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TRADE UNIONS

'GREEN AND PLEASANT LAND?'

THE "UNITED" VOTE at the Trades Union Congress in favour of the Social Contract enforces the Labour Party's bid for a return to power at Westminster. With this support, Mr. Wilson, the Prime Minister, was able to launch his general election campaign to a captive audience. He can now lead a "united" labour movement pledged to national unity and "social and economic justice".

Listening to the debate on the "Social Contract", those taking part kept returning to the political issue of power and their responsibilities towards a Labour Government. A number of the speeches had a patriotic flavour. Comparisons were made of the investors who put their money into foreign companies while at the same time attacking the government's nationalisations plans. While this is true, these delegates should know that capitalism is international. It

is interested in making profits and not concerned with "social and economic justice".

What the "Social Contract" means is a restriction on wage increases in a period when inflation is expected to reach



A WORKER
SIGNING THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

record heights. In such a situation profits are likely to fall and companies are unlikely to expand in a contracting market. As usual, those who produce the real wealth are expected to assist a system to solve its problems. The problems now facing capitalism are an inherent part of the system. They have nothing to do with workers. It is not our task to prop up capitalism but to abolish it.

But the TUC and the majority of the trade union leaders see themselves and their membership in partnership with a Labour Government. A partnership of power and responsibility. Mr. Wilson sees the Social Contract as a "great partnership between Government and industry, and in and across industry."

"Our policies, our hopes for a better future, depend on ma-
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INFLATION OR BUST

THE PARTY programmes are coming out for the forthcoming election and we are offered a dazzling variety of solutions to the outstanding problem of inflation.

The Liberals have a startling plan for taxing firms who charge too much and adding to the Social Security charges of the worker who gets too much money. This, they claim, will lead to disinflation.

The Labour party in theory believes in a modicum of inflation (pump-priming by some public works) with self-restraint from the workers.

The Conservatives believe in deflation (at least off and on) with a cut-back in Social Services and (for the moment) in public works.

The whole problem of inflation is the mere existence of money. A free society would of course abolish money as a

means of power and speculation, but whilst we live in a capitalist society the question of inflation needs discussing.

In itself money is merely a symbol and convenience. In primitive societies barter was a clumsy and inconvenient way of exchange; as society grew more complex, symbols and representations of power took its place.

Now this symbol has become the dominant factor -- so much so, that it rules and ruins all our lives. Arising from the idea of money, and the use of money, has grown the idea of interest, that is, payment for the use of money.

This has become parasitical upon society. Unfortunately, excessive concentration upon the iniquity of interest has led in some cases to anti-semitism which, as Marx once pointed out, is the 'socialism of the stupid man'.

But it is obvious that money does not grow, and interest in itself is inflationary since there is no real creation of goods to offset the piling up of debts.

Only food (in most countries) and inventiveness (in all men) grow, and the monetary system is only (allied with capitalism) a way of blocking the distribution of food and the beneficial results of inventiveness.

Such are the achievements of machinery in the field of production that there seems apparently to be no problem in the production of certain goods - whether they are needed is another question and a whole industry (advertising) is dedicated to the creation of wants. Whether that same apparatus is able (or willing) to fulfil 'needs' as opposed to created 'wants' is also another question.

As it is, productivity is such a menace to trade that goods must have built-in self destruction in order that the omnipresent machine can continue its churning out of goods.

There is, indeed, a need for the mass-production of houses,
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THE FRONT BACKS OFF

LAST SATURDAY's demonstration against the National Front's London march ended in a complete anti-climax. About 2500 people of various trade union and Marxists groups, not to mention about 30 anarchists, gathered at Speakers Corner to be harangued by speaker after speaker spewing out the same old crap - "They shall not pass" and "it was the unions that stopped fascism in the 'thirties", etc. After three-and-a-half hours in the wind we were finally told that the National Front march that was to have finished in Hyde Park had been re-routed to Lincoln's Inn Fields. This was greeted by immediate cries of "they have not passed". The reason for the re-routing was not given, but rumours went around to the effect that taxi drivers had blocked Regent Street. But alas this was not the reason. The poor old N.F. had refused to guarantee the insurance should fighting cause damage in Hyde Park.

Yet the demo had its moments. Pat Arrowsmith, recently absent from H.M. Prison Askham Grange, appeared to add a touch of drama. She spoke for a few minutes, and when she left the platform more than 30 police rushed her. However she escaped only to be arrested later at Peace News.

Meanwhile on the N.F. march there was some fighting, which resulted in some arrests. Many International Socialists joined on the back of the N.F. march, presumably to disrupt it. (But you would not tell where the fascists ended and the Marxists began.)

*

As a preview to the N.F. march, I.T.V's "This Week" showed a documentary about the National Front on Thursday evening. Most of the programme was hogged by their main living theorist Führer Tyndall (yes, our own would-be General Amin) expounding his evil policies on immigrant repatriation, and the intellectual superiority of white people over black, yet he is a fine example of intellectual inferiority to any race. He ended by saying that the N.F. wanted to make Britain great again. Yet the demented idiot failed to understand that the crutch of Britain's former greatness was colonial exploitation. Once the crutch has been removed Britain has sunk never to rise again.

Tyndall and the National Front appeal only to the lowest instincts that exist in humans. They would rather listen to the ravings of this stupid little man than face the many economic and social realities in our society.

Demonstrations against the National Front or even stopping them from holding meetings will not stop fascism. Fascism is like a hydra and the National Front is only one head. Fascism cuts across all class boundaries (something that the Marxists have still to learn) and it must be stopped where it begins in the home, school, factory and the street.

D. P.

1866 & all that

THE NATIONAL Reform League with Trade Union support realized in 1866 that the Liberals would not be allowed to govern and bring in necessary reforms. They marched to Hyde Park, which in those days was a Sunday church parade ground for the upper classes. The police closed the gates of the park. There was a formal protest by the organisers who retired to Trafalgar Square to hold their meeting. "Others," say Cole and Postgate, "were less patient; they pushed down the railings and stormed the Park."

Since then, Hyde Park has been considered an open forum (round Speakers' corner). Since re-routing of traffic at Marble Arch there has not been much interference with 'free speech' except for one struggle for the right to sell literature in the underground passages.

Speakers' corner 'ain't what it used to be' and although Jim Huggon still upholds the cause of anarchism there, the old days of oratory and intellectual brilliance (except for Jim) seem to have departed. Nevertheless it was one survival of a fast-vanishing tradition (vanishing due to traffic more than anything else) of open-air propaganda.

So it is all the more menacing that the method used to bar the National Front from Hyde Park - and hence avoid a confrontation welcomed by the Liberation left - was a method which could be used to ban free speech from Speakers' corner for all! One doubts if Jim Huggon or the Flat Earth Society have put up a bond to

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DOWN, DOG

THE TUC Conference in Brighton last week seemed to devote most of its energies to doing a PR job for the Labour Party in the run up to the General Election. An interesting side-show of the contemporary political scene, the conduct of the TUC is less puzzling than the phraseology the delegates use to dress up their intentions and purposes. This conference is really the bureaucrat's conference par excellence. In spite of the constant and almost ritualistic references to "our members" by the speakers, and the undeniable fact that 10 million workers in this country are trade union members, the difference of interest between the rank and file union members in the work situation and the officials who lead and control the unions is manifest.

The TUC general council members have got a nice little arrangement with the government, whichever party may form it, being called in to regular meetings with the Prime Minister to discuss that old chestnut "the economic situation". And an elaborate propaganda con trick has been pulled on the people as a whole, and on the trade union movement, which fosters the belief that increases in wages are the root cause of inflation. This belief has no basis in fact, but its concomitant - that wage restraint, whether voluntary or compulsory, can halt the inflationary slide in which the country now finds itself - can be of great and apparent benefit to the employers. And the social contract, successfully cemented at the conference, is really no more than a statement by the TUC top brass that they would rather negotiate with Labour than with the Tories, and will work for wage restraint to this end.

Meanwhile, back at the place of work, in factory, office, shop, wherever the rank and file trade union member is being sold into wage restraint by a bureaucracy, an apparatus over which he has no control and with which he has no contact. Because if there remained even a vestige of control or contact, the parasitic

THE T.U.C. AND THE WORKING CLASS

operators on the top of the trade union movement would not behave as they do.

It so happens that I went to my trade union branch in the week of the TUC Conference. And my union branch with an attendance of 15 out of a membership of 450 is plenty bad enough. But at least it has the advantage that those who go can notify their workmates of decisions taken that might be of interest to them. Not very satisfactory, but at least some form of contact between branch and membership. There is nothing even approaching this level of reporting back from the TUC to rank and file trade unionists. And yet they claim to speak for us, while in truth they won't even speak to us. The principal area of concern in my union branch at present is how we can best gain a further wage increase this year, as the value of what we got six months ago has gone down the inflationary drain already. And this is a concern that is generated from the members to the branch to influence and move the branch officials into acting on behalf of the membership. And at this level, for all its failings and inadequacies, it has been my experience that a trade union can function with a modicum of usefulness and success. And it is at this level, as best I can judge, that the overriding concern remains to discuss how members can most effectively press and gain further wage claims.

Meanwhile, back at the TUC, the bureaucrats who run the movement, and who will not desist from their pretentious claims to speak on its behalf, to represent it, make their overriding concern the unanimous acceptance of the social contract, which spells wage restraint for the workers who make up the movement, and who pay the fat salaries of the self-important creatures who sit on top of the movement.

Now I do not wish to understate the significance of this betrayal of the interests of the working class by the TUC. But it is useful to point out that the Marxists and the authoritarian left have got it all wrong. Certainly, as the social contract is posed the unions will seek to police their members' industrial conduct for the good of an assumed Labour government. But

the TUC is not a political party, however much it may like to play at being one. The unions' top bureaucrats may lead the movement, but their level of control over it is tempered by the relationship between members and leaders. One aspect of this is the fact that the membership directly pays the wages of the leaders, a situation which does not occur in the Labour Party, and which thus establishes a different relationship between the Labour Party member and Mr. Wilson and the shop floor trade unionist and Mr. Murray.

While the trade union movement maintains its organisational independence from the state machine the aspirations of Len Murray and his cohorts to control the working class on behalf of the government are more likely to be successfully resisted.

Militant trade union activity at the roots of the movement will help to safeguard its independence. A useful task for anarchists is to seek to develop this militancy from a defensive posture to maintain autonomous working class organisation into a revolutionary awareness through which the working class will throw off the shackles of the TUC bureaucracy as a preparatory step on the road to overthrowing the entire oppressive structure of the capitalist state and establishing a free society.

Tom Star.

The U.S. Assistant Secretary of Labour for Occupational Safety and Health is considering evidence from unions and industry on the hazards of working with the poisonous sweet-smelling gas, vinyl chloride (for P.V.C.) Standards have been drafted after the deaths of 21 workers were linked to exposure over the years to vinyl chloride; they died of liver cancer. The Government Bureau set up a temporary standard of 50 parts per million units, but unions who want the stuff kept down to an almost negligible quantity say that liver abnormalities have developed at exposure levels of less than 50 parts per million. Representatives of the industry claim (according to the Machinist, Washington) that the unions' standards would wreck the industry, cost billions of dollars and result in the loss of two million jobs. Sancho Panza

'OUR GOOD, KIND FRIENDS — THE POLICE!'

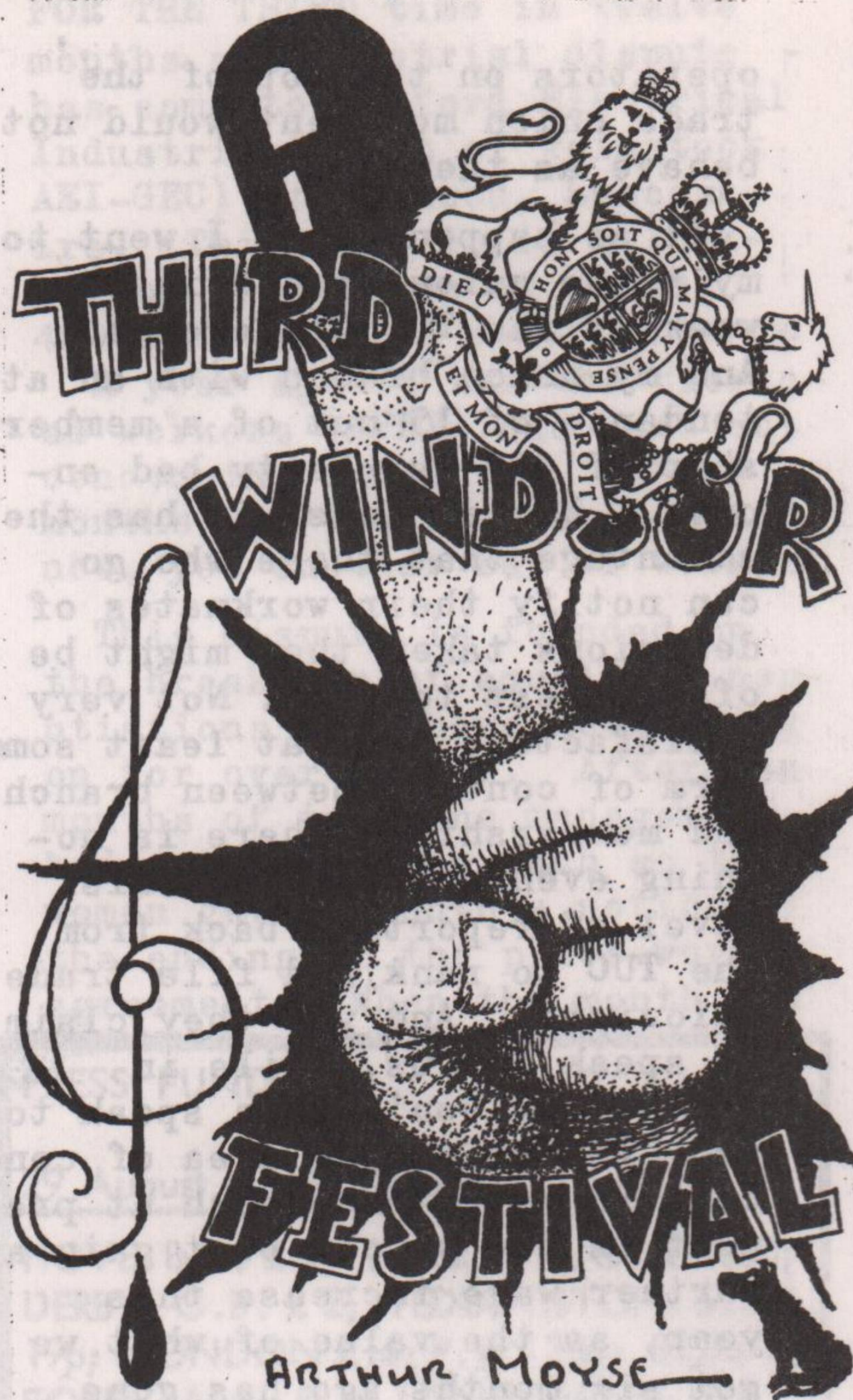
POLICE---
YOUR FRIEND AND HELPER

HIPPIES, FREAKS endanger law and order. . .

Once again the Police, this time the Thames Valley Police Force, had to prove its capability of protecting the oppression, chaos and terror of the ruling class. By using the utmost violence they smashed the peaceful Windsor Free Pop Festival to pieces. They performed well and showed their accuracy in a military-like stunt which has not been seen for a while in the British-fascist democracy. It is obvious why the Police is acting like this. Apart from social discrimination, they have to prove again and again that they are one of the useable means of the class which oppresses and exploits us. Whenever the establishment's authority is in question they have to show up and act according to their law-and-order duties.

Clockwork Orange is no mere fantasy, it is a bloody reality.

On Sunday (Sept. 1st) the Windsor Festival Rally in Hyde Park gave accounts of what happened the previous Thursday at Windsor. It was surprising that that these people still want to "love" the Police, want to forget what happened and treat the brutal Police action as an accident. Their only demand, a public enquiry, the assurance of next year's Windsor Festival and nothing but love-peace-we-are-all-people, we-are-all-together. Do not these folk realize that they become an easy abuseable means to authority, state, ruling? Can't they understand the Police for what they are? Neither the Police Force nor the Army will turn into constructive, peaceful persons by love and we-are-all-together applications. On the contrary they definitely will act more and more violently and viciously to protect the ruling class. The article by a subaltern (partially published by The Guardian) expresses exactly the aims of the Army and Police: "The politicians need the Army - and not just in Northern Ireland. For at least two years now it has been a topic of conversation in the messes of the Army, that sooner or later, it would be called upon to act in England itself. The operations at Heathrow - three this year so far - are ominous signs that this is not just a remote possibility."



...and YOUR FRIENDLY LOCAL
SECRET POLICE.

Corby Anarchists have produced for local distribution a 4-page duplicated pamphlet "Secret Police" on Special Branch activities. It very briefly outlines what the SB is, cites a few national instances, such as the Lennon mystery, then gives descriptions of two local SB police officers and some of their activities. These include the interrogation and threatened prosecution (since dropped) of Terry Phillips on account of a leaflet published from his address (the same as that on this pamphlet), and a search with a cannabis warrant which became an interrogation about political associations.

The pamphlet is not priced and is presumably being distributed free in the locality of Corby, but interested comrades could try sending a foolscap SAE and 5p. M.C.

As anarchists we fight against the cementing of the oppressive and destructive trend of society, and for a decentralized society in which law-and-order, authority, ruling, power, state are abolished and remain mere words of history.

Abraham.

FRENCH POLICE-
FRANCO'S JACKALS

"IN 1936 the Spanish Army, backed by industrialists, landowners, the Church and international fascism, declared war on the people of Spain. They were resisted for three years - during which time the workers were able to run the industries and land they had seized from the capitalist class - for the benefit of the people and under workers' control.

"When Franco and his class won the Union Movement was smashed. The largest of the Trade Union organisations, the C.N.T. (Confederation of Labour) has since then played the most prominent part in the Resistance. For over thirty years its members have taken the full brunt of fascist oppression -- tortures, murders, executions, jailings, exile. Despite these blows the anarchist militants have hit back. Only a few months ago SALVADOR PUIG ANTICH was the latest in a long number of the Resistance fighters to be garroted (strangled) by the regime.

"Soon after his death on May 3rd, a Spanish banker, Balthazar Suarez, was kidnapped from his home in Paris by members of an international anti-fascist group G.A.R.I. (International Revolutionary Action Groups). In a communique they issued immediately after the kidnapping the group demanded that the Spanish Government's own law of CONDITIONAL LIBERTY (a form of remission) be applied. (This would mean the immediate release of over 100 political prisoners from whom it is unlawfully being held). They also asked for the provisional release of one of those lying gravely ill after being arrested with Puig, and for the publication of charges against another group arrested on a 1st May demonstration in Madrid.

REVIEW

PLAY: The Police at Unity Theatre

NOBODY actually likes The Police nowadays, anywhere. The play is set in South America, but the name of the author is Slawomir Mrozek. 'Unity' has come a long way since its days of hacking along the Moscow-Stalin line. I am not sure it has yet pushed its audience ahead of itself.

"This play is not a comedy," says the author in his introduction. No, but I think an audience of anarchists would have derived and given a measure of merriment in the first two acts. "This play does not contain anything except what it actually contains..." It contains the last revolutionary, sole remaining prisoner of the chief of police, who upturns the status quo of

"Finally the refund of at least part of the CNT's funds, seized by the trigger happy Generals of the regime and their supporters -- including the BANCO DE BILBAO!

"Immediately after the release (unharmd) of Banker Suarez in Paris on 22nd May, eleven outspoken opponents of the Franco regime were arrested in different parts of France (together with a Scottish girl, Jean Weir, who happened to be with two of them at the time of their arrest).

"These arrests were planned and coordinated by the "democratic" French police in conjunction with the Spanish secret police-men operating in Paris. They then came to London to raid houses of British and Spanish anti-fascists living here (partly in the hope of incriminating the Scottish girl). This is your wonderful English police for you!!!

"Meanwhile we protest against the French and British police who are acting as Franco's Jackals. So far they have eleven French, Spanish and British anti-fascists in jail, supposedly for handling the ransom money -- which, however, the Bank denies having paid. (It may well be the Bank wanted to dispose of it before the time of reckoning came with a possible change over in Spain like that of Portugal). The information which the French and English police have obtained on their raids and investigations HAS BEEN PASSED STRAIGHT ON TO THE SPANISH SECRET POLICE! by examining magistrate Alain Bernard. This has resulted in the arrests of large numbers of anti-Francoists in Spain itself over the past few weeks and doubtless many more will follow!"

-- Leaflet issued by Black Cross, 83A Haverstock Hill, London, N.W.3.

Latest information:

According to "Le Monde Liberaire" for September, four of the people accused of being involved in the Suarez kidnapping, Anne Urtubia, Anne Plazen, Daniele Haas, and Pierre Guibert, have been released for lack of evidence. The other seven people, imprisoned since May 22nd on just as flimsy a presumption of guilt, are still in gaol.

their world by demanding to sign the confession and repentance he has held out against during the ten years of his imprisonment for having thrown at a general a bomb which did not go off. During those ten years changes have happened within his compatriots in the larger prison outside, and with his release the police-sergeant agent provocateur cannot secure any replacement of their departing raison d'etre.

It is a very skilful play; these first two acts move along complacently enough with obvious situations and predictable positions - some of which are funny, and given just the right portrayal of the ridiculous in particular by the agent provocateur. The lady behind me was saying, "It is naive. It is not an adult play" - regretfully, because she would have liked to praise it.

It is the third act, with the

SEXUAL SANITY

AT A TIME when the forces of reaction and sexual repression seem to become increasingly vociferous and howling, the report of the Working Party on the law in relation to sexual behaviour set up by the Sexual Law Reform Society, comes as a breath of fresh, clean air. The carefully nurtured myth of the "permissive age" is shattered by this document as it lists the multitude of sexual "offences" that the State has decreed you can be punished for, and it recommends sweeping and sane reforms as a basis on which to start to build a sexually tolerant and kindly society. Merely to say (as we all do) that the State has no right whatsoever to interfere in any way with our free sexuality, is not, alas, enough. Perhaps if one is totally heterosexual and married to a girl over 16 then perhaps your love life will escape the State's inquisitive stare, but for many who do not live in such rigid boundaries, the going can sometimes get rough.

The Sexual Law Reform Society pioneered almost single-handedly the much needed changes in our barbaric laws relating to male homosexual conduct, but it was largely a half-a-cake compromise with an age of consent at 21 years and total exclusion from its provisions for certain sections of society such as members of the armed forces and merchant seamen (even when off duty or on leave!).

Not only is it a known fact that the police use agent provocateur methods to entrap homosexuals in toilets (even to the degree

agent provocateur the prisoner of his old colleague and chief, the most incriminating evidence against him being precisely that no evidence was found on him, and being interrogated by the general himself aided by his new assistant the ex-revolutionary, that fulfils the author's direction that "the play demands intense concentration on the part of the audience". I heard no comment from the lady in the row behind; it did indeed take all one's concentration not to get left too far behind in the rapid exchanges of recriminations and incriminations and shifts of position and circumstance and relationships. I do not know who Slawomir Mrozek is, but I wish we said as tellingly as he does (in a short hour and a half) so much about police, people, revolutionaries and bombthrowing.

The programme includes a second short play, "Saxon", a satire on class in Gt. Britain, which I did not see. See Contact Column --

N.C.

of using spy-holes and displaying their erect sexual organs as enticement) but all sexual laws can be used against the best interests of the citizens they are supposed to "protect", and like the drugs laws and others relating to "vice" the police find these useful weapons to use against harmless and innocent citizens whom they feel are either "undesirable" or "subversive". Certainly society as a whole has a long way to travel before it gets to grips with its own sexual needs, and the existence of the so-called "permissive" age only serves to emphasise rather than contradict all that Reich wrote about sexuality and human conduct. David Waterfield was recently sent to prison for 3 years for showing films to consenting adults which showed other consenting adults enjoying sexual encounters, and with the typical vengeance and hate that the sexually screwed-up show in any matter which is beyond their comprehension or humanity, he is being refused a vegan diet in jail and is living on just bread and potatoes. It is far more offensive to make such a person eat meat than any amount of mere sexual display to my mind, and in any case, who are the aggrieved parties in such matters?

Of all the areas where the State is least required it is in the enforcement of standards", and it is with this in mind that the Sexual Law Reform Society has made its recommendations. It is felt that the age of consent should in all cases be lowered to 14 with no discrimination between hetero- and homosexual activity; it recommends that rape no longer be treated as such in isolation but generally dealt with as grievous bodily harm; it proposes the total abolition of the charge of incest where the freely consenting parties are over 14 years of age; it should no longer be an offence for premises to be used as a brothel (at present any wild party that ends up in several persons engaging in sexual intercourse can be caught under such Acts as at present exist); it recommends sweeping changes in the Obscenity Laws so that film censorship for adults is abolished, and people who desire it can have free and unfettered access to erotica and "pornography"; and it further recommends that the laws relating to conspiracy be amended so that people can no longer be charged for promoting activities which in themselves are not illegal. It finally recommends that all these provisions apply equally to all areas of Britain (since homosexual conduct is still illegal in Scotland and Northern Ireland).

What the reaction of the media will be is hard to guess, since I am writing this prior to its official publication, but if they take an aggressive "sex at 14" attitude, I hope many people will be ready to come forward and express the libertarian viewpoint. The dark forces of repression are

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Letters

DUBLIN ANARCHISTS

Comrades,

Firstly let me refer to your issue of 31st August, concerning our possible transfer to Portlaoise Prison ("the Bog"). It should be pointed out that this is merely one of the many rumours circulating among our little community concerning the future. We can be certain that there will be movements of prisoners in a few months time as they are building a number of new prisons. However, any suggestions of who's to go where would be largely speculation at this stage, though the possibility of the inmates of this nick going to "the Bog" appear quite likely.

I would also like to thank, through your paper, all who have written us, and to state that if they have not received a reply it has been seized by the State somewhere along the line. Unfortunately, there has been quite a bit of messing about with our mail which is obviously aimed at destroying morale, but which has the opposite effect!

In closing, let me thank you for the copies of FREEDOM you have sent. They greatly assist us not only in keeping abreast of developments in the movement, but in maintaining morale.

Yours in the Revolution,
Bobby Cullen
Military Detention Buildings,
Curragh Camp,
Co. Kildare,
Eire.

KROPOTKIN SPEAKS

Dear Comrades,

The elderly Kropotkin was a charming writer, and it is a delightful idea to republish his essays. The reiteration of his arguments in other contexts, however, would require enormous caution.

The first two chapters of Kropotkin's Mutual Aid (first published as magazine articles in 1888) are the first work ever to attempt insight into human behaviour from actual observations of the behaviour of other animals, the forerunner of the popular work of Desmond Morris and Konrad Lorenz. The observations he used were casual and clumsy, but they were the most precise available and the arguments are quite reasonable.

In his later work, however, the extrapolations from animal to human behaviour more closely resemble medieval bestiaries than modern ethological works. Zoology became simply the servant of ethics, and he seems to have argued like the

EQUAL PAY STRIKE

FOR THE THIRD time in twelve months an industrial dispute has come to Salford Electrical Industries (part of Weinstock AEI-GEC) at Heywood, Lancashire. This time it is a lock-out by the bosses of almost 400 semi-skilled women workers.

A year ago it was the clerical workers (APEX) who came out concerning equal pay. Three months ago the craftsmen. And now, yet another set of workers.

This dispute is founded on the breakdown of equal pay negotiations that have been going on for over a year. After ten months of talk the management had not budged an inch so the women gave a month's notice of the ending of the piece-work agreement. When the month had

expired, on July 29th, the women started to operate a day work system. Two weeks later the management threatened a lock-out which they put into practice after two days.

The women have now been out four weeks and show no signs of returning to work (at the time of going to press) unless the management begins to move in the direction of equal pay.

As it is, the women are not only on a smaller bonus rate than the men but also on a rating system considerably worse than the men's.

If the women are to be victorious in this important fight for women's rights they need all the help they can get. All offers of help and cash should be sent to: S.E.I. Strike Fund AUEW Office, 24 Manchester Rd. Bury, Lancashire.

-- from our correspondents "North-West Workers" (also in Rochdale Alternative Paper Sept. 1974.)

Sex...from P.5 desperately fighting a rearguard action to turn back the hands of time to the "good old days", and in many ways these people represent more of a threat to the general well-being of society than the Colonels and truculent police and military men. Society can regulate itself in an orderly fashion in matters of sex as it could in other spheres if it so chose, but the State seems to know instinctively and in its bones that a sexually repressed people is an easily governable people and that impulses towards brutality and sadism and cruelty are more easily fostered amongst the sexually uptight than amongst the free. Perhaps these law reforms will not affect you personally, and perhaps you feel that reformism is a waste of time and effort, but I think both attitudes are somewhat misguided and a little selfish. It is becoming increasingly urgent that we take a longer view of human history than we perhaps have in the past, and although we, as anarchists, can regulate and control our own conduct when we meet amongst one another, the outside world can be less civilised and accommodating of minority viewpoints.

Freedom is not something that is given to you but something you take for yourself, but the individual is easily crushed and broken when he fights alone, and the building of a civilised, kindly and humane society is an essential first step in my opinion to creating a climate in which people are free to think and to feel and to dare to contemplate and perhaps seize the greater libertarian possibilities to which we all aspire. The recommendations of the Sexual Law Reform Society are to be welcomed, and we should demand their immediate acceptance.

David Godin.

The address of the Sexual Law Reform Society is 18 Corsica St., London N5 1JN.

PRESS FUND

29 August - 4 September

HOVE: B.P. £ 1; ILFRD: A.G. £ 2.80;
DERBY: G.B. £ 2; TEDDINGTON: B.P.B.
19p; LONDON E16: P.W. 20p; BOX-
FORD: A.A. £ 1; LONDON N6: D.B.
60p; WOLVERHAMPTON: J.L. 50p;
J.K.W. 10p; GUERNSEY: N.J. 12p.

TOTAL: £ 9.31
Previously acknowledged: £ 854.95
£ 864.26
Less prev. error 4.94
TOTAL TO DATE £ 859.32

seventeenth century medievalist Sir Thomas Browne, that "impossible falsities do notwithstanding include wholesome moralities, and such as expiate the trespass of their absurdities." The stories of sparrows and marmots in "The idea of good and evil" (FREEDOM 7 Sept.) are pure invention, and the fantasy of ants discontinuing a fight between species to fall upon a selfish comrade, is a nonsense worthy of the Physiologus, not made less so by his absurd protestation that it "has been proved by experiments which exclude all doubt".

Yours fraternally,

Donald Room.

PAT ARROWSMITH made a brief public appearance at Hyde Park Speakers' Corner to make her case, but was available for re-arrest later at Peace News office.

PAINT JOB

MRS. BRITAIN is shortly going to have to decide which decorator she wants to paint her house again. When this is to be done depends upon the decision of the last painter - a Mr. Wilson. He apparently was supposed to paint the house red but it has turned into a shocking pink.

The house is in sad disrepair, its foundations are shaky and the roof leaks, the doors freely admit burglars (who surprisingly resemble the painters) and the food is being depleted by rats, the water supply is polluted, the rent is excessive in addition to numerous other faults which Mrs. Britain is assured will be remedied by a coat of paint.

If the painters who are lining up to tender for the job have an idiosyncrasy apart from their faith in paint as a specific remedy, it is their specialization in individual colours. Mr. Wilson, as has been noted keeps to red, dec-

GREEN & PLEASANT...from Page 1

king a reality of this partnership in the social contract. There is no other way. No one, no other party, has even begun to produce credible alternatives."

In other words, we the workers have to make the system of our exploitation work. What sort of partnership is that? And that better future is always in the future, never now.

This new future under the Social Contract is being built up into a new and pleasant land of Blake's Jerusalem by Mr. Jones of the Transport and General Workers Union. A Labour Government, according to these "socialists", can lead us there and has already given us a start with higher pensions, a freeze on rents, food subsidies, the ending of the Industrial Relations Act and wage restrictions. The engineers wanted other demands accepted as prerequisites before cooperating under a Social Contract. What we, as anarchists, are against is the trade union movement being politically tied to the Labour Party and any Government they may form. With capitalism needing more state intervention we are moving to a position where trade union and Government "partnership" is bordering on the Corporate State.

But we must recognise that with the present inflationary period, workers who demand wage increases above those showing on the cost of living index will face tough opposition from employers. Unemployment will rise and workers will find themselves in a

lining into pink; Mr. Heath, another contractor, specializes in blue; Mr. Thorpe - yellow. Mr. Gollan - who usually sub-contracts to Mr. Wilson, promises to use scarlet; Mr. Webster who has never done a job yet, uses black but he also, it is claimed, sub-contracts to Mr. Heath. There are various other small firms but they only specialize in the painting of outhouses in green, in orange, and some in tartan patterns.

As one can see, the variety of paints is bewildering and Mrs. Britain is lucky to be able to choose such a wide variety. This choice in itself is taken as compensation for the utter failure of the painting to remedy the other deficiencies of the house.

Owing to difficulties with the last paint-job it is sometimes suggested that the decorators (some of them) combine their forces and do the job together. It is not known if they will mix their favourite colours together or will paint different parts of the house in different colours; either way Mrs. Britain will not have a very good paint-job and all three of them (or is it more?)

weak position when taking industrial action. In such a situation industrial action might be welcomed by employers. This is not to say that workers should do nothing, but caution is needed.

But anarchists, while they are not opposed to reforms and improvements in the quality and standard of living under the present system, want a thorough-going social revolution. Revolutions at Brighton are really so much theatre; what matters is what takes place on the factory floor and wherever workers are exploited by the employer class. Despite the "unity of the Social Contract" we believe that the class struggle will continue and become that much more intense because of the economic situation. Anarchists want this class struggle to bring about a social revolution so that we can end exploitation of man by man and bring co-operation and mutual aid into our relationships. We want the administration of things where everyone has control over the decisions that affect them. Anarchism stands for the liberation of man from the present economic exploitation and from social and political oppression which is the backbone of the present "democratic" system. That is the Jerusalem we want: one without leaders, Governments, employers, and the coercive forces of the State.

P. T.

believe that there's nothing wrong with the house that a good coat of paint can't remedy --or cover up?

Mr. Webster and his friends have also put in their estimate for a black paint-job which they claim will settle the decorating business once and for all, as it will not need doing any more for years and shows no fingerprints or smut marks.

Mrs. Britain's expressed dissatisfaction with all decorators is too often construed as a need for a united firm of decorators; happily it may be taken as a half-formed resolve for a do-it-yourself job.

Jack Spratt

1866...Continued from P. 2

indemnify Hyde Park's 'owners' (us) against any damage caused by irate anti-Huggonites or Curved Earthers.

No doubt had the National Front come up with the necessary bond, pressure would have been put on the other protagonists to prove they could do likewise; or, some other law would be found - such as the one against public address systems.

One notes that in 1866 the moderate organizers retired to Trafalgar Square to hold their meeting. Such has liberty advanced that you couldn't do that now! Since Trafalgar Square came under the Ministry of Works (or is it now the Environment?) you have to get permission for a meeting there (and not during Parliamentary sessions, either). Even the corn-sellers and photographers must have a licence in the Square - They' are probably trying to work out a method of licensing the pigeons!

Somewhere (a Speakers' corner bible-puncher would tell me where) there is a caution about casting out Satan with Satan. The use of dormant laws to suppress the use of public speaking places is a device that no left-wing libertarian should take refuge in or be happy about. It might be used against him next!

The late unlamented Huey Long (himself somewhat of a Fascist), Governor of Louisiana, said "If Fascism comes to this country (USA) it will come as anti-Fascism." He could be right. Certainly an anti-fascist war gave more opportunities for 'fascist' measures in this country than had been seen before - many of them are still with us.

Fascism takes different forms in different countries. Let us beware it is not coming in here in carpet slippers of forgotten democratic laws, neglected by-laws and unobserved orders-in-council. J. R.

INFLATION...continued from P.1

for the mass-production of nourishing food - corn, for example - but the profit system has found shortages and adulteration more healthy for dividends.

Proudhon said, "Full steam ahead! Let us have the building fury, give us the building plague! . . . For some five years only have you been allowed to indulge in your building fury, and already the capitalists are feeling the pinch, already they are lamenting the decline of surplus value; rents have already dropped from four to three per cent -- three times five years of untrammelled labour, and you will be revelling in houses freed from surplus value..." Later Proudhon comments, "Money simply will not suffer another house to be built in addition to every existing house. As soon as capital ceases to yield the traditional interest, money strikes and brings work to a standstill. Money, therefore, acts like a serum against the 'building plague' and the 'working fury'. It renders capital immune of its own increase."

We need houses not mortgages. We need goods not hire-purchase debts. Such is the finance structure that the interest secured and the re-payments are of more importance than the goods or houses - re-possession is rarely of interest to finance companies.

The creation of new debts is necessary in order to pay our debtors for the goods which they want to sell us. This is the nature of the oil deal with Iran, and the investment plans of Kuwait. They might as well give us the oil - or barter it for our goods - we'll get our own money back anyhow.

Inflation is no danger since it is inherent in the money and interest system. As long as wages and pensions do not linger too far behind prices.

The creation of money is no hindrance to the functioning of social exchange; even forgeries and frauds will supply the same function.

The only danger is in foreign speculation which will make claims upon the nation-state. The usual answer to this is a blocked currency which is a quite simple device but not applicable in the E.E.C.

It has been suggested that currency itself should have a built-in obsolescence and this would in itself destroy the concept of interest.

In any case - money must go.

Jack Robinson.

Contact

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

Press, followed by get together with refreshments.

COMRADE seeks flat Belsize Pk Can pay up to £8 a week rent. Replies Box No. 66 Freedom.

Anarchist Documentation: An informal meeting to talk about the possibilities/practicalities of setting up an anarchist documentation centre/system in this country, will be held at Freedom Bookshop on Sunday 22nd September at 2 p.m. All interested are invited - tea/coffee and biscuits will be provided.

COMRADE here from Tokyo until December needs accommodation (low rent (& job suggestions). Mikio Wakayama, c/o Freedom.

MANCHESTER. One-day Anarcho-Syndicalist conference 28 September. All sympathisers in the North are invited to write for details to J. Moorhouse, sec. SWF Manchester, c/o Grass Roots, 178 Oxford Road, Manchester 13. tel. 061-442-0434

LONDON. Emotion & understanding in Music; People and Politics; London's Environment; three of the nine subjects of Workers' Education Assn. (Central London) 1975/5 session. Sidney Billson, 33 Compton Rd., N.1 will send all details of classes on request.

THE POLICE and SAXON - two new plays at UNITY THEATRE, 1 Goldington St. NW1 (tel. 01-387 8647) showing nightly Thurs.-Sunday inc. until Sat. Sept. 21. "The Police" 7.45; "Saxon" 9.45 p.m. Tickets whole perf. 50p or 35p for one play only.

NEW YORK. LIBERTARIAN BOOKCLUB FALL LECTURES. Thurs evenings 7.30 at Workmen's Circle Center, 369 8th Ave., (SW corner 29 St), admission free. Oct. 10: Merrill Moss, Anarchism, Syndicalism & the Counterculture; Oct. 24 Samuel H. Friedmann, The Middle East Problem - can it be solved?; Nov. 14: Irving Levitas, Anarchism in New England Dec. 12: Dan Georgakas and Leonard Rubenstein; Art and Anarchy.

SONGS wanted for anarchist song book. Old/new/your own/serious/comic/sophisticated/naive; all welcome. Send to K.P. 3 Grange House, Highbury Grange, London N.5.

ANARCHIST WOMEN 's group meets Mondays. Tel. 01-883 2457.

EVERY SATURDAY, Mental Patients Union 2 pm at 37 Mayola Rd. Clapton, E.5. (tel 01-985-5251. Information on activities elsewhere from same address.

PLAYERS wanted for London based Anarchist football team(s). Contact Jim at Freedom Press.

ALTERNATE SUNDAYS Hyde Park Anarchist Forum, Speakers' Corner 1 p.m. Speakers, listeners and hecklers welcome.

BLACKBURN ANARCHIST GROUP established, meetings to be arranged. Keith Sowerby, 150 Shorrocks Lane, Blackburn BB2 5TT (tel. 28380)

INTERNATIONAL LIBERTARIAN CENTRE and CENTRO IBERICO. Sats. & Suns. from 7.30. Disco &c. 83A Haverstock Hill, London NW3 (entrance in Steele's Rd (2nd door). Tube Chalk Farm or Belsize Park.

Some London Anarchists meet socially at Finch's The One Tun, Goodge St. W.1 (Tube: Goodge st.) Suns. 7.30 (Don't ask at bar.)

PORTUGUESE Libertarian Movement needs books, pamphlets, free copies of anarchist publications, money & ideological support. Movimento Libertario Portugues, Rua Angelina Vidal 17-2^o-E, LISBOA I.

Arthur Moyses's Terrible Garden World \$2.50 (£ 1) from IDEA Publishing House, c/o Matsuki Building, 1-464 Higashiokubo, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo. All monies to help future publications of Tokyo Anarchist group.

CLASS WAR COMIX No. 1 New Times 25p (post 7p) from Epic Publications, 76 Peckham Rd. S.E.5 (or Freedom Books)

SWF pamph. "Workers' Control" 10p from Nat. Sec. BCM Box SWF London WC1V 6XX or SWF, Grass Roots, 178 Oxford Rd. Manchester 13. "Direct Action" No. 3 (Sept) 5p + 3½p post from Manchester (or Freedom Bookshop)

Prisoners:

PAUL PAWLOWSKI, doing two years. Postcards to Paul Pawlowski, 219089, H.M. Prison, Heathfield Rd. London SW18 3HS

GIOVANNI MARINI DEFENCE COMMITTEE: Paolo Braschi, C.P. 4263, 2100 MILANO, Italy.

DUBLIN ANARCHISTS Bob Cullen (7 yrs) Des Keane (5 yrs), Columba Longmore (4 yrs). Address for letters & papers: Military Detention Centre, Curragh Camp, Co. Kildare, Eire.

STOKE NEWINGTON FIVE SOLIDARITY Committee, 54 Harcombe Rd., N.15. Needs donations to supply study books for these long-term prisoners.

7 held re kidnapping of Spanish banker: postcards to Octavio Alberola Sunilach, Georges Riviere, Lucio Urtubia Gimenez and Arnaud Chastel at Prison de Fresnes, 1 av. de la Division Leclerc, 94261 FRESNES, France and to Ariane Gransac-Sadori, Jane Helen Weir and Chantel Chastel at Prison de Femmes, Fleury Merogis, 9 Av. des Peupliers, 91700 ST. GENEVIEVE DES BOIS, France.

(Pierre Gilbert, Anne Urtubia, Annie Plazon & Daniele Haas have been released.)

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