind.) The dominant unit of this stage of capitalism is the multinational corporation, which the pamphlet neatly describes as "anational", since no state has control over it. In this perspective there is no distinction between capitalism in the centre and imperialism in the periphery, between the developed countries and the Third World, between the working class and the oppressed peoples, since the same system prevails everywhere. In this situation the nation state has become obsolete -- hence the development of "pan-national" organisations which are transcending individual states and are integrating the whole world into a single system. This process includes the Communist countries, even China, which are not just state capitalist economies but are part of the international capitalist economy.

So far so good, but now the difficulties begin. According to this analysis the state is being superseded internationally but strengthened nationally, because the ruling class in each country needs to exert more power to survive in the new system. This leads to the development of the superstate to hold down the working class and to make possible the free flow of labour and capital within the country and also in and out of the country. Such phenomena as financial scandals and protest lobbies are seen as symptoms of adjustment to this transition. The response of the labour movement has been for the leadership to help subordinate the unions to the superstate just as they were subordinated to the old state, but for the rank and file to adopt new methods of struggle, involving new forms of

leadership, new sectors of industry, and new groups of workers.

This is a plausible if not entirely convincing attempt to explain the background to the current rise in the intensity of the class struggle all over the world. But at this point the pamphlet insists that such forms as the shop stewards movement and such slogans as workers' control are counter-revolutionary because they divert attention and energy from the true revolutionary struggle towards various kinds of trade-union economism; the same is said of the claimants' movement and the women's liberation movement as they are now. The problem is, What is genuinely revolutionary? --or, as the pamphlet puts it, "What then is the fucking answer." This is precisely what it fails to provide.

#### WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

After a brief and familiar Marxist discussion of the class struggle and the state, the pamphlet turns to revolutionary organisation. It lists five models in ascending order of libertarian content -- Leninist, Luxemburgist, Gramscian, councilist (Pannekoek), and anarchist (organised, federalist) -- without making much attempt to distinguish between them or making any attempt at all to consider other possibilities (Blanquist, Maoist, Castroist/Guevarist, Makhnovist, syndicalist, and so on). It argues that the mass organisations of the working class are different from and need the stimulus of revolutionary organisations. But this relationship is lacking in Britain. "We don't mean that there are no groups attempting to fill this role but rather that, objectively, the working class is lacking its own revolutionary organisation -- for no number, however great, of revolutionary intellectuals can ever pretend that they constitute a revolutionary organisation." The reason is "the absence of a proletarian political theory", and the remedy is theoretical struggle based on practical experience in the revolutionary organisation side by side with the mass organisation.

The argument goes round in circles from this point, and the only attempt to break out of the chain is made through a call for organised violence. "Is armed struggle necessary in Britain today? Yes." There is some argument for the general need for violence in theory, but virtually none for its present need in practice, and the pamphlet ends with a series of disjointed sentences which have more to do with desperate rhetoric than with dialectical reason. It is probable that armed struggle is inevitable everywhere sometime, but it is absurd to raise the question without discussion the disadvantages as well as the advantages of this method. It is possible that

#### IN BRIEF

Defence lawyers in a murder trial in Strasbourg argued that their client was born a prospective criminal since he had an extra chromosome. A medical expert said that such a chromosome count afflicted two per cent of human beings. "It does not," he said, "in any way diminish his responsibility. He is responsible for his actions, not his chromosomes." \*\*\*

A journalist witness at the Portuguese "Three Marias" trial said she did not believe that the New Portuguese Letters were pornographic. She said that the real outrage to morality in Portugal was not the book, but the treatment of women. What really offended morality was the way women were molested in the streets, the treatment of girls as sex objects, and discrimination against women in work. Miss Correia, the journalist, said Portuguese women were victims of physical outrage by men of high social standing. "I, myself," she said, "was seduced by one of these gentlemen when I was fifteen." All the book sought to do was to 'clean up' the situation and give women recognition as complete human beings. \*\*\*

A big military exercise in Sweden was cancelled when 500 soldiers reported sick simultaneously. The Guardian mysteriously says "officials fear an organized disobedience campaign over a claim for a £100 demolition grant". Demolishing the establishment? \*\*\*

armed struggle is necessary in Britain today, but it is absurd to raise the question without even mentioning recent and current instances of such struggle here -- such as the Angry Brigade and the IRA.

Fish Out Of Water is similar in many ways to the Communist Manifesto. There is the same structure -- an analysis of capitalism followed by an analysis of the labour movement and an advocacy of revolutionary action. There is the same hectoring tone -- though Marx and Engels managed it rather better. There is the same absence of any clear indication of what precisely should be done. It took Marx and Engels another ten or twenty years to work out just how the Communists would participate in the revolutionary movement; from the evidence of this pamphlet the authors have not yet begun this essential task. What revolutionary organisation and what revolutionary theory do they have in mind? There have been so many during the past century or so that we may be forgiven for feeling apprehensive about yet another beginning. If they want to be taken seriously they should now come forward with some concrete proposals.

# BUSINESS AS USUAL

The French Communist Party organised on the 15, 16 & 17 March at the Old Gare de la Bastille in Paris, a huge public relations exercise under the label "Three Days of the Marxist Book", in which all publishing houses owned by the French CP (Editions Sociales, Editeurs Français Reunis, Club du Livre Diderot, Centre de Diffusion du Livre et de la Presse, etc.) exhibited and sold profitably to the "grand public" a variety of Marxist books in an effort to, according to "camarade G. Hermier", a member of the Bureau Politique of the FCP, "fight the penetration of financial interests in the world of publishing."

It was noted that the exporting (for money) State-owned publishing house "Editions de Moscou" from Moscow, had for sale, among others, the book Sur L'Anarchisme et l'Anarcho-Syndicalisme (Marx, Engels, Lenin - the holy trinity?).

The need that the FCP and their Russian friends still have today to peddle in France their 11-francs worth of anti-anarchist propaganda is surely an indirect tribute paid by "saviours" of the working class to the militancy and the ideological strength of our anarchist comrades in France.

Claude.

---



---

## PRESS FUND

### Contributions 14 - 20 March

LONDON N.1: N.S.S, 50p; AGANA, USA: S.S. £3.10; WOLVERHAMPTON: J.L. 40p; J.K.W. 10p; LONDON SE1: J.L.N. 15p; ST. ALBANS: R.B. 30p; SOFIA KOMOV FUND per B.Y. Miami: £6.80(see below\*); LITTLE RCKK, Ark.: G.S. 21p;

Total: £11.56

Prev. acknowledged: £443.50

TOTAL TO DATE £455.06

\*DONATION IN KIND: We have also received via our comrade Boris Yelensky 200 copies of Maximoff's "My Social Credo", accepted in lieu of \$50.00 from the bequest of Sofia Komov. For sale through Freedom Bookshop (23p including postage) for the benefit of Freedom Press.

### UNEASY LIES THE HEAD...from P.1

be as wasted (like Lee Harvey Oswald or Leon Czolsgoz) as those condemned to lives of horse-dressage or public ceremonies; or the wooden puppetry of Sandhurst soldiering, with death as the main product.

'The strongest poison ever known came from Caesar's laurel crown' and the brew of the Windsors has been potent enough. The press and media have elevated them to the rank of demi-gods so is it to be wondered that now and again some sick soul turns against them? 'They that live by the pen of Fleet Street shall die by the pen of Fleet Street'. Monarchs, whether Miss World, George Best, Judy Garland or the Duke of Windsor, die by the same process which has given them life and fame.

The Press speaks of an era of violence and anarchy. On that same day (March 20) a story slowly leaked from Ireland where violence in the name of order, religion and patriotism is the rule. The Royal Ulster Constabulary shot two British soldiers - in separate incidents. It was claimed to be a mistake since the soldiers were in civilian clothes and the police may have been incited by the IRA to shoot the men. This chaos is the maintenance of order. Due to the amount of space taken up by the Pall Mall shooting, the Press was enabled (with excuse) to avoid commenting at length on the probability that the soldiers were plain-clothes spies sent out on some S.A.S. dirty tricks.

We are asked to publish the following statement of account of distribution of the Komov Fund:

RECEIVED from Paris University the sum of \$250.00 for Komov's Archive of Russian Papers and Magazines \$250.00 distributed to the undermentioned Papers & Magazines:

FREEDON, London. 200 G. P. Maximoff's "My Social Credo" and \$15.00 cash	\$65.00
THE MATCH, Tucson, Ariz. 140 "My Social Credo" and \$25.00 cash	\$60.00
DOS FREIE VORT, Buenos Aires, Argentina	\$65.00
C.I.R.A., Switzerland	\$25.00
ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS	\$20.00
Expenses on the transaction	\$15.00

TOTAL \$250.00

Boris Yelensky, Secretary

### FASCIST RAIDS

On the night of 20 March, Marseilles was the scene of attacks by fascist commandos against the local office of the new Marxist daily Liberation (of which Jean-Paul Sartre is the legal director); against a wing of the

There is a curious geographical morality about violence. It seems all right away from England, and in what we consider a good cause. Did you know that in India one hundred and twenty-five people have been shot dead by the police --mainly in food riots. Measure this against all the violence and 'anarchy' in England - it seems to put it in perspective.

A assassination is not always frowned upon by Governments and Press. It is well-known that the proposition was put forward to assassinate Castro; had this happened during the Cuba crisis, there would have been little mourning in the USA. Today (Monday) news has come from Uganda of the failure of a coup against Idi Amin; such is his unpopularity that few tears would have been shed for him had the coup succeeded. The unpredictable Daily Telegraph features today (Monday) on its back page a biography of Amin which was obviously intended for an obituary. How different from their treatment of other leaders who are only one jump from deposing or assassination!

One cannot indeed join in the obsequies or commiserations for any ruler. They have powers of life and death over their people, so it is only one of the occupational hazards, when one of their people takes judgement of life and death over the rulers. 'Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown'.

Jack Robinson

Science Faculty of Saint Charles, occupied by a students' action committee made up of members of various left-wing groups, and against the UNICEF offices of the Faculty of Letters of the university of Aix en Provence.

These three places were raided by helmeted fascists armed with iron bars: at 8 p.m. a group of about 30 young fascists broke into the occupied part of the Science Faculty causing considerable damage to its equipment; at midnight the offices of Liberation in Marseilles were raided by a group of about 15 fascists who smashed furniture, took away files, typewriters and photocopying machines, causing damage estimated at 15,000 francs (app. £1,400). Severe damage was also caused by the gang who at 2 a.m. (21 Mar.) raided the UNICEL (ex-Renouveaux) offices of the Aix-en-Provence Faculty of Letters.

The editors of Liberation believe that these attacks were the work of "punitive commandos" against their newspaper and other radical circles in retaliation against the disclosure, in a series of articles in Sartre's paper, of plans to intern in the Marseilles Stadium, after arrest, fingerprinting and interrogation by political police, of thousands of left-wingers who took part in the events of May 1968.

# LETTERS

## Federation

The typist honours the editors' generous spirit and thinks somebody should say the breast-beating is excessive. They're confessing to sins they didn't commit. FREEDOM is not to blame that the anarchists of this geographical location show little desire to form up into a homogeneous body. As the editors, except the newest entrant, know, FREEDOM was a member of the old Federation and a good part of its space was used by the Federation - in fact there was intended to be a Federation page but the Federation didn't fill it. We could become

blameworthy were we to step unwarily into the trap of being the Voice of the Movement or the Central Committee. The desired coordination might grow naturally from the exchanges of the forthcoming bulletin WILDCAT - which collation and publishing of information could just as easily be accommodated in a page of FREEDOM but people like to do their own thing and that is the anarchist style.

Nor need we be so self-debasing at being ignored by the militant workers. So are the listed demagogic minor political parties, despite their membership lists and more eye-catching and better circulated papers. They are more noticeable because they are concentrated on if not in the Unions. They get some support because they demand little more than do the established bodies, and in the political field, as the recent election showed, even that little more is rejected.

Even our grief at our failure to save the life of Salvador Puig does not seem to warrant so much guilt. Most people will have known from the general news media that he was in danger of death, and even if we had properly organised a picketing roster (which I agree should have been done) or even mustered a demonstration comparable in size to some on the Continent - well, those did not keep him alive, either.

M.C.

Dear Comrades,

Much as I welcome the initiative by the Editors of Freedom (of which I am not one, in case anyone has any doubts) to form another broadly-based Anarchist Federation, I regret that some people have the impression that the new bulletin WILDCAT is in some way connected with that initiative.

WILDCAT neither claims to be, nor wishes to be, the organ of any federation which may be

formed. It will be totally independent of FREEDOM or any other group. It will endeavour to cover the whole spectrum of anarchist activity and its pages will be open to any group or individual to publicise their activities. It will also recognise the fact that much useful libertarian activity is carried out by people who would not necessarily describe themselves as anarchists. Our hope is that the anarchist movement in Britain which is disastrously fragmented at present will be able to find unity and strength not in ideology but in action.

Many thanks to those comrades who have already sent us subscriptions, information and good wishes. Please keep them coming!

Terry Phillips.

### GOD'S GIFT TO BRITAIN

Dear Comrades,

You report Sir Oswald Mosley's secretary as having informed the London Evening News that Mosley and the BUF could not be held responsible for Joyce's treason as he was "expelled from the BUF in 1937". If you correctly quote from the secretary's statement, then he (the secretary) is, to say the least, being somewhat disingenuous.

It is, of course, quite true that Mosley had disagreements with William Joyce. In the words of Rebecca West:

"...Mosley could bear to proclaim the Nazi doctrine of a totalitarian and anti-Semitic state without overt propaganda for Hitler...William Joyce wanted to preach acclamation of Hitler as the saviour of the world on such terms that by implication it must be the duty of every good Briton to resist any British government which took arms up against him". (The Meaning of Treason.)

But Joyce was not actually expelled from the BUF. By 1937, Mosley and the BUF were getting short of money. Many of the capitalists and City men were no longer subsidizing him. The BUF could no longer afford to employ the large numbers of strong-arm men (the Fascist Defence Force) or pay Joyce, who was head of propaganda, the same salary. In March, 1937, Mosley announced to the Press that Joyce had been relieved of his job, within the BUF, because of the need for "a reduction in the salaried staff". (See Fascism Inside England, by Frederic Mullally.) Together with John Beckett, he left the BUF and formed the National Socialist League. He was not expelled from the BUF. Later, Joyce became the notorious "Lord Haw Haw" of "Germany Calling" (heard on many occasions by this writer!), and Mosley finished up in Brixton jail.

Mosley was ultimately released, and Joyce was hanged. There was not a great deal to choose between them. Mosley - from the safe distance of Paris - still seems to think that he is god's gift to Britain!

Yours fraternally,

Peter E. Newell  
Colchester.

### CONVIVIAL SOCIETY

Dear Comrades,

While I don't wholly agree with J.L. Wood, I think Stephen Bonnett is badly confusing the issues.

Where he writes of 'technocrats' he fails to make a distinction between the policy-makers, governed by capitalistic values and 'rules' of high-finance, and the technical experts and innovators, who do not control overall development policy.

He also fails to grasp the potential of current technical know-how to free people from 'incarceration in cities, factories,...' etc., if applied to that end.

The choice is not the simple 'either/or' that S.B. poses, and tools would be required by an anarchist society just as much as by a fascist one, or any other; though some may prefer digging with a spade for long hours, a preference for a plough in no way indicates an authoritarian personality!

Nor are primitive means, with the best will in the world, able to compete with available machines in effectiveness in dealing with natural disasters.

That is, technology should not be treated as a 'dirty word'. It describes the application of skill and ingenuity to the solution of practical problems. If it is at present mis-directed this is the fault of finance-capitalism/authoritarianism; there is nothing inherently coercive in the application of technology.

Fraternally,

Brian Leslie

Peregrine Worsthorne of the Sunday Telegraph has visited Chile as an official guest of the junta (naturally) although he had some complaints about the hospitality. The article is only what is to be expected but a caption below a picture of a shanty-town hits a new low in credulity and propaganda. It reads: 'Shanty town scene. According to Worsthorne's informant, Allende built such places round centres of affluence to maximise the tensions of the class war.'

\*\*\*

# Calling Scots Comrades

I UNDERSTAND that you helped the Squatting movement in London and I am wondering if you might know of any Action Group in Scotland who can help me.

I am living alone, two children, one more expected this week. I live off S.S. which is barely enough but we have been lucky because a friend had leased a cottage from a private Forestry Group at a very low rent and he was going off to America and asked us to come and live here while he was gone. This we did and have been here for 2 years. It's a lovely cottage, we have put work into it and made veg. gardens to ensure food, and chickens and a goat. My kids are settled here and love the country and doing well at school. In a place like this we can just about manage on social security. But now this Forestry Group has decided that cottages are making more money as holiday property for the rich and so we have to move. They say I must leave by May. I have nowhere to go and even if the S.S. offer a council house it would be 14 miles from here and we couldn't take the animals.

As I don't have the lease and the person who does is giving it up, I don't see what I can do. But I feel I must fight. There are many good cottages on these large estates empty except for 2 weeks a year - some not even that and falling down, because some lord or private company want the land tied up. And I know all the homeless families with children in the South who would benefit so much from these homes and country living, and also its so much cheaper for the S.S. to have us living here.

If you can, advise me on any action I might take.

Yours,  
(Name & address supplied)

WILL COMRADES IN S.W. SCOTLAND WHO THINK THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP PLEASE WRITE TO US URGENTLY. ALSO WHO CAN SUPPLY ADDRESSES OF GROUPS SUCH AS FAMILY SQUATTING ASSOCIATIONS, COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS ETC. WHO MIGHT PUBLICIZE THIS SITUATION?

\*\*\*

PAT ARROWSMITH WAS REMANDED IN CUSTODY AT PUCKLECHURCH (near Bristol) ON CHARGES UNDER THE INCITEMENT TO DISAFFECTION ACT. SHE WAS REFUSED BAIL AND REFUSED

A REQUEST FOR TRANSFER TO A REMAND CENTRE NEAR LONDON.

PROTEST. . .cont'd from PAGE 2

has seen many university 'revolts' becomes cynical when one realizes how soon university protesters sink (or rise) into conformity and settle down to lives of quiet desperation in Witham. It could also be the realization that the purpose of a university is a hothouse for the production of those rarefied technological and sociological blooms which blossom in our society.

Protest-politics is aimed at confrontation with law and order to provoke punishment. 'Hard cases make bad law.' The sentence is the demonstration and unless unduly harsh (according to law, that is) or 'a cruel and unusual punishment' such demonstrations which follow the punishment are missing the point.

Too often young student protesters are used by political groups bent on recruitment and a grievance about grants is exploited as if it were the main point of the protest. The all-too-often resulting compromise is viewed as a betrayal and the students retire into private life, their idealism shattered and their political interest exhausted.

Jack Robinson.

A man working for a pest control firm died mysteriously and police suspected poisoning. It was discovered that the man when going to put down mice was often asked if the poison was harmful to humans. On one occasion he dipped his finger in the solution and placed it on his tongue and said, "See, it hasn't killed me." It was assumed that he frequently did this to reassure clients.

\*\*\*

WILDCAT, Internal Bulletin, Send details of pickets, demos, meetings, group publications, printing facilities. Sub. 40p for 6 months. Out April 1. Wildcat, 7 Cresswell Walk, Corby, Northants. (tel. (05366) 66781.

ANARCHIST INDUSTRIAL NETWORK. Articles, letters, addresses & subs to Peter Good, Trokes; Llanarth, Cards., Wales

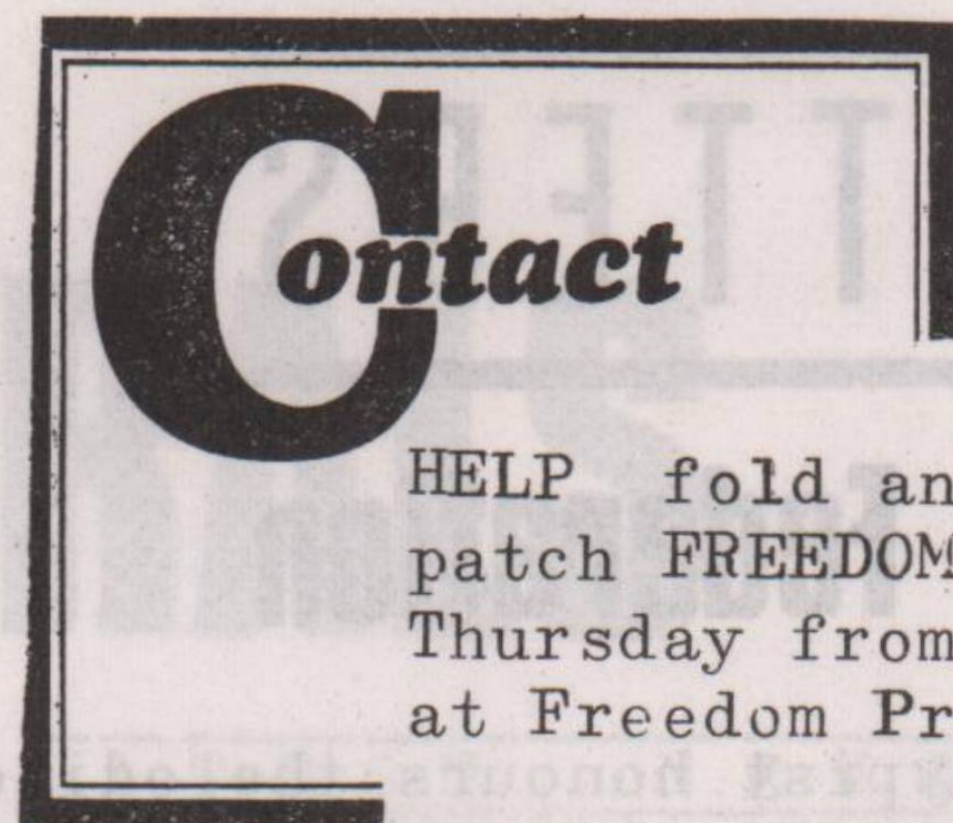
ABERYSTWYTH anarchists meet each Thursday evening in Downie's Vaults, Aberystwyth, at 7.30

THE COMMUNE MOVEMENT would like to hear from groups working & living together and willing to write about themselves in movement's journal Communes. Write coordinator: Dave Puddy at Trokes Family, Llanarth, Ceredigion (Cards.) Wales

STOKE NEWINGTON FIVE SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE, 54 Harcombe Rd. N.15

GIOVANNI MARINI DEFENCE COMMITTEE Paolo Braschi, C.P. 4263, 201CC MILANO, Italy.

BRISTOL FRAME-UP DEFENCE FUND c/o Arthur, 19 Brigstock Rd. Bristol 2.



HELP fold and despatch FREEDOM on Thursday from 2 p.m. at Freedom Press

London Sun. March 31 8 pm ANARCHIST CINEMA: El Verdugo (The Executioner) dir. Luis G. Berlanga (Span. dial. Eng. sub-titles) ALL WELCOME Centro Iberico, 83A Haverstock Hill NW3, side entrance Steele's Road tube Chalk Fm/Belsize Pk. bus 31/68

London Tues. 2 April: Caxton Hall SW1. 7.45 p.m. Threats to Sexual Freedom. First of 4 meetings. Free programme from organisers National Secular Soc. 698 Holloway Rd. N.19 (tel. 272 1266)

Leeds April 6-7: MEN AGAINST SEXISM CONFERENCE at Polytechnic (Creche & accom.) Contact Leeds men's group, John Comer, 71 St. Ann's Lane, Leeds 4. (tel. 783256)

Birmingham May 10-12. THE POWER OF SYMBOLS Conference at B'ham Univ. Guild of Students' Bdg. (How can we understand fascism?—What keeps present society going? . . . Manipulation of Symbols—Manipulation of People &c.) Write Symbols Conference, 53 Kitchener Road, Selly Park, Birmingham 29 for details.

ANARCHIST WOMEN'S GROUP meets on Mondays. Tel. 883 2457 for details

Alternate Sundays HYDE PARK ANARCHIST FORUM at Speakers' Corner 1 pm Speakers, listeners, hecklers welcome.

Every Saturday MENTAL PATIENTS UNION 2 pm at Robin Farquarson Hse., 37 Mayola Rd, E.5 tel. 986 5251 MPU news 10p + 4p post from above

NEW YORK: LIBERTARIAN BOOK CLUB Lectures alternate Thursdays 7.30 pm at Workmen's Circle Center 369 8th Ave. (SW corner 29 St.) Admission free, no collection. April 11: Sylvia Barnes on "Labor and the Left" April 25: Irving Levitas: "The Anarchism of Gustav Landauer"

TUCSON, Ariz. April 18, 19 & 20. Conference on the Life, Literature & Cinema of B. Traven. Correspond. to Leo L. Barrow, Dept. of Romance Langs., Univ. of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz. 85721 (tel. (602) 884-3123 & home (602) 793-0789.

NEW YORK: Preliminary Continental Anarchist Conference & Festival April 19-21. Details from Conference Correspondence c/o Hunter Libertarian Alliance, 47 East 65 St., New York, N.Y. 10021.

STOCKWELL SQUATTERS FACING EVICTION need support & help to fight a possession order. Please contact Kevin or Melody, Flat A, 295 Clapham Road SW9 or leave message at 01-274 6373

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