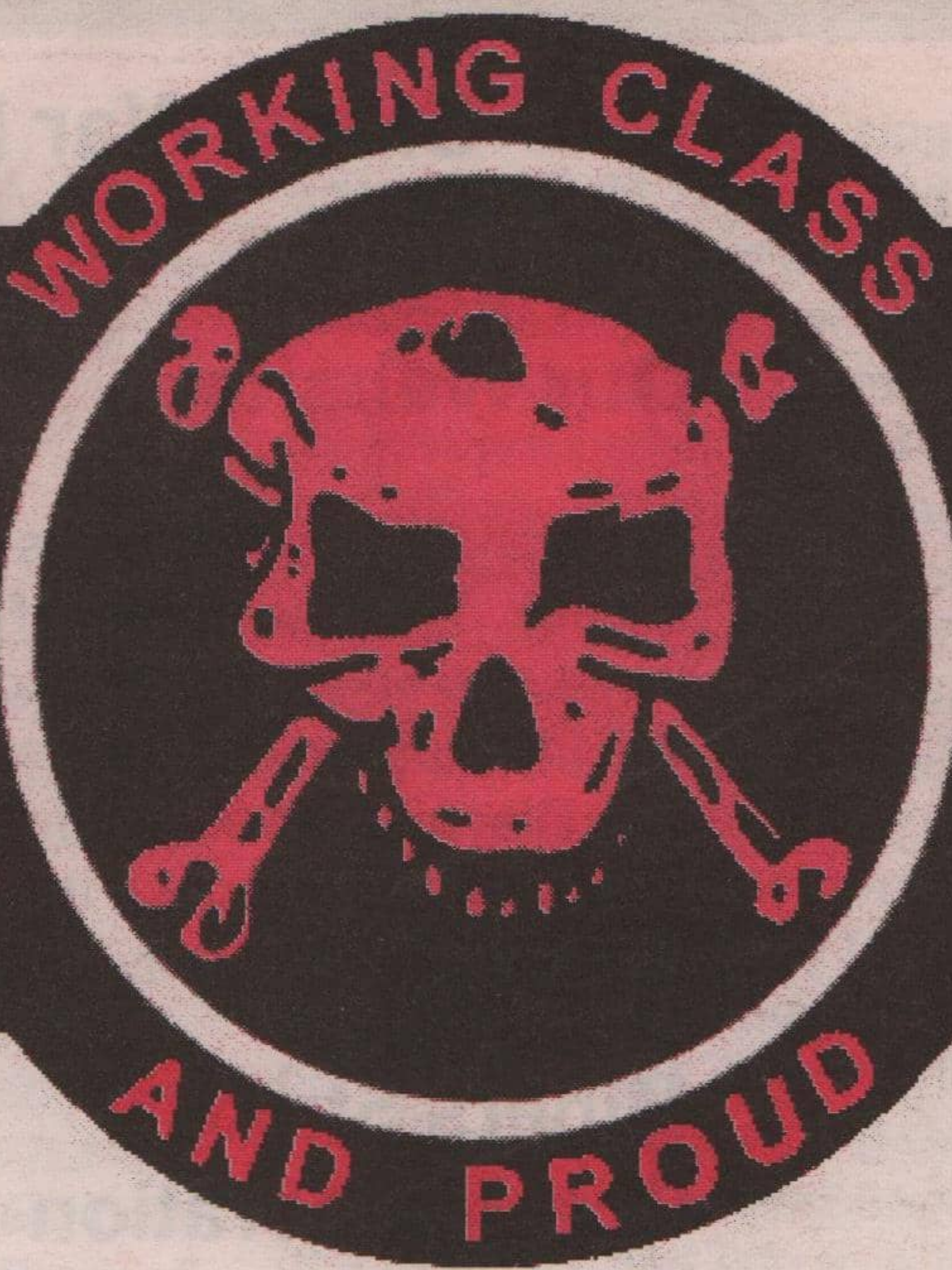


# CLASS



# WAR

Issue 89 **£1**

Winter 2005

Ian Blair by name, Tony Blair by nature



## ARMED POLICE SPOT LONDON COMMUTER

News, views, G8, anti-fascism, passed away popes, revolting Australians and much much more!



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International Links  
Autonomous Action  
A group with very similar politics to Class War, active across much of the former Soviet Union. Check [www.avtonom.org](http://www.avtonom.org) for details

## Join Class War

Class War membership costs £12 per calendar year (£6 unwaged) Get involved – there's a war going on out there!



No ifs and buts please!

## Class War News

### Our Website

[www.londonclasswar.org](http://www.londonclasswar.org) is updated 2-3 times a week. There is stacks of Class War news, views and opinion, plus back issues, pictures and the most up to date merchandise around. The Class War book Unfinished Business is now being added to the site chapter by chapter.

### Miners Strike Commemoration

In March Doncaster saw an excellent event hosted to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the defeat of the miners strike. Congratulations to all involved for what was an emotive, but committed event.

### Yorkshire Group Address

If trying to contact CW members in Yorkshire by post, please use the London address as a temporary measure.

### Subscriptions Notice

Please note that Class War subscriptions and bulk orders are handled by London Class War. All correspondence on this should therefore come to the London address only.

# Editorial

## Religious Lunatics Bring Terror to London

On 7<sup>th</sup> July the inevitable Islamic fundamentalist attack on London occurred. Death and serious injury was inflicted on people going about their daily business, mostly those travelling to work. As an attack on working people, it was one of the most heinous imaginable.

There are two main roots to this bombing – the extremely dangerous rise of militant Islam in countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, and parts of north Africa and the middle east, going back well over thirty years, and secondly the British governments role in world affairs, usually at the behest of the American government, in the same period. Put simply, there are a lot of very dangerous people out there, and the British government has been busy waving red rags at them. London can only be a much safer place if religious fundamentalism is undermined (by secularism, by integration, by working class politics) and the red rags are no longer waved by Tony Blair and George Bush. And that means leaving Iraq.

One noticeable element of the political response was how swiftly all the leading politicians, and parties, rallied behind the police and security services. A suggestion that the Israeli government had informed the British of the attacks just before they happened was swiftly refuted, as was any suggestion that too much effort had gone into protecting world leaders in Gleneagles, and not enough into protecting ordinary Londoners. Put simply, the wars are theirs, the deaths are ours! Whilst the people primarily to blame for any bomb attack are obviously the bombers, the priorities of the police and security services, especially in London, can frequently appear very strange indeed. Many activists in Class War, and in particular anti-capitalist groups like the Wombles, face routine police surveillance, to the level of harassment around their homes, workplaces and social venues. Information is often leaked to journalists, who are then encouraged to run stories about alleged activists.

People returning from the G8 demonstrations this July came back to a London recovering from one of the most terrible bomb attacks in living memory. They were astonished to find that with all their supposed priorities, the Metropolitan Police still had men and women to spare for a "reception committee" to photograph and harass activists returning into Kings Cross just 48 hours after the bombings. Given what happened in London on 7<sup>th</sup> July, it would be interesting to know if the Special Branch officers and journalists involved in the sort of policing activities we mention above, really think it is worthwhile.

Equally those in the security services need to learn that if under pressure, new Labour will happily blame them for their own mistakes. Via a drip, drip, drip media approach, the security services were left to carry the can for "intelligence failures" over Iraq, with the BBC added to the mix, not the new Labour government that had already committed to invade, regardless of intelligence reports. If Blair and co start to feel the heat over London and future attacks, it may suddenly become all the spooks fault, and in no part the governments.

## QUOTES

*"I wanted to make sure I had enough to live off. I did not want to spend my last years in an old people's home."*

73-year-old Wilfred Ackermann, one of a gang of German armed robbers known as the Grandpa gang, who committed armed robberies netting over a million Euros, despite an average age of 70. (Sunday Telegraph, 29/5/05)

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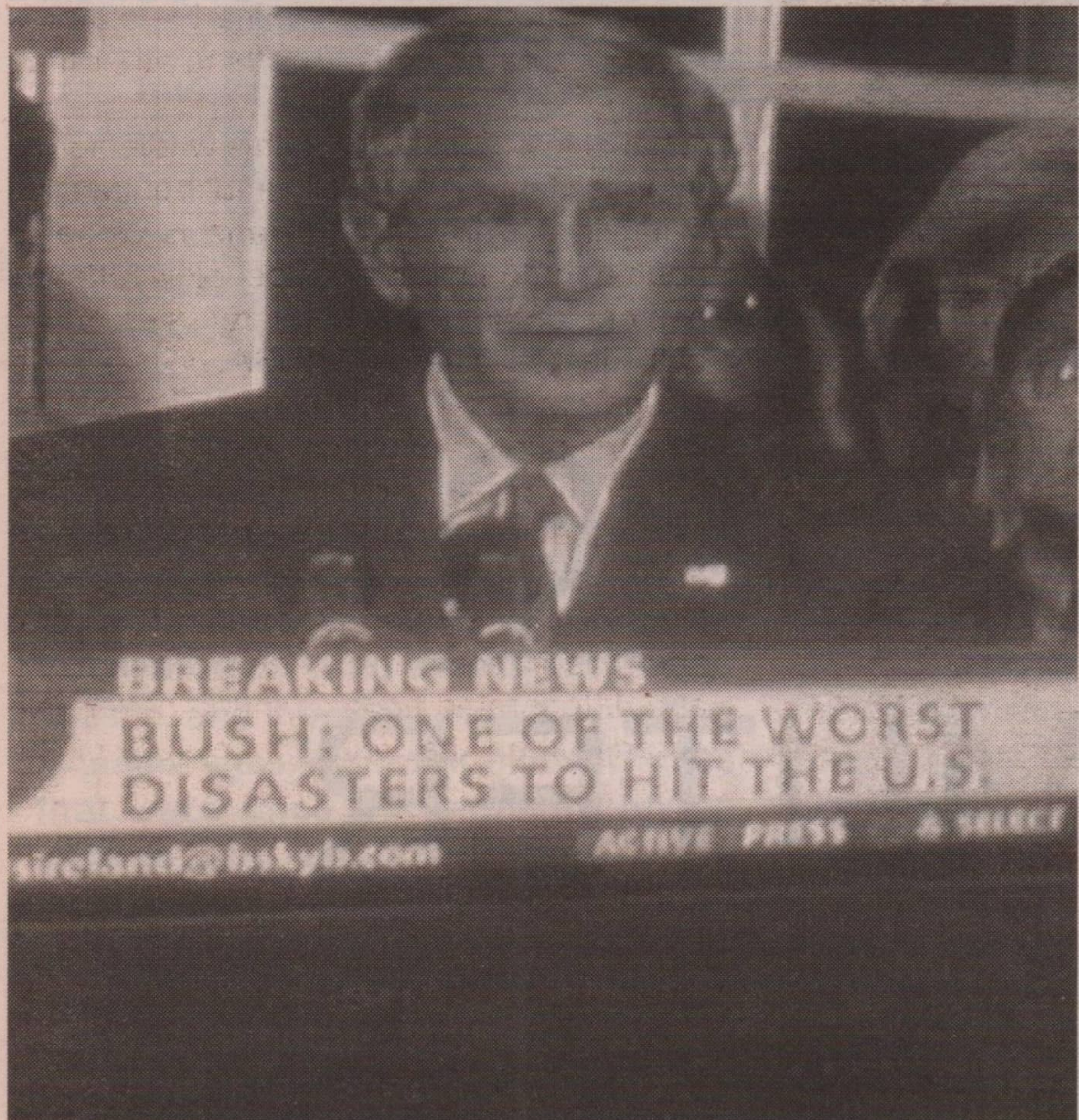
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# If They Had Brains, They'd Be Dangerous



Welcome to Class War's regular round up from the thick blue line!

## Metropolitan Police

What to make of the story (BBC on-line 8/5/05) that white male recruits to the Met are having to wait up to three years to join, whilst women and ethnic minority candidates are sent straight to Hendon Police Training College. Class War thinks this is an excellent idea – making most of the bastards wait three years might actually allow some to come to their senses, or to receive a better offer. That should not be too hard...

## Cleveland Police

Few forces have as inaccurate a slogan on their vehicles as Cleveland's "Putting People First". This was demonstrated on 6<sup>th</sup> June, when two of Cleveland's finest were spotted shopping for mobile phones in Stockton.

Whilst they were busy searching for that laughing policeman ringtone, an enterprising member of the public snapped their van parked in a space for disabled drivers only. A written warning for "unprofessional

behaviour" ensued, something that perhaps showed how out of touch the bosses at Cleveland Police are. Whatever those cops were doing, it was certainly not unprofessional, or untypical.

## British Transport Police

The BTP has become the first force to allow Community Support officers (plastic policemen to you and me) to

carry handcuffs. This has produced tantrums from the Police Federation. After years of undermining other workers terms and conditions, and actively breaking their strikes, it seems the cops "don't like it up em" and see any additional powers given to community support officers as an erosion of their powers.

Sorry guys, what goes around, comes around!

## Met Police Territorial Support Group

Hello to all the big and butch boys in the TSG. It seems all that running around hitting people must be getting a bit much for the TSG. According to the May 2005 issue of Yoga Magazine (required reading for all class warriors!) TSG officers are now taking classes in Iyengar yoga!

Their tutor, Lorraine McConnon tells us "With regular yoga practice the negative legacy of the police officer's work is removed and does not have a chance to accumulate". That may be true for the pigs Lorraine, sadly we see the negative legacy of their work all the time! More seriously, if any one comes across Ms McConnon in the course of their "journey" through life, can they tell her she is a complete

fucking idiot!

Our winners this issue though are all the dodgy geezers and diamond girls at Folkestone police station in Kent. Living costs have sadly risen for this motley crew after Custody Sergeant Boyd Adams was jailed for smuggling cigarettes and rolling tobacco into Britain. The court ordered that Adams also have £117,000 of his assets seized, after hearing how he supplied goods to workers and officers at the station, as well as those outside. Its all up in smoke now!



**CLEVELAND  
POLICE**  
*Putting People First*

...as long as they are in the masons



Lorraine McConnon - Fruitcake

## Bush blown away by "natural" disaster?

*Class War published this article online at the time of the New Orleans hurricane and floods*

The ongoing tragedy that is all over our television screens at the time of writing is nothing short of obscene. TV stations and tabloids blurt out their sickening one liners and sound bites of 'Anarchy in New Orleans' and 'Looters should be shot on sight'.

Whilst it is still unknown exactly how many people have died in the tragedy the government, through their corrupt and sponsored press, rather than accept their share of responsibility for the growing catastrophe, maintain an on going barrage of fuckwitted hatred and slanderous abuse toward those they are supposed to represent. Yes it's them again folks...the poor and needy.

### Governing What Exactly?

So what, we can hear you ask, has the government got to do with what's occurred. Surely it was an 'act of God'? Whilst New Orleans and the rest of the region are no stranger to terrible weather conditions, reports were coming out at least a year ago about the need for government aid to reinvest into strengthening the waterways and levees in the canals leading from Lake Pontchartrain which protect New Orleans. The response from the Bush administration to a request for at least \$78 million to fund the project was to splash out an extraordinarily stingy amount of \$10 million.

The excuse behind this? The ongoing cost of running the war of terror in Iraq. Days before the imminent hurricane was to sweep into the region, public officials were seen on TV calling for people to 'get on outta here today!' This led to the extraordinary scenes of hundreds of

thousands of people jumping into their cars and heading out of the area to safety.

### The Lord Won't Provide

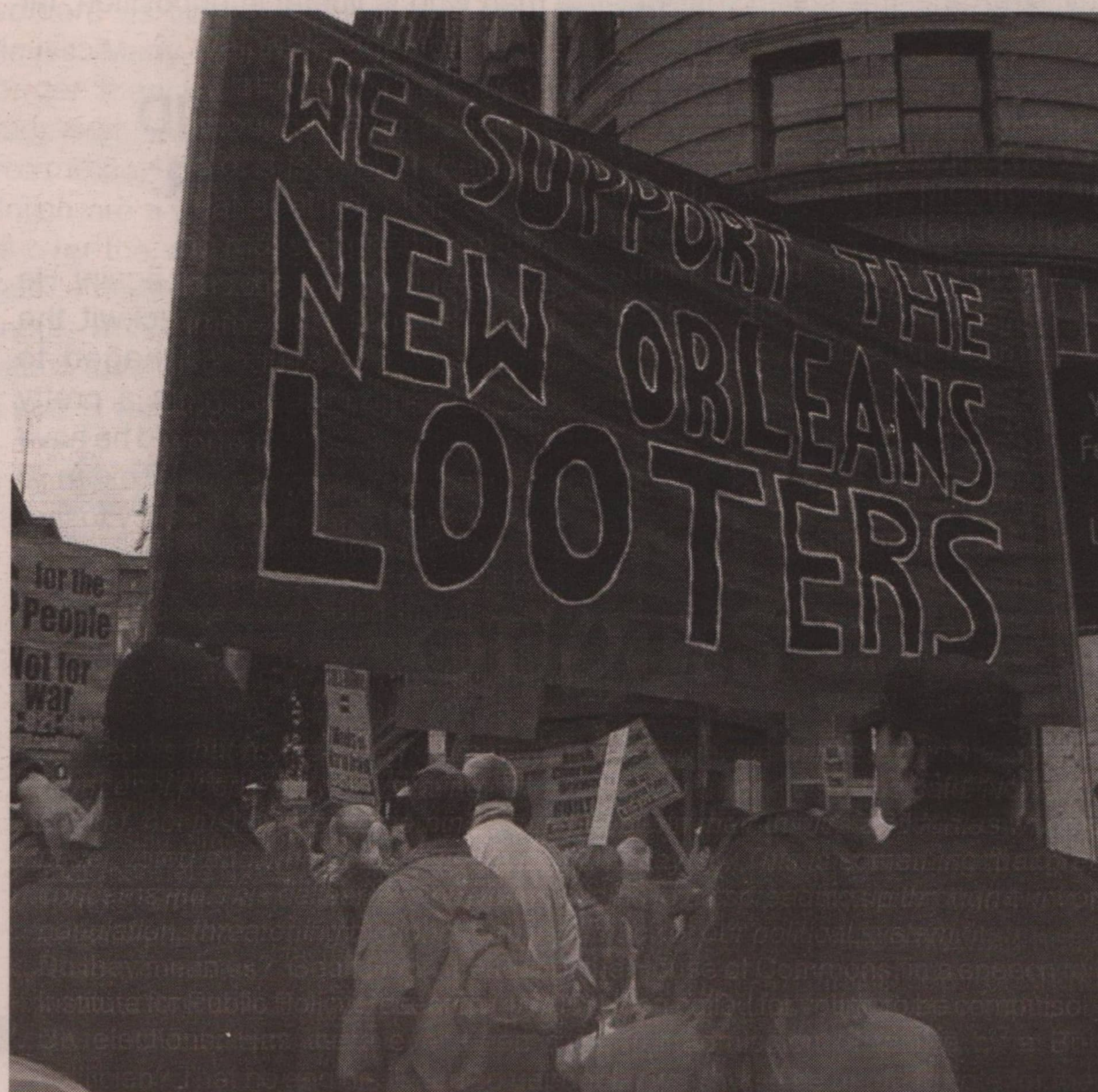
One thing the public officials didn't address was how the majority of the poor were

supposed to join into such a biblical rush for cover. Already poverty stricken and without cars or relatives to stay with out of state, what provisions were set up for the evacuation of the most vulnerable? None. This certainly was a New Testament case Bush style of 'get outa ya bed and walk!' Three days into the event with the majority of the poor areas of New Orleans covered in water and thousands dead, the only help people could rely on was their own. Frustrated by the lack of help, people 'criminally' took whatever measures they could to stay alive, something the state so readily screams at us is nothing other than 'looting'.

What is interesting about this whole sordid affair is that in 2005, the number of families living in poverty in Louisiana is close to double the national average. New Orleans has one of the highest poverty rates of any of the largest cities in the USA. According to a report by Total Community Action, a New Orleans public advocacy group, 'nearly one out of three New Orleans residents live below the poverty level, the majority of who are Black'. A spokesperson for the United Negro College Fund noted that the city's poor live in some of the most dilapidated, and deteriorated housing in the nation. No surprise then that fewer than 40% of the residents in New Orleans and the surrounding area will have flood insurance to rebuild their lives.

One could almost be forgiven for believing that there are those who are rubbing their hands with glee at this appalling catastrophe.

'Black, homeless, no place to go? How'z about a career in the marine corps son? You KNOW it makes sense!





## Spotting Terrorists?

Back in 2001 12 British plane spotters were convicted of spying in Greece, after they were arrested taking pictures at a Greek airshow. The tabloids united in howls of anguish, decrying the racism and stupidity of the Greek authorities, whilst the broad sheets either joined in or sneered, in the way that only the British chattering classes can, at the men and their hobbies. All sides were united though, in saying such nonsense could never happen here. Tell that to the three trainspotters detained and searched at Basingstoke train station in April, under Section 44 of the Terrorism Act 2000. This clause was in effect at transport hubs throughout the UK in the run up to the 2005 election, and allows the police to search anyone, without the usual grounds of "reasonable suspicion" that a crime is being carried out, as Charles Clark



Is that a bomb in your bag, or are you just pleased to see the 8:17 from York...?

proposes.

The fact that people cannot even pursue harmless hobbies – be it in Greece or Britain – without some jobsworth police officer harassing them tells us a lot about the police, and politicians across Europe. It also says all that needs to be said about the Terrorism Act 2000. Whilst such measures are very successful at alienating people, wasting their time and reminding them why they should hate both the police and politicians, they are fuck all use at preventing terrorism. It is time these acts were abolished, not added to.

## Jump To It!

We all know the sons and daughters of the upper classes can be even stranger than their parents. One good sign of this is the Oxford University ritual of jumping into the River Cherwell on May Day.

Following some specialist work by Class War divers, we were pleased to ensure that this year the River was only three feet deep on May Day, as more than 100 students jumped 25 feet from Magdalen Bridge. Thirty students were treated for injuries at the scene, and a similar number were taken to hospital. Please be assured that Class War frogmen are already planning next years surprise now – so jump to it!

## ROVER BOSSES SHAME

With the closure of the Rover plant and the loss of thousands of jobs (not just in the plant itself but also in the supplying industries) just weeks before the general election it really laid bare the failure of all the political parties, in their response to a crisis for part of the UK working class.

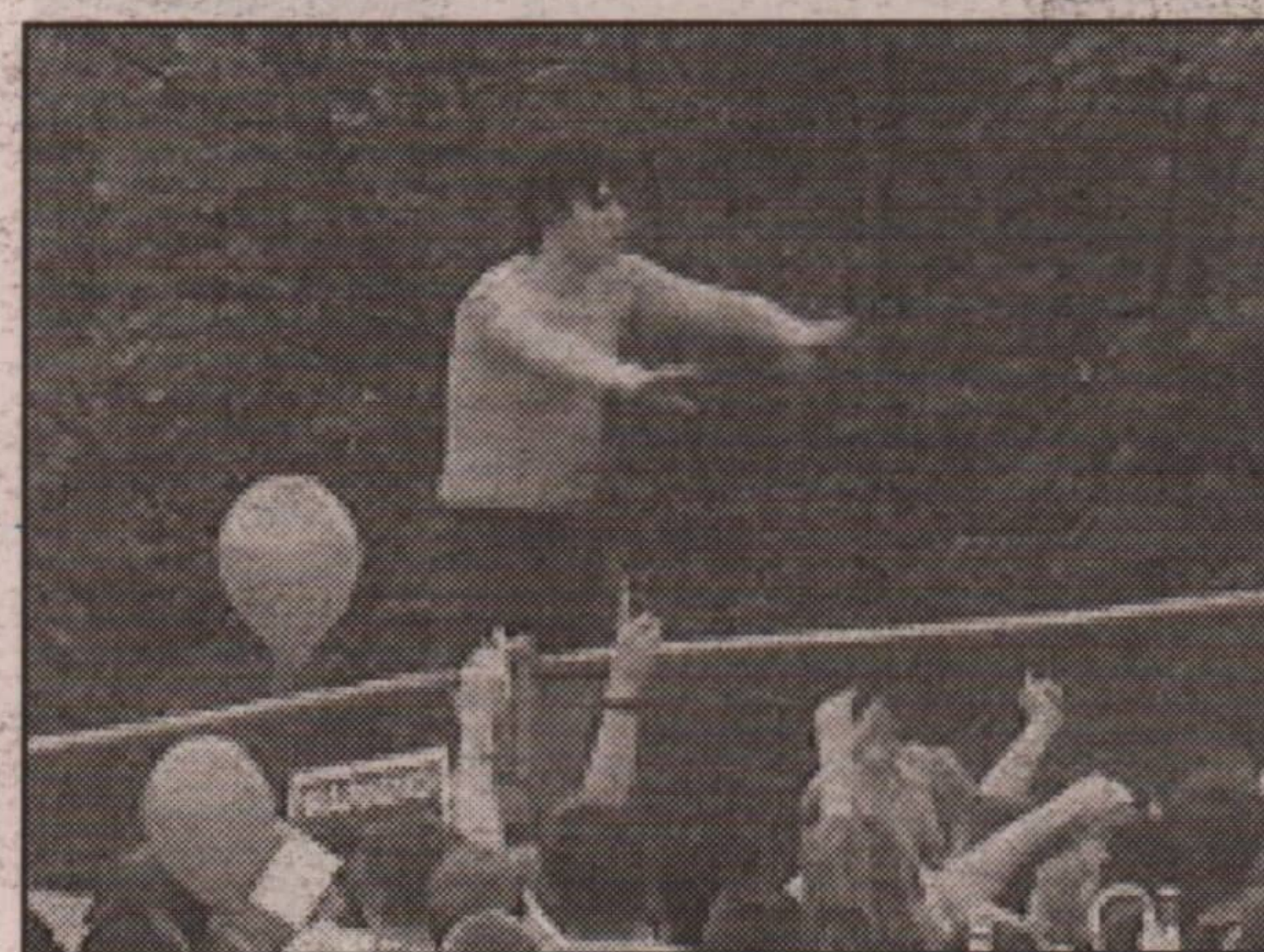


John Towers - Rover boss, rich scum

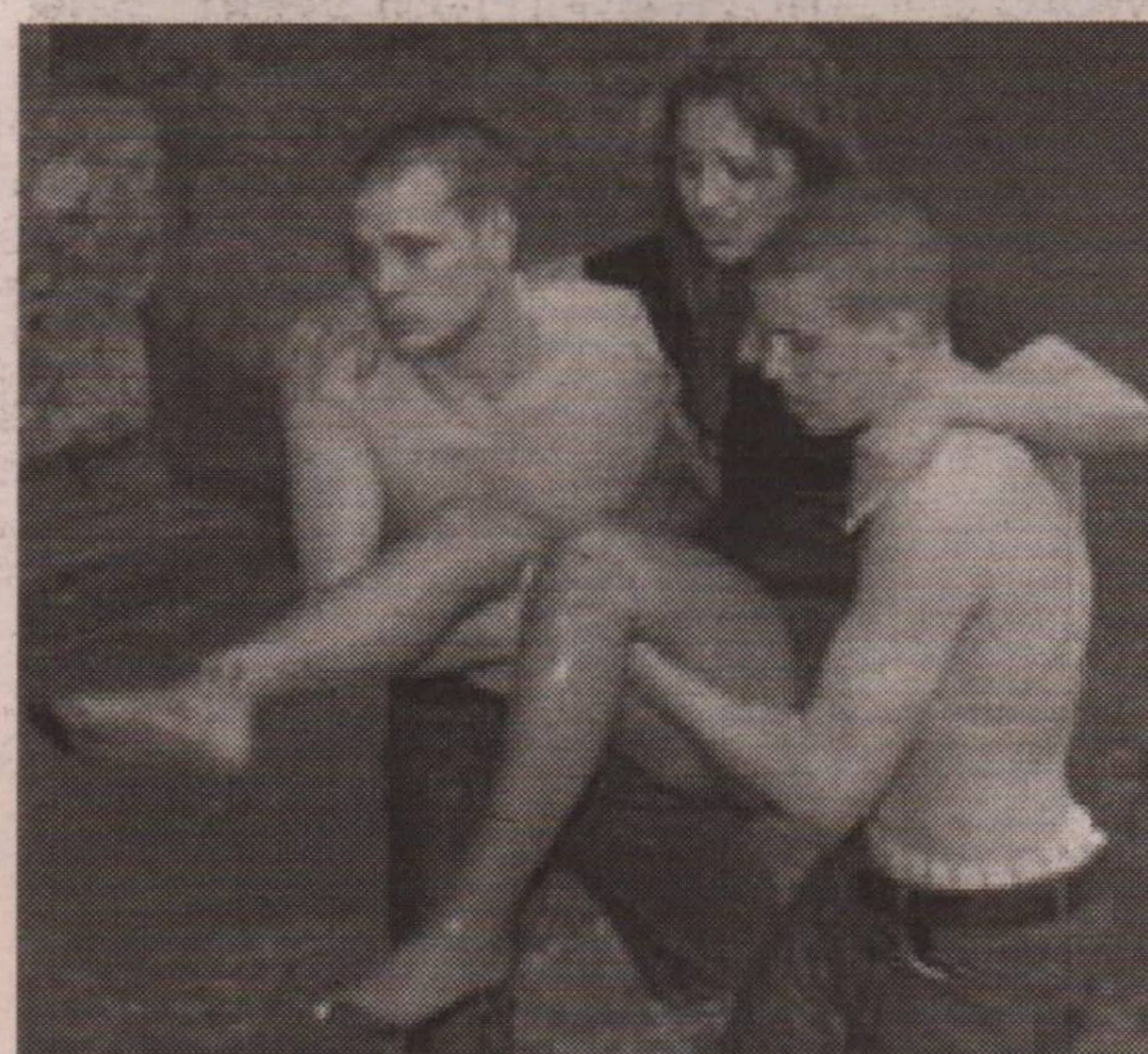
How many politicians did we see weeping crocodile tears for the workers? And how many of them have we even seen being chauffeur driven around in Rover cars? None is the answer!

None of the politicians spoke of the huge 'golden handshakes' the bosses got or of the disgustingly low redundancy packages the shop floor workers received. £3500 for fifteen years work is absolutely appalling. In May one of the Rover workers was found dead by his daughter at his home he had been filling out job application forms when he died of a heart attack. His daughter said 'if Rover was still open my father would still be alive.'

Our thoughts go out to all the Rover workers and their families. Until we rid ourselves of the greedy bosses and their system any number of us can be thrown on the scrap heap at any time and the politicians, of all colours, won't do a thing about it. Class unity, Class pride, Class war!



Ready... steady...



...oops. Shame!

## A Kick in the Balkans

Last year saw several newspapers in the former Yugoslavia "name and shame" a group of wealthy, powerful and politically motivated individuals who have helped bring violence and instability to a particularly troubled part of the world.

Whilst newspapers in Croatia, Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina were happy to expose these troublemakers, the British media remained largely silent. Why? Because the men concerned are, or perhaps more accurately were, all senior MI6 intelligence agents operating in the Balkans.

In case you missed it, those named were:

**Anthony Monckton**. Said to have been the most senior MI6 officer in the Balkans.

**Gareth Lungle**y, first secretary for political affairs at the British embassy in Croatia.

**Christopher Looms**, an employee of the International Crime Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (no conflict of interest there!)

**Julian Braithwaite**, Information Director to Paddy Ashdown, the ex-Lib Dem leader who is now High Representative for Bosnia.

**Alastair Sommerlad**, an MI6 officer stationed at the British embassy in Sarajevo.

Whilst the Lib Dems continue to gain political prominence in the UK, their ex-leader Lord Ashdown is behaving in a far from liberal manner in Bosnia. Don't expect to see too many British journalists or politicians repeating Ashdown's Sarajevo nickname - "The Viceroy of Bosnia". Still, it is perhaps better than being known as Paddy Pantsdown!

Ashdown has dictatorial powers in the country, something the International Commission on the Balkans now wishes to see end. As so often with liberals, Ashdown appears to be a man who is liberal in opposition, far from liberal in power!

## DUMB AND DUMBER

Prince Harry has been at it again! He is surely the dopiast fuckwit the imbred royals have managed to produce yet! And that is a pretty competitive field! Not only did he have to cheat in his Geography exam to get a D, yes a D, but the dozy tosser also had to cheat at his artwork as well! This time however he did manage to get a B. The D and B must be short for Dumb Bastard. Never mind at least he will be put to the test at Sandhurst where he is training to become a military officer. Ha ha! We feel sorry for any soldier who is under his command.

Class War was secretly passed some of the prince's 'art' work before his teacher could make the necessary changes. Here are a few examples:

## Peeping Toms

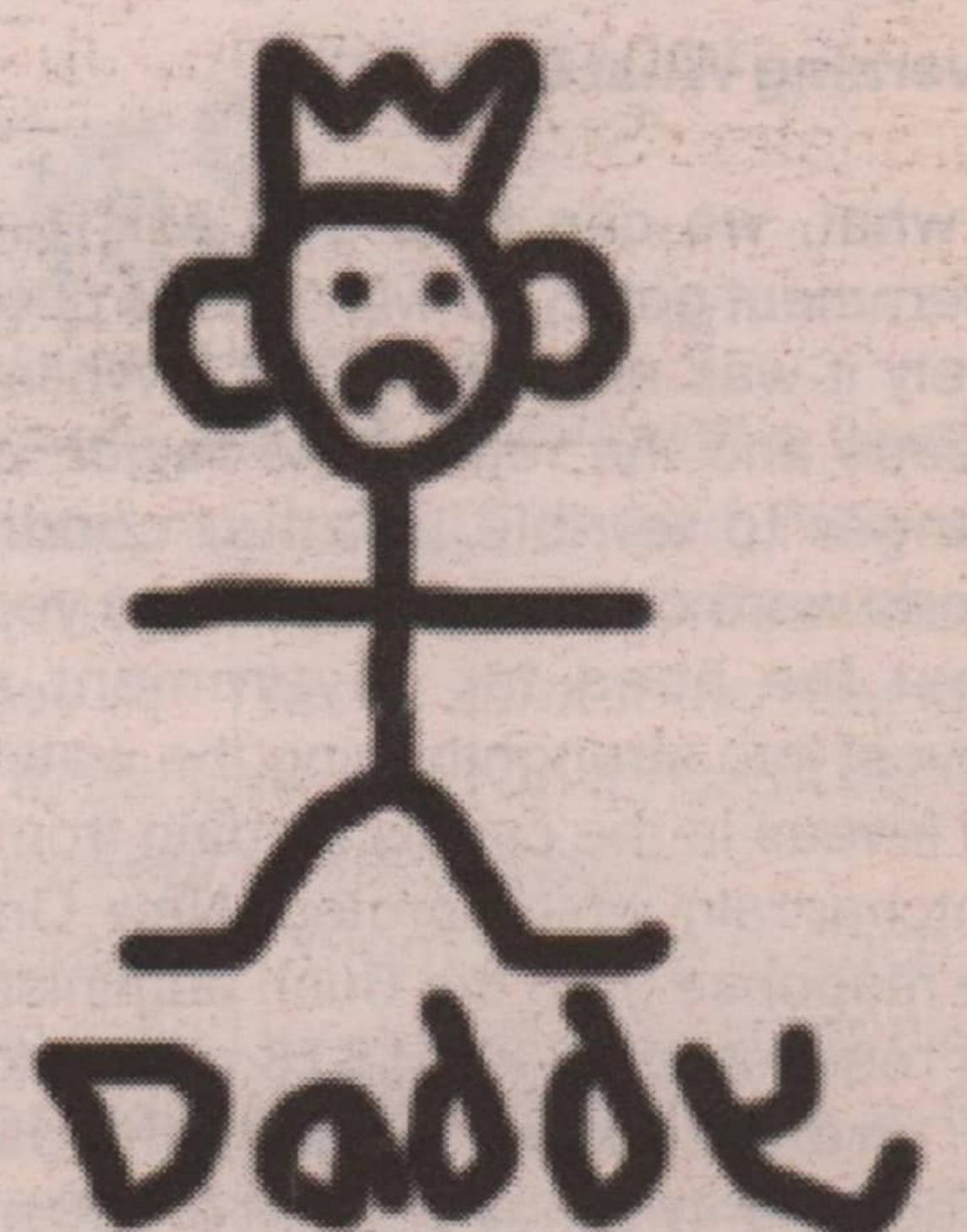
CCTV is now to be found on virtually every main street in Britain. All of this is supposedly to make us safe, although as soon as a tragedy like the London bombings occurs, the Home Secretary quickly pipes up that "no manner of surveillance could have stopped the attacks".

So we are left with the worst of both worlds – wall to wall surveillance, but we are no more secure than before! CCTV is of course routinely mis-used – take for example the four Sefton council workers suspended, then charged, after council CCTV cameras were angled to peer into a woman's flat. If that is what council workers are up to, what are the chances the cops and security services are up to things a thousand times worse?

## Creating Future Terrorists

The British and Americans seem determined to do this in Uzbekistan. May saw massacres of anti-dictatorship campaigners in Andijan. They were quickly dismissed by the US, and Uzbek authorities, who regard anyone protesting against President Karimov as an Islamic fundamentalist. Given the numbers killed in May, and the numbers being routinely tortured in Karimov's jails, those who are not Islamic fundamentalists soon will be.

Britain's role in this is, as usual, to hold the American's coats. Craig Murray, the former British ambassador to Uzbekistan, was forced out of the Foreign Office after complaining that information, obtained by the use of torture in the country, was being passed to MI6. Only George Bush and Tony Blair seem to believe there will never be a price to pay for such behaviour.





## One Law for Them

*The first in a no doubt all too regular column, exposing the fact that whoever the law is serving, it is not the general public.*

Figures for the year 2003-4 show that more than 12 people each week are injured in London in crashes involving police cars. In England and Wales 31 people were killed by police cars last year.

The legal response to this problem is interesting. 59 police drivers were caught by traffic cameras for speeding in Derbyshire last year. None were taken to court, even though in at least 14 of these cases the drivers were not displaying flashing blue lights. In other words, if they want to race to the pie shop as fast as they want to, they can.

The classic example of this was PC Mark Milton of West Mercia police. He decided to take one of the force's new cars out for a spin. This involved him driving at 159 mph on the M54, 137 mph on the A5 and in Telford, a residential area, at 100 mph. He was acquitted of dangerous driving and speeding.

The case also revealed that West Mercia police had no policy on when officers could drive above the speed limit – in other words they can do what they want, which is something we had rather gathered already.

The families of those killed or seriously injured by speeding police officers are of course left to suffer in silence. Brian Stephens, whose daughter lost a leg after being hit by a speeding police car commented "There is one rule for us and one for the police. What is the point of having speed limits if these people can break them at will?"

## Safe As Houses?

Congratulations to the Home Office for their latest campaign, "Top Tips for Home Safety". This postcard campaign, which largely consists of statements of the bleeding obvious such as "When you go out, even if its just for a few moments, always lock all doors and windows" has seen postcards delivered through every door in Britain.

Just to add to that feel of welcoming and safety, the front cover of the postcard comes complete with a 1950s style scene of urban, terraced housing with homely chimneys smoking on the skyline. Just like Coronation Street.

Exactly the sort of scene that was common in many of our cities until the powers that be demolished terraced, community housing, and replaced it with tower blocks, flats and dispersal to the suburbs. Instead of wasting money telling us things we already know, perhaps the Home Office should admit some of government's past mistakes?

## The Myths of the SAS

One of the most comic responses to the London bombings was the News of the World dragging out SAS veteran turned author Chris Ryan, to write a two page article "Beating the Bombers – Secret War of Whispers". In it, Ryan talked of how Al-Qaeda could be defeated, by the use of intelligence, vigilance and deadly force. He commented:

"From talking to guys who fought in Afghanistan, I know we're dealing with fearsome fighters – religious fanatics who have absolutely no fear of death or imprisonment".

The SAS will of course know this – they worked closely with, and at times trained many of the people who went on to become Al-Qaeda, during the 1980s, when Islamic militants from across the world were in the Mujahadeen fighting the Soviets in Afghanistan.

It is entirely possible that the four Britons who caused such murderous devastation in London on 7 July were trained by Mujahadeen veterans, who in turn were trained by the likes of Chris Ryan. This was very British terrorism indeed. But don't expect to read that in the News of the World.



Chris Ryan - Terrorism begins at home

## One Down?

In the 80s, countless tedious celebrities used to say they would leave Britain for ever if the Labour party was ever elected. Sadly people like Stephen Hendry, Phil Collins and Cilla Black never did – we are stuck with the bastards.

Incredibly though, one such threat may actually be carried out. Princess Michael of Kent announced she would leave Britain if fox hunting were banned – and she and her husband have now put their manor house in Gloucestershire up for sale!

Whilst it is on the market, any pickets wishing to make sure she does not change her mind can go down to Kensington Palace, where the Kent's have "apartments" – fuck off and don't come back is our only message!



Tally ho! One less royal

## Enough of Respect!

When George Galloway announced his decision to stand in Bethnal Green and Bow at the election, we wondered how it would turn out. And, if we were honest, we'd say something along the lines of how it has transpired. Bethnal Green and Bow is now a more divided community, there's a lot of anger about the way the election was



conducted, and one of Respect's founders, the Socialist Workers Party look like they've had a mass orgasm. We're not prophets: but it's an easy enough prediction that where Respect – the Unity Coalition (RUC) go, a community riven by faith and race will emerge.

The SWP's role in getting Galloway elected should not be underestimated. They did put in a hell of a lot of effort into the campaign. In fact, they concentrated their national effort on it, with people coming from far and wide to help out. They must feel that they now deserve some respect from their new MP. So it's a pity that they're unlikely to get any. Now George is ensconced in the East End, and can spend less time on the hoof and more time counting his money, it's probably time for the SWP to be chucked out of the RUC, without a parachute. Who needs who more? Galloway doesn't need any campaigners for the next four or five years, and we'd be surprised if there aren't enough volunteers within Tower Hamlets Muslim community to replace the SWP's pitiful cadres. The SWP are surplus to requirements. They have done the hard bit, now all Galloway needs to do is build up a local following through constituency work and campaigning and he has that seat again at the next general election.

For all his gassing now that he won't stand again but will let the bughers of Bethnal Green and Bow be represented by 'one of their own' (presumably he means a Muslim of some description and not necessarily a member of the working class) it is hard to see where this carpetbagger can go. Yes, it's always possible that he'll keep his word and move on in four years time. But it's more likely that to keep him in the style to which he is accustomed he will have to remain in Parliament so he can get some lucrative newspaper columns and further speaking tours of American universities. No one's going to want him on their books if he gets dumped out of Parliament, so he has a reason to stay put.

Quite what that does for working class people in the East End, and community relations, is beyond us.

## THE PATH TO POWER

The RUC's election campaign did provide some amusing moments. First was when Galloway was threatened with a lynching – there are many Muslims in Bethnal Green & Bow who feel that voting is un-Islamic and that all the people standing were candidates of Satan! Much of the threats of, and actual violence in the campaign appears to have been one-way – as witness the Jewish war veterans at a commemoration egged by some of Galloway's Muslim supporters. And this was "justified" in the East London Advertiser by references to the Middle East and Israel. Quite how Jewish pensioners in the east end are responsible for what is happening in the middle east is beyond us. Very, very unpleasant.

Then there was the announcement of Galloway's imminent divorce from his wife. It has long been an open secret on the left that Galloway has an eye for the ladies, and will offer any nubile young thing a job as a researcher. Amin-eh Abu-Zayyad, Galloway's (now ex-) wife, feels that his calling Respect "Respect" is a joke, considering that he never gave her any. Practice what you preach, George! And they don't come more preachy than Galloway!

Since his election, George has promised to hound Blair out of office. This praiseworthy aim seems quite ambitious, as so many have tried, but failed, to achieve the same objective. The dictators' lickspittle, however, is adamant that this is his task. His bizarre view that in scraping into Bethnal Green & Bow he has somehow delivered a decisive blow to Labour indicates that he and reality have some time ago parted company. If a million or more marching couldn't prevent Blair going to war, we have some reservations about Galloway's ability to capitalise on his success in the East End by forcing the running dog Blair from office.

Elsewhere, politics dealt the RUC candidates cruel blows. In Neath, for example, the RUC candidate (we'll not add to their humiliation by identifying them) got an astonishing 257. The only other constituencies where the RUC can claim any success are East Ham and West Ham, where they received 20% of the vote, and a clear majority of the Muslim vote. Who said it was just the BNP who were trying to racialise British politics?

## Class War Meetings

For details of group meetings and actions please contact the Class War group nearest to you.

London Class War meets regularly in central London, usually on the first Sunday of the month.



# CLASS WAR PRISONERS

PO BOX 467 LONDON E8 3QX



## Prison Censorship Defeated

HMP Belmarsh, Britain's highest security prison, was recently forced to back down over the censorship of a radical newspaper. We reproduce a press release on the matter below:

On 29 June 2005 Belmarsh prison wrote to Daniel Guedalla of Birnberg Peirce solicitors, the legal representatives for Basque political prisoner, Inigo Makazaga, backing down over the prison's refusal to issue him with copies of the newspaper Fight Racism! Fight Imperialism! (FRFI). FRFI is a bi-monthly anti-racist, anti-imperialist newspaper produced by the Revolutionary Communist Group and published by Larkin Publications. Each issue of the paper has a page dedicated to the struggles of prisoners and it is sent free of charge to any prisoner who requests a copy. Inigo Makazaga is imprisoned in Belmarsh high security prison in south London, following a demand by the Spanish government for his extradition. He has not been charged with any criminal offence in Britain. Mr Makazaga had received copies of FRFI without problem for two years, but at the start of 2005 was handed an empty envelope marked 'racial paper not for issue'. Following protests by Larkin Publications and many concerned individuals and

organisations, the prison ceased to claim that the paper was 'racial'. However the following issue was withheld for a different reason, supposedly to do with the Prison Service Incentives scheme. The next one was simply returned marked 'not for issue'. Birnberg Peirce solicitors then threatened the prison with a judicial review if the paper continued to be withheld.

Belmarsh's letter of 29 June states that: Inigo Makazaga may receive both past and future issues of FRFI without hindrance, as can any other prisoner in Belmarsh who chooses to subscribe. The prison apologises for the implication that FRFI was a 'racial paper'. The prison library will take an extra copy of the paper.

Larkin Publications will now be writing to other prisons that have censored FRFI in the recent period (in particular Full Sutton and Frankland prisons) and will continue to oppose all attempts to prevent distribution of the paper to prisoners in the future.

ENDS

For further information telephone 020 7837 1688

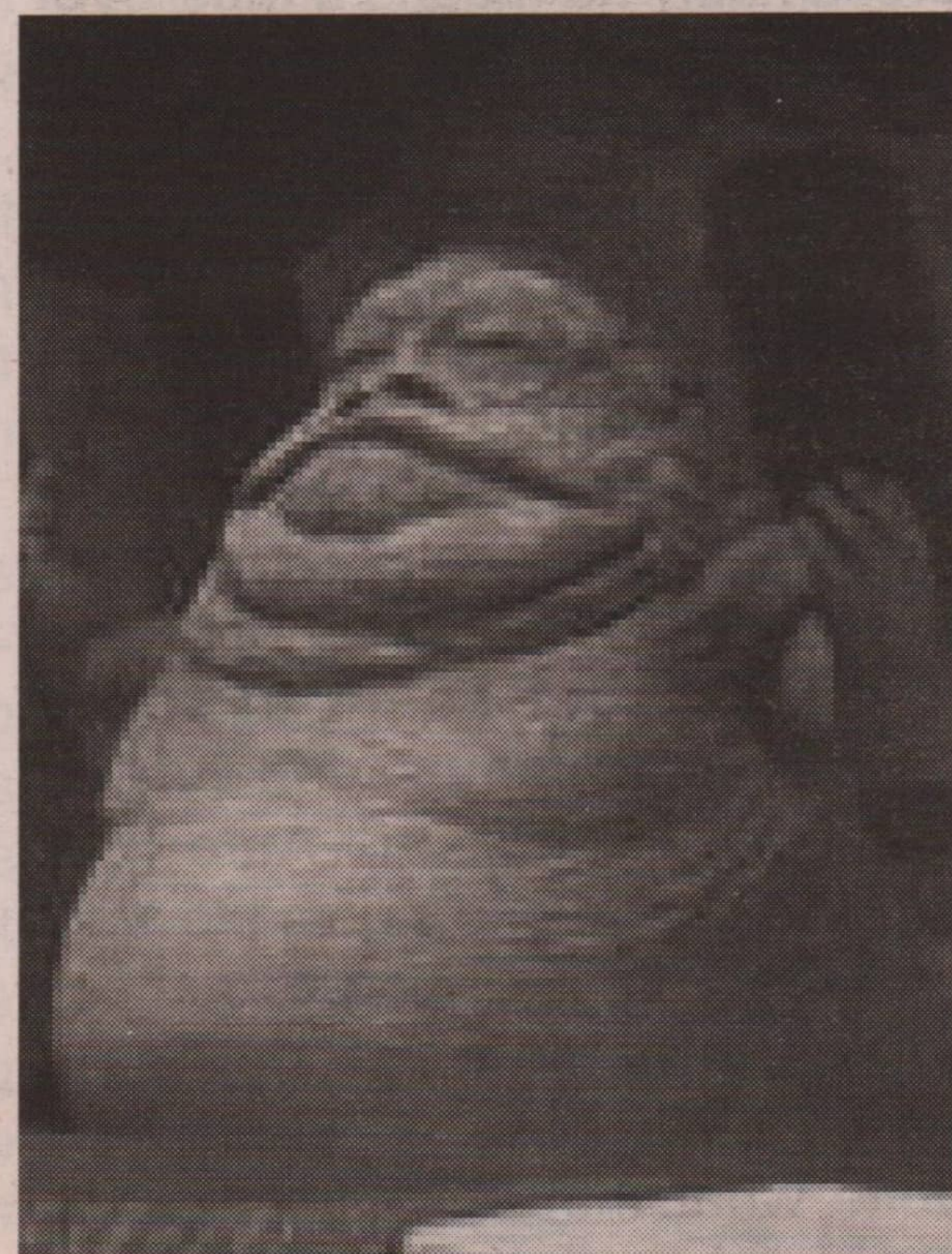
Class War fully supports the stance taken by fight Racism Fight Imperialism on this issue, and advice any other groups or individuals similarly censored to take an identical approach.

### New Prison Pamphlet

If It Was Easy, They Wouldn't Call It Struggle is a new pamphlet written by anarchist Mark Barnsley. He talks about repression and resistance in British prisons, and his personal experiences inside. You can order it for £2 from London Class War.

## Give Him His Porridge (and nothing else!)

Millionaire ex-policeman Clive Shorney has a unique claim to fame – he is Britain's fattest prisoner. At 43 stone this formerly porky pig was so fat he was unable to sit in the dock at his trial for demanding money with menaces. On conviction this fat bastard had to have a special lift to get him into the prison van. Ex-cops get a deservedly hard time inside – lets hope Shorney get his just deserts, rather than desserts, during his 12 month sentence.



Clive Shorney - Salad Dodger

## DORSET...THE COUNTY OF PRISONS

This article was written by a Class War member whose holiday destination this year was Dorset.

Reading a brochure after returning made me laugh, rolling hills, sunny meadows, everything for the family blah blah...but after my visit to this county well known for its child friendly beaches and relaxing countryside I was shocked because all I saw was prisons, more prisons, fences, cameras and shady looking screws. We (me and my girlfriend) started by staying in Dorchester, not a bad town, a bit



HMP Dorchester - Not a nice place to visit, and I wouldn't want to stay...

cliquey but a lot of history if you're willing to search around. We walked around a bit and saw a massive building with high walls, on further investigation we noticed the razor wire and sussed that it was that Victorian prison HMP Dorchester. We walked up a side road and noticed a security guard bounding towards us, my girlfriend said later that he walked a bit like a monkey, he barked at us "this is a private road, what are you doing here?". "Walking down it", I replied and thought he had expected us to say sir, "you can't go any further, go back", I don't see any signs saying this is a private road" was my reply, he fumed and paced back to a building watching us, at that point I noticed all the CCTV cameras. I took a few pictures myself and posed in front of the ageing prison. Bloody hell, friendly Dorset we thought later in the pub. There's a funny smell in Dorchester as you walk about, later I learned that it was the local brewery and what you smell is the hops mixed in with Dorchester Prison decaying away.

That was our first day in the sunny county; it pissed down with rain. Next port of call was Portland, unspoilt countryside, the island that has everything the brochure stated. Prisons, yes they are bloody everywhere. I knew Portland has a Young Offenders Institute because I remember when I was little I use to visit my brother there once a month. After a short walk we bumped right into the Gaol, very big, very ugly and very threatening. It was dusk on a very windy evening and whilst walking on a footpath we could see across the razor wire the inmates TVs on in the cells. It must have been lock up time, we tried waving to some prisoners on the stairs but it was dusk and they didn't see us. Night time came and we visited the local boozier, after one pint we noticed all the

people in the pub were men, keys hanging off their trousers, big boots on. The pub was cold and unfriendly, in fact it was a bit depressing, no laughter, no smiling. Later on we were told by the B&Bs owner where we was staying that we should visit the pub further along as the pub we went in was where Prison staff went, should have guessed really. Well a new day and the sun was out briefly we looked forward to a walk to another part of the island and you guessed it we bumped right into another prison, the notorious Verne. It seemed that this prison was underground, it was massive, looked as if it belonged to another era. We wondered if it was still used. It couldn't be, as it seemed to us that it was lifeless. Massive imposing gates loomed at us...was there anywhere we could go without bumping into a prison? Obviously not in Dorset.

When we managed to get on a path near the sea we came to a hill and lo behold what loomed before us was not a picture of rolling seas and golden sands but slabs of concrete, razor wire and a big massive ship with lights on. "That can't be another prison" we barked at each other but it was, a fucking boat, they put a prison on a boat! Did they run out of land? It's not as if Dorset is a big county. We bought an Ordnance Survey map and saw all the prisons we bumped into, shockingly we also noticed that we couldn't escape to the Isle of Wight, as that island holds one of the biggest prisons in England.

Chatting to a local old boy he was telling us the history of Portland and how the Government built their gaols there. Being an island you couldn't escape, as there is only one main road into Portland and he also told us that the rock on Portland was great for building houses. With cheap prisoners hard labour, shipping Portland stone was a great way the government could make money... Looking back on our holiday in prison land we were shocked at how many prisons there were in one small area. If you looked at other counties and saw how many prisons there are, added them all up together you get a picture that England is obsessed with gaols, they are fucking everywhere you turn.

We counted in England alone, the total of 143 prisons, a hundred and fucking forty three on a small island (all HMP Prisons) with the east Midlands having the most. Including 11 private prisons, that's a total of 154. Quite a lot don't you think, and more prisons are to be built, mainly private prisons. What the fuck is going on in this country, not only is 154 prisons not enough but 10 prisons are bursting at the seams with mass overcrowding. We sent a letter of complaint to Dorset Tourist Board about all the prisons and didn't get a reply, next year we will take our annual holidays in another country where we can stroll without a prison in sight. If there is one!





# CWACKERS

Class War Against Christian Wankers

## Pisspoor Pontif Passes On

The sickening sights when the pope clogged it really made a lot of people switch off their TV and go down the pub. The sight of Christians coming out en mass, was enough to send any loyal CWACKER reader violently vomiting in the toilet. The Pope didn't do fuck all for years and looked like he was dead already, then suddenly the media are all over the place reporting what a great person he was.

We at CWACKERS were not busy waiting to praise the old codger, quite the reverse in fact. Lets have our own obituary on Johnny the dead pope or as he was also known - useless old git.

The Pope, you remember was so contemptuous in rejecting changes in our social climate in favour of the church's traditional positions on homosexuality, abortion, the pill, women as priests, not that we really want to see women priests, not that we really want to see women as priests - we don't want to see any priests at all! Just because the Pope was a virgin and missed out on one pleasure in life he took it out on the rest of us. Hidden behind all those suddenly loyal Catholics in their droves, trying to look all holy in front of the cameras they appear to have forgotten the pope had a very dubious history in covering up sex-scandals in the church. We noticed that the church does not hold a grudge towards Paedophiles or take a stand against sexual abuse because they were all up to it. The pope appeared to be quite content in brushing case after case under the carpet and forgave them all.

Take Cardinal Bernard F. Law, compelled to step down in disgrace in 2002 as Archbishop of Boston because of his role in the cover-up of priests who sexually abused young boys, Law resigned as archbishop of Boston after unsealed court records revealed he had allowed priests guilty of abusing children to move among parish assignments, without notifying the public. Pope Johnny II took no punitive action, and last year appointed Law, still a cardinal, to the position of archpriest of the Basilica of St. Mary Major, one of Rome's most prominent churches. It was in that capacity that Law was given an honoured role in the ceremonies marking the death of Johnny II.

The cardinal was interviewed on several American television networks and was honoured by the Bush administration when he joined other American cardinals at a reception with President Bush and his wife, Laura, at the United States Embassy

residence in Rome.

This flattering attention has come as a shock to the victims of the sex abuse scandal. According to reports in the American press, "to the astonishment and dismay of many Boston Catholics, Law has returned to the public spotlight" (Washington Post). It "reminded American Catholics that their most painful recent chapter barely registered in the Vatican" (New York Times). Nor it seems, the White House.

Law's resignation came after a year of unprecedented revelations about hundreds of cases of sexual abuse of pre-teen and teenage boys by Boston-area priests. For months,



The twat in the hat

victims of sex abuse came forward and told their stories about the predatory actions of John J. Geoghan, Paul R. Shanley and dozens of other priests.

Law, a dogmatic conservative who was appointed by John Paul II, downplayed the seriousness of the charges and accused critics of seeking to undermine the Church. Dozens of priests and thousands of parishioners signed petitions calling on him to resign, but he rejected any suggestion that the Church hierarchy should be accountable to the lower ranks. Ultimately, however, he was compelled to hand over the names and records of 80 paedophile priests to Massachusetts state authorities. The trigger for his ousting as Archbishop was a decision by a Massachusetts judge to compel the Church to release internal documents about its personnel decisions. These documents showed that Law had been aware of repeated allegations of sex abuse against certain priests, and had adopted a policy of transferring them from parish to parish without

notifying anyone in the congregations. This had a twofold effect: it supplied fresh, unwitting victims to the priests; and it prevented these disturbed men from receiving treatment for their condition. (Geoghan, linked to sexual abuse of more than 130 people, was eventually sentenced to 10 years in state prison, where a fellow prisoner murdered him.)

If any institution besides the Catholic Church had been involved in such behaviour, the evidence would have led to criminal prosecution, not merely of the individual abusers, but of the senior official who took affirmative action to permit the abuse to continue. Law ignored complaints by abuse victims, refused to report crimes by priests to the police, and even wrote letters of commendation for priests he knew were involved in abusing children.

A series of investigations concluded that at least 1,000 people were victimised as children in the Boston archdiocese alone. More than 150 priests were found to have a record of abuse. The Church has paid settlements of more than \$90 million, forcing parish consolidation and the closure of some Catholic schools as a consequence of the resulting financial crisis.

The Boston scandal was far from isolated. The surrounding publicity emboldened thousands of victims of priest sexual abuse to come forward. More than 1,000 sexual abuse lawsuits have been filed in the US alone, with multimillion-dollar settlements in Dallas, Portland and other dioceses. Similar charges forced the ousting of priests and bishops in Poland, Ireland, France and Austria.

Pope Johnny II convened an extraordinary meeting in the Vatican on the US sex abuse scandal on April 23-24, 2002, bringing together all of the US cardinals and the leadership of the US Catholic Conference of Bishops, as well as Vatican officials. The meeting produced a statement



Cardinal Law, Protector of Paedophiles

formally condemning child sex abuse, but making a series of excuses for the priests involved, including the claim "that almost all the cases involved adolescents and therefore were not cases of true paedophilia." The meeting stated, "A link between celibacy and paedophilia cannot be scientifically maintained," and reaffirmed "the value of priestly celibacy as a gift of God to the Church." Aye, work that one out.

## ITS OFFICIAL... JOHNNY THE POPE HATED WOMEN

And this is why he stayed a virgin to death. Here are some facts about the man being fast-tracked for sainthood.

**Women's rights.** Year after tiresome year since 1978, the Pope has told women that only men are made in the image of Christ and women were made to be breeders. Despite a shortage of priests, women may not become priests, and are such polluters of piety that male priests may not marry them. The media universally have treated these demeaning laws as significant "news." Even now, as men in skirts plot the course of the church, where is the outrage from the media, not to mention Catholic women, over the church's "male only" doctrines and other papal bullshit?

**Abortion.** Over and over, the Pope has mercilessly condemned legal abortion, even in cases of rape or to save the pregnant woman's life. He and his church lobby in this country (tax-free) and world-wide to overturn abortion where it is legal, and to keep it back-alley where it is not, contributing to the unnecessary deaths of thousands of women every year and the despair of their families.

A Catholic war is being waged against **reproductive rights**, as exemplified by the Catholic interference in Nicaragua two years ago when authorities attempted to stop a 9-year-old rape victim from having an abortion. Abortion, the pope said, is always a "crime," which he compared to the Nazi Holocaust. The Catholic Church would turn the clock back world-wide if it had its way. Its dedication to halting reproductive choice for women poses an imminent threat to the health and lives of half the world's human inhabitants. The best to be said about Pope Johnny II is that Pope Benedict XVI will be worse.

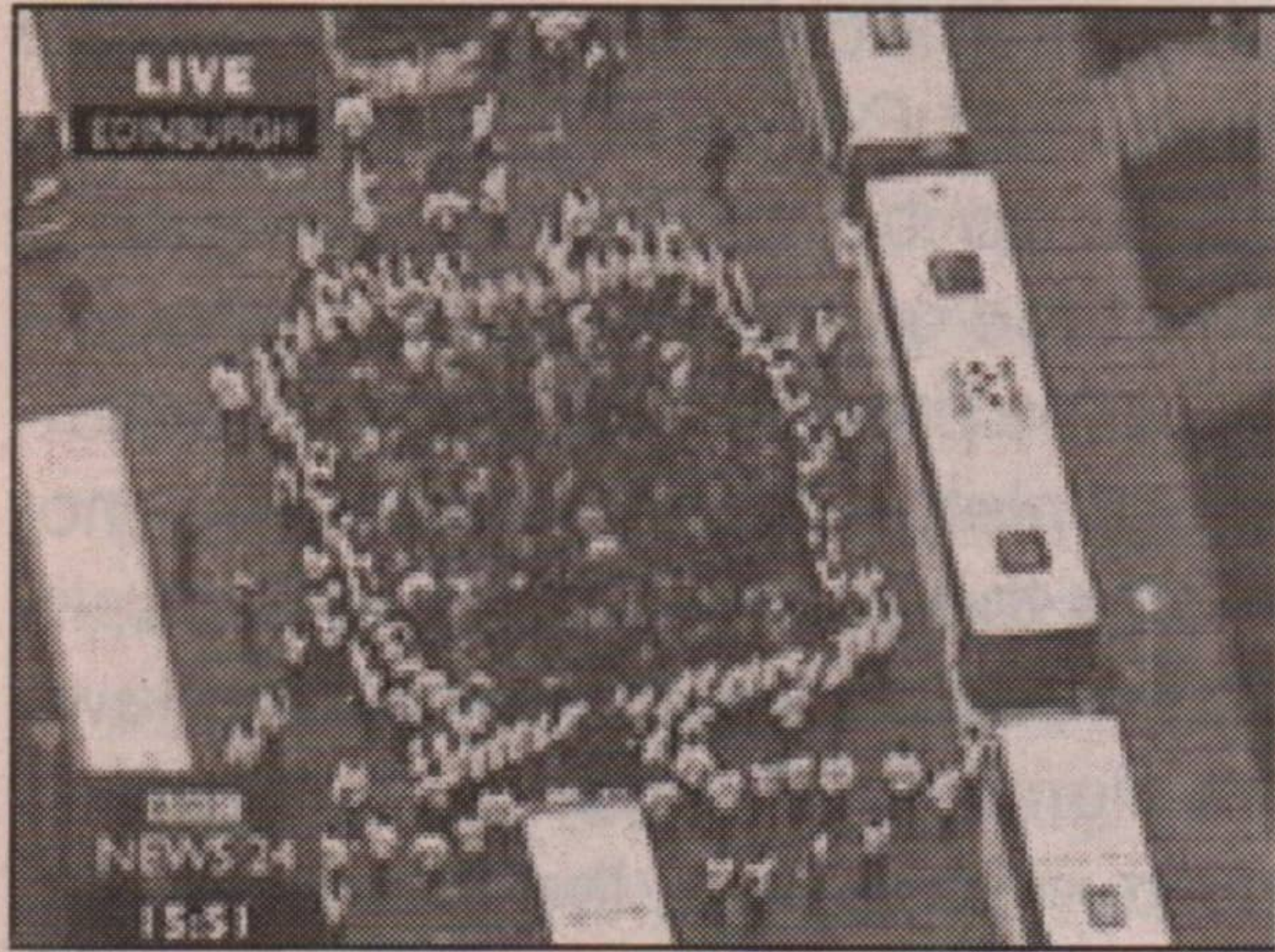
## IT'S ON THE CHURCH

Love 'em or hate 'em they're bloody everywhere, a few tips on how to make the best of the churches taking up all of the bloody land Skint? Why not rob from churches, there are always some bits and bobs lying around, crosses will be worth a bit, always a few quid in the begging box near the door and the great thing is God will forgive you and if your not a bit religious he doesn't exist anyway! Take a claw hammer and a black cloak with you and they may just blame the devil!

Cheap Holiday: don't bother with crap B&Bs, why not go camping, not only does it cost you fuck all but you can pitch your tent in the local grave yard, it will be quiet and for free but be discreet about it. (N.B people of a nervous disposition should not try this one!)



For a couple of years I'd been looking forward to Britain's G8 summit – or, rather, the protests and actions against it. Like most people, I missed out on Seattle and Genoa and I hoped that Gleneagles would prove an exciting and, yes, confrontational week. Certainly people in the Dissent network had been doing something for the past two years, and as I travelled up to Scotland I wondered

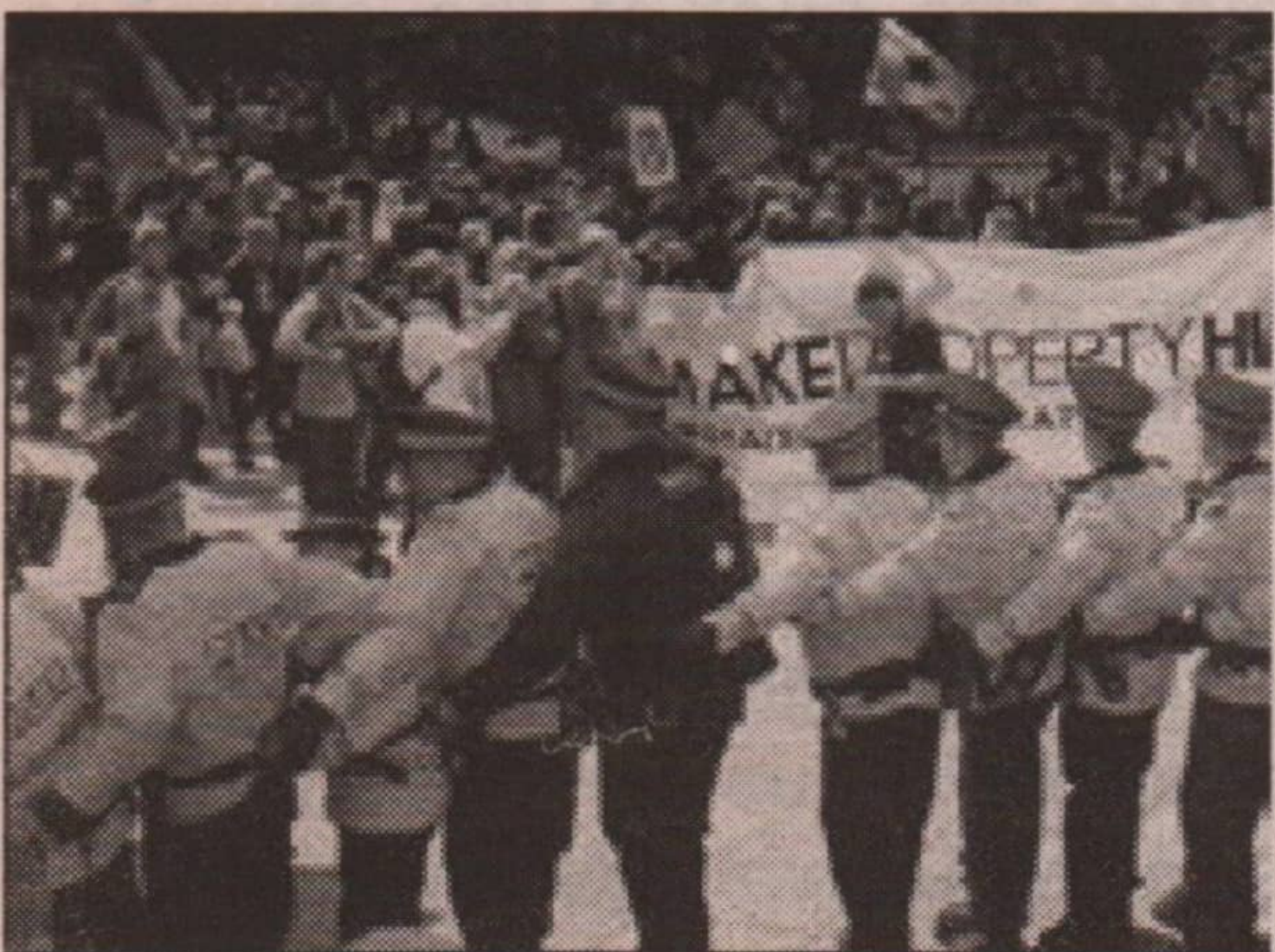


A dangerous minority, and some protestors

what the fruits of their labour would be.

I soon found out something of their work. Arriving in Edinburgh without anywhere to stay, I decided to try my luck at the camp at Stirling. This turned out to be an interesting experience, though I'd advise against kipping in Scotland, even in summer, without a sleeping bag. When I got to the camp, there was a brief introduction to the hazards we might face – dysentery, giant hogweed (like poison ivy), methane, the dangerous fast-flowing river... At the time I didn't know that the campsite was on top of a landfill site, which explained much when I learnt that. The people in the camp were friendly and welcoming – it was the location itself, with but one route of escape, which concerned me. After a fairly sleepless and chilly night I felt that a few nights in a bed and breakfast would be better for my health than risking hypothermia.

So, bidding farewell to Stirling, I moved down the line towards Edinburgh, finding accommodation in a small town outside the city. This proved to have its own drawbacks, but the greatest drawback to my mind was the division of people between Edinburgh, Stirling and Glasgow. There weren't all that many people in Scotland – some thousands – and splitting our forces seems to me to have been a bad idea. Whilst we



Cops join the fun with an impromptu conga line

weren't all caught in one place, neither were we able to concentrate our numbers where they might have been most effective. However, all this became clear later, and at the time it didn't seem too much of an obstacle to a week I hoped would be one to

remember for all the right reasons. During the weekend before the summit, plans were made and contacts met. A large gathering of anarchists exposed some potential flaws in plans for the coming week. A lot of people were determined to get to Gleneagles, despite the obvious advantages which the filth had in fighting a battle on ground of their own choice.

If the divisions within our camp weren't bad enough, one so-called anarchist decided that it would be a good idea to bring his long-standing friend, Andrew Gilligan, to the meeting and then expose him as a journalist. The disruption in proceedings this caused was probably a planned action to undermine the efforts of a broad coalition of anarchists to plan something effective. If that's the case, it worked. Time which could have been well used to get some proper co-

believed to be, I saw sixty Clowns go down a street followed a few minutes later by more than 120 riot police. These cops had to send someone back to a van to get an A-Z for them! Then they were buffeted by a flurry of missiles from a bridge, including an iron, and in the end they had to return to their vans empty-handed as the Clowns had found some way to evade a cop pincer movement. The police response seemed strange as they really did not seem to have the faintest idea what they were doing. One place they did know what they were up to, though, was on Princes Street. A crowd of some hundreds was penned in when I got there. Yet this didn't deter the filth from driving a couple of vans into the crowd. Unsurprisingly, this agitated the crowd and some time later scuffles broke out. This was translated by the media into an anarchist mob rampaging through Edinburgh –

they started a lot earlier on the Wednesday than most people had expected

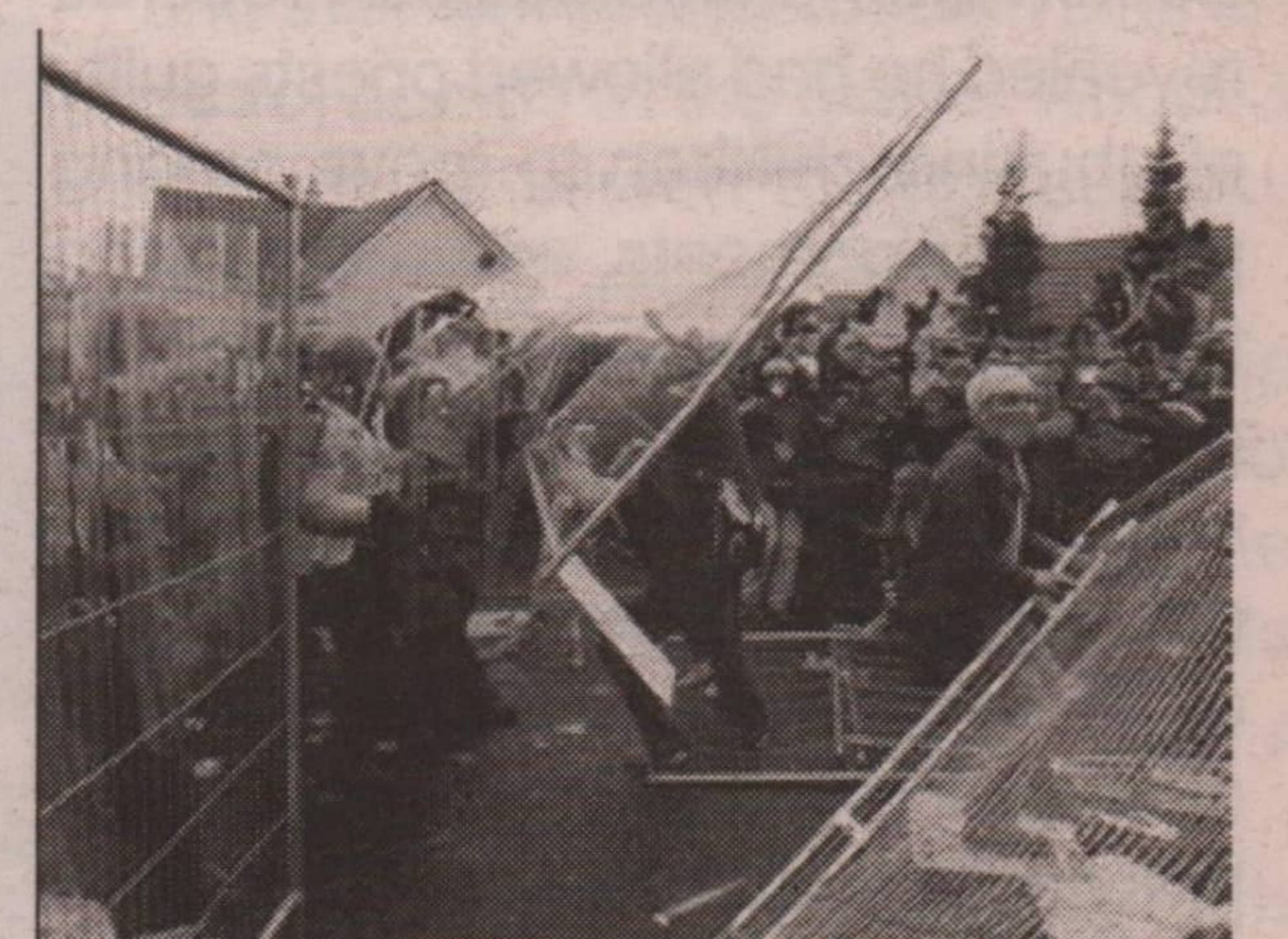
Early on Wednesday morning the news was of fighting in Stirling and blockades on the M9 and A9, among other roads. I met a friend who drove me to Stirling, where we found peace and tranquillity reigning. We went to the eco-village and found out that many of the people there had



If you want to do some time, ask a policeman

successfully mounted blockades. Yet there was no news of Edinburgh. To find out what was going on there, we drove to the centre of the city where we found things fairly calm.

There was some confusion about the G8 Alternatives march – was it on or off? In the end it went ahead, and some people decided to go further than I expected. People attacked the fence surrounding Gleneagles and tore it down, then took on the riot cops. This seems to have taken the filth by surprise – they had to 'copter in reinforcements, including one Colin Smith, the Scottish cricket international. Whilst some of the people who broke away there seemed to have thought things through, many other people had not come prepared. The subsequent stories of people bleating "peaceful protest" after tearing down the fence, and then getting battered by the cops, shows a certain naivety among those demonstrators. How did they expect the police to react? By handing out tea and buns? The police had earlier decided to announce the banning of the march, led by George Galloway and other effete politicians, on the grounds of public safety while still negotiating with the organisers. This led to confusion and to some people who wanted to go there for the peaceful demo being left in Edinburgh and deciding to have their own spontaneous march. The police, though,



The barriers come down

were not up for this, and after letting them walk up Princes Street once, penned them in and arrested several people.

The next day the extent of Dissent's disorganisation became apparent. There was little to do, and no

# FUCK THE G8

## A Stirling Effort

### A Class War member reports from the protests in Scotland in July

ordination off the ground was instead spent in confusion and chaos.

Things seemed to pick up on the Monday. The Carnival for Full Enjoyment, against work, brought chaos to Edinburgh as the Clown Army baffled the police – and other demonstrators – with their bizarre antics. While the Clowns and other demonstrators kept the police occupied, I wandered about getting a feel for the police tactics. They had some new equipment I'd not seen before – what appeared to be a cage at first sight, but which folded out to block a street – the Iron Horse. There were hundreds, if not thousands, of police on the streets from many different forces. I counted the Met, Manchester cops, Humberside, Merseyside, West Midlands, Fife, Lothian & Borders (the locals)... But many of them were lost and bewildered. By the Sheraton Hotel, where the Japanese delegation was

though after the treatment the filth had meted out it's not difficult to see why people were angry. Local lads joined in the action, and bins, benches and even flowers were flung at the police. The media had a field day. But most of the pictures they printed showed the truth – there were thugs in Edinburgh bent on violence and disorder. The problem was they all appeared to be in police uniforms. Most black bloc types were holding fire until later in the week, for the main event. A list of the arrested in the *Edinburgh Evening News* shows that many of those nicked on the Monday were from the city – cooler heads were arguably waiting for the 6th. Nothing much happened on the 5th. Final discussions were had, and later in the day it became clear that the cops were going to disrupt transport between Edinburgh and Glasgow to prevent us congregating en masse. Things were starting to happen. And



provision seemed to have been made for any demonstrations. The large number of people arrested across Scotland on the 6th meant that prisoner solidarity work needed to be done. Some people, independent of Dissent, had already started things moving and I attended a meeting to discuss the situation. The tense atmosphere in Edinburgh meant that any demonstration to express solidarity with our imprisoned colleagues had to be well organised – there was no point adding to the numbers already captured. The situation in London was also unclear. We had heard about bombs in London, but no one knew how many, where, or how many people were injured or killed. Many people were trying to trace friends and relatives who could have been caught up in the explosions. People reported hearing that anarchists had been blamed for the bombs, though it was immediately clear to us that it was the work of Islamists. In the uneasy circumstances in which we found ourselves, we decided that it was best to go to Edinburgh prison the next day – so we could publicise the demonstration and maximise turnout – and make it clear to the police what we going to do on arrival.

On the Friday I was up and out early. I tripped into Edinburgh in midmorning and met up with some of the people going on the afternoon's picket. Arriving at Saughton prison early on, I noticed there were quite a few Forward Intelligence Team already there, plus a couple of TSG. The police agreed to our demonstration and we sat back and waited for the others to turn up. And waited. After a while, we went over to the entrance drive where we found some anarchists. They hadn't been let into the car park, where we were, unless they accepted being searched. Unwilling to submit to this, we stood in the drive way for a bit, then, being almost surrounded by FIT, I took up a

better vantage point. I was wise to do so, as although the police allowed everyone into the car park without being searched, I was wary of their sudden good will – and rightly so. The others had hardly set foot in the car park when a serial of West Yorkshire TSG turned up. They took their time about getting into the car park – but they were followed some minutes later by *another* serial of West Yorkshire TSG, who proceeded to get



Coco managed to remain undercover for several hours before being noticed

into their riot gear, though omitting their numbers. I was concerned at this point that the people in the car park were going to get Section 60'd or penned in, and alerted one of the legal observers they had with them there. Though my fears were not realised, neither were they groundless, as the large number of people previously arrested in Scotland shows.

With a friend, I made my way back to the centre of Edinburgh, where I got dinner and met up with some others for a drink. It was ridiculous, though, that nothing had been planned for the likely arrests throughout the week, that there were no demonstrations called for the latter half of the week, and that it was left up to a few people to sort out prisoner solidarity. In fact, it's worse than ridiculous, it's a fucking disgrace that Dissent – the so-called organisers – hadn't bothered doing something about it. The Saturday was essentially a repeat, though in reverse, of the trip to Scotland. I left my B&B and travelled uneventfully to Edinburgh. We were expected at King's Cross though! Half the London FIT seemed to be there, and we were all photographed as we left the train. There were a ton of TSG in the main concourse, and I passed through there as swiftly as I could. Having seen hundreds of filth during my sojourn in Scotland, I had no wish to hang about any more any longer than I needed.



Unfortunately, Tony wasn't home...

## Bristol's Booming!

On 6<sup>th</sup> July South Bristol Anarchists performed a fantastic solidarity action with the G8 activists in Edinburgh. It is only a couple of years ago since the Blair's bought some posh flats in "The Panoramic" apartment blocks in the city centre. Activists took over the entrance to the block whilst flat-footed Avon & Somerset cops were elsewhere monitoring "peaceful protestors", hanging Class War posters and the banner "Make Poverty History – Kill The Rich".



## Bicycling Bush Bashes Bobby!

We never thought we would say this – but George W Bush is not all bad! Having arrived on holiday in Scotland (well the G8 summit) George W did what all kids like to do – he got his bike out and went for a ride.

Things got even better when Bush saw a group of Strathclyde police officers in the grounds of Gleneagles, and he opted to ride as fast as he could towards them. What happened next was inevitable – crash, bang, wallop, and a hospitalised cop, whilst bungling Bush suffered only cuts and bruises.

If Tony Blair is going to insist on inviting George W over to the UK, can we ask that he provides him with a motorbike, or better still a tank next time round?



Al-Qaeda blamed for removing stabilizers

## No to ID Cards and the Database State

For a while, one of the governments favoured arguments in support of a compulsory ID card, was that it would help defeat terrorism. At other times the argument has been that ID cards will help defeat illegal immigration (what do we all need passports for then?) and cut down on fraud. If they cannot make up their own minds what the best reason for an ID card is, why should we believe any of their arguments? Especially as the estimates of the cost of the bloody thing vary from over £100 to up to £300. Should Blair be daft enough to force this scheme onto people, we urge people to resist it. Don't register for the cards, don't play their game. Anti-ID card protestors are onto a winner, because in a way they are NOT asking people to do anything. They are instead asking them to do nothing – don't register for the cards. Don't pay the government for one. Don't give the government your biometrics data. Don't carry the card. You can find out more at: <http://www.no2id.net/> and more importantly – do nothing when it comes to helping the government!

## Class War Charts

Who is top of the charts this issue?

### Quango Queen's

Take a look at these utterly pointless public bodies, all of which are funded by you and me, for the great and the good to "serve" on.

10. National Users Panel of the Community Equipment Services External Reference Group
9. Digital Television Consumer Expert Group
8. The British Potato Council
7. Disruptive Passengers Working Group (quite why any passenger on public transport in the UK would not want to be disruptive is beyond us)
6. House of Lords Appointments Commission
5. Millennium Commission (these fuckers don't even know what year it is!)
4. Music and Dance Advisory Group
3. Urban Gull Leaflet Steering Group
2. Sir Nigel Crisp's Leadership and Race Equality Action Plan Independent Panel
1. Office of the Justice Oversight Commissioner

We spotted the above in a ten minute search of the Cabinet Office website. Each will have a chairman, staff and members. All paid for by you and me.

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# Returning the serve

Macquarie Fields, Sydney, Australia – 2005

February saw some of the fiercest rioting in Australia's history. Events also catapulted Class War into the media spotlight, as youths in Sydney distributed Class War leaflets, stickers and posters at the height of the violence.

We were even treated to an "expose" on Channel 9 in Australia, on a programme called "A Current Affair". The feature started by talking about "international terrorists" but rather than producing Osama Bin Laden, the best they managed to do was show the London Class War website, some stickers and t shirts.

New South Wales Police Commissioner Ken Moroney was wheeled out to threaten arrests and prison sentences, whilst Molly Thomas, a tearful Sydney social worker, warned local youths not to get involved in Class War "don't go down this road" she insisted before bursting into tears again. All her good work in the community is apparently being undone by these terrible jobs! Class War's headquarters in Sydney was traced (to a post office box) and



Cops come under firework attack

the extraordinary claim was made that Class War in Britain had played a "key role in the Oldham riots". Not true, but when did that ever stop the media? Interestingly the programme did reveal that the Kelly family (at the centre of the riots in Sydney) have had their house bugged by the police, and charges have been laid on the basis of information from these bugs. The bug was planted BEFORE the fatal crash that provoked the biggest riots Australia has seen. Walls these days really do have ears.....

The best bit of the programme was the interviews with two youths from the Macquarie Fields area who, to the horror of journalists, praised Class War. Brendan Kelly said of Class War "I hope they come and wipe these fuckers out" whilst pointing to some Sydney police officers.

The second highlight was the Australian journalist expressing his horror that when he asked local politicians to go on air to discuss Class War they refused, and a police spokesman asked to do the same told him to "fuck off".

Clearly the New South Wales police do not have the smooth spin based operation of the Met!

Our Sydney correspondent reports below from the front line:

## Class War In the Field!

The slow burning fuse that is the streets of Sydney, ignited a powder keg of anger, resentment and class hatred in the sort of suburbs you will not be visiting in tonight's episode of Neigh - bores!

Beginning on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2004 in Redfern, and finally exploding on the housing estates of Macquarie Fields in February 2005, the myth of one big-happy-family Australia was successfully blown to bits thanks to the determined efforts of youths and families not to allow the injustice of police murders and the endless sewer of media lies to continue.

In between, youths in Cronulla took on the forces of law and order on this years Australia Day (31<sup>st</sup> January) when hundreds of youths fought bravely against police invading a community celebration. Then on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 150 youths responded to the treacherous arm of the law by fighting cops on the streets of Darling Harbour, smack-bang in the middle of Sydney's prize jewel-in the crown city centre.

The fuse has been burning in a thousand Aussie suburbs for years now. Housing estates have been contesting the right of an outside force – the cops – to enter their areas and ram the justice of the rich man, with his judges, prosecutors, media and jails down the throats of families that are being blamed for everything and praised for nothing. In these estates, a genuine culture of rebellion has developed into anti-authoritarian communities. Why should the families of youths welcome cops with open arms, when the only time these cops are seen is when they are throwing some unlucky soul into the back of a police wagon or railroading family members into jails? And equally, why should these people listen to the whinging and whining from a society that does not give a fuck about them?

The answer is a simple one: they don't have to, and won't! They don't and won't accept the law and order of an outside force – the police. The

youths who bravely fought for their families and communities in Redfern, Inner Sydney, Cronulla and Macquarie Fields are true working class heroes, and nothing less. Fuck your movie stars with their fake smiles, their pathetic front of legality and honesty, hiding the putrid lie rotting at their core. Fuck their personal trainers and private security guards, and fuck the cops, who protect the scummy shower of rule makers and plastic lying scumbags at the top. This is the raw voice of the streets and here is how Sydney, Australia put itself on the class war map, when the people of Macquarie Fields decided the time had come to return the serve!

On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February, a car in which some young people were travelling was chased by the police and rammed off the road into a tree, at over 100kph. By ramming the car into a tree, the cops were responsible for killing two young men – Matt Robertson and Dylan Rayward. Both were popular and loved members of the Macquarie Fields community, and their deaths left the taste of bitterness, and the lust for revenge and justice in their families, friends and loved ones.

As a crowd of people surrounded the crash site in Eucalyptus Drive, the first taunts and threats were exchanged. At first the cops were nervous but confident that this collision between authority and youths of Macquarie Fields could be limited, like so many times before, to verbals. They were wrong....

The next night at 11pm the first missiles were launched in the battle of Mac fields. Rocks, bottles, a burning mattress, shopping trolleys and golf balls – all launched from a metre away. This was no drunken mob, but all ages screaming abuse at the cops and cheering the assault



"Dylan 'n' Matt - RIP" - Killed by the Old Bill

on. This cross section of the community – more than anything else – is the reason why the media, police and government were terrified, and why they spent so much time and money to oppress, imprison and divide the community, to their own ends. The riot was totally spontaneous and the police retreated, then called the Tactical Response Group for back up. By the time these meatheads arrived, the riot was losing its momentum, as it was very late Sunday morning.

The word was soon passed around the streets that a more organised riot was needed to exact some justice upon the murders in blue. All day people made Molotov cocktails, and built stockpiles of rocks, bricks and bottles as ammunition. As soon as night decided upon the suburb of Macquarie Fields war was declared on the forces of law, legal murder and injustice. It started easy enough; the cops were cruising all day in riot vans waiting for an eruption, pushing and stopping and searching young people in the street. Little did they



Throw bricks at coppers!

know that preparations had been made to even the score. These fucking idiot cops did not bother to think that they people they killed had families and friends.

The police raided several houses around Eucalyptus Drive, arresting those they accused of being ringleaders in the riot and were met with insults and missiles on the third and fourth nights of rioting. The roads and walls were covered in anti-police graffiti, and live on TV, the brother of Matt, young Aaron Robertson declared his hatred for the police by calling for a bullet for every one of them! Thereby etching his name into the ranks of Aussie working class heroes in doing so.

During the riots the police frequently chased rioters up dead end streets where they were lost amid a series of bolt holes and dead ends – this was the rioters territory, not the cops, and they were hit by rubbish bins and petrol bombs at the dozen. About 30 cops were injured during four days of rioting.

Politicians of all the maggot parties jumped over each other to support the cops, but when asked if they would venture onto the streets of Mac fields, all refused, citing all sorts of pathetic excuses.

The rioting also launched one of the biggest man hunts in a long time – for the alleged driver of the car in which the young men died. The cops reckoned that Jesse Kelly was the driver – even though it took them a week to work out they had him in custody after the first nights riots – and they let him out! A TV crew even interviewed him, and put the interview



on prime time TV without even knowing he was the alleged driver. A classic case of how stupid the media can be as at this point Jesse Kelly was the most wanted man in Australia!

The news crews also interviewed a local Mac fields resident who live on TV said things that were not in the best interests of local people, the rioters or the grieving relatives of the deceased. It is alleged by the cops that Jesse Kelly returned and bashed this man for being a "dog". Whoever did bash this man had the support of most residents, so it was only a crime in the eyes of the police and as we know that is their law and order, not ours.

Jesse Kelly gave himself up after two weeks on the run. The police charged him with riot, assault and affray. He has a lot of support and is already being compared to the Australian legend Ned Kelly, for his staunchness to his friends, and his strength and love for his family. Kelly by name, Kelly by nature!

It should be stressed at this point how many people were being raided by the police, and charged with riot, affray and assaults on police, on the strength of video footage of the riots. Unfortunately a lot of people did not wear masks, caps, gloves, hooded tops or balaclavas. Their DNA was all over bottles, bricks, shopping trolley's etc. This in itself presents a massive problem for the future of fighting back.

The police maintained a presence on the streets of Mac fields on a level similar to Northern Ireland or Palestine, for a whole month. Riot vans and police buses cruised the streets filming everyone. It has also become apparent that during the nights that followed the rioting, the police and private security firms working with the cops, installed hidden cameras and listening devices in numerous areas where people were known to congregate. People's phones were tapped and it was not uncommon to see a couple of homes being raided by machine gun toting cops, during broad daylight, at the same time. Mac fields was now a community under complete siege, and fully occupied by an external force – the police. Despite this, youths still maintained an aggressive stance towards authority – there was no retreat and no surrender to the cops. It has been said that it is a shame that other areas close by, such as Claymore, Ingleburn and Minto did not riot at the same time as Mac fields, as this would have divided the cops and therefore weakened their forces. These areas are under similar pressures to Mac fields. Other areas were waiting for it all to go down on their estates, from Marouba, Mt Druitt, Greenacre, Cronulla, Redfern – all started to prepare themselves.

The media, under the careful guidance of the government, and all their judges, social workers, prison guards and the rich scum they represent, stepped in to divide the Mac Fields people between 'hoodlums' and residents, rioters and

honest citizens. They went out of their way to blame Class War for trying to recruit a "street army" amongst the youth in the area, and thus to inflame the situation. As if we needed to!

The media knew they could not leave the Mac Fields people united against the cops – they had to divide them in order to conquer and tame their aggressive voice. The media campaign was relentless with a tidal wave of talk back radio hosts and current affairs shows doing all they could to ridicule and divide. The left wing political wet blankets were either silent or backed New South Wales Labour leader Bob Carr's congratulations to every Robocop on a job well done. The right wing simply re-ran that tired old "Hang 'em, flog 'em" ditty. In particular they blamed the breakdown of law and order on multiculturalism – total garbage as the fight back was started by white Australians and then participated in by all nationalities.

As the smoke clears in Mac Fields and the graffiti is removed, the cops and the scum they work for are terrified – they know that there are thousands of Macquarie Fields out there. And they know valuable lessons were learned by the street fighters of Mac fields – some of them painful – but lessons all the same. All those people charged are getting legal support and are digging in for another fight. They have their families, loved ones, friends and community behind them. They did not backdown – never could, never would.

To the people of Macquarie Fields, and the housing estates of Sydney, Australia and the rest of the world – the blood that scorches through your veins is ours. It is riotous, rebellious and strong. It will prevail. It will be there in all future generations, as the fight for control of our territory continues. We must learn from each other – our tactics, our techniques and our strategies. This is a war – nothing less. Sometimes it is an all out street fight – as we saw in February – but most of the time it is a battle of wits, of ducking and diving, of hitting then quickly retreating. The people who live here know that. If we learn and work together we can, and indeed will win .... Forward into battle!

## QUOTES

*"It was in Finsbury that Thomas Paine sat down to write The Rights of Man. It was Finsbury that elected the first non-white Member of Parliament. It was Finsbury Borough Council that created the first health centre in the country, and that built the first council estate with central heating. Finsbury has a fine and proud history and it will be a privilege to follow in the footsteps of those who created that history"*

What revolutionary advance for the working class was being announced with this hammy speech? The end of gentrification in the area? Free

## Silly Names Special

You can rely on the upper and ruling classes for one thing only – giving us a laugh. Check out those oddly denoted dipsticks, in reverse order just like Miss World!

### 10. Jonathon Hughes-D'Aeth

Headmaster of posh Milton Abbey school in Dorset, Jonathan's name starts off all normal, then gets very silly indeed!

### 9. Martin Tiplady

Director of Human Resources for the Metropolitan Police, his name suggests an interesting approach to interrogation techniques.

### 8. Seymour Fortescue

Chief Executive and Director (!) of the Banking Code Standards Board. He sounds like just the sort of guy to keep an eye on a group of merchant bankers!

### 7. Loulou de la Falaise

A writer of beauty tips for Tatler, we can safely assume this Lulu does not come from Glasgow!

### 6. Isabella Anstruther-Gough-Calthorpe

A double barrelled name is not good enough for Isabella, she has to have three!

### 5. Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles

The British ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Sir Sherard is the man to make sure the oil keeps flowing whilst no embarrassing questions are asked about human rights.

### 4. Lady Sybilla Rufus Isaacs

Another of Prince William's set apparently. She is said to be "crazy about shoes"..... Yawn.

### 3. Robert Frederick Xenon Geldof, KBE

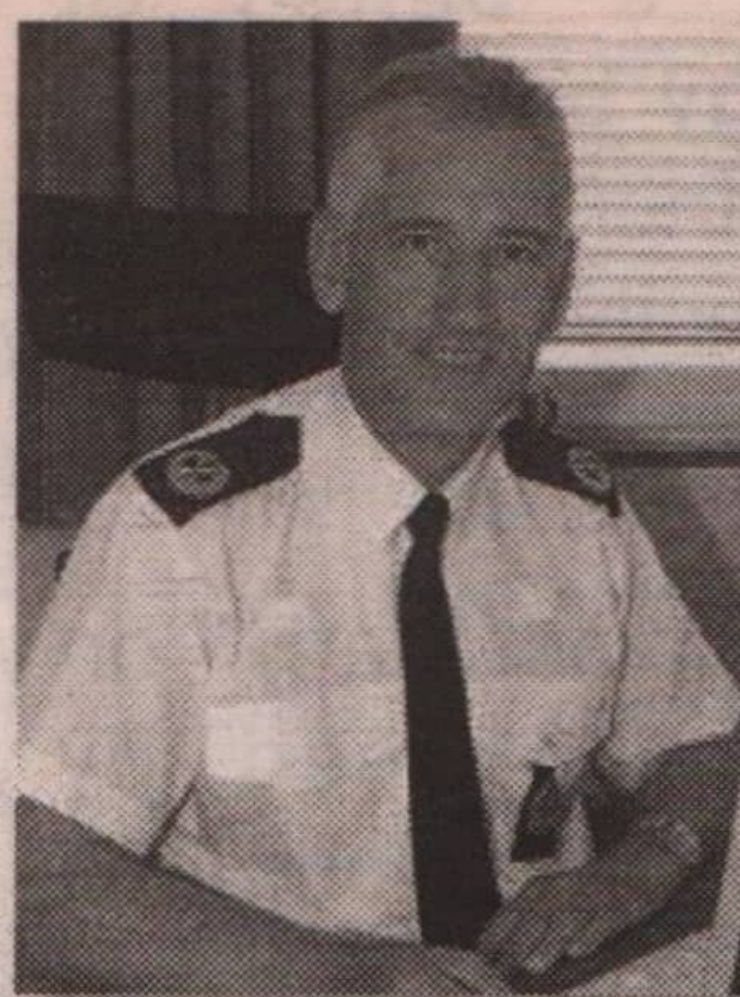
He may not have got much right in his life, but shortening his name to Bob was clearly a good move.

### 2. Ticky Hedley-Dent

Ticky writes for Tatler. Badly.

### 1. Willie Bald

Amongst all the news of G8 protests, the brilliantly named Assistant Chief Constable Willie Bald ensured the views of Tayside police were heard with merriment throughout the land.



Bald



Fromage Frais



Merchant Banker



Sir Xenon



Mad



Treble Barrelled



Oily Wanker



Misogynist

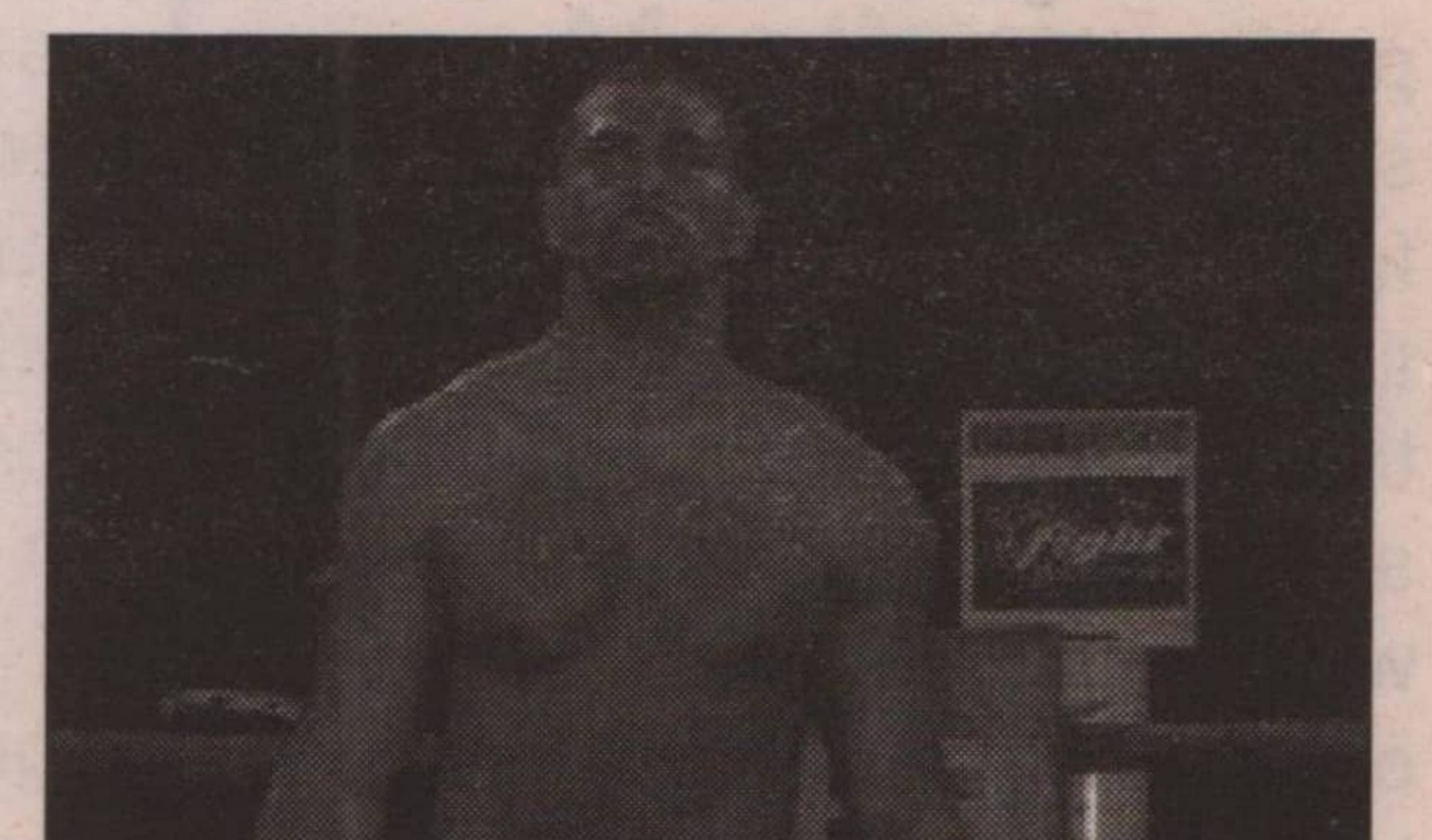
council housing for all? Free public transport for all?

No, it was former MP for Islington South and Finsbury, Chris Smith, announcing that he is now Lord Smith of Finsbury. You really don't get it Chris, do you? (Islington Gazette 23/6/05).

"I don't like this guy at all because he's a bailiff, he thinks he's a hard man but it is crap. He's a liar."

Boxer David Haye shows he has a good head on his shoulders before

his scheduled British Cruiserweight clash with boxing bailiff Mark Hobson. ([www.secondsout.com](http://www.secondsout.com) 24/6/05)



David Haye - Bailiff Basher



## National Front Feel The Heat

The National Front must be sick of Antifa kicking their heads in because at the start of April they put a whole section on their south east group's website dedicated to Antifa! Thanks for the publicity you wankers! They have posted details of recent Antifa actions reprinted our leaflets (we kid you not) and put up some interesting pictures of people they claim to be Antifa members. Shame their website now seems to be down! Not to be out done here is a picture of their Fuhrer Terry 'Two chins' Blackham - his mobile phone number is 07960 124548.



More chins than brain cells!

## Police/BNP Links

In January it became an offence for serving police officers, and police staff to be members of the British National Party.

In the rest of Europe formal links between police and fascist parties are common. Le Pen's Front National even has a special section for police officers. In this country the BNP had boasted of having a significant number of West Midlands police officers in their ranks. Oldham BNP claim to have received police video footage of the Oldham riots, in 2001 the National Front published addresses they claimed were of anti-fascists, given to them by the police. To this list can now be added BNP member Andrew Matthews, a Police Community Support officer based at Morley police station in Leeds. Matthews was about to become a full time cop when he was arrested in May, under suspicion of accessing information from police computers on behalf of the BNP.

Quite how many other cases like this will emerge is hard to estimate - police spindoctors are hardly likely to shout about dismissals of fascists from the rooftops. It is however a timely reminder to all anti-fascists that those organisations who claim to be anti-fascists, whilst actively working with police forces across the country, are a security risk, not just to themselves, but to anti-fascists everywhere.

## Are You Thinking What We're Thinking!!!!

With the parliamentary elections over for four to five years, why would the British National Party be felling very pleased with themselves when none of their candidates was elected?

They took enough votes in Labour's old heartland's in the north and in a few pockets of the south to suggest that the poisonous party may meet with considerable success when it contests council elections next year. Across the country, the BNP polled 193,000 votes compared with the 47,000 votes in 2001.

Scary facts when we look at Barking, east London where the racists secured a record share of the vote; they need just 5% swing to gain at least 10 councillors next year. Labour are sitting on their arses and are not doing the foot work in areas such as Stoke, Burnley, and Halifax, as are all the rest of the parties who are leaving working class communities out, whilst the BNP and the National Front spread their poison.

Waiting for the likes of Labour to sort themselves out in these areas would be like pissing in the wind. The more power the racists gain in working class areas should be a wake up call for everyone - it really is up to you.

## Searchlies

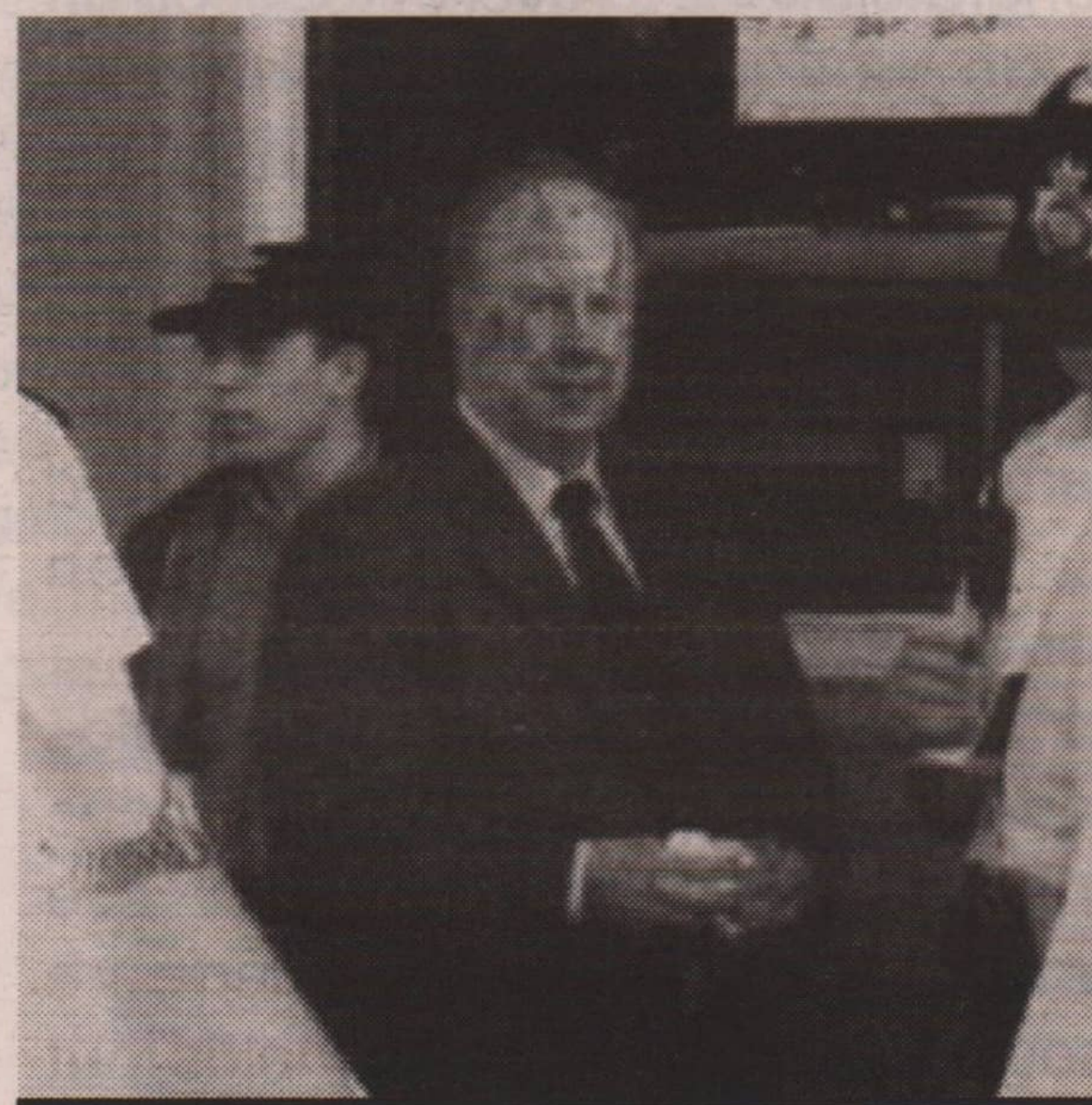
Most Class War readers and supporters know that the people behind "anti-fascist" magazine Searchlight are a bunch of untrustworthy dodgy bastards, but their reporting, or rather not reporting of Antifa actions recently has left even us wondering if they know what's going on!

The Antifa action against the NF on 15<sup>th</sup> January was blamed by Searchlight on Charlton Athletic fans even though Antifa made a statement claiming responsibility. And the BNP meeting in Halifax that was trashed wasn't mentioned at all! (Did everyone see Griffin's armoured car when he had to return to Halifax police station a week later?)

So if you're still buying Searchlight at best you're receiving misinformation and at worst just a pack of lies. If you want to be involved at the cutting edge of antifascism don't delay contact Antifa today!

## JT is Offski!

The sudden death of BNP founder John Tyndall in July was met by a mixture of wry smiles, cheers and guttural laughter amongst anti-fascists everywhere. The founder and former leader of the British National Party, Tyndall had spent the last few years of his life attempting to regain control of the party he had founded, from the man he had brought in to the organisation as his eventual successor - Nick Griffin. Griffin's decision not to hang around, but to oust Tyndall in 1999, provoked a sulk of Ted Heath proportions.



That photo again...Tyndall just after getting a kicking from anti-fascists

A life long fascist, Tyndall was frequently pictured in his younger days in full nazi uniform, hamming it up at nazi camps in rural England in the early 60s. Such pictures were reproduced so frequently it was easy to forget that Tyndall was in many ways closer to the old Tory racist right than the neo-nazi right. This prompted one fascist opponent of his to comment "the problem with John Tyndall is not that he is a nazi pretending to be a Tory, but that he is a Tory pretending to be a nazi!" Although Tyndall occasionally made overtures towards figures in the Conservative party (most famously Alan Clark) they came to nothing, indeed Clark complained that the Italian restaurant in Victoria where Tyndall had tried to wine and dine him was "appalling". It was only after Tyndall lost the BNP leadership that Conservatives began voting for, and joining the BNP in anything like significant numbers.

Two elements perhaps characterised Tyndall as a political leader - his ability to make a tubthumping, rabidly racist speech that would please the BNP rank and file, and his inability to spot any agent provocateur or spook in and around his circle, under virtually any circumstances. From Ray Hill, through to Eddy Morrison, Tim Hepple, Mark Cotterill and Peter Rushton, Tyndall missed them all. It was

this type of "leadership" that ensured that the British far-right remained one of the weakest in Europe. For that we should be grateful. Tyndall's main strategy as BNP leader was to hold marches and paper sales, and to stand in elections. From this, he expected the organisation to snowball into a mass organisation that would control first the streets of Britain, then its corridors of power. Instead the BNP were simply flattened, on a regular basis from one end of the country to another, as anti-fascists took the battle to them. By the early 1990s Tyndall was still advocating an approach that most of his party members knew, from painful experience, was unworkable.

One of his last tub thumping speeches - exposed in the BBCs "Secret Agent" documentary earlier this year - led to a charge of inciting racial hatred, which saw Tyndall clogging up the courts again with his plummy voice, comover and permanently outraged tone. It could well be the stress of that case, plus his expulsion from the BNP, proved to much for someone who was after all in their early 70s.

If so it is worth remembering that John Tyndall died of natural causes - had he ever come to power he had a far worse fate in store for many of us!

## Getting things Moving

The first general ANTIFA meeting was held in London in March. The meeting was held to discuss the future of militant antifascism in Britain. Morris Beckman, a member of the 43 Group, was guest speaker and told of the success of kicking Mosley's post war fascists off the streets. Many amusing tales were told of fascists being beaten robbed and even kidnapped. So much for the myth of "peaceful protest" being the only route to success!

For a great read get a copy of Morris Beckman's book 'The 43 Group' available from all good book shops - The 43 Group by Morris Beckman (Centreprise) ISBN 0 903 738 759

The meeting saw activists share intelligence, discuss tactics and commit to politically and physically challenging fascism wherever possible. For more information on Antifa go to [www.antifa.org.uk](http://www.antifa.org.uk) or phone 07952 759 473. To get things moving, why not order 50 Antifa stickers for a quid?





## 6,000 DONCASTER VOTES OF SHAME.

Of all the election results earlier this year, the 6000 votes for the fascist British National Party's David Owen in Doncaster's Mayoral election was one of the most depressing of all. Nobody can be in any doubt who this bloke is, his record in the fascist movement goes back decades having been a central figure in the Nazi National Front prior to the BNP. For years he was surrounded by young storm troopers in the bover boots and skinhead garb, which went with their NF cell in Stainforth.

Owen's election material traded hard of having been 'a Hatfield Main miner' as he always does whatever position he stands for, in fact he had a few insignificant years on the pit top. It is possible a few former miners in the Doncaster pit villages, ignorant of his political past, or even what the BNP is, may have voted for him for that reason. Lets be clear, if Owen were a member of the NUM today, he'd be expelled under its rules, which outlaw any member of fascist and racist organisations from joining or remaining in the union. The NUM is firmly against fascism and has a long history going back to the thirties of fighting against them. Many comrades died in the valleys of Spain fighting Franco's fascists, thousands more went off in World War two to stop Hitler and Mussolini, while others here in Britain fought pitched battles against Oswald Mosley and



Griffin celebrates election victories in Yorkshire

his Blackshirt Movement, the ideological forerunner of the National Front which Owen backed.

During the miners strike of 84/85 Hatfield Main's mining communities and Doncaster as a whole received massive support from the four corners of the world, people of all skin colours and religions collected food and money for our kitchens and food parcels and kids. The South African NUM, black miners with nothing, sent us half of their entire funds.

That we should be so ungrateful and repay that kindness and generosity with such narrow minded, spiteful race hate is nothing short of shameful.

We know that the BNP doesn't in fact offer a political programme, just a list of hate, but lets look at some of their charges:

### Asylum Seekers are scroungers from the state.

It always helps when looking at any question to put yourself in the boots of the person your talking about. What

would any of us do, for the safety of our families in countries beset by war and terror, or starvation and drought? Would we sit there and watch our families starve while other folk not far away, whose governments often caused the war, and did nothing about the poverty starvation and drought in the first place, carry on with their lives undisturbed? Or would we too try and get out of it until things improved. Would you make a dive for the lifeboats with your family or just sit and wait to be drowned saying, well we don't have seats in the boat? Answer honestly.

50% of all nurses in the NHS come from overseas, many of them are refugees, many are doctors and other health care professionals. The Home Office, which is no friend of the migrant, says they contribute £2.5 BILLION to the economy.

### Britain takes in more asylum seekers than anybody else

Pakistan and Iran take one third of all the worlds refugees. Poverty stricken, desperate countries like Tanzania and Guinea take in more refugees than Britain. In terms of Europe, Britain is TENTH in the list for greatest numbers.

### They get all the houses

Actually those who do get temporary housing get dumped in the worst estates and blocks of flats amongst the poorest people who live here. That causes real resentment, as people with nothing are jealous of other people who have nothing getting anything, or thinking they are getting something.

### They get loads of money

When and if they qualify its for benefits less than £40 per week.

People with black and brown skins have been coming to Britain for nearly two thousand years, as sailors, as workers as traders, sometimes as slaves. Many have been here a lot longer than the families of white people who may have come recently from Europe or Scandinavia. The British are a mixture of people from all over the world and always have been. This country is a mix of foreign people who become a single people with cultural diversity - what the hell is wrong with that?

## ANTIFA



## BASH THE FASH

[www.antifa.org.uk](http://www.antifa.org.uk)

# THIS IS CLASS WAR

The Class War Federation is an organisation of groups and individuals who have come together to change the Society we live in, to improve the lot of working class people. This Society is divided into classes based on control of its institutions and wealth. The Ruling Class - those who "own" the factories or natural resources - whether it's through shares or being chairman of the board etc., who are under normal circumstances supported by the Middle Class - those who gain their position in society by patronage of the Ruling Class - who carry out their dirty work of controlling and (dis)organising the working class who do all the necessary work. Such a society is the root cause of most of the problems experienced by Working Class people the World over. as the Ruling Class has every intention of keeping its privileged position it must be destroyed- this is Class War.

Real change can only come about by working class people organising themselves to deal with the problems that they experience and to provide for ourselves.

It is not about becoming better treated slaves but masters of our destiny. Direct action is necessary against the individuals and institutions who stand in the way of this. There is no alternative. Violence is a necessary part of the Class War - not as elitist terrorists but as an integrated part of the Class - they started it, we'll have to finish it!

Class society creates other abuses based upon the prejudices of Ruling or Middle Class such as gender, ethnic origin, sexuality, disability. The Ruling Class often use these to divide our class. We must unite on the basis of we have in common our Working Class backgrounds and needs. The Class must fight these divisions, on all fronts. Above all the CWF believes that politics cannot be separated from life - and life from politics. We reject the missionary/ righteous so called "revolutionary" Left. Our politics must be fulfilling and relevant to our every day lives.

Working Class people must take responsibility for their progressive revolutionary politics - fly by night middle class radicals have been the bane of our movement for as long as the Working Class has existed.

### OUR AIM

Therefore the aim of the CWF is to increase the militancy and self awareness of the Working Class in defending their interests and solving their problems. We do this through propaganda, active participation and debate as equals.





# REVIEWS

## "For Workers' Power: Selected Writings"

by Maurice Brinton  
AK Press, £12

Maurice Brinton, who died recently, was the Solidarity Group's principal writer, and this new selection of his works shows you why. It's a fascinating read, covering topics ranging from the Paris Commune to the Belgian General Strike of 1960. This anthology includes his seminal work on the Bolsheviks and Workers' Control, a very interesting and thought-provoking essay. Although I know theory isn't everyone's can of lager, this is definitely worth a read.



## "Nestor Makhno - Anarchy's Cossack: The Struggle for Free Soviets in the Ukraine 1917-1921"

by Alexandre Skirda  
AK Press, £13

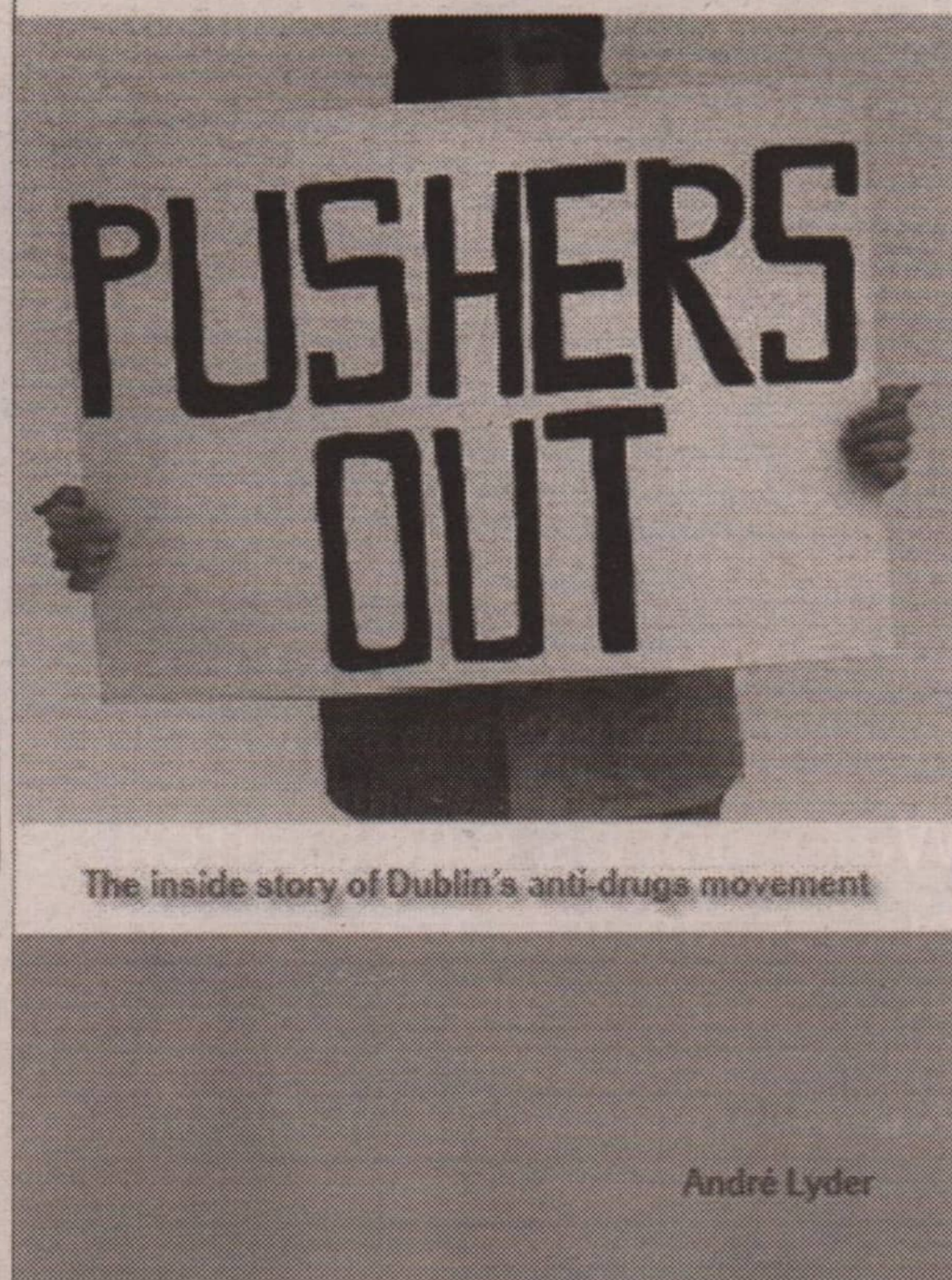
There are two essential books on Nestor Makhno and the Ukrainian anarchists. One of them is Arshinov's history of the Makhnovist movement, a book that is increasingly hard to get hold of. The other is this one, Anarchy's Cossack, by Skirda. For many years unavailable in English, this is a rip-roaring read about the Makhnovist army's campaigns and operations. Although £13 is quite dear, it's well worth every penny, and on finishing this I expect many readers will be moving hell and high water to find a copy of Arshinov's book!



## Pushers Out – The inside story of Dublin's anti-drugs movement

by Andre Lyder  
Trafford, £13.50

This is a history of the major campaigns against heroin use, and heroin dealing, in inner-city Dublin, in the 1980s and 90s. It covers the work of individual activists, the organisations Concerned Parents Against Drugs (CPAD) and the Coalition of Communities Against Drugs (COCAD) plus the response of established politicians, the police, paramilitary organisations and the drug dealers themselves. As such Lyder has made a huge contribution to an area that few, outside of inner-city Dublin really know much about. Lyder paints a vivid picture of the establishment neglect of working class areas, and of the hypocrisy of a police service and legal system that knows no limits when working class people threaten to replace it themselves. The commitment of working class people, when roused, to improving their own neighbourhoods, is inspiring. The anti-drugs movement in Dublin was frequently associated with both the IRA and Sinn Fein. Here the author walks a bit of a tightrope, attempting to explain that whilst Sinn Fein members were integral to the campaigns, they did not dominate – COCAD was not a front group for Sinn Fein. It was certainly important however that anti-drugs activists were seen to have the support, if necessary of the IRA – how else could residents expect to stand up to



major criminal gangs, unless someone with a bigger stick was waiting in the wings?

As Sinn Fein's political influence and ambitions in the south grew, they eventually capitalised politically on some of the work started by activists like Andre Lyder. His pages describing how he fell out with Sinn Fein over his candidacy in a local election are an interesting example of the Sinn Fein "party machine" in action. Probably the strongest sections are when the author is describing his work on, and with, public bodies in Dublin, who played part of the state's response to the politicised communities of working class people. He is scathing of the attempts to water down, and fob off, the involvement of working class people in their own neighbourhoods. Criticisms can be made of "Pushers Out" – it makes little or no attempt to mark any boundary between "hard" or "soft" drugs, and between the sort of drug usage that can be described as recreational, or even very occasional, as opposed to addiction. Some will balk at the book, and author for that reason alone. If so, they would be mistaken – this is a major contribution to working class politics.



## The CNT in the Spanish Revolution (Volume 2)

by Jos?Peiras  
Christie Books, £17

Stuart Christie's publishing house, ChristieBooks.com, has issued a number of interesting books in recent years. Apart from his three-volume autobiography, Christie has also republished Gordon Carr's book on the Angry Brigade and We, the Anarchists!, a study of the Iberian Anarchist Federation. Jos?Peiras' book is a valuable addition to his catalogue, and one well worth reading. Although I haven't seen the first volume of this book, I feel that I learnt a great deal from this one on its own. The mass of documentation inside makes the fascinating story it tells more immediate and enthralling; you feel like you're at the centre of events. Although at £17 it isn't cheap, it is well worth it.



## QUOTES

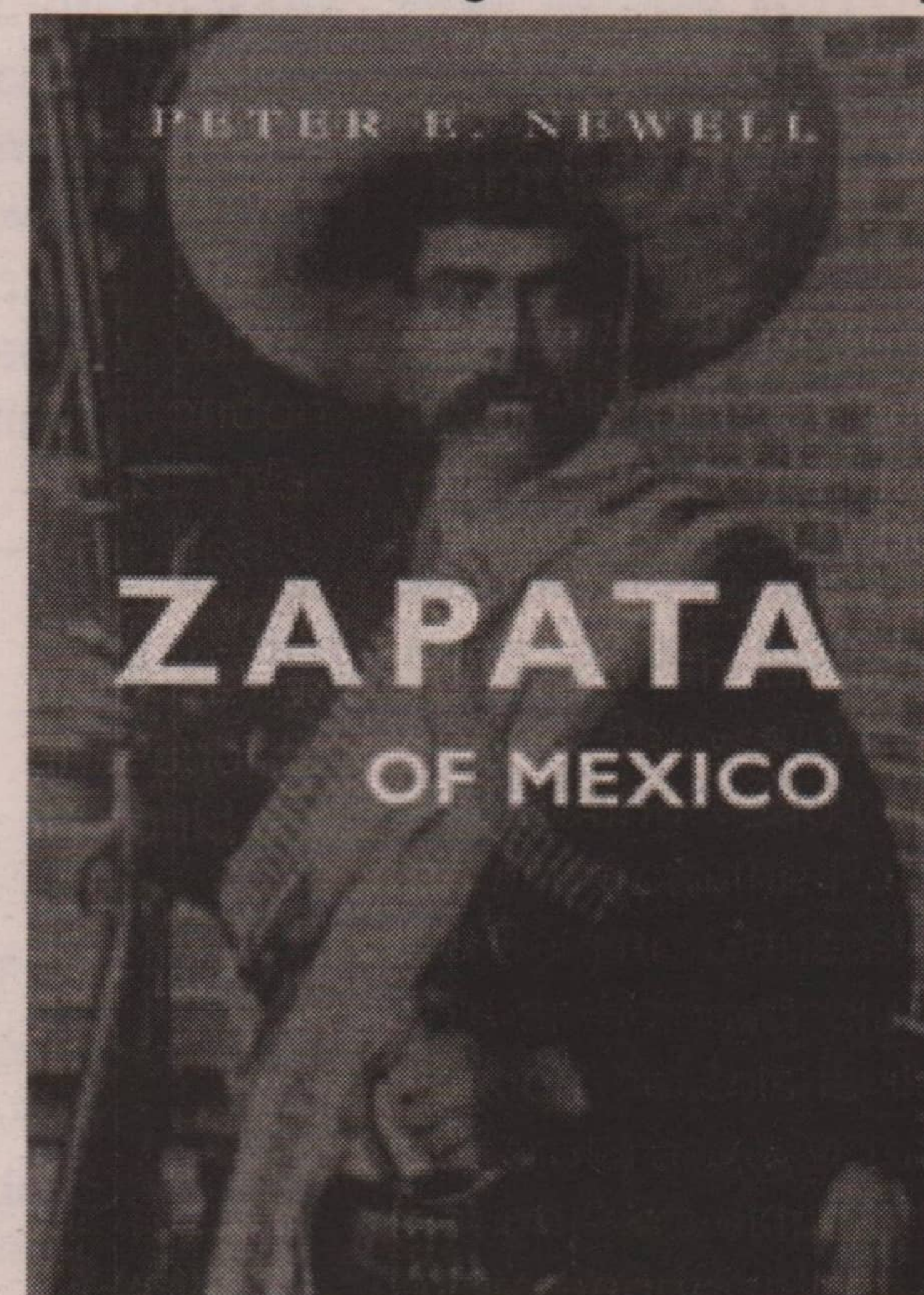
"My fear is that as the older, more regular voters die, we will be left with a significant number of people for whom voting is neither a habit, nor a duty," he said. Now we are seeing, not just twenty something's, but people in their thirties and forties who have never voted and who actually seem proud to say so. This is something that greatly concerns me. This deliberate non-voting seems to be spreading up through our voting population, threatening the long term legitimacy of our political system."

Do they mean us? Geoff Hoon, Leader of the House of Commons, in a speech to the Institute for Public Policy Research (4/7/05) Hoon called for voting to be compulsory in UK elections. Has there ever been a clearer admission of failure by a British politician? That he and his ilk are so unpopular we should be made to vote for them?

## Zapata of Mexico

by Peter Newell  
Freedom Press/Active Distribution,  
£9.50

The 1994 uprising by the EZLN (The Zapatista Army of National Liberation) in southern Mexico, rekindled interest in the ideas, life and history of the Mexican revolutionary Emiliano Zapata. The EZLN take their name from one of the great revolutionary



fighters. Its time to go back to the days when all revolutionaries had a big hat and an even bigger moustache! Newell gives an excellent overview into Mexico in the early twentieth century, and Zapata's campaign against the bosses and politicians. If we have a criticism it is the failure to give a glossary of Spanish terms used in the book. There is little point using words like rurales or burros unless you tell English speaking readers what they mean.



## Everything you ever wanted to know about anarchism, but were afraid to ask....

Rebel Press, £3

This book does exactly as it says on the tin. A tastefully produced little introduction, it is ideal both as a summary of anarchism, and an introduction to some of the arguments for and against the ideology.





# Letters

## Uncivil Contingencies

Oh no, he's back and fucking smirking, unashamed of his dishonesty and corruption. Nevertheless, whilst in voluntary exile, and dreaming of his coup d'état, he has just completed his updated biography, an exposition of his political life and ideas that really should be called *Mein Kampf*.

Before Herr Blunkett's cowardly exit from power, he was calling for the law to be changed to give trigger-happy cops immunity from prosecution. Putting armed police beyond the law is a hallmark of military dictatorships.

The new Witch Finder General, Mr Big Ears, appears to continue with Blunkett's crackpot schemes, proceeding with trial without jury, and more shockingly secret kangaroo court proceedings, without suspects being told or being able to question the allegations against them. Having said that, this method of justice has been going on in Northern Ireland for generations.

This violates all the elements of a fair trial, and is a return to the aristocracy period prior to 1760 when the Bill of Rights was introduced. Are we now to expect the legalisation of forced confessions with torture, and witch burning on the evidence that they wore a pointed hat?

One further piece of authoritarian legislation intended for us all is the Civil Contingencies Bill. This gives powers to prevent people leaving or entering any area, to deploy armed troops on the streets in great numbers, ban gatherings of people, requisition property and to disregard all existing legislation. It is a blue print for martial law.

Stewart (ex-British soldier), Northamptonshire

**CW Reply:** CW has always said that "rights" whether legal or so-called human rights, are basically worthless if they can be taken away at the stroke of some bureaucrat's pen. When the Civil Contingencies Bill becomes an Act, our point will, sadly, be proven beyond all doubt.

## Spirit of the Blitz?

The Queens very stirring speech to the nation was that we will not be affected by the bombs in London, that we will carry on as usual. So the royals will still be getting the tube to the races, and a double Decker to the banquets? Well done Lizzie.

Julie, Suffolk (by e mail)

**CW Reply:** As has been said so many times in recent years – the wars are fought in their name, yet we die in them.

## Who was Bob Aiding?

May I add a few words to the review of "The Enemy Within" in the last edition of CW? Revealing as it is about the secret state's tactics used against the miners in the great strike, it omits one important detail: the role of the "Band Aid" famine relief concert.

Before Band Aid, the miners were winning. Contrary to what the papers were saying, the Tory government was getting increasingly desperate. Stockpiles of coal were dwindling faster than planned, and sympathetic strike action by workers in

other countries had prevented imports of coal from every country except Peru and Colombia, countries with vicious fascist governments where coal is mined by slave, convict and child labour, and Dockers were forced to load coal onto ships literally at gunpoint.

In Britain, gas, oil and nuclear-fired power stations were forced to operate flat out, far beyond their original design tolerances and safety limits: for example, Bradwell nuclear power station in north Essex suffered a Preliminary Meltdown Alarm and only armed officers of the Nuclear Energy Authority Special Constabulary stopped the workers from evacuating! Even so, there were voltage reductions (at night, between midnight and 0600 when no one would notice) and severe economies imposed on industry. The press barons agreed not to print anything about this, and anyone who might tell got a visit from the state, and the words "Official Secrets Act" and "Hilda Murrell" (who was murdered by state agents to stop her revealing embarrassing facts about the sinking of the Belgrano during the Falklands War) were used.

Despite all this, the public were starting to ask awkward questions, and the government desperately needed to divert public attention away from the strike, as well as public sympathy. Although the government had intercepted money sent from Libya and Russia, and frozen the NUM's bank accounts, the strike was being kept going by cash donations and bucket collections. The Tories realised they needed to cut these off to defeat the miners. They needed to find another "good cause" for the public to give money to. They found one in Ethiopia.

In 1974 the Emperor of Ethiopia, the oldest established monarchy in the world, was overthrown in a revolution, and replaced by the Democratic Ethiopian Revolutionary Government (DERG) led by Colonel Mengistu, who immediately began the biggest and most comprehensive programmes of land and wealth distribution the world had ever seen. This horrified the governments of the west, who afraid of another "good example" like Nicaragua, immediately began their campaign to bring the DERG down, beginning with a proxy invasion via Somalia in 1977. When this was beaten off, the west then sent arms to every criminal, malcontent ne-er do well, mercenary and opportunist within Ethiopia, calling them the Eritrean Liberation Front (Eritrea was originally a colony of Italy formed out of territory seized by Italy from Ethiopia after the battle of Adowa in the 1880s. Mussolini came back for the rest of Ethiopia in 1936) With western arms, advisors and tactical and logistical help, the ELF quickly took control of the eastern half of the country, driving the entire population off their farms but refusing to allow them to cross into western Ethiopia where the DERG still ruled. Consequently these dispossessed people starved. However the infamous BBC broadcast by Michael Buerk, which alerted the world to the famine, blamed Mengistu and the DERG for the famine! In fact, in the DERG controlled half of the country there was no famine, but the TV audience was not allowed to know that! Having found their good cause, the Tories now needed someone to front it for them. They found it in Bob Geldof. Previously

Geldof had been lead singer for The Boomtown Rats. His hits, and the groups career came to an end when they released "I Don't Like Mondays", which told the story of a California school shooting. For some reason the Americans thought Geldof was exploiting a national tragedy, and responded by radio stations banning every Rats record, and public bonfires of their back catalogue. The Rats went bust and broke up. Geldof himself went bankrupt and was reduced to living off the earnings of his wife Paula Yates from TV, but even these dried up after The Tube was taken off air and her show "Sex With Paula" was cancelled after Mary Whitehouse threatened legal action. The Geldofs were reduced to living on handouts from friends (the few they had left) in a house they had borrowed from Elton John. This was an arrangement John found highly amusing, he insisted on dragging Geldof behind him like a dog, saying things like "I don't object to punk rockers, in fact everyone should keep one around, they keep the mice down".

When Thatcher asked Geldof if he would front a famine relief operation for her, which would generate an immense amount of favourable publicity for him, and for which he would be richly rewarded, he jumped at the chance. The idea that Geldof organised the entire thing himself, with the help of his friends in the rock business, is ludicrous, when he could not even organise a job for himself. In any case, Band Aid never received the result it claimed it did. Although it raised millions of pounds, it was all wasted. Band Aid's organisers insisted in channelling all the food it bought through a single port (Asmara) with the result that the port became choked and food rotted on the quayside. Band Aid's solution was to buy a fleet of trucks locally, however the trucks proved to be scrap metal and were useless. In the end, the legitimate famine relief agencies, Oxfam, War on Want and Christian Aid, sent a delegation to see Geldof at his hotel and told him that if he did not get out of their way, they would pull out and tell the world what a pig's ear he had made of everything. Geldof and the rest of his celebrity friends (Lenny Henry et al) were reduced to "photo opportunities" posing with this or that starving orphan, when they were not sitting by the hotel pool!

Unfortunately for the miners, Band Aid had the desired effect. Bucket donations dried

up as the public told collectors that they had given to Ethiopia instead. In many cases bucket collectors were verbally abused in the street, and worse. With no money coming in to the strike fund, the miners were effectively starved back to work.

Geldof was well rewarded of course. The government virtually gave him his own TV production company (Planet 24 Productions) which has landed many valuable contracts thanks to friends in high places, although its only asset seems to be Jonathan Ross. That, and the knighthood (which legally Geldof is not entitled to being Irish, not British) certainly helps to grease a few pathways into business.

Incidentally Geldof was the only Irish entertainer to refuse to contribute to an LP released to raise funds for the families of the 1981 Irish hunger strikers.

KA, Tilbury, Essex.

**CW Reply:** Just who Bob Geldof is aiding is a matter that needs further research. Certainly his conduct at Genoa in 2001, and Scotland in 2005, does not appear to be inconsistent when you read the above account.

## Christian Anarchists?

Dear Class War

I thought I would write to give you some advice. I find the CWACKERS section very informative and well intentioned but I feel that left wing Christians would be put off by: Class War Against Christian Wankers.

This is because I am sure there are anarchist Christians out there, or Christians with anarchist leanings, for example Gnostic Christians, who have a rather long anarchist tradition. Gnostics and spiritualists do not tend to see themselves as religious, but as spiritual. I hope you have find this little letter helpful.

Secularphobe, Canterbury, Kent.

**CW Reply:** No we did not find your letter helpful. Religions, and the religious, have had long enough to build a better world. You have not done so, but there is plenty of evidence you have made the world a worse place. Step aside please.

# Merchandise

A full list of currently available items is on the website, [www.londonclasswar.org](http://www.londonclasswar.org). Cheques to the London address. Many more sticker designs available on the site, 50 for a quid!







## Whose Game is it Anyway?

Last season was another fantastic year for football. Newcastle won the Champions League, Manchester City won the Premiership, whilst lowly Brentford shocked everyone by winning the FA Cup. Ok, so it was not quite like that, and what we actually had was the most feared nightmare scenario for many fans – “the axis of evil” clubs dominating domestic football (Arsenal, Chelsea and Manchester United) while a similar situation repeated across Europe with the richest clubs able to buy the best players and achieving greatest success.

The globalisation of business under capitalism has also led to the globalisation of football, with multi-national teams dominating the game while small local teams get increasingly trampled under foot. This is a far cry from the original spirit of the game which was about local identity, and working class people finding a down-to earth-common cause to bond together – something the ruling class has always found terrifying. The gradual transition of football away from its roots into the hands of the money men has become increasingly apparent over the last two decades.

By business sponsorship, spiralling transfer fees, players abandoning team loyalty altogether and touting themselves as business interests to be bought by the highest bidding clubs, along with the restructuring of the game itself – all have increased the divide in football between the rich clubs and the poor clubs. And we have not even mentioned player agents!

### Changing the Goalposts

Lets take a look at some of these changes. The old English first division was scrapped in 1992, and replaced by the Premiership. The European Cup and shortly later the European Cup Winners Cup were replaced by the European Champions League.

The top clubs now aim for the top four Premiership places and so entrance into this money-go-round- has a detrimental effect on all other tournaments. The FA Cup, for the top clubs, becomes an inconvenience in an already congested season, and they field what are in effect B teams against smaller clubs. Games that were once the highlight of the season are now scuppered in the interests of big business. The first consideration of the big clubs is always money.

It is not difficult however to see where all these changes are leading – towards a European Super League, comprising the top teams from each country in Europe competing in a permanent Euro-wide

league system consisting of 7 or 8 leagues. This is the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow that the big money men have been dreaming of all along, and have been quietly scheming for behind closed doors, pulling all the necessary strings to make the introduction of this system appear gradual, but inevitable. So gradually that we, the ordinary fan, are supposed to not notice, and quietly go along with thinking it is all just a natural progression of the game.

All the changes so far have been a softening up towards the creation of a European Super League, with the Champions League being a “stop gap” competition to get us used to the idea of Europe’s richest clubs playing in a week by week league system. So we get Man United v Real Madrid, Arsenal v Bayern Munich and Chelsea v Barcelona on a week by week basis, with the clubs left stranded at home left to battle it out for meaningless domestic trophies, and competing for the only prize worth having – promotion to the European super League.

Ties such as Brentford v Arsenal or Hartlepool v Manchester United in the domestic cups will become a thing of the past, even though such matches are more interesting to your genuine fan and far closer to the original spirit of the game than Man United versus Real Madrid.

Now, money even effects who is picked for the England team, and when. Sven Goran Erikson has admitted he picked an out of form David Beckham for the England versus Spain friendly in Madrid in November 2004, ahead of other players who were in better form, solely because of the TV contract for the game.

### Straight Through The Defence

So where does leave you and me, the ordinary paying fan? After the creation of the European Super League the class divide in football will be more prevalent than ever, both among the clubs themselves and among fans. Only those with secure jobs and careers will be able to afford the jet-set supporter lifestyle required to watch European Super League clubs, as their team play across Europe on a weekly basis. Transfer fees, sponsorship



Sky - Leading the charge in privatising football

and ticket prices will continue to spiral for these clubs. The ordinary working class fan will be priced out altogether, from everything except watching the biggest games on television.

We have already seen how matches are scheduled around the timetables of satellite TV without a care for the paying fan or even for the club itself and increasingly this is how the game will go in the European Super League – the spirit of football first crucified and then served up on a plate to be devoured by fat cats in a feeding frenzy of the most obnoxious kind.

The game will become purely another product to shift around at the will of its financial backers in order to maximise profits.

### They Think Its All Over

So what can we do? Aside from giving up football altogether and spending our time enjoying free pursuits (an increasingly attractive option it seems) a good idea is to keep abreast of events as they happen and keep vocal about them to ensure that this hidden agenda in football becomes more widely known.

They want the ordinary fan to remain ignorant, compliant and have us down for one role only – to pay up our money to them as they engineer increasingly spectacular events for us to watch, at an increasingly spectacular price. They do not want us to become aware of their plans, let alone react to them.

So – keep well informed, keep sussed about what is happening, and keep connected. The vast network of grass roots soccer fanzines are a good way to stay in touch with fellow fans and a good platform to put across the alternative view of football to the on-going manipulations that the money-men are trying to make us swallow.

Mass action by fans can have an effect and shake up the people in control of the game. Boycotts, mass pitch invasions and other group actions, leafleting and gratifying can all have a big effect. There are loads of local radio phone-in programmes and local sports papers where views can be aired. They – the big businessmen – can only continue their plans as long as we remain silent and keep buying into them. As long as we keep paying up to the big money-men they will keep shitting on us and all that the game stands for, and then they will turn round and expect us to pay even more.

The future of football is in our hands.....

## White Swan Wins

After our criticism of the pub chain Wetherspoon’s in Class War issue 88 – some praise. The Metropolitan Police recently tried to make the White Swan, a Wetherspoon’s pub at Highbury Corner, use only plastic glasses on days when Arsenal are at home. The pub said no, even when the police tried to make it a condition of the pub’s licence. Well done White Swan!

Undeterred, the Met have now said they will try to get all pubs in the area to switch to plastic glasses on match days, but that this is a ‘voluntary measure’.

We all know that the word voluntary means nothing to the cops. Fans should resist this by making it quite clear to both the Met, landlords and breweries that they regard any such change, be it voluntary or not, as an insult. Who do they think they are?

## For Read, Read Loser

People really should get off Wayne Rooney’s back. Virtually every week the papers are slagging off the best footballer we have. One of the saddest attacks came from English Schools FA Chief Executive John Read. Nobody had heard of John Read before he attacked Rooney, and no one will probably hear of him again. Wayne Rooney had been due to attend an English Schools FA under 13’s match, to meet players and their parents. Having come up through the junior football ranks to play at the highest level, Rooney seemed a logical choice.

Read however decided to withdraw the offer, on the grounds that Rooney is “not a good role model”. The views of the children he was due to meet were not of course sought – John Read knows best. Junior sport – and schooling in general – is full of people like him. People with too much power to exercise, and too little talent and judgement. It is perhaps no surprise that the most talented young sportsmen and women emerge, not from the schools system, but from Sunday leagues, local sports clubs and boys clubs. We need people like John Read like we need a hole in the head.



John Read - Talentless tosser

## Bollocks from Brimson

There are fewer “experts” who know less about their subject matter than supposed experts on football hooliganism, Dougie and Eddy Brimson. The brothers grim have spent over a decade posing as reformed football hooligans, and pushing themselves forward to any chat show or newspaper that will have them.

If they know nothing about a particular subject, the Brimsons simply make it up – as they did with an interview, supposedly with Class War, in their book “England, My England”. Every single line of the interview was made up, and the Brimsons did not even approach us for a quote, never mind a formal interview. They did the same to the old Anti-Fascist Action group.

It is nice to see that these rent-a-quotes are continuing in the same mould as previously. Recently, Dougie Brimson was quoted in the Daily Star Sunday as commenting “Police have not stamped out football hooliganism in this country. They haven’t even begun to scratch the surface. Football in this country is tribal. Until you deal with that, like they did with racism, they haven’t got a chance”. So football hooliganism is worse than ever, racism is defeated. What planet is Dougie Brimson on?