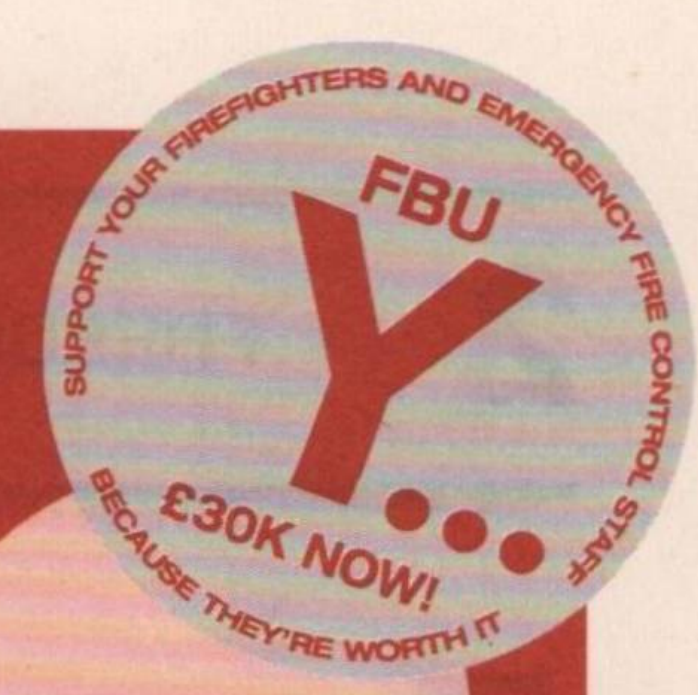


anarchist fortnightly **Freedom**



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50p



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Pantomime diplomacy

For all the rhetoric of the last few days, United Nations resolution 1441 is far from being an instrument of peace. By any reasonable assessment, the United States is already at war with Iraq. Bombing in the no-fly zones, an ongoing low-intensity campaign that began in 1991, has seen a recent rise of over 40%, with carrier-based jets targeting the country's air defence system ready for an air and ground invasion. Moreover, preparation is even now under way for the next phase.

B-2 stealth bombers are now established in the UK. Materiel has been built up in the Gulf since the last war, and much 'pre-positioning' of troops is taking place that could allow an invasion force to be assembled in weeks. Thousands of marines are being deployed in East Africa and Kuwait for training operations, and Qatar is preparing its Al-Udeid air base to house the US Central Command headquarters. USA Today recently reported that Israel is helping train US troops for urban warfare.

Hawks in the US administration are pressing Bush to attack at the first sign of Iraqi non-compliance with the UN resolution, and two potential attack dates are on the table for early January or late February. Bush has told the UN Security Council it "must not lapse into unproductive debates over whether specific instances of Iraqi compliance are serious". He would have them institute a 'Ready Aim Fire' policy, and the latest resolution is the trigger mechanism.

Under the terms of the resolution, Iraq must provide a complete inventory of its Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) programmes by December. Whether or not this inventory is complete is apparently the decisive issue for US hawks, according to *The Observer* (10th November), and not the inspections themselves. It would appear that these hawks have little or no interest in disarmament, and in this they're being wholly realistic.

They quite sensibly expect Saddam Hussein to fail to provide a complete inventory. Given the CIA infiltration of UNSCOM, the old UN inspectorate, and the Agency's involvement in an attempted coup against him, he will have scant reason to trust UNMOVIC, which is UNSCOM's successor. More importantly, the very act of demanding a sovereign state disarm is a pantomime of diplomacy, for it's not in the nature of states to do so. Iraq will no less willingly surrender its capacity to produce WMDs than would the US or UK, and particularly not with Israel's nuclear arsenal so near by. Far from being averted, the war rages on.

Anton Pawluk

Capitalism, oppression, the international terrorism which is war ...

Italy says no



Up to a million people took part in a demonstration in Florence on 9th November. They were protesting against the imminent war on Iraq and in support of the European Social Forum, a liberal talking shop which debates alternatives to capitalism. To read the views of the Italian section of the International of Anarchist Federations, see page 4.

Hackney strike escalates

Library workers in North East London have been on strike every Saturday since 24th November last year. Now the strikers, employees of Hackney Borough Council, are calling for mass pickets of Hackney Central, Stoke Newington and Shoreditch Libraries to prevent scab labour from opening them. The pickets will take place on the first Saturday the scabs are called in, probably 7th December, and on each subsequent Saturday until they're withdrawn.

Last year, Hackney Council declared that Saturday was a regular working day, for which regular pay rates would apply. Library workers struck for the restoration of Saturday-

enhanced pay, part of the nationally agreed terms and conditions (known as the 'Green Book'), included in workers' contracts. These were unilaterally changed by the council, who falsely claimed that enhanced pay was a 'premium payment'.

Management said it was abolished as part of 'Single Status', the process whereby the terms and conditions of manual and 'white collar' workers are harmonised. But under Single Status, only locally-agreed payments can be scrapped. The national pay rates in the Green Book can only be changed by agreement. Needless to say, no such agreement was ever reached, or indeed sought, by Hackney Council.

Councillors seem happy to be lied to by the Managing Director, Max Caller, and the personnel director, Terry McDougall. They will no doubt claim they've been 'misled' by the management, who assured them the payments were abolished under Single Status. This won't wash, because they appoint and promote these managers, and pay them salaries of between £90,000 and £150,000 (compared to around £15,000 for most of the workers whose pay they've cut).

The people of Hackney are 'represented' by people who don't want to know what's going on and who won't accept responsibility (continued on page 2)

Freedom anarchist fortnightly

Anarchists work towards a society of mutual aid and voluntary co-operation. We reject all government and economic repression. This newspaper, published continuously since 1936, exists to explain anarchism more widely and show that only in an anarchist society can human freedom thrive.

What anarchism means to me

Anarchist communism is based on the idea, 'from each according to ability, to each according to need'. It represents an important part of anarchist thought. But time hasn't been kind to it. In the last century, at least in liberal democracies, there were many social reforms which benefited the working class. There were vast increases in wealth and consumer goods. People are extremely unlikely to abandon what they have now and take a leap into the unknown to achieve libertarian communism.

In any case, there would be enormous difficulties implementing libertarian communism in a modern industrial society. Without a market mechanism, for example, how is supply and demand to be coordinated? How is good quality work ensured? How are technical choices for equipment justified? It would become an extremely bureaucratic procedure.

I suggest that anarchists don't abandon market concepts. What I feel is needed is an updated version of ideas promoted by libertarians like Proudhon and Landauer. As such, anarchists should support ideas such as small-scale family businesses, LET Schemes, credit unions, individual self-employment and community businesses. These all exist to an extent today, and could be developed. Mutualism and cooperatives could also be developed further.

Economic ideas need to be thought out in place of rhetoric. The idea of one revolution that will put everything right is a myth. Underneath it may well lie irrational, messianic urges.

I find it inconceivable that violence could be used as a method of libertarian social change in a modern pluralistic society. If revolution is seen, not as a programme for the seizure of power and transforming relationships, then means and ends become very important.

As Gustav Landauer said long ago, "the state is a condition, a certain relationship among human beings, a mode of behaviour between them; we destroy it by contracting other relationships". The essence of anarchism is the contracting of other relationships.

David Dane

What does anarchism mean to you? Send in your contributions for this column (300 words please) to FreedomCopy@aol.com or to The Freedom Editors at the address below.

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Bosses start to wilt



Rail firm never lived up to the promise of its name

Angry workers at private rail firm Arriva Trains Northern walked out again on 2nd November in the latest of a series of one-day strikes against the company. The workers are conductors, retail and station staff who say they're incensed by a pay offer of 4%. The dispute has now lasted ten months, making it the longest running on Britain's railways. It has been accompanied by repeated accusations of management intimidation. RMT activists say bosses have cancelled safety courses, threatened to sack workers who talk to the press and "thrown disciplinaries around like confetti".

The strike, which followed the collapse of talks between Arriva bosses and trade union the RMT, took place just days before the government's Strategic Rail Authority (SRA) said that Arriva would be stripped of its lucrative Trans-Pennine franchise after 2003. The RMT said it was unconcerned about the

firing of Arriva, announced on 6th November.

"Our members at Arriva Trains Northern will shed no crocodile tears over this decision", RMT assistant general secretary Pat Sikorski said. "Arriva have attempted to bully and intimidate RMT members into accepting low pay as a way of life, and I've no doubt their shamefully inept handling of the conductors' dispute has influenced the SRA decision." Although the SRA insisted their decision hadn't been influenced by the strikes, the RMT interpretation was backed up by travellers' pressure groups. John Bourne, of pressure group Rail Future, said "a year's industrial disruption, which still shows no sign of being solved, can't have helped".

The next 24-hour stoppage on Arriva Trains Northern will be held on Saturday 21st December. This will be followed by another four days of action over Christmas and New Year period.

(continued from page 1)

for it. For anarchists, this isn't unexpected. We've always argued that 'representation' is a false idea, and that only structures based on collective decision-making by everyone affected can deliver what 'democracy' promises. These structures can only be created through struggles for the control of public services based on direct action and self-organisation.

Library workers are poorly paid. Because they're paid at national rates, they don't get London weighting. To make ends meet they rely on the additional half-day's pay for the Saturday they're required to work every fortnight. That they've been able to sustain their action in the face of losing a whole day's pay each fortnight demonstrates their determination to win back what's rightfully theirs. This is in spite of the fact that the removal of Saturday-enhanced pay is the consequence of their union, Unison, losing a corporate dispute.

Their determination is supported by strong organisation, built up in the workplace, which goes beyond the usual trades union formula of electing shop stewards and relying on them to 'lead' resistance to management. In contrast to this steward-based organisation, library workers have been encouraged to tackle problems collectively with direct action, rather than asking their stewards to sort problems out with bosses.

This has made library workers the best organised in the council. They've successfully closed all the borough's seven libraries every Saturday for a year. The council's response has been to hire scab labour to work Saturdays only, in spite of the fact that they could reopen all seven libraries

immediately, simply by honouring workers' contracts. Instead, they've hired scabs at an undisclosed additional cost to reopen just three of them. This expenditure has been authorised at a time when new appointments for full-time staff have been frozen due to a financial crisis. Their determination to try and break Unison is obvious.

Consequently, library workers intend to strike for five days from Monday 25th November, to mark the anniversary of the first strike and in support of a claim for London weighting. In addition, new timetables have been rejected and the scabs will be neither trained nor assisted by regular workers. Anyone who can make it is asked to support picket lines at 8.30am and attend events at lunchtime on 25th November, as a warning to the council of what will happen if the scabs are sent in. More information about the mass pickets may be available at this time.

Local government bosses across London and the country as a whole are watching the dispute closely. If Hackney can get away with such a blatant breach of contracts and national agreements, they'll all want to try it. Hackney's library workers are showing all public service workers who don't work nine-to-five, Monday to Friday, how to organise effectively and how to fight back. It's in everyone's interests that they win. What are you going to do to support them?

Perry Groves

The three libraries under threat from scabs are: Hackney Central Library, Technology and Learning Centre, 1 Reading Lane, Hackney E8
Stoke Newington Library, Stoke Newington Church Street, Stoke Newington N16
Shoreditch Library, 80 Hoxton Street, Hoxton N1

• **London** Local government workers in six boroughs went on strike on 4th November. The action by members of Unison hit refuse collection, street cleaning and civic amenities. It was the latest in a series of week-long strikes aimed at winning an extra £4,000 a year London weighting. The boroughs affected were Harrow, Hounslow, Havering, Merton, Redbridge and Lewisham. Union activists said they were frustrated by council bosses' refusal to make a new offer to low-paid workers. They vowed to continue their campaign.

• **Lecturers** Managers of further education colleges admitted last week that a strike by lecturers and support staff forced over forty institutions to close on 5th November. Lecturers' union NATFHE said over 200 more had been affected by the walkout, held to protest at a pay offer of 2.3%. The bosses' organisation, the Association of Colleges, said it was the first time in a decade that FE colleges had been forced to close. FE lecturers are paid, on average, £3,000 a year less than teachers. Over 60% of support staff earn under £13,000 a year.

• **Glasgow** Subway bosses reinstated 35 drivers on 8th November, two days after they'd fired them for holding an unofficial strike. The drivers had taken action against managers' attempts to impose additional unpaid duties on staff. Strathclyde Passenger Transport had initially insisted that 'militant behaviour' wouldn't be tolerated and that the drivers wouldn't be reinstated. But bosses were forced to back down when it became clear that training scab replacements would take until January. This would've left the city's 55,000 daily subway users without a service for two months.

If you want to support the mass pickets on the first Saturday scab labour is used, check with Unison beforehand - Hackney is notoriously inefficient at organising things, including scabbing. Contact Hackney Unison, 2 Hillman Street, London E8 1DY or call 020 8356 4071.

North & East London Solidarity Federation are calling for an anarchist contingent to gather at the Central Library around 8.15am on that day. Contact NELSF, PO Box 1681, London N8 7LE or call 07799 251 053.

People who live in Hackney and who want to support their libraries should contact Friends of Hackney Libraries (FHL), PO Box 16, Centerprise, 136-138 Kingsland Road, London E8 2NS. Or you can telephone 020 8806 6272 or email friends_hackney_libraries@yahoo.co.uk.

Catalyst

Freesheet of the Solidarity Federation - IWA

Pissed off with the boss? Get free light relief with *Catalyst* - the new issue, with more on Hackney Libraries, will be out soon. Send a stamp or call us for your copy - or get a bunch to hand out at work or play.

Catalyst, PO Box 29, SW PDO,
Manchester M15 5HW

tel 07984 675281

email manchestersf@manchestersf.org.uk

Crass fail to show the way

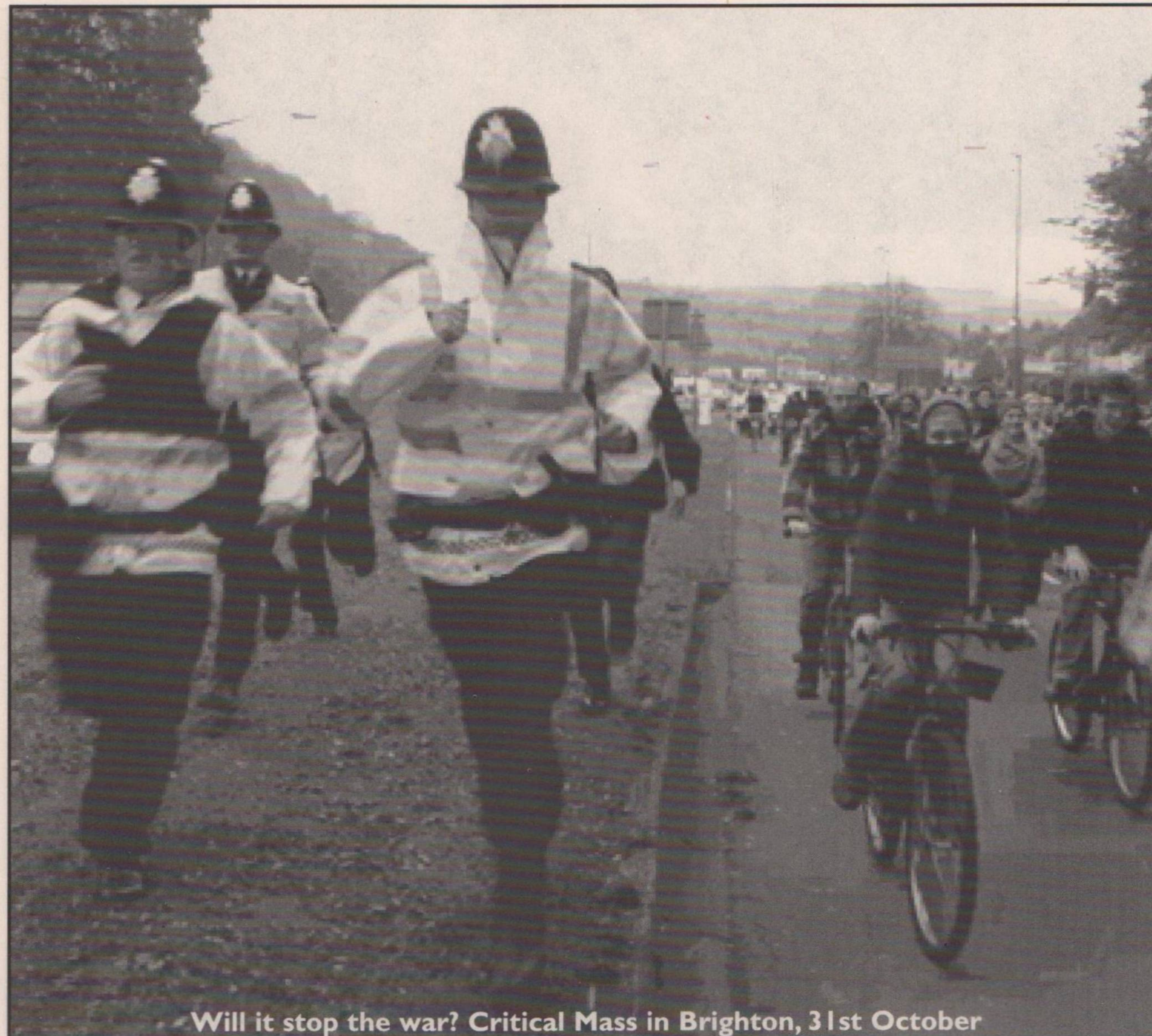
Voices and Music in Opposition to War
The Crass Collective, Queen Elizabeth
Hall, London 8th November 2002

This was a big disappointment. Actually, I'm too kind. It was crap. Not because any single performance from the eclectic mix of performers was bad (although some were), but because it was just so bloody liberal and worthy. That it was being staged at the Queen Elizabeth Hall should have been warning enough, as should the £20 ticket price. Despite this most people, like me, were attracted to the South Bank by the fact it had been organised by The Crass Collective. Twenty years on, the name Crass is still big enough to sell the QEH out. What a shame it was such a let down.

While it was good to see *Freedom* being sold in the foyer and Mark Barnsley leaflets handed out, it was all but impossible to connect the anarchism evident outside the hall with what went on within. *Voices and Music* failed, both as a performance and as an anti-war protest.

After a pleasant enough piano piece, well played by Liam Noble, one punk shouted out "what the fuck has that got to do with anti-war?" Good point. You can imagine Tony Blair, sitting in Downing Street and on the phone to Bush, saying "shit, George, they're playing anti-war songs and poems on the South Bank. Let's call the war off!"

A long, rambling and – I have to say, pretentious – poem by Penny Rimbaud



Will it stop the war? Critical Mass in Brighton, 31st October

illustrated the problem with this concert. Rimbaud read *Methinks* over atonal sax riffs. Frankly, it looked and sounded like a spoof of poetry clubs you'd see on *The Fast Show*. If you've seen Mike Myers in *I married an axe murderer*, you'll know exactly what I mean. And I'm someone who likes atonal music.

While Rimbaud performed, a screen behind him showed the looped image of a plane flying. Its intention, I think, was to suggest 9/11. But if so, why not show images of the planes crashing into the Twin Towers, perhaps alongside pictures of the devastation caused by Israeli forces in Palestine, or by the Allies in Afghanistan? These images are

censored from our television screens. They'd have been powerful, and might just have made Rimbaud's poem bearable. Crass used to push the boundaries. They used to be challenging. This was just liberal art house nonsense.

Don't get me wrong. There were some good performances. Goldblade stormed through two great punk songs. John Sharian delivered another Rimbaud poem, *Amerika*, with skill and conviction, to a choral backdrop. Christine Tabin gave a powerful performance of *Brother, can you spare a dime?* All very nice, if a little disjointed as a whole – but not exactly challenging. This was mainstream stuff, and little or nothing to do with Crass's own anarcho-punk roots or their ability to shock. There was a real gap between the audience, which included a large number of anarchists, and the performance.

Voices and Music illustrated the weakness of Britain's anti-war movement. Peaceful marches, die-ins, poetry reading, placard waving, dance and the rest ain't gonna stop this or any war. The safeness of these things means that middle class liberals, a smattering of whom sat rather uncomfortably in the audience, can ease their consciences without stepping out of line. That such an event happened in the Queen Elizabeth Hall was hardly a surprise. The fact that Crass were associated with it was. There's an old Crass song called *What the fuck?* I thought of it as I left. What the fuck was the point of *Voices and Music*?

Richard Griffin

Halloween happenings

Thousands of anti-war activists last month protested against British and American plans for an attack on Iraq. A day of action on 31st October saw 150 demonstrations take place across Britain, in places as far apart as Broadstairs, Farnham, Glasgow and Manchester. The protests, which were timed to coincide with Halloween, took many forms. These included critical mass bike rides, occupations, marches and rallies.

A critical mass was held in Brighton. In the evening, up to a thousand people blocked the waterfront until cops attacked them with batons and mace spray. In Barnsley and Swansea, traffic was halted when protesters blocked roads. During the evening, Oxford Road in Manchester was blocked by around a thousand people.

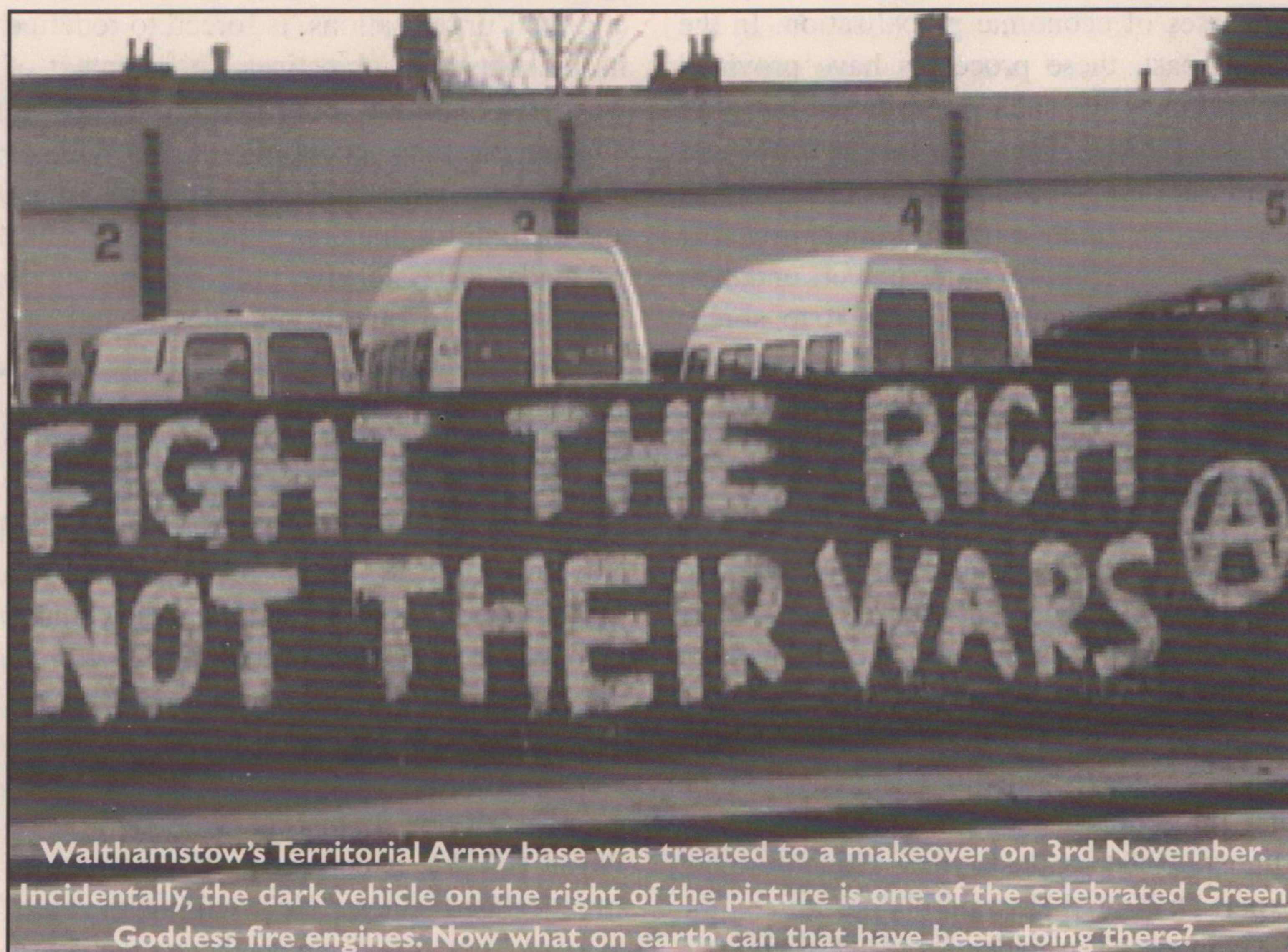
In Edinburgh there was street theatre and a film show, while anti-war banners were draped over the walls of Cardiff's castle. Marches and rallies took place in Bristol, Glasgow, Kingston-upon-Thames, Oldham, Reading and Sheffield, and a mock funeral procession was held in Stoke-on-Trent.

There were college occupations in Colchester, Liverpool, Manchester and Sheffield, while paid killers from the Defence Research Agency saw their Cambridge offices taken over for the day.

In London, a 'disco action' was held at Liverpool Street station, while Westminster Bridge was closed by women activists. Lambeth Unison staged a protest in Brixton.

In the evening up to five thousand people gathered outside Parliament, before marching on Downing Street. Mounted police tried to stop them there but they were forced to give way, allowing the marchers to continue to Trafalgar Square and the Strand.

See *viewpoints*, page six.



Walthamstow's Territorial Army base was treated to a makeover on 3rd November. Incidentally, the dark vehicle on the right of the picture is one of the celebrated Green Goddess fire engines. Now what on earth can that have been doing there?

• A good-natured street party took place in Farnham, Surrey. Mainly consisting of students from the Surrey Institute of Art and Design University College, it took place on West Street in the centre of the town. It began around 4pm and lasted for about two hours.

The original intention was to block the road and hold a party there, but with only about thirty people this was impractical. We stood on the pavement on each side of the road instead, waving our home-made anti-war banners and asking drivers to beep their horns for peace.

What we lacked in numbers we made up for with enthusiasm, and with drumming, dancing and chanting (and leaflet distribution) we woke up a sleepy Surrey town. As the demo took place outside the offices of

the *Farnham Herald*, a reporter and photographer were on the scene straight away. In a town where very little happens, something like this is front page news.

The police arrived shortly afterwards and asked protesters to keep off the road. Some were friendly and approachable, others weren't. The general reaction from the public was positive, despite some drivers who were clearly out to make trouble by driving close to the pavement in an attempt to scare protesters.

Towards 6pm, with the traffic thinning, we got permission from police to march down West Street itself. We did this as slowly as possible to hold the cars up. All in all, a positive and hopefully effective action.

Sheeky

IN BRIEF

• **Leicester** Over 500 campaigners rallied in the city on 2nd November to show their opposition to any war on Iraq. Mohinder Farma of the Indian Workers' Association told the marchers that the Iraqi people had suffered for over a decade as the direct result of Anglo-British policies.

• **London** Human rights activists held a vigil outside the Kentish Town offices of the Lonely Planet travel guides on 8th November, in protest at the publishers' continued support of the junta that rules Burma. Yvette Mahon of the Burma Campaign UK said, "tourism provides a vital source of income for the military dictatorship in Burma. Lonely Planet's guide encourages people to visit".

• **Whitehall** Activists from the National Pensioners Convention (NPC) staged a rally on 11th November, to protest at the falling value of their pensions. A representative of the NPC said many pensioners felt undervalued, particularly in view of the sacrifices their generation had been expected to make during the Second World War.

The rally came just days after a warning by housing charity Shelter that former service personnel are at a greatly increased risk of homelessness. The organisation revealed on 8th November that over a quarter of homeless people have been in the state's armed gangs at some stage.

• **London** Basque activists are holding a demonstration outside the Spanish Embassy on 16th November. This is to mark the 27th anniversary of Franco's death, and to protest at the policies of the Partido Popular, Spain's governing party and Franco's political descendants. Meet at 12 noon outside the embassy at 39 Chesham Place.

Against bosses of the world

A response from the International of Anarchist Federations to the European Social Forum

The 'long-lasting and permanent' climate of war we have known since September 11th has become a constant part of our daily lives, with grave implications for the manipulation of information, propaganda, and repression. At every level, the peddlers of war are working to restrict political freedom and the freedom of workers organisations everywhere. The 'war against terrorism' has become the pretext to launch a determined attack against all areas of resistance, and against any obstacles standing in the way of the US-led international power system.

The threat of a war of aggression against Iraq, the endless massacres in the Middle East, the increasing military presence in Columbia (the third largest recipient of US military aid after Turkey and Israel) and the Afghan war remain the centre of attention while other possible theatres of conflict are opening up. In the wake of the current recession, the bold euphoria among neo-liberals at the progressive fortunes of economic globalisation is increasingly deflated. This recession has seen a reduction in commerce, dwindling financial transactions and a highly cautious attitude towards any new developments, that have forced the ruling classes to rethink state intervention, the prosecution of war and their processes of restructuring.

The process of economic globalisation being pursued by the multinationals and their associated organisations (the WTO, IMF, etc.) is slowing down. At the same time, there has been a strong upsurge of national and macro-regional politics in the handling of the war in Afghanistan, the process of European expansion, the reorganisation of the role of NATO, and France and Germany pulling out of the Iraq crisis. Discussion of matters such as public spending has really meant talking about the politics of profit. All this results in a strengthening of the role of nation states, and a new phase in the globalisation process centred on a political imperialism which forces all other states into a subordinate relationship



A participant arrives for the European Social Forum in Florence, 7th November

to US military might. Practises of integration and competition coexist in a scenario which sees war as the inevitable outcome of a crisis in international relations.

Bush's rallying cry ("You're either with us or against us") testifies to the US desire to impose itself wherever and however it sees fit, in a context further complicated by the processes of economic globalisation. In the recent past, these processes have provided the rationale for such impositions, but after the attack on the Twin Towers they no longer seem relevant. If economic globalisation had become a giant curtain concealing the continual redefinition of the powers and their hierarchy, September 11th cut it to shreds

and revealed the desire for global totalitarian control by the ruling US groups. In this they are wholly unaccountable, as is demonstrated by the US stance both towards the United Nations International War Crimes Tribunal and the United Nations as a whole.

In this situation, the present movement against economic globalisation, multinationals and their organisations, is forced to redefine its practices and objectives. In a context of war, we cannot confine ourselves to challenging these economic organs without confronting what and who supports them and the politics that drives them. A leap must be made, so as to give political and social consistency to our own proposals and our

anger. Revolutionary proposals for the demolition of political and economic power and for the establishment of generalised self-management must be brought up to date. In this climate of 'civil war', we need to see ourselves clearly. We need to recognise the dangers and traps before us. One such danger is the tendency to enclose oneself in a regional, national, ethnic or religious enclave, thus breathing life back into the logic of nationalism. Instead, it is necessary to breathe life back into the internationalism which has animated this period of struggles. Such internationalism, in its most radical and libertarian social components, has had the clearest and most determined spirit.

In order to oppose the barbarities of war and the system it generates, it is essential to coordinate movements wherever they may be, to have dialogue between the various political and ideological cultures which animate these movements, and to make comparisons in all areas. For this to succeed, it must not fall into the usual reformist trap – generally Social Democratic – which celebrated its last rites in Porto Alegre.

Internationalism only has meaning if it has a very solid base, built on a commitment to struggle against 'one's own' state, 'one's own' power system. It is only in this way that the effectiveness of social transformation, animating the different spirits of the movement, can be measured. The current climate is characterised by fragmentation and the demise of social 'guarantees'. The development and direction of the movement, therefore, will depend on the intelligence and energy we bring to bear on formulating proposals. It must be a movement which has the ability to by-pass the formal established opposition, in order to bring into the movement those people who are no longer willing to submit to the daily violence of the power system, and who genuinely believe that another world is not only possible but essential.

All over the world, anarchists are making practical, incisive and active contributions towards these aims. The effects of the mobilisations in Seattle, that saw a determined and effective anarchist presence and were a sign of libertarian renewal in the USA, are still being felt. In Russia, crime and repression have not curtailed committed anarchist opposition to the openly fascist regime. Latin America has seen a continued growth of groups, newspapers and mobilisations, especially in Argentina, Chile, Venezuela, Uruguay and Brazil, grappling with the problem of coordinating the ever increasing number of initiatives on a national scale. In Europe, even in the complexity of the anarchist and anarcho-sindicalist movement, there have been instances of high visibility of the movement – in Lyon, Amsterdam, Genoa, Rome, Paris, London, Prague, Athens and Seville. Further signals are also coming from Turkey, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Lebanon and Australia.

It is essential that we do not delay in promoting an internationalist dimension in local practices. The International of Anarchist Federations is aiming to promote a strengthening of ties between its affiliated organisations and urges a united initiative with the whole of the anarchist movement, taking into account the richness and diversity of all involved, both recognising and working on common routes and purposes.

Massimo Varengo
Secretariat of the International of Anarchist Federations

translated by AsviuMEDIA

AROUND THE WORLD

• **Bangladesh** The government has recently arrested more than 3,500 people, of whom nineteen have died in custody. The arrests formed part of 'Operation Clean Heart', a crackdown on suspected criminals carried out by nearly 40,000 soldiers. This operation has involved checkpoints, personal searches, house-to-house searches and arrests, all seemingly outside the law. Many of those arrested belong to the ruling party and many others are elected officials, including five pro-government councillors from the capital, Dhaka. Leaders of the main opposition party, the Awami League, have also been arrested.

Opposition forces called a half-day strike in protest at the crackdown, but a government representative insisted, "there has been no incident [sic] of human rights violations in this operation. All the principles of human rights are being followed". But the Asian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) said, "these serious developments have created a terrifying environment for most ordinary and innocent people. The AHRC urges the government of Bangladesh to immediately stop its operation of mass arrests by the country's armed forces, that are terrorising innocent people, and to investigate any reports of torture

in army custody through an independent, impartial and competent body".

The crackdown seems to have had general public support, probably triggered by a recent increase in the murder rate. 2,460 murders were recorded in Bangladesh in the first three quarters of 2002, an increase of almost 10% on last year. Constitutional expert Dr Kamal Hossain blames this on the government. "The epidemic of lawless violence from which people have been suffering, now and under the previous government, is the result of those who are at the helm of public affairs forgetting that they are subject to the constitution, and that they have obligations not to violate the law or permit the violation of the law by their supporters", he says.

The increase in the crime rate has occurred in spite of a similar crackdown carried out in the capital in February. At that time 291 suspects were detained in an operation which was also accompanied by reports of torture and the mistreatment of suspects.

The latest phase of Operation Clean Heart was a demand by the government that Bangladeshis give up all weapons (and ammunition), including ones that were legally held. This was to have been done by 15th

November, under threat of 'legal action'. Opposition figures have said that the country is in a state of 'undeclared martial law'.

James Holland

• **Ireland** Alex McGuigan, a Belfast-based member of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), is currently off work due to stress-related illness. He's willing to return to work, but the company he works for is preventing him from doing so. His bosses have also stopped his sick pay, which means he's prevented from earning a living. He needs urgent support to get his employers to continue providing him with sick pay.

He works for a housing association called Lee Hestia in Belfast, which is owned by Novas in Liverpool. Alex says "the reality of working for Novas, a self-proclaimed 'charity organisation', is a far cry from their mission statement, which stresses 'empowering people'. It's a joke. I've worked for them for three years, and they treat workers like dirt."

Please contact Novas and urge them to reinstate Alex's sick pay. Don't let him fight alone. Write to Mary Connolly, Novas, Chancery Lane, Paradise Street, Liverpool or email policy@novas.org or call 0870 901 9701. For more information, visit www.iww.org.uk

Opening the suitcase

Emma Goldman was one of the twentieth century's principal exponents of anarchism, which she herself characterised as "the philosophy of a new social order based on liberty unrestricted by man-made law; the theory that all forms of government rest on violence, and are therefore wrong and harmful, as well as unnecessary". Her commitment to anarchism and her activist inclinations led her to champion the causes of labour, anti-militarism, atheism, prison reform and women's rights, in the United States (where she lived for much of her adult life) and elsewhere.

Even after her deportation to Russia in 1919 and her subsequent disillusion with the Soviet 'revolution' there, she never gave up the hope of her ideals finding fertile ground. They finally did, in Spain. In 1936, citizens and workers of the anarcho-syndicalist Confederación Nacional del Trabajo (CNT) and Federación Anarquista Iberica (FAI) fought back against an army uprising. In the revolution which followed, anarchist ideals of mutual aid and anti-authoritarianism were vindicated. Factory and agricultural collectives took over the everyday business of running society, creating a rich culture and equalitarian society which are almost completely forgotten today outside the anarchist movement itself.

Emma, 67 years old at the time, rushed to lend the revolution her support. She travelled to London as a CNT-FAI representative, seeking support and money for the cause. After the defeat of the revolution and the victory of Franco's fascist army, Emma travelled to Canada. Arriving in Toronto with her well-worn suitcase in hand, she was taken in by friends and comrades. In return,



Emma Goldman caricature by Saul Raskin, c. 1912

she was active in procuring help for tens of thousands of Spanish exiles interned in French concentration camps. She also devoted boundless energies to causes closer to home, including the campaign to prevent the deportation of Italian anarchist Attilio

Bortolotti from Canada to Mussolini's Italy, where he would've faced certain death.

After her death in 1940, her dusty old suitcase, representing many years of travel and activism, came to rest in the home of Federico Arcos, a refugee from Franco's

regime. Now this same suitcase provides the title for a film being made by Canadian film makers Pacific Street Films.

The Suitcase: The legacy of Emma Goldman and the Spanish Revolution, will feature original production and footage culled from the filmmakers' own extensive archives. These include a newsreel, produced by the CNT and narrated by Emma, documenting the death of militia leader Buenaventura Durruti on the Aragon front. The film was only rediscovered by Pacific Street Films in 1980.

As well as an extensive interview with Federico Arcos, *The Suitcase* will feature a vivid account of life with Emma and her partner, Alexander Berkman, recorded by the artist and radical Alfred Levitt before his death, aged 105, in 2000. As a teenage immigrant from Russia, he'd been hired by Emma to clean the New York offices of her newspaper, *Mother Earth*. He shared many outings to the beach at Coney Island with the couple.

Clark Bortree of Pacific Street Films says, "we've been prompted to begin work on this project, and reopen our archives, as a result of several Emma Goldman documentaries that have either been produced in the last few years or are in the planning stages. From our research, they've offered either a confused portrait of Emma or are inclined towards divorcing her from her anarchist principles. For her, the Spanish Revolution, short-lived as it was, was the proving ground for her belief that society could and should be run by a collective of citizens, not a small cabal of power-hungry functionaries."

W.O.

To follow the progress of the film, visit Pacific Street Films at www.psfpm.com

TWO HUNDRED PHAROAHS FIVE BILLION SLAVES

Two Hundred Pharaohs, Five Billion Slaves
by Adrian Peacock
Ellipses

This is, it appears, an attempt to drag Guy Debord's *Society of the Spectacle* screaming and shouting into the 21st century, where it can once again be the revolutionary text *par excellence*, one to be shoplifted by all who disdain property rights on their way to the barricades. Sadly, Adrian Peacock lacks Debord's wit and venom. By insisting on following Debord's lead, he condemns the reader to a recapitulation, not only of Debord, but also of the works of Marx and Hegel.

His insistence on encumbering himself with this ideological baggage means the text is unlikely to appeal to anyone outside the very coterie he seems so dismissive of – the people on the fringes of the anarchist movement (there being, sad to say, no independent revolutionary workers' movement worth speaking of in Britain these days – nor is this the text to help build one).

Peacock also faithfully reproduces the prejudices of his predecessors, including a dismissal of all things rural. He even blames the Spanish peasants for starving the revolution into submission, at a time when the collectives were actually sending all their surplus food to the cities and the front lines to keep the militias going.

He considers that the planet could easily feed the entire population dozens of times over, house them, clothe them and allow them

all to enjoy a comfortable standard of living. This is on the very first page of his text! Never mind that, on our current understanding, we'd need two more planets Earth to bring everyone up to European standards of living even if we reduced all the wastage.

No, any talk of resources and population and the environment is dismissed as being a form of neo-Malthusianism and of no consequence. Obviously for Peacock being a materialist doesn't extend as far as the material world. He'd rather parrot the prejudices of former times.

He's not totally disparaging of anarchism, though. He says that "according to the workers' movement of the 1960s, 'in 1936 anarchism really did lead to a social revolution, setting up the most advanced model of proletarian power ever realised'." In a footnote, he says this quotation is lifted from *The Society of the Spectacle*, though sadly it's unreferenced.

This is all very well, but when did Guy Debord become the workers' movement of the 1960s? I may have been a schoolkid when I watched the events of Paris '68 on television, but even then the workers' movement seemed stubbornly entrenched in its own identity (trade unions and all that), and the situationists were a tiny (if vocally and politically astute) bunch of agitators. One should be extremely wary of taking the situationists' evaluation of events as necessarily true, or of thinking they were speaking on behalf of the workers' movement.

This pretends to be a work of revolutionary theory, but it's idealist ideology pure and simple, dressed up in pretty packaging and with the requisite amount of fairly amusing graphics. There are, to be sure, some trenchant criticisms of capitalism and of other brands of revolutionary ideology, including anar-

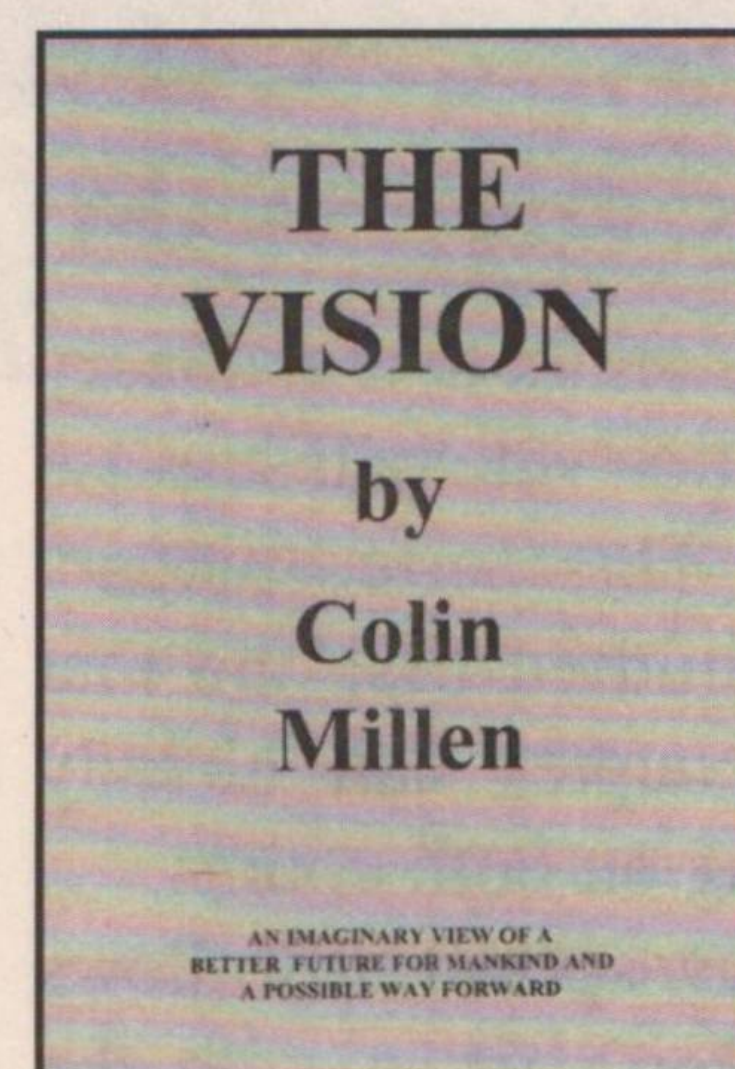
chism. In amongst the waffle, he makes some good points. But there's little that's new here, and much that has been better expressed elsewhere.

To undertake a full critique of the text would take far too long for a review like this. Not only that. As the text is based on Debord, Marx and finally Hegel, one would need to undertake a critique of each of them as part of a full critique of Peacock's work. Not a job for the faint-hearted.

On one level, this is what Peacock really needs. But to be honest I can't imagine anyone bothering to write a book-length reply to what simply doesn't deserve it. Mind you, it does slip into one's coat pocket very nicely.

Richard A.

Available from Freedom Press, price £8.95 post free in the UK, add £1 elsewhere



The Vision
by Colin Millen
Health Books

Now that anarchism has become a family affair, this publication fills a gap. There are, as far as I know, few publications aimed at children with anarchist parents or carers. *The Vision* tells the story of a space flight for tourists which goes either right or wrong, depending on your outlook. The characters in the story, all with suitable names – Magnus Growth, Max Profit and Mal Sayer – and the heroine of the future, Imagin, experience an enlightening vision of the future.

Unfortunately, they have to return to the problem-laden reality of today's world. But their vision inspires them "to help mankind along his/her path of all round personal growth, social evolution and spiritual development". I'm sure no parent or carer could object (except to the strangely old fashioned 'mankind'), whatever their anarchist persuasion. The content is split into three sections – 'Out of this world!', 'Into the future?' and 'Back down to earth!' – suitable, with some assistance, roughly for 7 to 10 year olds, although there are no illustrations.

Colin Johnson

Available from Freedom Press at £1.50 (plus 50p p&p in the UK, £1 elsewhere).

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A very murky message indeed

As a Class War member for some ten years, I was interested to read M.H.'s article. What made it all the more fascinating was that sightings of the people behind issue 73 have become as rare in recent years as red squirrels on Hampstead Heath (but, it has to be said, not nearly so welcome). In analysing the world today, and the anarchist movement in particular, it's essential to look at how we got to where we are. Here M.H. is guilty of some sorry dishonesty. It's no surprise that he chooses not to put his full name on the article.

The Class War Federation split at its national conference in Nottingham in March 1997. The division was between those who wanted to carry on as Class War and those who wished to disband (the minutes are available from London Class War, please send SAE). The split occurred, in part, due to the extremely dubious methods used to produce issue 73.

When it was discovered that some of those producing the paper were holding secret meetings for a hand-picked cadre of members and guests, a parting of the ways became inevitable. I doubt M.H. is proud of the fact that a meeting was scheduled in London on 'Women and Class War' with none of the female members of London Class War invited – but it would be nice if M.H. at least said he regretted it.

The original intention of the 'final issue' of *Class War* was to reforge the anarchist and libertarian movements, by way of a mass conference planned for London in 1997. Utterly isolated in the capital and the south east because of their own behaviour, M.H. and his comrades were left with nobody to organise this conference. They had little option but to attach themselves to an already existing event – Mayday in Bradford the next year – and tailor it to suit their needs.

Issue 73 reflected the partial nature of its authors. In what was supposed to be a painfully honest assessment of the history, theory and practice of Class War, readers instead received edited highlights. A history with no analysis of the Anti-Election Alliance campaigns of 1992 and 1997, nothing about the federation's concept of Communities of Resistance, nothing about Class War Prisoners or about the group's brief dabble in electoral politics at the North Kensington by-election, and nothing on its attempts to work in the industrial field through groups like Class War Colliers or Class War Posties.

These were edited highlights, not of the Premiership but of the Vauxhall Conference. M.H. and co. sold people a pup. It would've been easier, if less dramatic, had they simply left Class War to those who agreed with its politics and retired quietly to tend their gardens.

By May 1998 many of the authors of issue 73 had had their say and hung up their boots. Many of the Bristol lot, who'd arguably initiated the whole process, couldn't even be bothered to travel to Bradford. Rather than reforging the anarchist movement, this shower failed even to reforge themselves.

Class War was pretty skint in the mid 1990s. After the split, M.H. and co. were unable to honour commitments they'd made to supply London Class War with a computer, but they had the finance to produce a theoretical magazine, *Smash Hits* (which was initially free). Enthusiastically distributed by well-meaning organisations like AK Press and Active Distribution, this sank without trace after just three issues. Curiously, M.H. doesn't mention *Smash Hits* once.

M.H. shows uncharacteristic honesty in

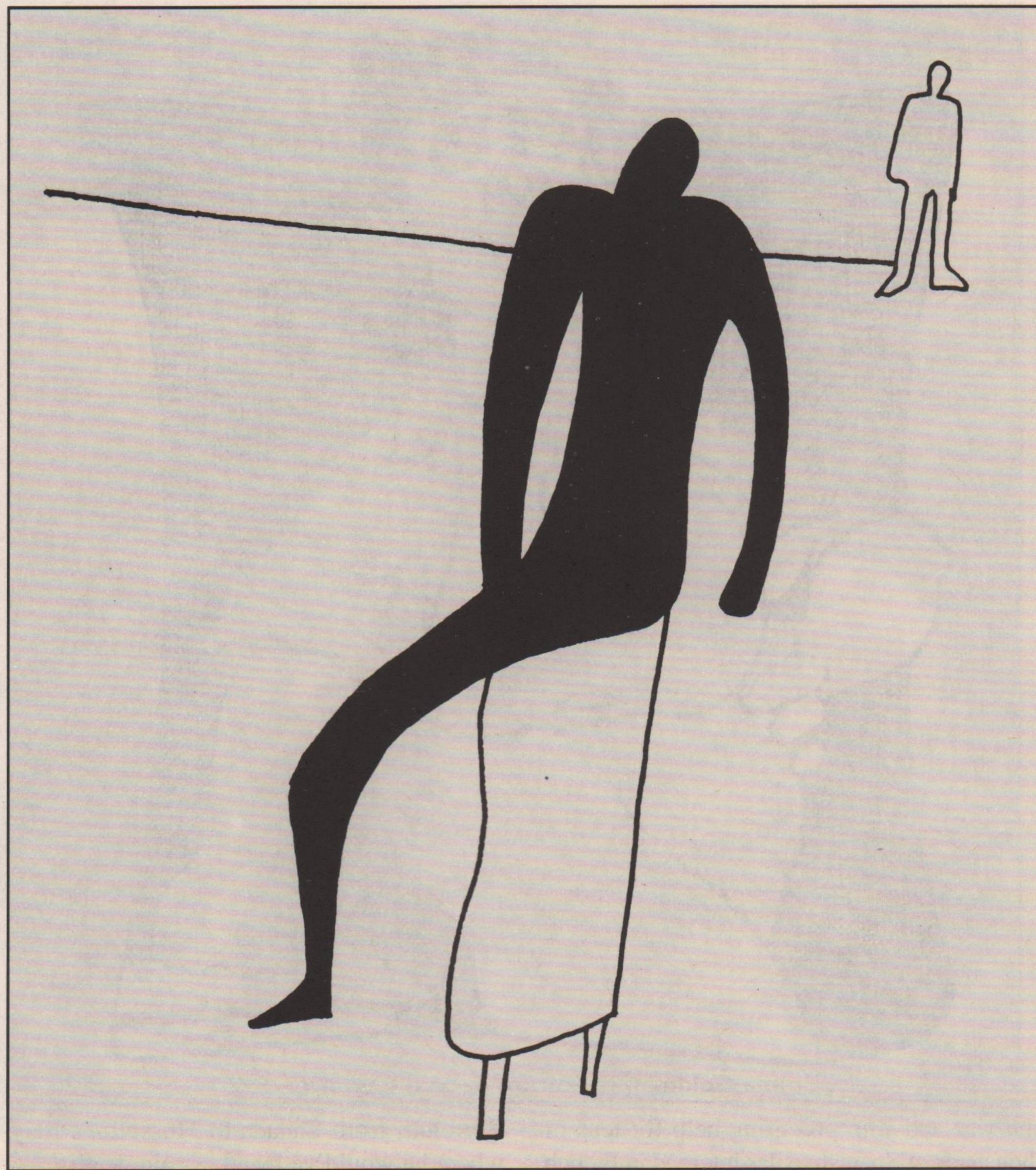


Illustration © David Thomas 2002

In 1997, some members of the Class War Federation tried to wind the organisation up. They intended issue 73 of *Class War* to be the last. On 19th October this year, *Freedom* published an article called 'The murky message of '97'. Written by M.H., one of the people involved in this attempt, it analysed what happened and developments in the anarchist movement since.

Not all M.H.'s ex-comrades agreed with him in 1997 (the federation and paper still exist), and they don't now. Here, Paul Marsh of London Class War gives an altogether different account.

recognising that the sum achievements of the Bradford event were tiny, while grossly overstating the event's influence over subsequent actions like Mayday 2000.

There now appears to be a growing recognition in the movement that the huge amount of time and effort put into Mayday is probably unwise. *Freedom* has contained some interesting articles suggesting that Mayday, far from being reclaimed, has been hijacked

by those who see it merely as an opportunity to wear silly costumes once a year.

The working class has never been as shafted as it is today. With New Labour not even pretending to represent us, a real vacuum exists in working class communities. Much of the anarchist response to this appears to be to ignore it, while concentrating harder on counter-cultural, anti-war and environmental issues. As an ideology, anarchism doesn't

lack adherents (the Anarchist Bookfair gets bigger every year), but anarchism in the UK lacks focus and clarity, and worse, at times it lacks relevance.

We badly need to work together on areas that directly affect our lives – anti-social crime, the behaviour of local authorities, the policing of our communities and the prison-industrial state that's being built up all around us. Those of us in employment are working harder than ever, are taxed as highly as ever and are paid as poorly as ever. For many of us, our working lives will be five or ten years longer than those of our parents. These are issues that matter.

A core mistake runs through M.H.'s article, and through the thinking of his comrades. They seem to be unaware that there's no point in theory without practice. Get everybody together, pose lots of questions, keep out the oiks from Class War and they think everything will be tickety boo. It hasn't worked so far, and it won't work in the future.

While the authors of *Class War 73* have largely faded from the scene, the various national federations haven't. There are good articles, and I believe good ideas, knocking around the publications of the Anarchist Federation, Solidarity Federation and Class War. *Freedom* has improved considerably, while the Anarchist Youth Network has added a burst of energy.

Elsewhere, the demise of the Anarchist Black Cross and Anti-Fascist Action has been damaging and, in some cases, disastrous. The scandalous lack of support given to jailed activists like Mark Barnsley, and the way fascists were able to swan around with virtual impunity in Oldham last year, illustrates some of the dangers of the movement not getting its act together.

For activists to work together, trust and honesty are essential. Activists I talk to and see posting on email lists clearly recognise this. Perhaps if M.H. wants to come to the party, he could start by honestly assessing his own work and actions over the last five or six years and beyond. To paraphrase M.H., if the ideas of the people behind issue 73 were so brilliant, why did their new direction amount to so little and have so little influence?

Paul Marsh

London Class War

London Class War, PO Box 467, London E8 3QX. Issue 84 of *Class War* is now out, available from Freedom Press at £1 (plus 50p p&p in the UK, £1 elsewhere).

VIEWPOINTS

TORIES BACK ON FORM

The Conservative party's return to reactionary form in last week's adoption vote will surprise few *Freedom* readers. The Tories piously claim they're putting children first and that gays and unmarried couples can already adopt. But they're wrong on both counts.

For a start, unless the law specifically allows people to adopt who don't fit in with the Tories' view of what a good married couple looks like, many local authorities and the workers within them (often fundamentalist Christians) will feel able to prioritise those adopters they deem 'suitable'.

Secondly, adoption is clearly so much better for all involved. As someone adopted at birth, I can attest to how much better my opportunities were than those of people I know who were in care, or even adopted later in life.

Families these days don't conform to a mythical nuclear model. This reality has finally caught up with some politicians (at least), as the successful outcome of the vote on 4th November shows. Now it's only the bigots in the House of Lords who are needlessly depriving kids of the chance to get adopted and of a better situation in life.

Martin H.

MORE TONY ON TV

As the number of CCTV cameras and sophisticated items of surveillance equipment trained on you increases, you may find yourself asking the question, why me? Why is it the public that's constantly watched, and not those true criminals who are supposed to serve it, the politicians? As their everyday decisions affect the lives of thousands of people they've never met and don't really give a fuck about, shouldn't they be the ones

who are watched? And so is born the alternative version of *Big Brother*. Instead of watching stupid people being bored, you can watch stupid people being bought out by corporate executives. You could listen in as BP 'donates' another huge sum to the Labour Party, or watch as pro-war propaganda is fabricated. This would be keeping an eye on Big Brother himself while exposing the corruption at the heart of any hierarchical system and the lies that fuel capitalism. Fuck Jade. Give us Tony!

Sheeky

TRICK, NOT TREAT

So the organisers weren't as daft as they seemed. The 'occupation' of Parliament on 31st October was, surprise, a 'trick'. Am I the only one who resents being treated as fodder by a secretive, self-appointed 'elite'?

Johnny Mushroom

What we say ...

The people of Argentina will soon have had a year to experiment with ways of living outside the capitalist economy. The country has become a testing ground for radical social change in the eleven months since financial crisis provoked a popular revolt. The millions who took to the streets of Buenos Aires on 20th December 2001 began with a simple demand that the existing government should go. But they were engaged in something much bigger than almost all of them can have realised at the time.

The demand that President de la Rúa's government should go turned, in Argentina's case, into a practical move to abolish government itself. The limited demand of the moment became the more steely *que se vayan todos* heard today – 'they all must go'. Politicians, whatever their party, bankers, judges, capitalists, all of them have to go, the people say. All of them are the enemy now.

Although the savaged economy has worsened as the year's gone on, Argentinians have continued to assert their belief in a better way of doing things than authoritarian society can provide. The *piqueteros* (unemployed workers) who began by blockading roads have turned to building solidarity in their communities. The *ahorristas* (savers) who began by blockading the banks and asking for their money back have joined the seven million members of the *Trueque* network, whose bartering has, in some areas, rendered money almost obsolete.

Factories have been collectivised and put under workers' control. Communities are managed by assemblies which use direct democracy, without the need for government.

The task of anarchists outside Argentina is twofold. We must offer our comrades there whatever help we can, both to resist attempts at counter-revolution and to put the freer society they're creating on a more sustainable basis. We must spread the message and practice of the Argentinian experience wherever and however we're able to.

All around the world, the crackpot theories and strange habits of liberal capitalism have been highlighted since the current globalising trend began. We hope this newspaper has played its part in doing this. It's certainly true that popular resistance to capitalism has grown, even here in 'rich' western Europe. Witness the thousands in Genoa last year, or the thousands in Florence last week.

Other countries, and not just in south America, are teetering on the edge of their own economic collapse. What are we going to do when it happens? The well-meaning efforts of Florence aren't enough.

Activists in the west are exercising themselves with opposing Bush's war plans, and rightly so. But this can't be done in isolation, as the liberals and peaceniks say it can. Whatever the new Archbishop of Canterbury and concerned do-gooders up and down the land would have us believe, war is not a moral issue.

Bush is impelled on his lethal path, partly by vanity, but mostly by the dictates of a globalising economy. If the United States doesn't assert its hegemony, other chieftains will fill the breach. The American empire only got where it is today because of the fatal weaknesses of the British one, a lesson which isn't generally lost on American presidents. Stoke up the war economy, distract the people from what's going on – but whatever you do, George, don't take your foot off the gas.

Anarchists oppose any war on Iraq. They oppose capitalism. They support the grassroots movement of Argentina, and wherever else it appears in the world. And they realise that all these things go together, inextricably and inevitably, necessary activities in the rebellion against authority.

Readers' letters

Come on, Martin

Dear *Freedom*,

Martin H.'s article struck me as extraordinarily complacent ('Spooks, spies and trickery', 2nd November). Martin says, "unlike sections of the left, [anarchists] have never had any illusions about the state". I wish that were true. I've encountered 'anarchist' probation officers, housing officers, homeless persons' officers, dole clerks etc., etc. Doubtless there are 'anarchist' screws somewhere as well. None of this suggests a lack of illusions about the state.

Nor is this just a question of middle class anarchists getting white collar jobs. Capitalism functions through the policing and administration of the working class. All the jobs listed above are part of that function, determining the limits of working class access to housing, subsistence and so on, as well as the terms and conditions of that access. Acting as white collar cops hardly qualifies as acting without illusions about the state.

Moreover, the operations by COINTELPRO against the Black Panther Party in the United States and the state's infiltration of the republican left here have a fair bit to teach us. In each case, the state seized on the sectarian tendencies of the movements concerned to foment splits and factions through lies and innuendo. The anarchist movement here is just as prone to sectarian gossip and rumour-mongering, and can just as easily fall prey to disinformation. Sometimes those who shout loudest have the most to hide.

Finally, I think our lack of organisation gives a hand-up to the state. Take London's Mayday as an example. Those who organise Mayday make little effort to make those who come along aware of their rights on arrest, the need to say 'no comment', the risk of

being verbalised between van and cop shop if you engage in 'time of day' banter with the cops (as a good many anarchists, particularly the fluffier kind, seem so prone to doing).

Events which have neither coherent politics or organisation, and rely on the spontaneity of the event itself, give the state a chance to gather information, both by constant filming and through detention en masse. They give the state a chance to pull in young kids with barely half a clue who've never had a nicking before. If you want a scenario where someone can be, in Martin's terms, 'pressured for information', that looks like a classic to me.

Paul Maguire

Marxist plea

Dear *Freedom*,

I'm astonished that, in your advocacy of anarchism, you don't ever take into account the position of pre-Leninist Marxists in groups like the Socialist Party of Great Britain (SPGB). To me, anarchism means socialism, by which I mean a stateless, classless, moneyless community of free access to all goods and services, where the means of life are democratically held by everyone for everyone's use. My anarchism/socialism is a society of voluntary work, in which the only authority is that of the individual over him or herself.

The sole difference from yourselves seems to be the method of establishing an anarchist/socialist/communist society. The SPGB say the capitalist state must be taken over by means of the working class seizing parliament in each country, with the sole purpose of disarming the capitalists so that we can establish a free society.

You'd be suspicious of that, obviously, given

the experience of Russian Bolshevism, which led to a fascist dictatorship worse than many avowedly capitalist governments. You sometimes quote in opposition to you many Marxists, such as members of the Socialist Workers Party, who are aggressively statist, and who still fail to see that Bolshevism wasn't a socialist movement. But the question remains for me, how do we make an anarchist society without disarming the capitalist class?

Anthony Walker

We reviewed David A. Perrin's history of the SPGB in June 2000. Stan Parker's niftily titled *Stop supporting capitalism! Start building socialism!* will be reviewed in a forthcoming issue of *Freedom*. So we do take SPGB ideas into account from time to time.

African famine

Dear *Freedom*,

We're told of the famine being suffered by huge numbers of people in Southern African states due to drought and war. What we're not told is that American aid is conditional on recipient countries accepting it in the form of genetically modified maize.

African leaders have asked for the maize to be milled so it could go directly as food aid. This would stop farmers using it as seed, so becoming dependent.

This the Americans refused to do and so the dependent countries have so far refused the aid. The old syndrome of 'buy our fags if you want our wheat'. An example of social barbarity under capitalist enterprise once again!

Garry Bradford

For reasons of space, letters may have to be cut

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 Saturday 16th November from 12 noon
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 Sunday 17th November from 6pm to 9pm
 Feedback/ideas at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London
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LONDON ANTI-WAR DEMO
 Sunday 17th November from 1pm
 US Embassy, Grosvenor Square, London WC1
 see www.j-n-v.org or www.viwuk.freereserve.co.uk

DSEI 2003 PLANNING MEETING
 Sunday 17th November at 2pm
 open meeting at LARC, Fieldgate Street, Whitechapel, London
 see www.dsei.org / email list dsei_da-subscribe@yahoo.com

CAMPACC MEETING
 Monday 18th November at 7pm
 Campaign Against Criminalising Communities: monthly meeting
 at 10 Glasshouse Yard, Barbican, London EC1

MANCHESTER DISCUSSION GROUP
 Tuesday 19th November from 8pm
 The Libertarian Socialist Discussion Group meets monthly at the Hare and Hounds, Shude Hill (near the Arndale Centre)

ANARCHIST READING CIRCLE
 Every Tuesday from 8pm
 Currently reading *The Female Eunuch* by Germaine Greer
 contact: insurrectionist73@yahoo.co.uk

ANTI-CAPITALIST SOCIAL NIGHT
 Tuesday 19th November from 9pm
 meet for drinks, chat, networking and more, upstairs at the Princess Louise, 208-209 High Holborn, London WC1V 7EP
 see <http://www.temporary.org.uk>

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 see www.nosweat.org.uk • tel 07904 431959

ANARCHIST YOUTH NETWORK
 Wednesday 20th November • 8pm to midnight
 Manchester anarchist youth event at Retro Bar, near UMIST,
 with bands plus talk, literature, videos, djs
 contact: mancanarchistyouth@yahoo.com

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 Wednesdays from 12 noon to 7pm
 Check out the fair trade café and local campaigns base at the new Re-Source Centre, 78a Penny Street, Lancaster
 contact: 01524 383012

CAMDEN COMEDY NIGHTS
 Thursday 21st and 28th November
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SPEAK OUT BENEFIT
 Thursday 21st November • 8pm to 3am
 Festival of Flight presents *Speak Out* for non-violent conflict resolution, a four-room celebration with 100+ artists including live music, djs, cinema, plus launch of *Speak Out* triple CD
 at Scala, Kings Cross, London
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LONDON ANARCHIST FORUM
 Friday 22nd November at 8pm
 'Anarchism and Literary Inspiration' at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn, London
 contact: londonanarchistforum@yahoo.com

BRIGHTON ANTI-WAR DEMO
 Saturday 23rd November • assemble 12 noon
 Assemble in Preston Park to march to Hove Lawns
 Sussex Action for Peace, PO Box 241, Brighton BN1 3UQ
sussexactionforpeace@hotmail.com

CLOSE CAMPSFIELD DEMO
 Saturday 30th November • 12 noon to 2pm
 The ninth anniversary demo at Campsfield House
 see www.closecampsfield.org.uk

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 Monday 2nd December from 10.30am
 Non-violent die-in to be held against war and sanctions on Iraq
 at Whitehall Place, London SW1
 (also anti-war dayschool/prop-making on Sunday 1st Dec at Kingsley Hall, Powis Road, off Bruce Road, London E3)
 contact 0845 458 2564 • voices@viwuk.freereserve.co.uk

LEICESTER ANARCHIST FEDERATION
 Tuesday 3rd December at 8pm
 upstairs at the Ale Wagon pub, Charles Street, Leicester LE1
 see http://www.geocities.com/leicester_af/org.html

MANCHESTER RADICAL BOOKFAIR
 Saturday 7th December • 1pm to 5pm
 at Bridge 5 Mill, 22a Beswick Street, Ancoats, Manchester
 bookfair plus workshops and talks throughout the day
 see <http://www.radicalbookfair.org.uk>

RADICAL DAIRY EVENTS
 Sundays @ 7pm: Film and café
 Tuesdays @ 3pm: Yoga / @ 6.30pm: French class
 Wednesdays @ 4pm: Aromatherapy massages
 Thursdays @ 7.30pm: Spanish class
 Fridays @ 8pm: film showing / acoustic sessions
 The Radical Dairy, 47 Kynaston Road, London N16
 tel 020 7249 6996 or email theradicaldairy@hotmail.com

USE YOUR LOAF EVENTS
 Veggie café every Friday from 7pm: cheap food, drink, and a chance to hang out, meet people, watch videos ...
 Infoshop: we have loads of free stuff on many campaigns
 ring hotline or call in to find out more ...
 Use Your Loaf, 227 Deptford High Street, London SE8
 Hotline: 07984 588807

LARC EVENTS
 many events - check website for details
 The London Action Resource Centre, 62 Fieldgate Street, London E1 1ES (Whitechapel or Aldgate East tube)
 for more info tel 020 7377 9088 or email fieldgate@gn.apc.org
 see www.londonarc.org

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