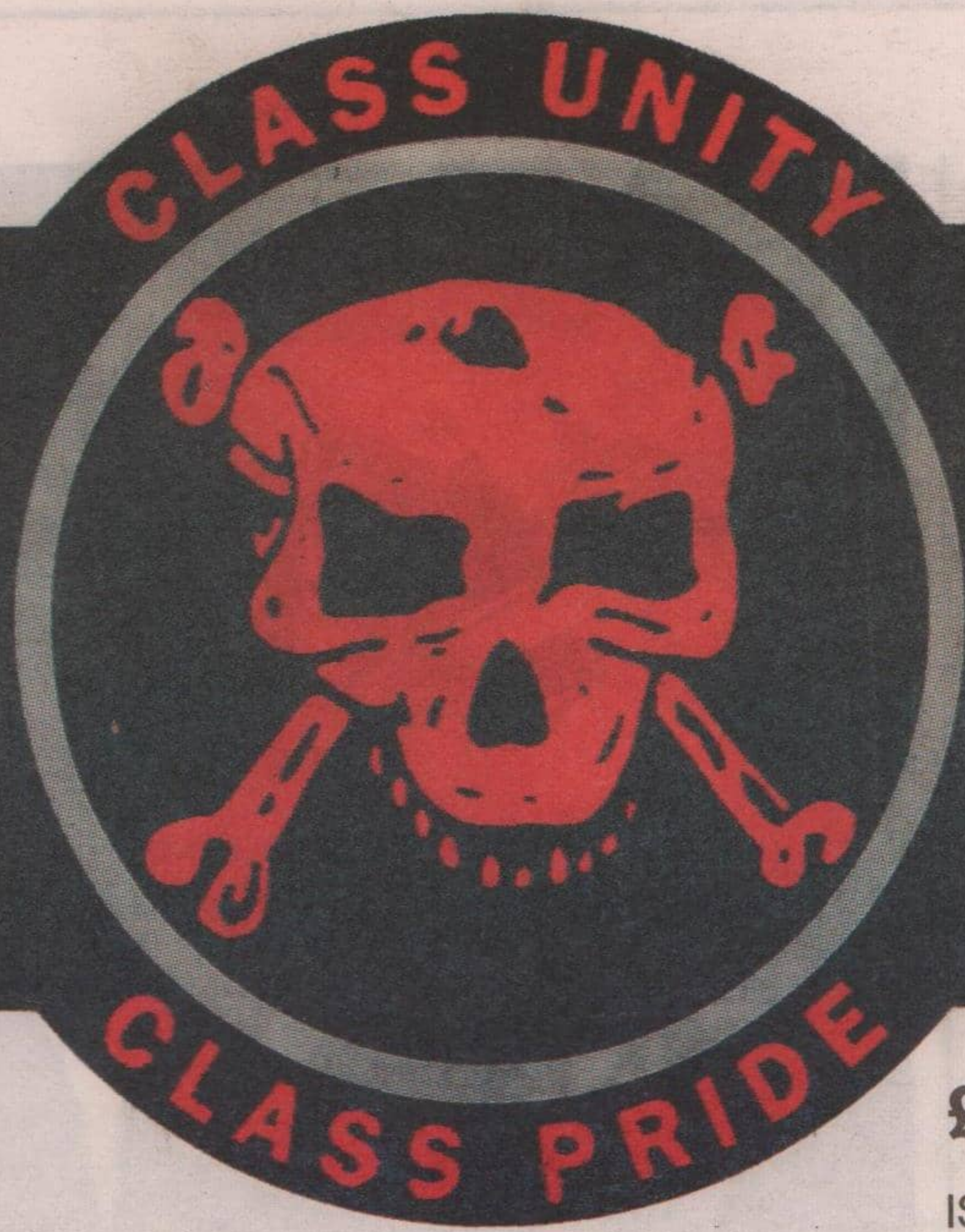


CLASS



WAR

"SAVE THE PLANET - GET RID OF THE RICH"

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HOW'S THIS FOR A CARBON FOOTPRINT?



STAMP 'EM OUT!

Editorial:

PRICED OUT OF THE MARKET

The **Bash the Rich** demonstration on 3 November isn't an end, but a beginning. It is the launch of a new campaign about affordable housing for the working class, and against gentrification and the people who make gentrification possible. From Limehouse to Leeds working class areas are being invaded by yuppies, amenities sold off for peanuts and communities ripped apart. The gap between rich and poor has never been wider, with some working class children condemned to a life of penury, a life without hope.

Yuppies are moving into working class areas at an unprecedented rate, moving into new housing developments located beside some of Britain's poorest estates. Not only are they undesirable socially, they disrupt local economies by forcing up prices and destroy community centres like pubs. Pubs and shops are flogged off for more flats for these unwelcome incomers, or turned into vile, expensive gastro pubs with all the soul of a rock. Members of the middle class buy up flats and houses as investments for their children, when their offspring are little more than babies. For huge numbers of working class people, having a home of their own is only a pipedream. For our parents, that was an achievable ambition: for us it's an unlikely aspiration.

We at Class War have been watching these events develop with anger. It is high time that the people who attack our communities — property developers and estate agents — are shown the error of their ways. We hope you will join us in Notting Hill on 3 November, and on other events as the campaign develops.



"TAINTED LOVE"

GORDON LOVES MAGGIE, JUST LIKE TONY DID

WHO SAYS NO one respects their elders these days?

Anyone who saw Gordon Brown patronising Margaret Thatcher at Downing Street can't have failed to notice how important it is to Brown's strand of new Labour to show it is as loyal to its Thatcherite roots as Tony Blair was.

That Thatcher was happy to be seen with Brown tells us all we need to know about him.

IF BLUBBING CHANGED ANYTHING....



"THE TEARS OF A CLOWN"

CLASS WAR HAS always struggled to understand the hold that that promoter of scabs, privatising spivs and friend of bigots and killer cops Ken Livingstone has over large portions of the liberal left.

At a recent meeting to commemorate the ending of the slave trade, 200 years ago (!), Ken apologised, on behalf of all Londoners, before bursting into tears and

being comforted in the arms of Jesse Jackson.

Now Class War is sure that Ken was genuinely moved to tears at the plight of the millions who were ripped from their homes to work themselves to death in order to enrich the City of London and that his actions HAD NOTHING WHATSOEVER to do with his upcoming re-election campaign and his need to rebuild his support among black Londoners.

Interestingly one of the key players at the start of the British involvement in the slave trade was Queen Elizabeth I, as a shareholder and then, when she realised the money to be made, as ship owner. She lent her ship, the Jesus of Lubeck, to slave trader Sir John Hawkins. He proudly flew the royal standard above his cargo of slaves. Does anyone think we will see Queen Elizabeth II blubbing her way through an apology in this years Queens Speech?

PC PLOD CAUGHT PORKING ON THE JOB

MASOOD KHAN, 41, a senior British Transport Police inspector responsible for passenger safety across southeast England, has admitted meeting a woman from the Internet on police time in full uniform and using a police investigation room for a twenty minute quickie!

After telling a junior officer that he was going to the airport on police business he drove his marked police car from his Victoria police station in central London to meet the woman on platform 2.

CCTV footage clearly shows them entering the sparsely furnished room and coming out 20 minutes later. Could the randy porkers please keep their minds off 'the job' and look after passenger safety?



WE'RE ALL DOOMED!

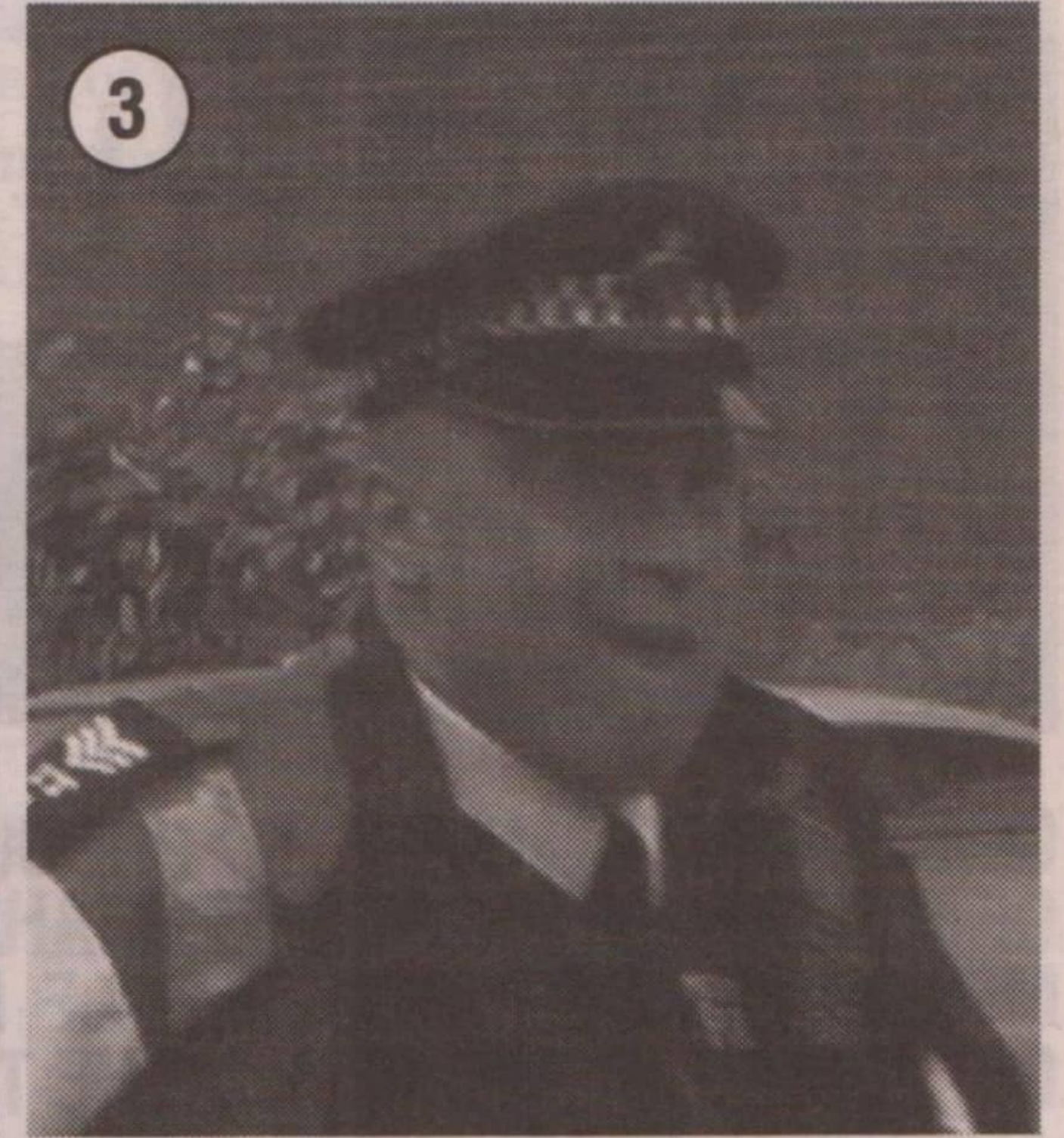
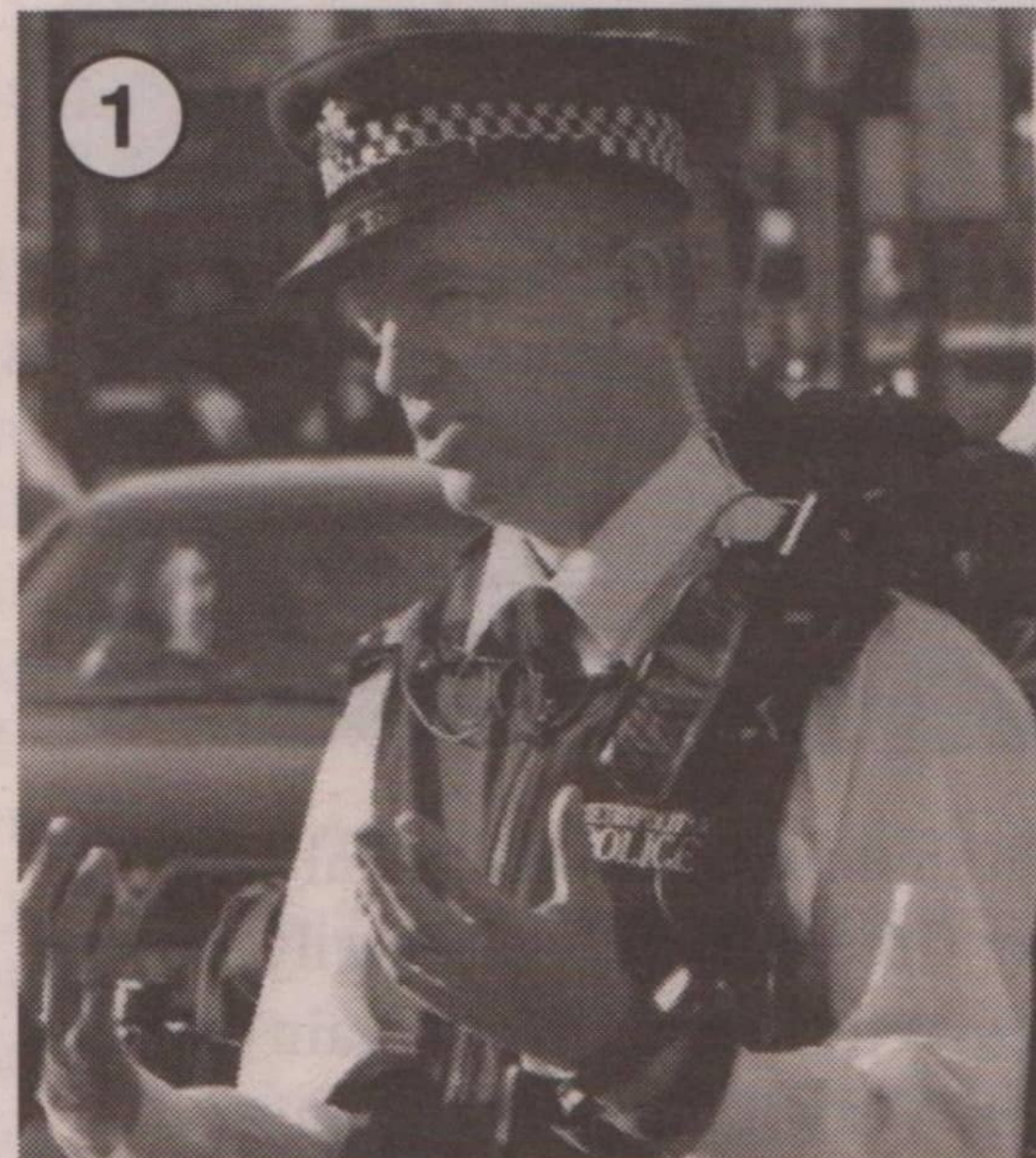
THE FIGHT TO save the planet really is fucked. If it was bad enough having public school boy airheads like David Cameron and Zak Goldsmith fronting the cause of environmentalism, you know things are really all over when the religious leaders arrive.

September saw the Arctic Symposium — leaders of all the worlds major faiths coming together to pray for the planet. Rather than doing this at home, these men (this being a religious service, they were of course all men) flew to London, before taking a charter flight from London to the Norwegian coast, where they prayed near a glacier that is now melting.

After oil and money, religion probably causes more wars than anything else. Could we suggest these 'leaders' put their own houses in order before they bother anyone else with their concerns for the environment?

IF YOU KNOW 'EM SHOP 'EM

WE'VE SIX ROGUES FOR YOU TO IDENTIFY. ALL THESE COPS ARE IN FORWARD INTELLIGENCE TEAMS, AND ALL HAVE BEEN ACTIVE RECENTLY GATHERING INFORMATION ON ANARCHISTS AND OTHER MALCONTENTS. THESE ZEALOUS POLITICAL PLOD AND THEIR ILK HAVE BEEN HARASSING DEMONSTRATORS FOR SOME YEARS NOW, AND NOW WE'RE TURNING THE TABLES. IF YOU KNOW 'EM, SHOP 'EM.



- 1) **DM73** – his hands do the talking. Despite appearances DM73 is a member of the Forward Intelligence Team. He was seen a couple of days later protecting the arms traders at their banquet on Park Lane.
- 2) **XB312**. This lovely lady accompanied DM73 near the Excel Centre during DSEi arms fair. XB isn't a police station, according to the Police & Constabulary

Almanac. What is XB? Who is XB312? If you know, tell us.

- 3) **ZT2**. Do you recognise this fat pig? Reduce the risk to the nation's pie supply by telling us about him.
- 4) **THIS COP'S** clearly not one to let on who he is. But he's fairly recognisable. Have you run across

him in the past?

- 5) **MD862** – Harassed anarchists at the DSEi dinner recently. With his crap haircut he does stand out. Do you know him?
- 6) **EK168**. Another Camden cop, down at DSEi recently. Does he look familiar?

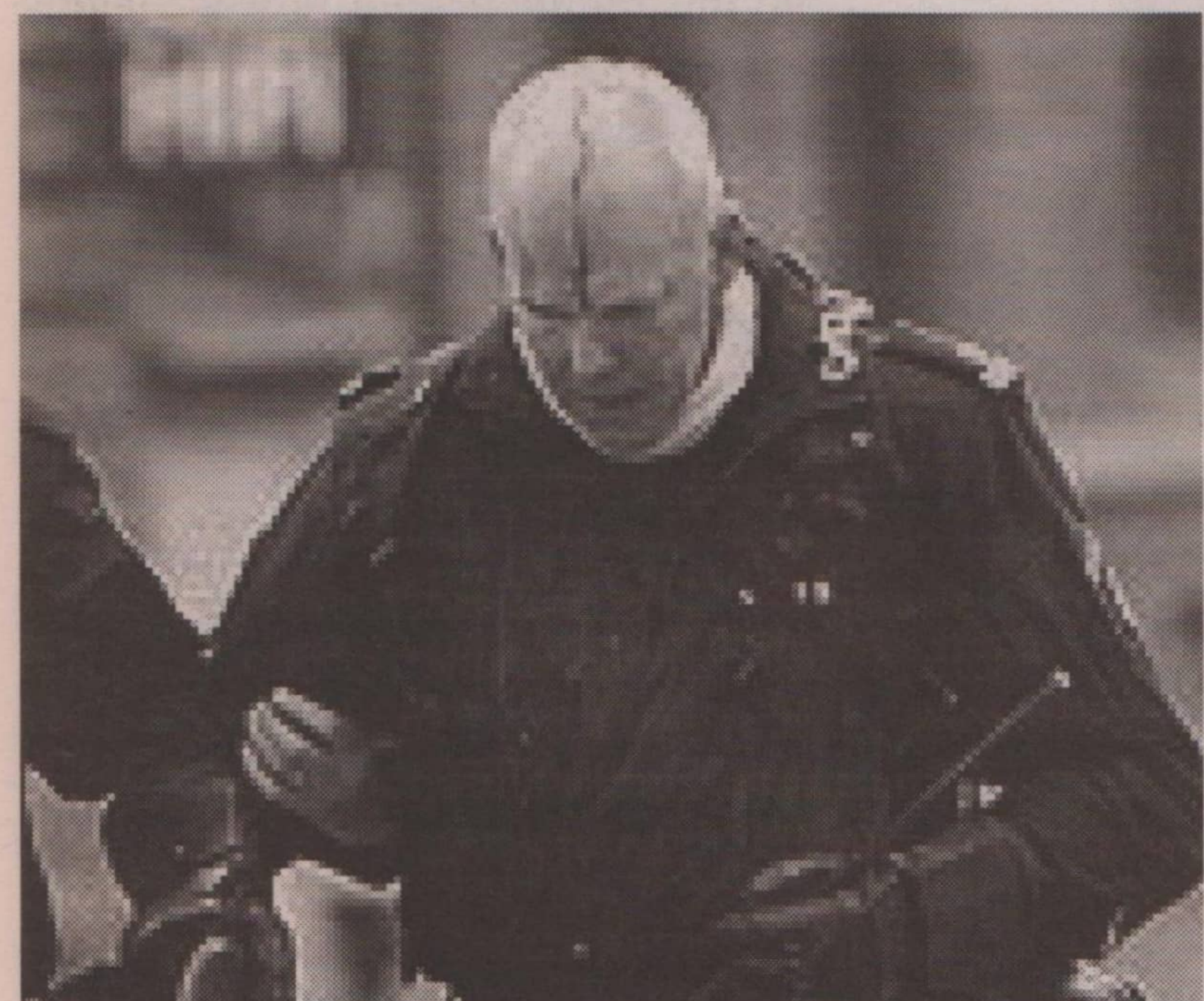
RAVE ON!

SATURDAY 18TH AUGUST saw ravers lay siege to Great Yarmouth police station. More than one hundred ravers pelted the station with bottles, damaged police cars and injured officers in revenge for the police attacking party-goers and their property and arresting three men who they believed

to be taking musical equipment to the party. Police had to be drafted in from Essex, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire to break up the rave, which continued until 10am the next day.

Class War partygoers are pleased to see people stand up for themselves.

Too many parties are broken up by the old bill these days with little or no resistance. If people tell them to fuck off in this way it sends them a clear message that even those dumb bastards understand! RAVE ON!



"YER NAMES NOT DOWN - YER NOT COMIN' IN"



"WOT HO, OLD BEAN"

BASH BORIS!

NOT CONTENT WITH putting old Etonian David Cameron forward to lead the country, the Conservatives are now offering us old Etonian Boris Johnson to run London. So much for a classless society!

We are pleased to report that some Anarchist comrades have already taken the opportunity to discuss the issues of the day with Boris Johnson, and are happy to reproduce a report of the discussion. Whacko!

"A few comrades were enjoying alfresco drinking in central London when who should bicycle by but Shadow Minister for Higher Education Boris Johnson, editor of The Spectator and Conservative MP for Henley. Eager to commend the portly man mountain on his obvious commitment to reducing his (rather heavy) carbon footprint, the comrades gave chase crying "What ho, old bean"!

In the confusion of so many chaps trying to shake the portly Tory's hand at once poor Boris was knocked from his bicycle and jostled most rudely! At this point he seemed to think he was being attacked, and before they could remonstrate with the right on right wing

professional adulterer he had to beat a hasty retreat screaming "Fuck Off!"

Taken from the Anarchist Federation bulletin "Resistance" July/August 2007. www.afed.org

BAN THE BASTARD

THIS IS SO WRONG. Representative Jim Sensenbrenner is already a multi-millionaire. Heir to the Kimberley-Clark fortune (the people that make Kleenex) the Republican politician hardly needs any more money.

Yet the wobbly jowled Milwaukee man has now won the lottery 3 times in the USA in less than ten years. Class War has a very simple response – and one that if we have to have a lottery, should be applied in Britain – all elected politicians and millionaires should be banned from taking part. They have enough as it is – they can fuck off and give someone else a go!

STOP GUN CRIME - PUT THEM IN THE ARMY!

WE KNEW DAVID Cameron really had flipped when we heard this proposal.

All 16 year olds will be expected to spend 6 weeks on PATRIOTIC DUTY including military training.....and swearing a patriotic oath (like 'FUCK OFF SNOOTY YOU TOFF BASTARD' for example).

This has the potential to mobilise thousands of kids on the streets – lets see it happen!

It should be patriotically pointed out that Cameron has never done a stroke of work in his life - Eton, Oxford, Tory Central Office, MP - but he now becomes LITTLE LORD KITCHENER.

HARD WORK NEVER KILLED ANYONE?

CLASS WAR IS HAPPY TO PRODUCE THE TEXT OF A LEAFLET FROM THE GRAHAM MELDRUM MEMORIAL CAMPAIGN. PEOPLE LIKE GRAHAM GET KILLED AT WORK ALL THE TIME WITHOUT ANYTHING BEING DONE ABOUT IT. NOT THIS TIME...

CONCERN FOR THE WELFARE OF ALL WORKERS

GRAHAM MELDRUM WAS killed in a workplace incident on the 12th July 2005 at Allied Bakeries in the Balmore Industrial Estate. He was employed by Suziline Agency contracted to ABF Grains (formerly known as Allied Bakeries) & TNT Logistics UK. His death is now the subject of a prosecution under Health & Safety laws.

Graham was 40 years old, he left elderly parents, a partner and children to mourn and pick up the pieces. Graham's death was horrific and needless. A gifted, decent man was denied his tomorrows. Graham was renowned for his respect and care for all workers, his 16 years as a transport manager at GreenCity Wholefoods

testament to this. Graham took a sabbatical from his managerial duties at GreenCity to visit family in New Zealand and on his return wanted to gain further experience driving HGV's with other companies.

Graham loved machines, his building of cycles as a youngster, his restoration of classic motorbikes, his inventing and building of his beloved bike, his working as a driver as opposed to using his PhD in Chemistry made him unique.

Graham was a very artistic welder who hated greed, loved life, worked hard and was partial to a beer or three. His disjointed dancing and love of punk music and Johnny Cash made us all smile. We have to learn from his death, it can't be in vain. We ask you to remember him today; we ask you to look after yourself and your colleagues regardless of who they are; temporary, casual, agency, whoever we all have the right to life. So please look after yourself today and tomorrow, you are worth more than any cost or time cutting exercise, you are worth more than any target regardless of who set it.

We understand the pressures of work as Graham but they are not worth dying for. Graham's family and friends have had to endure his loss, we don't wish it for any other family.

DON'T LET EMPLOYERS GET AWAY WITH MURDER

WORK KILLS AND maims. Families Against Corporate Killing (FACK) estimate that 1700 people are killed annually in workplace incidents: that's not including the thousands who die of occupational diseases. We refuse to use the word accident because 70% of deaths and injuries are due to management health and safety issues. Like FACK we want government action to implement laws of corporate manslaughter for employers who negligently kill and maim workers. If they take the profits they must take the responsibility.

We are disgusted at the slashing of the Health and Safety Executive's budget - meaning less inspections in an already under-resourced area. We call for more protection for all workers and seek corporate accountability through a change of legislation. More importantly we ask you to look after yourselves, your work colleagues; no matter what pressure or expectations companies put on you don't do anything that is unsafe - don't put yourself or any of your fellow workers lives at risk.

We can't bring Graham back, or any of the countless others, but together we can fight to stop other needless deaths.

Hard Work Never Killed Anyone?

If you would like to share comments, or would like to offer help - you can contact:

The Graham Meldrum Memorial Campaign, GreenCity, 23 Fielding St, Dennistoun, Glasgow G31 1PQ. www.myspace.com/gmmemorialcampaign

THE LIFE SWAP PROGRAMME ITV DO NOT WANT YOU TO SEE

CLASS WAR RECEIVED THE ARTICLE BELOW, BY TWO LONG STANDING ANARCHISTS, WHO HAD EXPERIENCED THE DECEITFUL NATURE OF ITV'S DOCUMENTARY MAKING PROCESS. IT'S NOT JUST BBC AND CHANNEL 4 WHO PULL STUNTS!

FOR YOU WEB users the link takes you to a site that has put our Anti-War/Pro-War/Anarchist/Monarchist Life-Swap programme up on it. ITV have banned it but that hasn't stopped it going out on the web.... as one might expect in an age where the means of production are gradually entering the public domain.

<http://www.brightcove.com/title.jsp?title=686989691&channel=219646953>

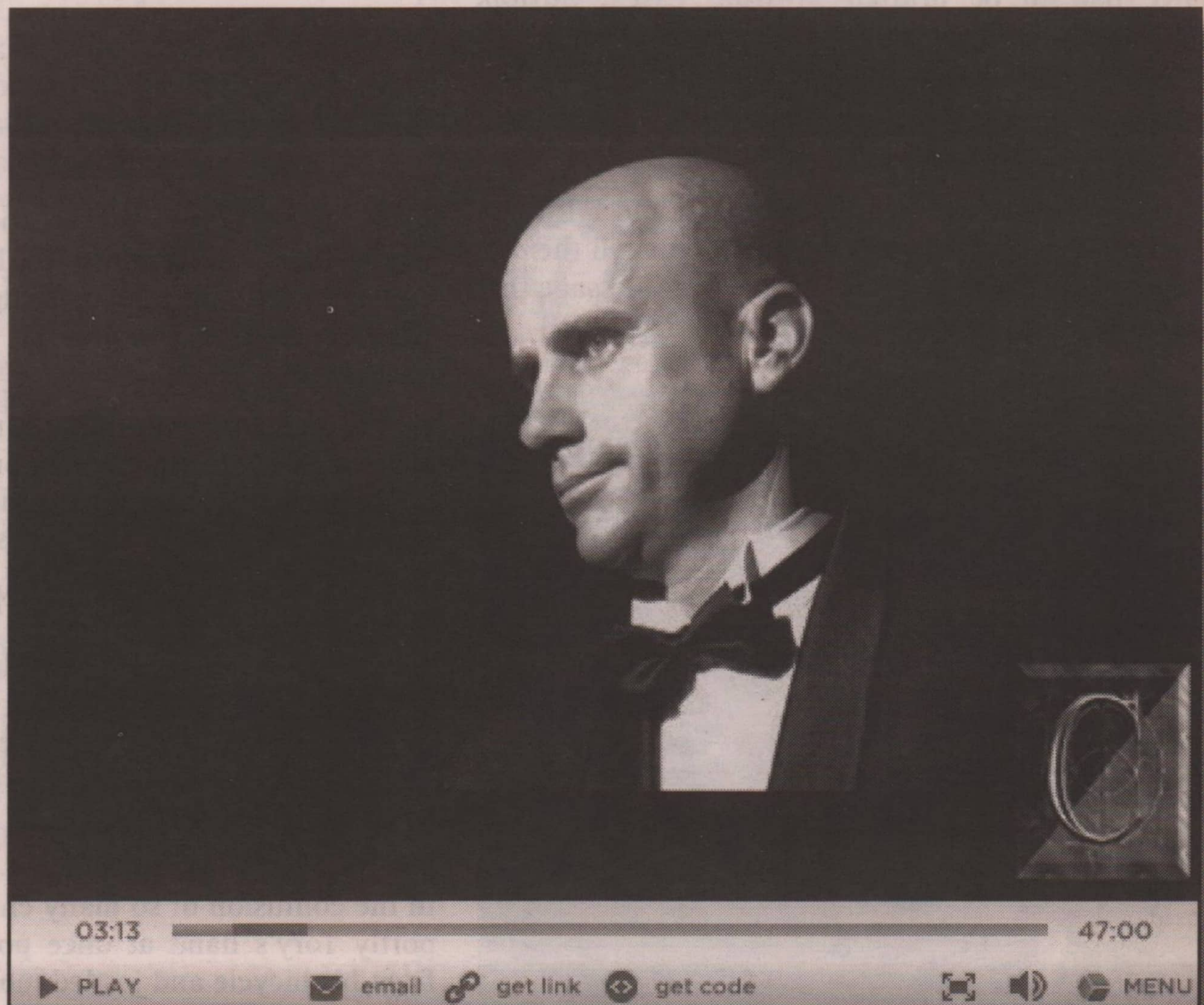
When we were asked to participate in a Life-Swap commissioned by Granada TV & intended for release on prime-time ITV we told the researchers to look for someone else. We were then told that we were lucky to have been picked & that there are waiting lists involving thousands of people who wanted to appear on reality TV. We still rejected the idea unless they could assure us of certain conditions. These were that we wanted to be swapped with the richest, most corrupt family that they could find. We said that it would merely feed the bigotries of the bourgeoisie if, once again, two sets of working class families were set at each other's throats. We told them that we firmly believe that the whole reality TV fad is merely an attempt to make the middle classes feel comfortable about their bankrupt lives by exaggerating the flaws of working class people.

Strangely the researchers said that they would give it a shot. We said that they had better consider it seriously because if we found that they had paired us up with another low paid or unemployed family we would walk. Since we weren't to know who we were being swapped with until the actual moment itself it didn't seem in Granada's interest to squander its resources on a project that we were obviously going to walk out on at the critical moment.

Amazingly we were subjected to the very experience we had asked for. Contrary to the misleading narration in the final edit our opposites are

not "self-made" but were born into extreme prosperity and land-ownership. They also have ties with the Royal Family as bastions of the Polo and Fox Hunting set. Our next issue was the possibility of being made to look either immoral or ridiculous.... an easy thing for the media to contrive with careful editing. We sought counsel among many of our peers and finally agreed that if our conversation was disciplined & focused around two main issues we would at least draw the public's attention to important themes rather than their viewing-time being taken up with petty domestic arguments. These themes were obviously the environment and the Iraq War.

It quickly transpired that the director seemed more sympathetic towards our view-point than that of the establishment. This, however did not stop him from playing down our attributes and exaggerating the



"SOAP FOR SORE EYES"

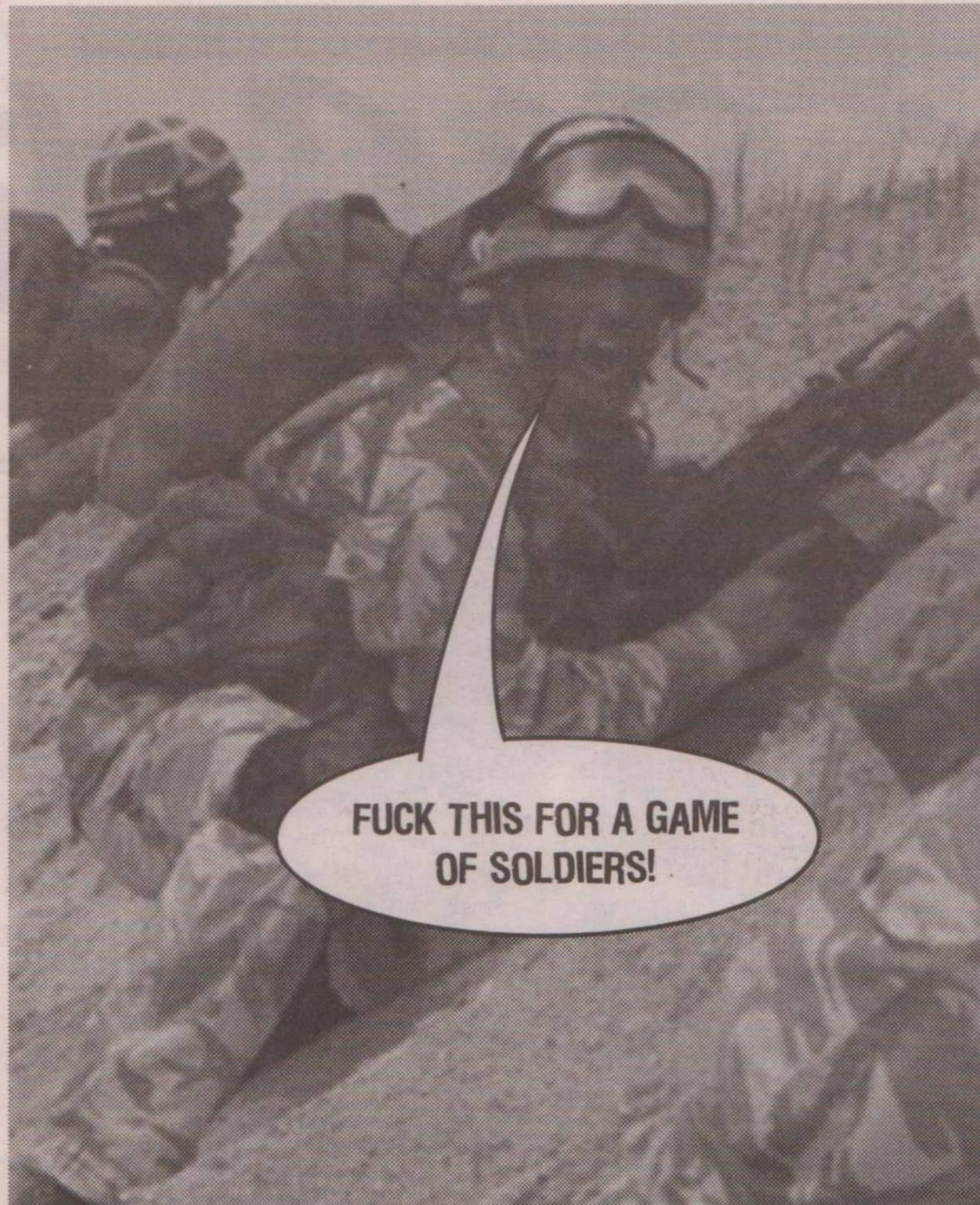
attributes of our "adversaries". He was quite candid in admitting this. His excuse was that he had bugged all chance of getting the final edit on TV if it looked weighted in our favour.

Since it appears to have been "D-Noticed" he has since decided to furnish us with a copy as a "booby-prize". We have mixed feelings about his final edit. On the one hand it does draw attention to the Iraq War in a way not yet seen on British television. Here we had the two most extreme views on British imperialism going head to head. On the other hand the environment was barely touched on and certain untruths were perpetuated in order for our friends to be made to appear slacker than they are and our family, itself to be made to appear more duplicitous than they are. Our friends punctuality is brought into question {when, in fact it was the punctuality of Granada's production crew which was at fault} and we were asked to breach an agreement by the director in order to make sure our friends were not in any danger which was secretly filmed & then dressed up as a decision we had made ourselves. All will become clear when you watch the final edit.

We did consider lifting the original and quite biased narration and inserting our own biased narration but, what the hell, this is as much of a comment on the media as it is on the differences between radicals and the establishment.

One thing that strikes us as an important lesson in all of this is the fact that the director had to cull ninety hours of footage into a 46 minute, sensationalist blast worthy of little more than tabloid attention. Although this is better than nothing we have found this medium for analysing our two families as deeply deficient. We have thus written a book entitled "The Life-Swap They Didn't Show" which we believe addresses this important experience more thoroughly. It is available on our web-site www.highpanch.org.uk

Granada TV did attempt to furnish us with extra footage from the 89 hours 14 minutes that are not available. We have been told, however, that this is now the property of ITV PLC and they will not allow it to be seen. It all reminds me of what happens at the very end of "Raiders of the Lost Ark" where the Ark of the Covenant is boxed up & filed away from public view. To this day we have no idea whether all of this is a product of a "conspiracy" or a "cock-up" since even this 46 minute edit really should be shown on mainstream TV at this point in history.



13,000 GO AWOL SINCE START OF IRAQ WAR

MORE THAN 13,000 SERVICE PERSONNEL HAVE GONE ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE SINCE THE INVASION OF IRAQ WITH AN AMAZING 1200 STILL ON THE RUN! STRANGELY THE GOVERNMENT BLAMES DOMESTIC PROBLEMS RATHER THAN THE HIGH PROBABILITY OF BEING SHOT OR BLOWN TO PIECES FOR THIS STAGGERING STATISTIC.

WITH THE BRITISH army at full stretch in Iraq and Afghanistan and soldiers being away from home more and more with little time to recover there seems little alternative to them but to fuck off. When they do finally get home Class War says good luck to 'em! In a small way of supporting this direct action Class War will be free to any soldier at home or currently on duty.

TIME TO GET A PROPER JOB

ACCORDING TO LIBERAL Democrat Brian Paddick, London is now ready for a gay Mayor. It may well be. But is London ready for a former Deputy Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police as Mayor?

Not fucking likely. Paddick may press the right buttons with liberals when he complains about how hard he had to fight to be accepted as a gay policeman, but the only button he pushes at Class War HQ is the mute switch.

Gay or straight, you don't get to the level Paddick did in the police force without being a right bastard.

SAVE PADDY'S MARKET

ONCE AGAIN WE SEE SOME DO-GOODER FROM GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL, ALL AFFRONTED AT THE SUPPOSED CRIME STATISTICS AROUND PADDY'S MARKET, SHOWN NO DOUBT TO HIM BY THE COPS.

WHAT WE SHOULD all remember is that Paddy's is an embarrassment to the City Council, which continually

ignores the fact that there is still rampant poverty in Glasgow, and the 'poor' need places such as Paddy's to get the basics to survive.

With new yuppie flats local to Paddy's it was no doubt offensive to some to see people rummaging through clothes and other essentials. Councillors its time you took a reality check. There are working class people in Glasgow and there need includes places like Paddy's Market.

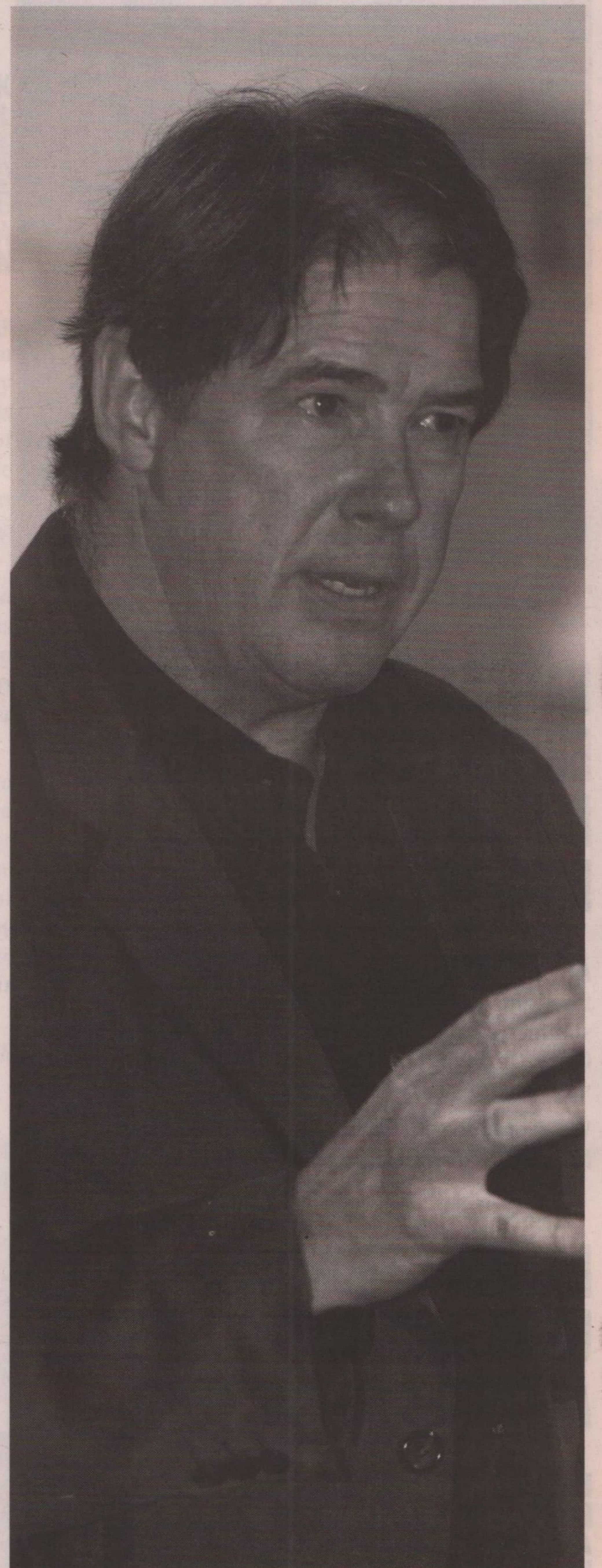
Poverty can be addressed, but moving it on will only increase potential crime, making people in need more vulnerable. If the nearby yuppies don't like this - they can lump it!

TIME FOR THE SNIP

CLASS WAR'S FAVOURITE ECO-TOFF JONATHAN PORRITT, HAS COME UP WITH A NEW IDEA.

AFTER THREE DECADES of political failure, old Etonian Jonathan has only a bulging bank balance and the friendship of Prince Charles to show for his efforts. However, this time Porritt appears to have hit a winner. He wants everyone to have fewer children, and this apparently will halt climate change.

Ok Jonathan - why don't you and all your posh mates have vasectomies? No more idle rich, vastly reduced pollution, and the world's a better place. Nice one John Boy!



"CUT IT!"

CHALLENGING CAMERON

SEPTEMBER SAW DAVID Cameron's chauffeur following behind 'Dave's' bike as he pedalled down to the Daily Telegraph offices for an on-line interview with Telegraph readers.

By means fair and foul Class War members were determined to sneak a question through to Lord Snooty, and to our delight succeeded in bowling this bouncer at his temple:

Q: "Mr. Cameron - 19 Prime Ministers in the history of this country went to one school - Eton. What do you think it will say about Britain that you are the Conservative candidate to be Prime Minister, and Boris Johnson the likely candidate for London mayor?"

David Cameron: "I think we've got beyond the stage in this country where we get obsessed with where people have come from. The important issue is surely where we are going to."

Cameron's reply is an old cliché - the only surprise perhaps is that he did not try to quote James Brown "It ain't where you from its where you at". Even Snooty should be able to realise that where you are going is rather dependent on where you are setting out from! Having just lost one public school boy Prime Minister, Cameron appears to have no problem with us being lumbered with another. If so, it is very obvious were Britain is going - in circles!

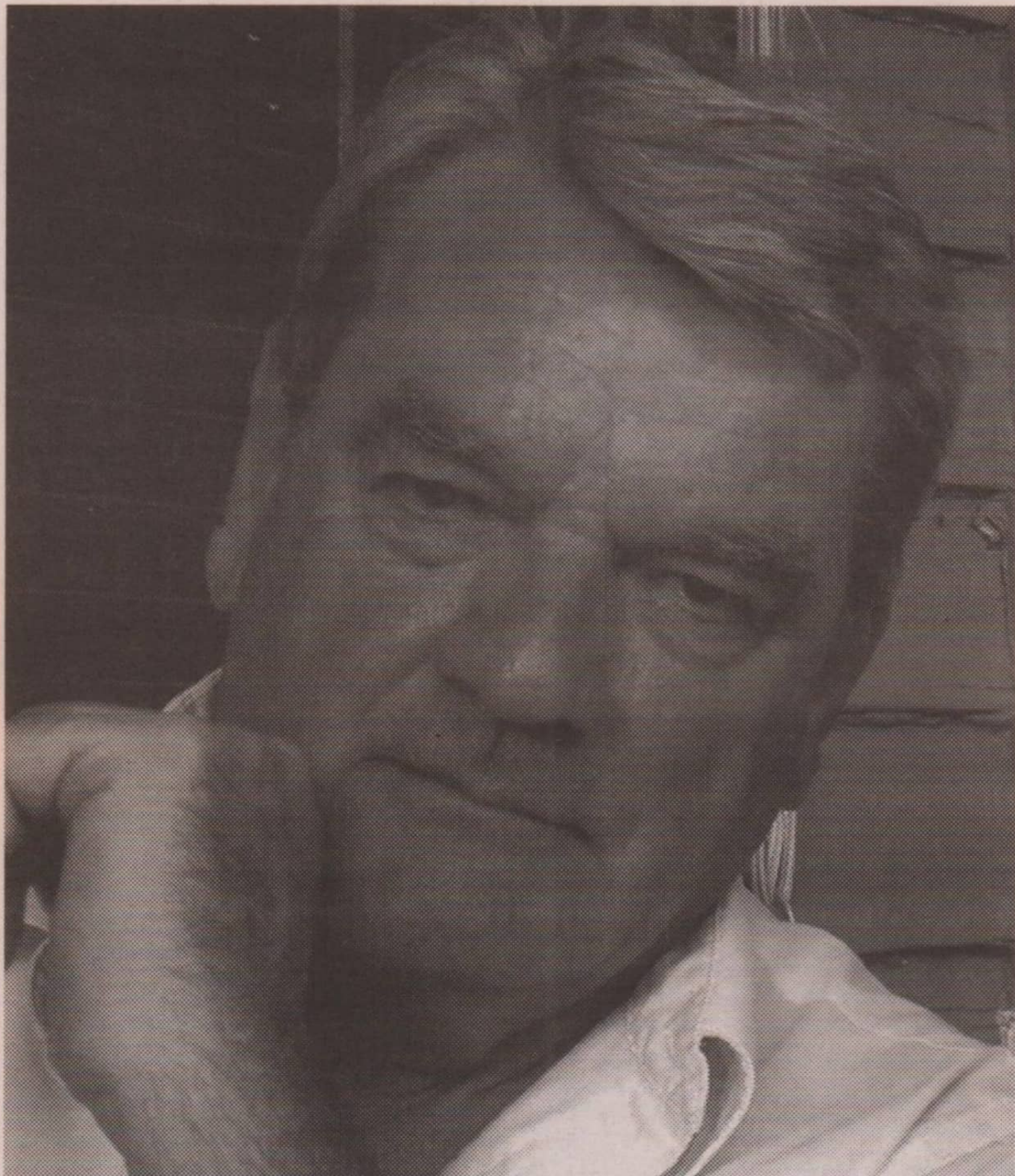
ANTI FASCISM

HOLOCAUST DENIER TOLD TO BELT UP!

JULY'S BELTRING INTERNATIONAL MILITARY FAIR IN KENT MAY BE AN UNUSUAL PLACE FOR A GROUP OF ANTI-FASCISTS, BUT THIS YEARS EVENT WAS WELL WORTH ATTENDING!

WHO SHOULD BE there but Holocaust denier David Irving flogging his books at a stall. After a bit of thought on the best course of action, the intrepid few decided to empty the contents of a few days worth of shit and piss from the latrines over dear David's pitch.

Well done to the lads, who have proved that not only does Irving talk shit, he also stinks of it as well.



"HE'S SHITTY"

NATIONAL FRONT AND THE BRITISH PEOPLE'S PARTY HUMILIATE THEMSELVES IN BRIGHTON

ALL IS NOT well on the outer fringes of the British far-right. An attempted demonstration against this summer's gay pride event in Brighton turned into a Carry On Style farce, with BPP leader Sid Williamson more Charles Hawtrey than Bernard Bresslaw!

We reproduce Mr. Williamson's hilarious gripe from the fascist Stormfront website:

NATIONAL FRONT DEMO SET UP BY BRIGHTON POLICE TO BE ATTACKED BY POOFTERS!

EARLIER TODAY ME AND BPP COMRADE BUSTER MET WITH ABOUT TEN NF COMRADES, AND EMBARKED UPON THE PLANNED NF DEMO IN BRIGHTON. BRING BACK CLAUSE 28 WAS



THE THEME, AS AROUND A HALF A MILLION HOMOSEXUALS DESCENDED UPON THE CITY.

BRIGHTON POLICE HAD known for a long time that we were going to demonstrate, yet they were not at our RV point when we arrived, and when they did turn up, they designated us an area on the corner of Baker Street and London Road. This was hardly a suitable area for us to demonstrate under any circumstances, but it got worse. With no barrier, and only two very disinterested coppers, we were told to start our demo there and then.

As soon as we put our first banner up we were attacked. We fought back, and considering our group was made up of two old age pensioners, a woman, four young children and just six fighting fit men, we stood our ground until it had got so out of hand that the police ordered us to leave. Hit by a plastic bottle of soft drink that had not been opened, I was sporting a black eye and broken glasses. Others received cuts and bruises, but we are not the surrendering types.

Considering the homosexuals believe they have been victims of discrimination, and that their freedoms have been denied for so long, one would have expected them to understand our right to a peaceful protest.

Not so, the evil venomous bastards bombarded us with missiles even though half our contingent were young or elderly. We will not forget this treatment, by the police or the reds and homosexuals. And if they think we won't be back next year, they best think again.

Only next year, the National Front will be demanding that more members turn up. And we in the BPP will be expecting the same, turn up and support our nationalist Comrades.

AND DON'T LEAVE US IN THIS ** EVER AGAIN!**

Always For Race & Nation, Sid Williamson, BPP National Organiser.

GET ORRF MY LAND?

ONE MAN WHO WAS NOT PLEASED BY THE NF'S SHOWING IN BRIGHTON WAS RIGHT WING RELIGIOUS FRUITCAKE STEPHEN GREEN, OF THE CHRISTIAN VOICE GROUP. HE HAS BEEN PICKETING GAY EVENTS FOR THREE YEARS, ALL BEARD AND BIBLE, AND DOES NOT WANT THE NF ON HIS PATCH.

"Homosexuals are not black or Asian as a rule, they are overwhelmingly white, and therefore totally

scrumptious from a National Front point of view". Totally scrumptious???? Perhaps he and Sid ought to get together!

NOTES FROM THE BORDERLAND ISSUE 8 PUBLISHED

ANTI-FASCISTS WILL find much of interest in the latest magazine from Larry O'Hara's camp. As well as an update on the BNP murder plot, and the issues still outstanding around the 1999 Soho nail bombing, the main article is a look at just who is pulling the strings of the fascist jokers at Redwatch.

You can order NFB for £3.50 from London Class War, or on-line at www.borderland.co.uk

BLOG OFF!

AN OLD CLASS STRUGGLE ANARCHIST PRINCIPLE IS THAT WE CARRY THE SHELL OF THE NEW WORLD IN THE OLD WORLD. IS THIS TRUE OF OTHER POLITICAL THEORIES? LOOK BENEATH THE SPIN OF THE BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY, AND IT IS NOT HARD TO SEE WHAT TYPE OF WORLD THE FASCISTS WOULD CREATE IF EVER THEY WERE IN POWER.

BLOGGING HAS ALLOWED the most computer illiterate to set up their own websites, on everything from the state of the local rugby league team to the state of the acting in Eastenders. This is usually regarded as a pretty good thing, apart from in countries like China or Saudi Arabia, where blogging is seen as a threat to the established order. To that list should be added the name of Nick Griffin's British National Party, as its July members bulletin contained a warning to members not to set up local BNP websites or blogs. It seems the leadership can't trust the members to spell properly or to write the right things (Nick Griffin's views, not ours!) and those "fighting for a free Britain" are instead informed "the BNP does not permit members or units to run websites or blogs which use the party name or logo in their title, or which otherwise give the impression of being official BNP operations".

As usual with Griffin, subterfuge replaces normal politics. Members are instead encouraged to set up community sites "which appear to be totally independent of any political party including ours..... Apparently independent sites exposing the wrongdoings and failings of the old parties, and making favourable reference to the BNP, will be many times more attractive and convincing to the wider public than sites which are clearly ours".

There you have it from the horses mouth!

INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE - 71ST ANNIVERSARY

ANTIFA MEMBERS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY ATTENDED THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE MEMORIAL ON THE SOUTHBANK ON 22 JULY. OVER 2000 BRITONS TRAVELLED TO SPAIN IN 1936 TO FIGHT FASCISM - 526 DID NOT RETURN.

A LARGE CROWD of at least 300 people were present, including several of the rapidly diminishing number

of veterans, and the last surviving British nurse who travelled to Spain. Speakers included Jack Jones, the President of the International Brigade Memorial Trust.

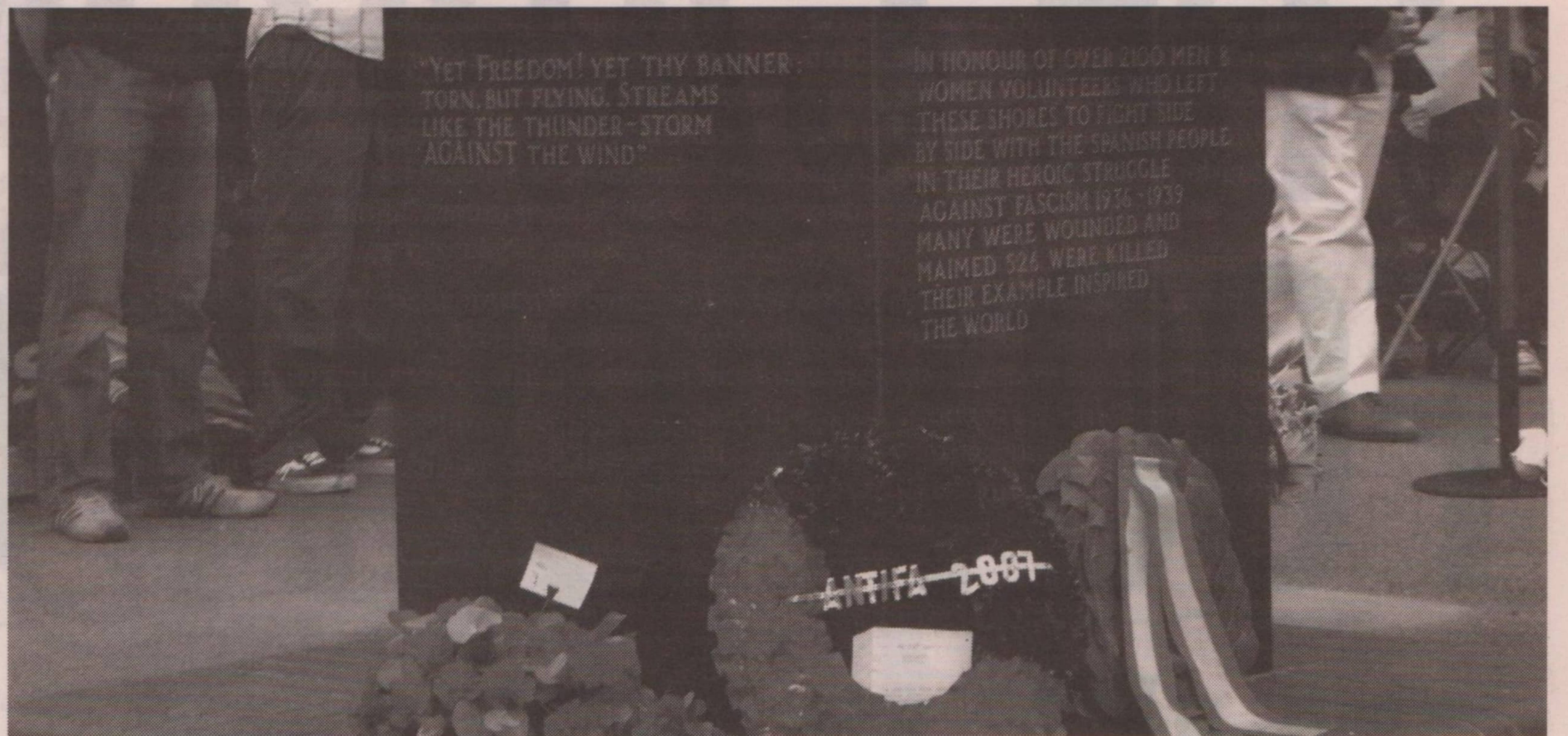
For Antifa, the International Brigades represent not just history but an inspiration for the struggles of today. Abandoned by the Western governments, they ultimately fought and lost, in a war that was to be continued with the struggle against German Nazism and Italian fascism. That working class Britons could see more clearly than 'their' government is a lesson not lost on us.

To find out more about the International Brigades, please go to these websites:

www.international-brigades.org.uk oor

www.lacolumna.org.uk

Membership of the International Brigade Trust costs just £15 per year.



"THE ANTIFA WREATH - PAYING OUR RESPECTS"

Top Ten Silly Names

10. Douglas Daft - The former Chief Executive of Coca Cola. Sickly sweet.....
9. Ed Balls - Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families. How have we managed not to list him before?
8. Pussy Baird-Murray - District Commissioner of the Teme Valley Pony Club, Powys.
7. Jacobi Anstruther-Gough-Calthorpe - One name is not enough for Jack - it's a hat trick!
6. Rock Hugo Basil Feilding-Mellen. The Conservative Councillor for Saint Charles ward, Kensington & Chelsea. No comment required!
5. Colonel John Blashford-Snell. To the outsider, the British military seems like one vast clearing house for silly names!
4. Mrs Julie Pile. This show jumping lady runs clinics for the Pony Club. Lets hope she has a good pair of rubber gloves!
3. David Lenin. Headmaster of the very posh City of London School. Old Leninists never die, they just teach in public schools!
2. Santa Montefiore. The sister of Tara Palmer-Tomkinson - this is one Santa you don't want to see on Christmas day!
1. Frederick Aubrey Vane-Tempest-Stewart, Viscount Castlereagh. Heir Apparent to be the 10th Marquess of Londonderry. Makes you sad the IRA are on a ceasefire!

AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME

THE NATIONAL SECULAR Society is a pretty mixed bag politically. Given the rise of reactionary religious ideas in the UK in the last few years, and the ever increasing stridency of nutters from all religions, its work is however becoming essential.

You can find out more about it by coming to www.secularism.org.uk They also do a weekly news e mail bulletin. Class War already subscribes - why don't you?

JOHN BOWDEN - SUPPORT FOR A PRISONER UNDER ATTACK

JOHN BOWDEN SHOULD NEED NO INTRODUCTION TO REGULAR READERS OF CW, HIS ARTICLES AND NEWS OF HIS SITUATION HAVE APPEARED HERE REGULARLY, AND FOR MANY YEARS. JOHN RECEIVED A LIFE SENTENCE IN 1980 AND QUICKLY DEVELOPED INTO A PRISON MILITANT, BEING AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE BRITISH PRISON STRUGGLE FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS, AND REGULARLY PAYING THE PRICE FOR HIS RESISTANCE THROUGH VICTIMISATION, SEGREGATION, AND NAKED BRUTALITY FROM THE SYSTEM. IN HIS BOOK TEAR DOWN THE WALLS! (PUBLISHED BY LEEDS ABC) HE TALKS OF HIS EARLY YEARS BEHIND BARS:

"I'd always possessed a certain degree of class consciousness, always identified with and felt part of a poor underclass. I'd always felt an instinctive hatred of the rich and powerful, and believed in a vague concept of class struggle and revolution. In prison for life, I was now able to intellectually develop and grow, and in a strange sort of way, discover a freedom of heart and mind that I'd never before known. Within two years of my imprisonment for life I had metamorphosed into a committed revolutionary dedicated to fighting the prison system, making whatever contribution I was able to the wider struggle beyond prison."

Because of John's spirited resistance to repression, and the way he was able to articulate opposition through his writing, he has been kept in high security conditions (and often held in segregation) throughout his quarter of a Century behind bars. Nonetheless, following a transfer to Scotland a few years ago, he was eventually moved to open conditions and was being prepared for release. As part of that process John spent two years working as a volunteer in the community, working with the mentally ill and socially vulnerable. He qualified as a literacy tutor for people with learning difficulties, and for almost a year he was allowed frequent home leaves.

Despite his looming release, pending a hearing by the parole board, John continued to challenge injustice wherever and whenever he encountered it, and continued to churn out articles condemning prison and critical of the Scottish Prison Service. Since he remains unbroken, the system had not finished with him, it would attempt to make an example of John Bowden, and to keep him locked up.

As lifers approach final parole hearings, various reports are compiled upon them. Few are more important and influential than those written by social workers. John's original social worker was considered to be too reasonable by the administration at Castle Huntly

open prison, and so they brought in a replacement. The individual hand-picked for the job was Matthew Stillman, a right-wing American with entrenched ideas about the punitive role of prisons. John takes up the story:

"During two brief interviews he attempted to interrogate me about my political views and philosophy, and focused his questions almost entirely on my contact and relationship with prisoner support groups on the outside. He seemed particularly interested in my contact with the Anarchist Black Cross movement and claimed to have researched their website and read articles of mine featured on it. In Stillman's limited right-wing imagination he associated anarchism with violence and terrorism, and despite what he had actually seen and read to the contrary on the ABC website, he decided to write the following critically damning remarks in his report on me to the parole board: 'Bowden has written for a self-proclaimed anarchist website called Brighton ABC and he says he supports many of their ideas and actions. A review of this website brings into question the nature of the group. The members of this group appear to be primarily eco-terrorists or paramilitary members involved in what they see as battles against political systems and principles.' He then adds: 'Whilst at Edinburgh prison it was reported that Bowden had received a visit from terrorists.' This refers to two members of Brighton ABC who had visited me at Edinburgh jail, neither of whom had a criminal conviction between them."

"As Stillman was well aware, particularly as an American with firm right-wing opinions, levelling the accusation of 'terrorist' sympathies and associations against me in the current political climate would effectively terminate any possibility of the parole board agreeing to my release. And of course those who invited Stillman to write his report on me knew only too well that the opinions of an apparently unbiased and neutral professional would be given infinitely more weight by the parole board than those offered by conceivably prejudiced prison staff."

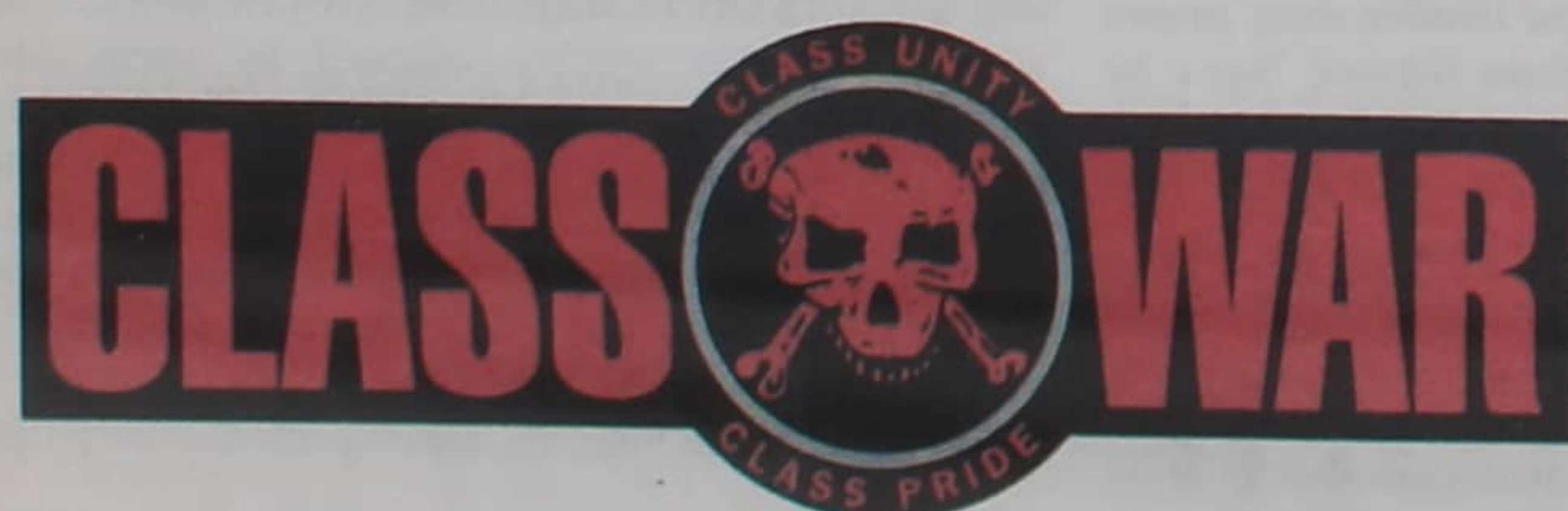
In light of Stillman's allegations about the ABC, and the attempts to keep John Bowden behind bars, a campaign was quickly initiated by Leeds ABC. It was vitally important to challenge the 'terrorist' smear, to defend John, and to prevent the attempt by the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) to effectively prevent contact between politicised prisoners and prisoner support organisations through a process of intimidation. The SPS responded by placing John in segregation (something he had expected at any time

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

THE CARBON FOOTPRINT OF THE RICH.



- ✘ OWNING A 4X4 WHEN YOU LIVE IN KENSINGTON
- ✘ FLYING DOWN TO CORNWALL FOR THE SUMMER SEASON
- ✘ MAKING 20 FLIGHTS A YEAR TO YOUR HOLIDAY COTTAGE IN PROVENCE
- ✘ TAKING THE VOLVO WHEN YOU ARE ONLY BUYING A PINT OF MILK
- ✘ SENDING EACH OF THE CHILDREN ROUND THE WORLD ON THEIR 'GAP' YEARS
- ✘ A NEW CAR FOR EACH CHILD ON THEIR 18TH BIRTHDAY
- ✘ ORDERING ALL THOSE SUNDAY PAPERS YOU NEVER READ
- ✘ FLYING TO AFRICA TO ADOPT A CHILD, WHEN THOUSANDS AWAIT ADOPTION IN THE UK
- ✘ BORING EVERYONE AT DINNER PARTIES PRAISING AL GORE'S "INCONVENIENT TRUTH"
- ✘ CYCLING TO WORK, BUT MAKING SURE YOUR BRIEFCASE IS DELIVERED TO THE OFFICE
- ✘ DOING THE SCHOOL RUN IN THE NEW CAR
- ✘ BUYING A FLAT FOR EACH OF THE KIDS, "YOU'VE GOT TO INVEST YOU KNOW"
- ✘ STUDYING ALL THOSE ETHICAL INVESTMENT PORTFOLIOS
- ✘ SPENDING THOUSANDS TO STICK SOLAR PANELS ON TOP OF YOUR LONDON PAD,
- ✘ LEAVING THE HEATING ON FOR THE LABRADORS WHEN YOU ARE OUT
- ✘ LISTENING TO ALL THAT HOT AIR FROM ZAK GOLDSMITH
- ✘ APPLYING TO BUILD IN THE GREEN BELT - WELL EVERYONE NEEDS A SECOND GARAGE
- ✘ FLYING TO THE ANTARCTIC TO INSPECT THE EFFECTS OF GLOBAL WARMING
- ✘ USING THE CAR IN CENTRAL LONDON, AFTER ALL THE CONGESTION CHARGE IS SO CHEAP!
- ✘ TELLING THE WHOLE FAMILY AT DINNER OF THE DANGERS OF OVERPOPULATION IN THE THIRD WORLD



DON'T LECTURE US YOU HYPOCRITICAL BASTARDS.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

anyway), and by 'ghosting' him to Glenochil high security prison. Clearly, they thought they could bury John and withstand the campaign. They were proved wrong on both counts.

Far from being lost in the system, John began to receive cards and letters by the fist load. The news of what was happening to him spread worldwide, and the SPS, the authorities at HMP Glenochil, the Parole Board, and even Stillman himself began to receive what would eventually amount to thousands of cards, letters, e-mails, faxes, and phone calls. Meanwhile John continued to fight back, not giving an inch to his tormentors and refusing to cooperate with them.

On May 25th a Day of International Solidarity was held in support of John and in defence of the ABC. Supporters from all over Britain travelled to Edinburgh to picket the Scottish parliament, while around the world, from Japan to the USA, supporters picketed British consulates and embassies, organised phone and fax blockades, and held info meetings and mass card signings. A large pile of 'Hands Off John Bowden!' cards was hand-delivered to SPS headquarters, which closed early for the day, and the volume of phone calls to Genochil forced them to set up a special system to deal with them.

As the momentum of the campaign began to gather pace, nothing of its like had ever been seen before or envisaged by the SPS, and this was reflected in their treatment of John at Glenochil, which became far less confrontational than it had been - Particularly as no other jail in Scotland would now take him, even Perth maximum security prison refused his transfer there! Governors and SPS officials were pulling their hair out trying to find ways to extricate themselves from the situation with some dignity intact, and it wasn't long before Matthew Stillman's name was mud.

ON JUNE 8TH A PICKET OF THE PAROLE BOARD IN LONDON WAS HELD, WHILE LESS FORMAL SUPPORT ACTIONS WERE HAPPENING ALL THE TIME. SPS HQ CONTINUED TO BE FLOODED WITH HUNDREDS OF 'HANDS OFF JOHN BOWDEN!' POSTCARDS.

The 13th of July saw the 2nd International Day of Solidarity, with even more actions taking place in support of John. In Scotland, supporters picketed SPS HQ, while there were banner drops in Leeds and elsewhere, as well as organised phone/fax blockades, embassy pickets, solidarity meetings, and in London another picket of the Parole Board (some reports from the day can be found at www.indymedia.org.uk/en/2007/07/375952.html)

Because of the campaign, and John's constant challenge to them, Stillman's spurious 'terrorist' allegations had been discredited, and it was not long before an embarrassed SPS began to backtrack, eventually refuting Stillman's lies completely. With numerous complaints against him, the career of this right-wing stooge lies in tatters. Bizarrely, throughout all of this, while being held in high security conditions, John has remained a low security prisoner, and no proper reasons have ever been forthcoming for his removal from Castle Huntly.

As we go to press, John remains at Glenochil, but has been told he will be transferred back to open conditions soon. His parole hearing has been put back 6 months to December. Worryingly, news is beginning to come in of an attempt by the SPS to 'gag' John, another dirty trick which will not succeed. The struggle will continue until John Bowden is free.

Unfortunately, while waging the campaign, John's supporters have not only had to concede with dirty tricks from the State, but fight a rear-guard action against a tiny, but vocal element, calling themselves anarchists, and infesting various internet forums - most notably Libcom. Here cowards of the lowest type, hiding behind a veneer of anonymity, attempted to smear both John Bowden and the ABC, and undermine support for the campaign. These attacks on an established and long-standing prison resister, currently under attack by the State, are beneath contempt.

Final word to John: "For having stood up to and resisted unlawful and inhuman treatment in prison,

and retained some basic human integrity and humanity in the process, I probably shall now remain imprisoned far beyond what even a reactionary judge deemed an appropriate period of time all those years ago. Hell will freeze over, however, before I surrender that part of myself that had the courage and integrity to fight back and resist when resistance often seemed futile."

To find out about John's latest situation and what you can do to help please see the Friends of John Bowden website at www.myspace.com/friendsofjohnbowden

Leeds ABC also send out regular updates by e-mail. You can subscribe by contacting Leeds ABC at leedsabc@riseup.com

John's pamphlet Tear Down The Walls! is available, price £2 plus 50p UK postage from Leeds ABC, PO Box 53, Leeds, LS8 4WP.

DON'T MENTION THE WAR

AT LEAST NOT IF YOU ARE IN HMP GLENOCHIL, STIRLINGSHIRE. HELLO TO KATE MIDDLETON, PART OF THE PRISON MANAGEMENT TEAM, WHO RECENTLY THREW HER TOYS OUT OF THE PRAM AFTER A PRISONER OBJECTED WHEN HE WAS BANNED FROM RECEIVING THE GIFT OF A CD AT A VISIT.

HER REPLY TO the prisoner included the following classic line:

"Apart from the issue of the disk being a copy, it contains several very political tracks, e.g. a track regarding Guantanamo Bay, which may cause offence to certain people living and working in this establishment."

As far as Class War is aware politics is not yet illegal (even in the Scottish Prison Service) although we can well accept that it contains quite a few warders who would love to transfer to Guantanamo Bay.

Interestingly, given the extent to which the Scottish establishment has turned on religious 'sectarianism' in recent years, Ms Middleton originally wished to ban the CD on the grounds of it being 'sectarian' which she later admitted was a slip of the pen, - she meant to write political. Hmmm...

PRISON WAS CREATED FOR THE POOR

MOTHERS & SONS: FROM FIES TO AACHEN. PASTORA & XOSE TARRIO GONZALEZ, JULIA & GABRIEL POMBO DA SILVA



Prison Was Created For The Poor focuses on two tireless militants of the Spanish prison struggle, Xose Tarrío Gonzalez and Gabriel Pombo Da Silva, who fought against the brutal F.I.E.S. isolation units. Xose was killed by a life behind bars, and Gabriel now rots in a German prison.

The main part of this book though, is written by neither Xose nor Gabriel, instead it is the text of an interview with their mothers, Pastora and Julia. Through this medium, they tell a powerful and emotional story, which not only takes us inside the world of Spanish high security prisons, but reflects on jails throughout the world. *Prison Was Created For The Poor* is a compelling read.

32 pages. £2 plus 50p UK postage. Please contact us for trade and international rates.

Leeds ABC, PO Box 53, Leeds, LS8 4WP. leedsabc@riseup.net

BASTARD FIGHTS BASTARD!

A NICE JUICY ROW IS BREWING BETWEEN THE PRISON SERVICE, THE METROPOLITAN POLICE AND THE HOME OFFICE. SOMEWHAT LATE IN THE DAY SOME OF THE POWERS THAT BE HAVE COTTONED ON TO THE FACT THAT ALL THOSE DRUGS, MOBILE PHONES AND WEAPONS IN PRISON CAN'T ALL BE SMUGGLED IN BY PRISONERS WIVES WITH LOTS OF PADDING IN THEIR BRAS. THE BIGGEST CROOKS IN PRISON, ARE THE PRISON OFFICERS.

DI JONATHAN COX of the Metropolitan Police and Peter Siddons, Head of the Prison Service Professional Standards Unit, found "intelligence of corruption" against a whopping 1277 serving warders. They also argued the problem was growing, not falling.

Dummies were instantly spat out at the Prison Service, who saw Cox's involvement as a push for power from the Metropolitan Police, who apparently wanted anti-corruption squads based on those at Scotland Yard. With the Home Office coming down (for now) on the side of the Prison Service, expect to see leaks to Met sympathetic journalists bemoaning the easy life of cons provided with every need by bent screws, and one or more set piece police raids on prison officers, and their lockers.

There really is no honour amongst thieves!

THE CLASS WAR INTERNATIONAL

THERE ISN'T ONE! CLASS WAR DOES HOWEVER WELCOME CORRESPONDENCE FROM LIKE MINDED INDIVIDUALS FROM NEAR AND FAR. YOU CAN CONTACT OUR INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY AT THE LONDON CLASS WAR ADDRESS, OR BY E MAIL AT: CWFINTSEC@YAHOO.CO.UK

G13 - NOTHING ROTTEN IN THIS PART OF DENMARK!

SINCE MARCH THE 1ST 2007 ISSUES OVER "UNGDOMSHUSET," JAGTVEJ 69 IN COPENHAGEN HAVE BEEN FOUGHT ON BOTH STREET LEVEL AND ON A MORE POLITICAL LEVEL.

G13 (Groendalsvænget Alle' 13) is an initiative risen from the movement involved around "Ungdomshuset", with that one single purpose. To get a new building. Groendalsvænget Alle' 13 to be exact. Every week since the demolition, demonstrators have taken to the streets in great numbers and lots of anger, demanding a new place to house their activities.

"Throughout the world solidarity actions of all kinds were carried out. Demos, banner drops, attacks on

Danish embassies, leaflet distributing and so much more giving strength to the struggle on the streets of Copenhagen. But on March 5th the house was demolished ending its 24 year history as a free space and local culture centre. Realizing the house was lost, the continued street fight ceased. Exactly how many cops were involved in the police efforts is classified. But the eviction and the following days have been declared the biggest police action in Denmark since the second world war."

This above quote is taken from the www.Ungdomshuset.dk UK news website.

With well over 1000 arrests, but the movement keeps growing in strength and numbers. However the police in Copenhagen have had to release nearly every activist due to insufficient evidence, which if you think of it... makes it great fucking odds to get home safe from your antifascist weekend break!

On September 1st, 6 months on the day for demolition a good 2500 mob went head on with the Copenhagen riot squad once again. Fierce rioting and vandalizing of corporate stores and franchises in Noerrebro, became the main news story the following day, which created a debate over looting as a political tool of protest.

Ever since the demolition of "Ungdomshuset" every Thursday, people have gathered for the now traditional "Thursday Demo" and kept up a good number of people. Lots of new young faces are now joining the movement, however not all agree with being militant, therefore several different initiatives are being planned. Weather this mix of ideas is going to work, remains to be seen. Amongst antifascists around Copenhagen and in Christiania (see www.christiania.org) it seems that if they (the state) can clear a well established place like "Ungdomshuset" It'll be even harder going to keep this one. However with the growing numbers and constant eruption of riots, it'll be interesting to see who caves in first.

At the moment no forms of negotiation between City official and reps of the movement are taking place. Officials are stating that the youth will have to buy themselves a new house, at market price. This kind gesture is being met with an even kinder middle finger response!

The months after October 6th are going to be crucial. Both in terms of creating attention and international support to the struggle. There's an open invitation to all antifascists and like minded activists to come to Copenhagen at some point in this Autumn. Several action lines, Infopoint etc. have been set up:

www.aktiong13.dk (this has UK info with statements, activist contact numbers and legal Aid phone numbers etc..)

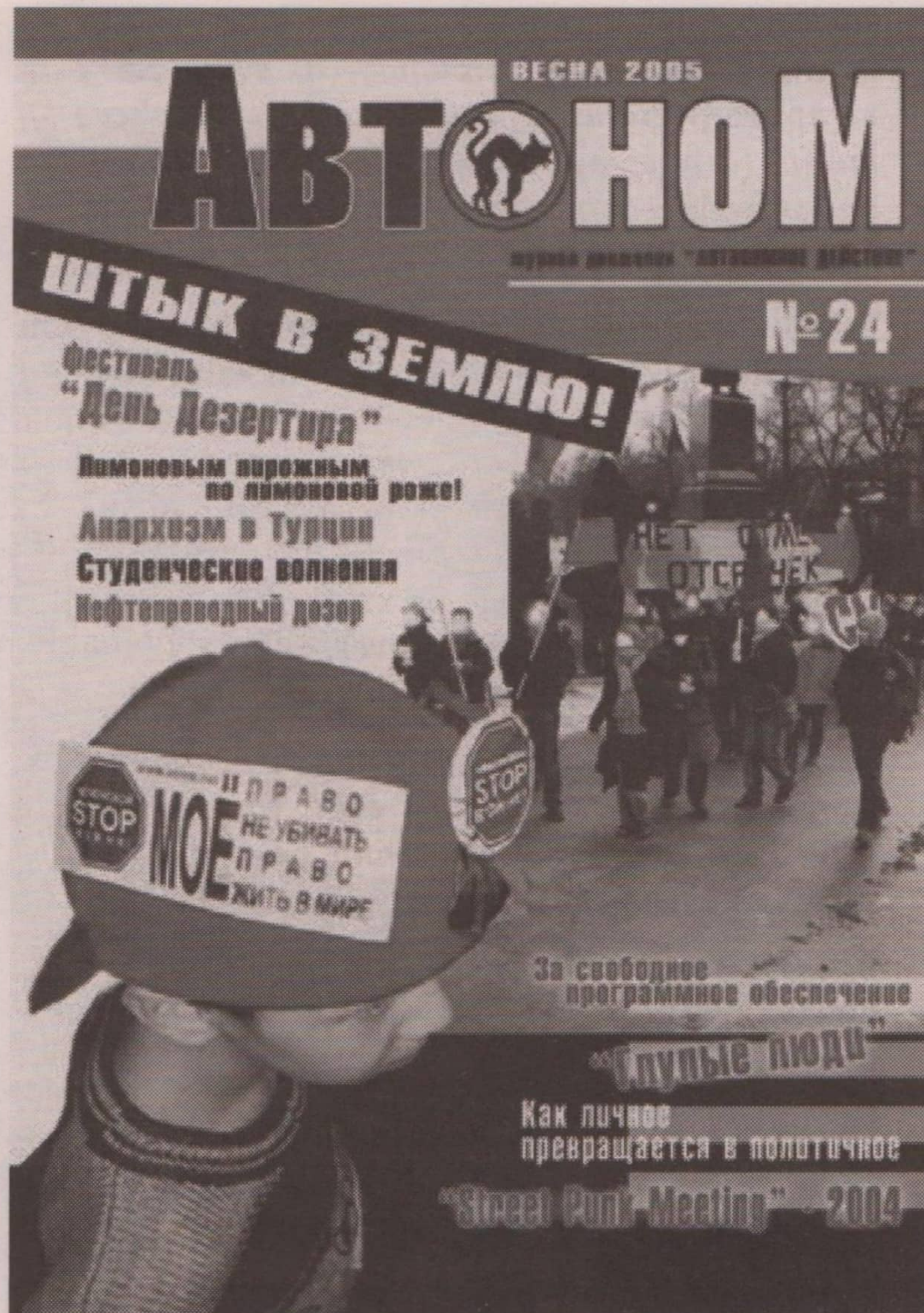
www.ungdomshuset.dk (this has news updates and a calender for different events). On these sites, you'll find contacts and numbers to call for info...

In every major European city, squats and anarchist spaces are experiencing more and more pressure against their existence. A successful campaign in Copenhagen, for both a new "Ungdomshuset" or the ongoing battle about "Christiania" or any other building or community, for that matter, could prove to be a springboard for a new wave of struggle. This is a battle we need to win and we need everybody!!!!

FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE

HELLO TO ALL Class War's friends and contacts in the Autonomous Action organisation, which has groups throughout much of the former Soviet Union. We recently took delivery of a full set of all the issues of their regular magazine *Autonom*. Now all one of us needs to do is learn Russian and we can read it!

You can read more class struggle in Russia (in English!) at <http://www.avtonom.org/eng/>



"FIGHTING THE OLIGARCHS"

BLOWBACK - BIG TIME!

THE FOLLOWING QUOTE IS FROM A BOOK ON THE UNFOLDING DISASTER IN PAKISTAN. WHEN YOU READ ARTICLES ABOUT THE RELIGIOUS MADRASAS IN BOTH PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN, IT IS WORTH REMEMBERING THAT THERE WAS BARELY MORE THAN A HANDFUL OF THESE SCHOOLS IN PAKISTAN SIXTY YEARS AGO.

The schools, which teach the most reactionary curriculum possible, are frequently financed from abroad - countries like Saudi Arabia, Iran or by private Muslim citizens the world over. Study consists of endless reciting of the Koran, or more reciting of the Koran followed by talks on - you guessed it - the Koran. Few graduate with any transferable skills at all, save for teaching in other madrasas or taking up arms.

The religious violence that has and will continue to spring from the millions of young men educated this way is going to be a lot harder to stop than it was to start. And who takes a fair chunk of the blame for these schools mushrooming? Step forward our dear friends in the USA, as in the 1980s:

"Special textbooks were published in Dari and Pashto by the University of Nebraska-Omaha and funded by USAID with an aim to promote jihadist values and militant training. Millions of such books were distributed at Afghan refugee camps and Pakistani madrasas, where students learnt basic maths by counting dead Russians and Kalashnikov rifles. The same textbooks were later used by the Taliban in their madrasas."

Zahid Hussain "Frontline Pakistan: The Struggle With Militant Islam". p.80



"A BALANCED CURRICULUM?"

LETTERS

ANOTHER ADMIRER WRITES...

"wasnt it your hero josef stalin who wanted to create an all equal society? and what happened to him and that ideology? you bunch of useless stalinist wankers, id love to see your faces so id know where to stick the knife

i dont see any real material on your site, just a load of micky taking bollocks, and we all know that taking the piss is the last resort of a defeated persons

master race? you wouldnt know the master race if you fell over it, you gutter dwelling nigger loving bolshevik cunts.

why dont you lot fuck off to africa if you love those golly wogs so much, see how many museums, operas, art shows, theatrical plays, concerts you can visit whilst living it up in the fucking congo, dilusional useless wankers deserve a useless wanker society, so fuck off to africa and see how super human those blacks are, and while you're over there send me an email and let me know if you can find an african that invented anything other than poverty and aids

leave the inventions, mathematics, science, poetry, art, music and civilised society to the white man, enjoy your stay in africa you bunch of fucking cunts"

Via e mail from "Blood and Honour", uk_steel@yahoo.co.uk

CW Reply: We should point out that the grammar and punctuation in the above letter is exactly as we received it. Perhaps our correspondent is not quite as sophisticated as he/she likes to make out?

FEMINIST MYTHS?

"Dear Class War,

If you're going to highlight Multicultural myths, (Class War, issue 92) surely you should also highlight feminism myths. Margaret Thatcher subverted and used the feminist bandwagon to rise to the top of the conservative party, to promote and reinforce capitalism.

Multiculturalism isn't a bad idea, its actually the capitalist subversion of the concept that's crap. A long running example of capitalist subversion would be the 'Sun' newspaper's use and representation of the pseudo working class, where working class mannerisms/jargon are copied and adopted to promote capitalism, consumerism, racism and sexism. Hence the ethos within community groups has changed to accommodate the pseudo working class, those who pretend to be working class originating from middle class professional families."

Via e mail, from Mary.

CW Reply: Thank you for your comments, which have been passed on to me as the author of the piece.

I think that you have yourself answered much of your original question 'why have a go at multiculturalism?' One of the defenses utilized by advocates of m/c is its ability to rewrite critics of multiculturalism as racists - the very fear raised by yourself, however that should not silence genuine criticisms especially when as we pointed out in the article multiculturalism actually legitimizes the fascists as representatives of their 'community'.

In Northern Ireland this is epitomised by the former gunmen of the UDA and UFF reinventing themselves as 'community leaders' their new suit pockets stuffed with NI assembly funds.

Criticism of reformist politicians or corrupt union bureaucrats might be used by reactionaries to promote conservatives or fascists, does that mean that we should refrain from attacking them?

Multiculturalism promotes itself as an anti racist strategy when in fact it is anti working class, statist and bureaucratic, it is as I said in the original article a cop ideology - all about keeping us in our place. My argument is that m/c grew out of the attempts of that part of the post-68 left that retreated into the academy and local government in the 1970s and 80s. It was an attempt to challenge racism within society, but one dependent upon the state and top down and managerial in its approach. Thank you again for your comments.

PETROL HEADS

"Dear Class War,

RE: Your Petrol £1 Per Litre Sticker

BASTARDS! Actually having given the subject some considerable thought I have come to the conclusion that you are indeed correct!

Must go now, I have my flower arranging to finish, a quiche to throw into the microwave and I simply have to help my little Johnny with his algebra homework.

Peace and Love,

Peter Pig, Bradford, W Yorks.

PS. And have you seen the price of pork sausages?

PPS. And lavatory paper? Just fuck off. "

CW Reply: See you down at Tesco's next week Peter - make sure you bring your Clubcard.

SMOKED OUT? FLUSHED DOWN THE SHITTER ALONG WITH CLASS WAR?

"Dear Class War,

I just got round to reading issue 91 after buying it at the Trident demo then misplacing it. I was having a right good giggle 'til I came to the Letters Page and read the letter from Ranting Prick (and your supporting reply).

To start with, I don't smoke weed every day 'til my head's pickled. I can't fucking afford to even if I thought it was a good idea. I can't afford Internet either, so don't call me a fucking conspiraloon. You bullshit the idea that 9/11 and 7/7 were inside jobs carried out by elements of the state. Oh no no no, it was done by Islamofascists, 'cos Class War says so.

I'm not a drug fascist either, and enjoy mushie season too, especially 'cos they're free. I just don't have time to go deep into conspiracy theories. I don't believe in space invaders or any of that bollocks either. And no, I don't see government agents in my breakfast either, but surely the deeper mistrust of governments the better?

Whether it be a capitalist government or communist government, who gives a fuck? We hate them all, whatever their systems of oppression are (the US government admits they put Mao into power) they're all fucking leeches. All of the 20 some things we have helped radicalize read it and say what about the plethora of evidence? If the pigs had a fraction of that evidence against us we'd all get big bird! I thought you said anarchists in Britain were open minded?

I'm afraid you've lost a small army of supporters around here (and probably around the country) Fuck what you say, we'll keep on fighting for Anarchism, a large part of that Nazi-

bashing. Since I was a pee-wee I have trained in traditional Karate, roughly 30 years every night except Saturday and Sunday) and believe me its truly a joy to see slightly built women pulping big scary Nazi arse skins!

As for Shayler and his bitch, I know she claims Class War fell apart after they withdrew support for their MI5 infiltrator, but I know Class War kept going for at least 3 years after that. Yeah I've read her book and she's so full of self-importance I'm surprised she hasn't disappeared up her own arse! I hope we bump into her when she comes up north, our lass can give her the hiding she deserves.

To finish, when you look at all the evidence but despite that call us delusional, people are coming to the conclusion that you've been infiltrated again! Bet you won't print this you fucking cowards.

PS. Of course there are religious nutters and bigots, who the fuck said the world was inhabited by fluffies?"

Gaz, Rhyl.

CW Reply: Hi Gaz. We are always sorry to lose supporters, but we have to say the "army" of unhappy class warriors you mention is a fallacy - yours is the only letter we have had on the subject of 9/11.

It is not merely Class War that says Islamists were responsible for 9/11 and 7/7 - you can start with the 7/7 perpetrators themselves, two of whom produced "suicide" videos released by Al-Qaeda after the attacks. Or do you believe they were both forgeries?

In the case of 9/11 two its organisers - Khalid Shaikh Mohammed and Ramzi Binalshibh provided significant details of how and why Al Qaeda planned 9/11, to Al-Jazeera journalist Yosri Fouda, in 2002. Add Bin Laden and al Zawahiri's praise for the action, and you have a position far more credible than the conspiracy theories being put forward by the 9/11 "Truth" movement.

Politically, surely Class War should be criticising George Bush, Tony Blair and Gordon Brown for what they have done, not what they have not? Muddying the waters with crankish ideas makes radical change harder, not easier.

Finally you mention David Shayler and Annie Machon. That these two characters were taken to the bosom of the UK 9/11 Truth movement, after a very late 'conversion' to the cause, shows the gullibility of many people in that field. Given Shayler's recent decision to announce he is the Messiah, and the substantial damage he has done to the 9/11 "truth" cause, all we can say is we told you so.

Oh - and if like us you really have had enough of the 9/11 conspiracy theorists - do check out the website www.911cultwatch.org.uk

CLASS WAR NOTICEBOARD

CLASS WAR WEBSITE REVAMPED

The Class War webmaster, fed only on a steady diet of sugar beet and cider, has nearly completed the overhaul to our website, classwar.org Why not check it out yourself?

THATCHER'S DEAD PARTY

Join the thousands of revellers in Trafalgar Square on the first Saturday after the most reviled Prime Minister in British history dies! Bring your bottles of champagne for a 6pm start!

Whilst we are on, congratulations to the Jarrow Brewery for starting the party early with their "Maggie's End Bitter" which has been providing refreshment to drinkers in the north east for several months.



"PUT THE CHAMPAGNE ON ICE"

A TOUCH OF CLASS

CLASS WAR'S MAGAZINE is now on its second issue. Touch of Class 2 covers:

- What's Wrong With Wetherspoons
- The Red Army Faction - That's Not The Way To Do It!
- The Class War & Computers
- Police in Society

All for a bargain £2. A limited number of copies of issue 1 can be still be ordered for £1, or you can view the PDF at www.classwar.org

JOIN CLASS WAR!

CLASS WAR MEMBERSHIP is open to anyone who agrees with our aims and principles, and who is in touch with their local Class War group. It costs £12 to join (£6 unwaged) and members who can afford it are encouraged to make a small monthly contribution towards running the group.

All questions about membership should go to the Class War National Secretary at cwfnatsec@yahoo.co.uk. Letters c/o London Class War, PO Box 467, London E8 3QX.

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 DO 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 the 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 common basis of what we have in common - our Working Class background 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 everyday 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.

"I STILL HATE THATCHER" T SHIRTS

We have had quite a few people ask us if we are selling these highly fashionable items, especially as several Class War members own one!

As far as we are aware the shirts are not on sale in Britain, people have been bringing them in from Ireland, where Sinn Fein are selling them for €15. They can however be ordered on-line from www.sinnfeinbookshop.com

CLASS WAR BACK ISSUES

The following are available at a bargain 50 pence each!

Issue 92 Bash the Rich, Sir Ian Blair Interview, Multi-cultural myths.

Issue 91 Class War Dartboard, Lebanon, New Labour and obesity.

Issue 90 History of Islam, Broadway Market campaign, FC United interview.

Issue 89 Stirling G8 report, Sydney riots, Hate the Pope.

Issue 88 Respect, Bye Bye Blunkett, Seamus Milne's Enemy Within review.

Issue 87 Royal Cheat, Daft Cops, Hugo Chavez, BBC's Secret Agent exposed.

Issue 86 Campaign Against Prison Slavery, No Retreat review, Palestine.

Issue 85 Eye Spy For Demonstrators, My Big Fat

Greek Riot, Anti-fascism.

Issue 84 Autonomous Action, Nick Griffin v AbuHamza, Horrible Hoogstraten.

Issue 83 International Noise Conspiracy interview, Royal Mail job cuts.

Issue 82 9/11 - The Islamic Frankenstein. Establishment anti-racism, Di Canio.

Issue 81 Justice for Harry Stanley, Journowatch, Economic Cleansing.

Issue 80 IT Net, Anti-capitalism, Trades Union political levy, Cuban boxing.

Issue 79 David Shayler case, New Labour and fascism, Margate anti-fascism.

Issue 78 J18 special, Smokey Bears, Class War Living With The Enemy.

Issue 77 Poor But Loyal, Movement Against the Monarchy, Eton fainting game

Issue 76 ID Cards, Reclaim The Streets, The Queen in Battersea, Kingstonian

Issue 75 Countryside March opposed, Drugs special, GANDALF case.

Issue 74 Dead As A Dodi, Get Rid of the Posh, Anti-Election Alliance.

Issue 72 Liverpool Dockers, David Icke, Brighton fans fight back.

Issue 71 Leah Betts, Black Panthers, Red Army Faction, Cricket World Cup.

Issue 70 Harrow & Eton scum, Searchlight=MI5, Ireland and the famine.

A very small number of earlier issues are available - please e mail London CW with any requests.

CLASS WAR T SHIRTS

Class War - "Probably The Best War In The World." Green Carlsberg style shirts, £8.

Class War logo - on smart black shirt. £8

New Homes For The Rich - grey shirt with Class War logo on the back. £8

(All available in Small, Medium, Large and Extra Large.)

Anti-Fascist Always - Black shirt with red writing. £9

(Available in Small, Medium, Large and Extra Large. Plus a limited number in fat bastard (XXL) size.)

CLASS WAR BOOKS

"Unfinished Business" - The Politics of Class War £4.50. The clearest statement yet of Class War's politics.

"All Power To The Imagination" - Dave Douglass. £5 Trades unions, the miners strike and class struggle.

"Bash the Rich" by Ian Bone £8.99 The autobiography of Class War's founder. Riot, revolution and Swansea!

"Anarchist" by Ian Bone £3 The novel Lord Spencer tried to ban!

ANTI-FASCIST RESOURCES

"Bash The Fash" - by K Bullstreet. Memoirs of an AFA member from 1984-1993 £2

"Beating Fascism - Anarchist Anti-Fascism In Theory and Practice" edited by Anna Key. £2. Includes interviews with activists from the US and Europe.

"Anti-Fascist Action - An Anarchist Perspective" by an ex-Liverpool AFA member. The rise and fall AFA. £1.50

"Anti-Fascist" by Martin Lux. Fighting the National Front in London and the south east in the 1970s. £5.99

Notes From The Borderland - Issue 8. Redwatch, Soho Nail Bombings, Lecomber Murder Plot. £3.50

Notes From The Borderland - Issue 7. BNP electoral gains, London bombings, The BBC's Secret Agent disaster. £3.50

CLASS WAR STICKERS

14 different designs (see them in all their glory on the website) you can order 50 stickers for £1.

PLEASE SEND ALL MERCHANDISE ORDERS TO "LONDON CLASS WAR" PO BOX 467, LONDON E8 3QX. YOU CAN PAY ON-LINE USING PAYPAL TO THE ADDRESS LONDONCWF@YAHOO.CO.UK

THE CLASS WAR OLD JOKE CORNER

An ex-miner is walking his dog on the moors, when he is approached by a tweed wearing wassock

Posh bloke: This is my land and you're trespassing!

Miner: How come its yours?

Posh twat: Well it's been in my families hands for generations.

Miner: Why does that make it yours?

Posh scum: Because my ancestors came over with William the Conqueror and won it in battle.

Miner: So they fought for it, they won, that means its yours?

Posh toss: Exactly

Miner: (removing his coat): I'll fight you for it now then!

If you can do any better (we doubt you can do much worse!) do send your jokes in to the London Class War address.

SUBSCRIBE TO CLASS WAR

A SUBSCRIPTION TO BRITAIN'S MOST UNRULY TABLOID COSTS JUST £5 FOR FIVE ISSUES. YOU CAN ORDER 10 COPIES OF THE CURRENT ISSUE FOR JUST £7.10

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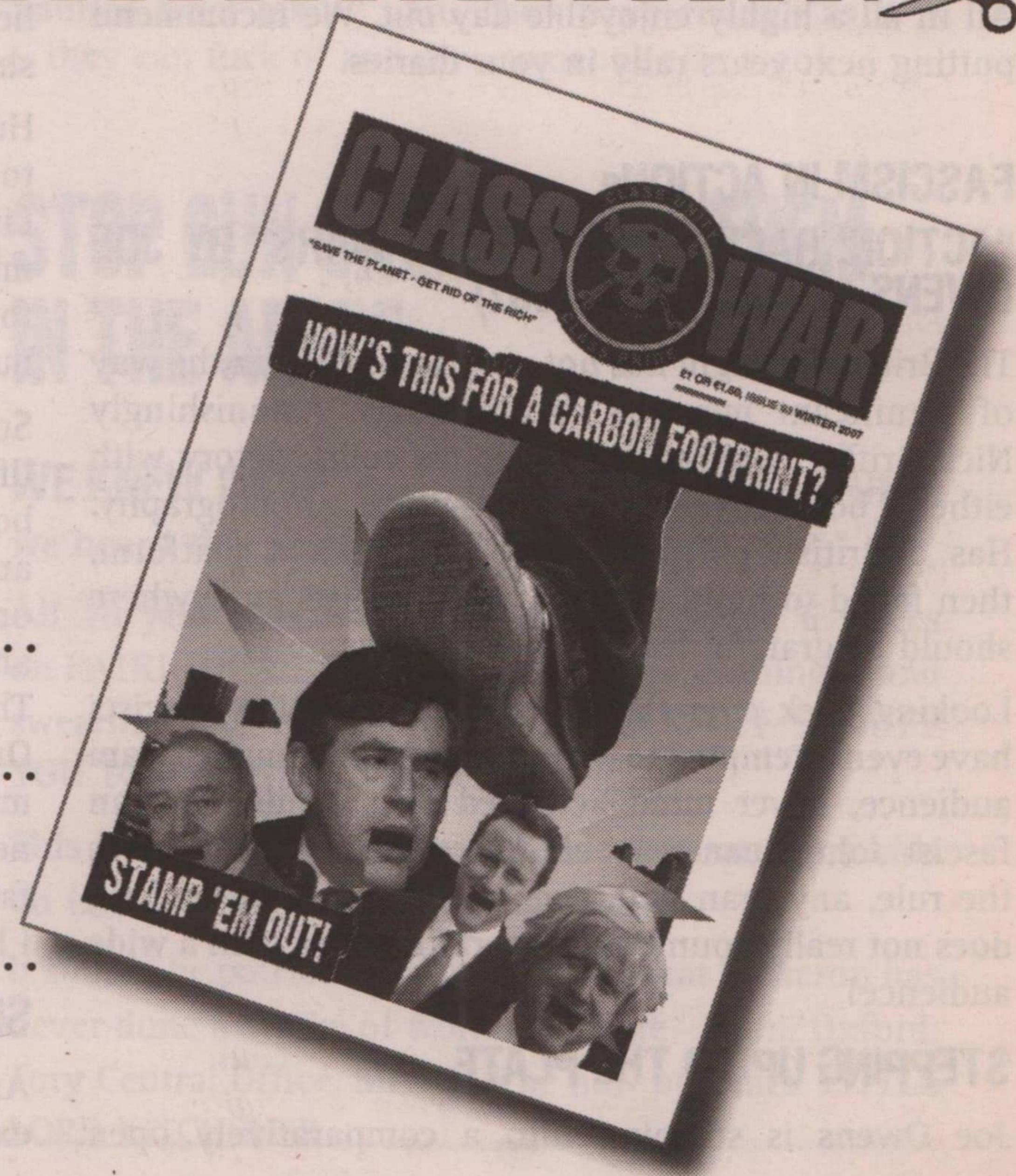
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REVIEWS

ROBB JOHNSON

If you haven't been to a free Robb Johnson gig at the Duke of Wellington, Shoreham, Sussex, you've missed out. You get 4-5 hours of the man at his best for nowt.

Can't say fairer. Class War the newspaper always gets a positive reception (well it would really wouldn't it) and the atmosphere is really friendly in an anarchic comradesly way.

The last one was 12th August and more glorious than most! Robb's just released his new album "All that way for this" which includes the phenomenal "no one wants to look like you Jack" attack on Straw and his cronies and the seminal "Moronland" amongst the dozen crackers. The gigs are best fun you can have without a revolution and remind you of that feeling we might be on the verge of one (all 30 of us) anyway, the next 2 Sunday pm freebies are 11th Nov and 23rd Dec and Class War could not recommend them or Robb (and the irregulars) more highly as a paragon of political satirical and often rather touching songwriting. You can hear more of him at www.robbjohnson.co.uk (though his Myspace is usually more up to date) and the latest album is available on Amazon too.



TOLPUDDLE MARTYRS RALLY

West Country Class War members joined many thousands of trade unionists to deepest Dorset in July for the annual Tolpuddle Martyrs Rally.

The rally commemorates the transportation of six agricultural workers in 1834 to Australia for the crime of organising a union. In recent years it has undergone a revival and the rally has been supplemented with weekend festival and a TUC summer school (largely under the influence of 'Barking Bard', and local landowner 'Squire' Billy Bragg).

The Main rally on the Sunday has, despite this, retained a unmistakably working class character and was refreshingly free of 'recruit by numbers' middle class lefties touting their vampire parties.

Class War (predictably) headed straight for the packed beer tent and set up on one of the tables outside where, despite torrential showers, we were able to sell out of all our papers in less than an hour. Bash the Rich and Thatcher Party postcards were especially popular and quickly ran out. The afternoons music was provided by The Men The Couldn't Hang, who played a tight set of old favourites (unfortunately we arrived too late to hear Chumbawumba, and fortunately left too early for Billy Bragg!!).

All in all a highly enjoyable day out. We recommend putting next years rally in your diaries.

FASCISM IN ACTION?

"ACTION! RACE WAR TO DOOR WARS" BY JOE OWENS (£9.99, LULU, 2007)

The British far-right has not produced much in the way of significant memoirs or appraisals. Astonishingly Nick Griffin failed to follow up his court victory with either a book covering his trial, or an autobiography. Has a British politician ever had such a platform, then failed to build upon it? Anti-fascists everywhere should be grateful for Griffin's idleness.

Looking back over the past 20-30 years few fascists have even attempted to write memoirs for a mainstream audience, never mind achieved one. Whilst veteran fascist John Bean may be the exception that proves the rule, any man with such a blatant syrup and fig does not really count, and is certain not to gain a wide audience!

STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE

Joe Owens is stepping into a comparatively open

market. Now it's out, what do you get for your tenner? Well, in a way you get three or four books for the price of one. There is plenty here for the lover of 'real-life' crime books, plenty of local interest for Scousers or those who went clubbing in Liverpool or Cheshire in the 80s-90s, and Owens background in both the NF and BNP will ensure that many fascists will buy his book. Anti-fascists will also find much of interest here, and not just on a 'know your enemy' basis.

If one core element runs through the book it is that Owens sees the importance of standards. In the introduction he comments "I have found in the traditional martial arts ethos and the nationalist outlook value systems to live by". With this must surely come a sense of disappointment or even failure - the British far-right has traditionally under achieved, and is not associated with 'high standards' in many people's estimation.

Politics changes over time, but often with no real consensus, or even acknowledgement of the changes that have occurred. The Anarchist movement of today is very different from that of people like Albert Meltzer and Stuart Christie in the 1970s, and concepts of personal development and the perfectability of man seem to have been long abandoned. Owens' title "Action!" takes us back to a fascism that was not obsessed with denying what it actually is, but was (is?) an ideology championing nature, physical strength, youth, vigour and indeed violence. Take a look at the lard arses attending the BNP's annual Red, White and Blue festival and you will understand that "Action" has become an old-fashioned term on the British far-right.

EYES WIDE RIGHT

When sketching his time in the National Front, Owens reminds us of a vastly different political era. In 1979 a Liverpool NF electoral rally brought in 200 punters and 50 ANL protestors, figures few areas could match today. Activists used spit to put up political stickers - DNA testing did not exist in those days!

It is often said on the left that one of the reasons the racist right must be fought is because racist violence automatically follows in its wake. Whilst Class War does not disagree with the thrust of this, it has become something of a mantra, with evidence not always being considered necessary before it is repeated. Indeed, a political analysis of Oldham's race problems may well conclude that the BNP followed the violence, not the other way round.

It is interesting then that the re-counting of fascist activity in the Kensington area of Liverpool in 1980 so clearly illustrates racist violence following far-right activity, with an agitated community aiming its hatred not upwards, but downwards. A reminder of the reactionary nature of fascism is given by Owens assessment of the 1981 Toxteth riots. Whilst the local community rose up, with black and white fighting the police with gusto, Joe Owens and his companions were on the other side, heckling and attacking an anti-police march. Anyone who sees fascism as a 'radical alternative' really should study these sections, where he appears genuinely disappointed the police did not shoot significant numbers of Liverpoolians!

Humour is not too far away however. When travelling to Manchester to attack the Manchester Martyrs march, Liverpool's fascists were stunned to be joined in their minibus by an Asian loyalist, looking to fight the IRA for queen and country! Politics can be a complicated business.

Something left out of the press coverage of Joe Owens life has been his (brief) UDA membership. Indeed his book captures one area - Liverpool - where fascism and Loyalism over-lapped very strongly. His views on loyalists are however scathing "I never once saw any firearms, or any active service whilst in the UDA. They spent most of their time in the pub, or on silly Orange Order marches. Their outlook in life was about maintaining Orange dominance in Northern Ireland, never once seeing the bigger picture or problems that faced us all". As an epitaph for that brand of Loyalism, I have seen few better.

SPREADING THE WORD

Anti-fascists can gain much from this book. One example is how fascism looks to spread from a firm

base - the BNP of the mid-80s looking to expand from its lively Liverpool group into other North West towns (p.73) We have seen something similar in recent years, with the BNP spreading from strongholds like Oldham and Burnley, south into Stockport, the Manchester suburbs and even Northwich.

Who's going through your bins at night? One fascist tactic revealed is the amount of information the NF and BNP got by stealing the bin bags from outside Militant's Liverpool HQ. There's another reason to be opposed to those fortnightly bin collections! Mentioning Militant brings us towards the political realities of 1980s Liverpool - a city that had the rough end of Thatcherism, with a weak Labour Party further divided by Trotskyist entryism, was fertile ground for the left.

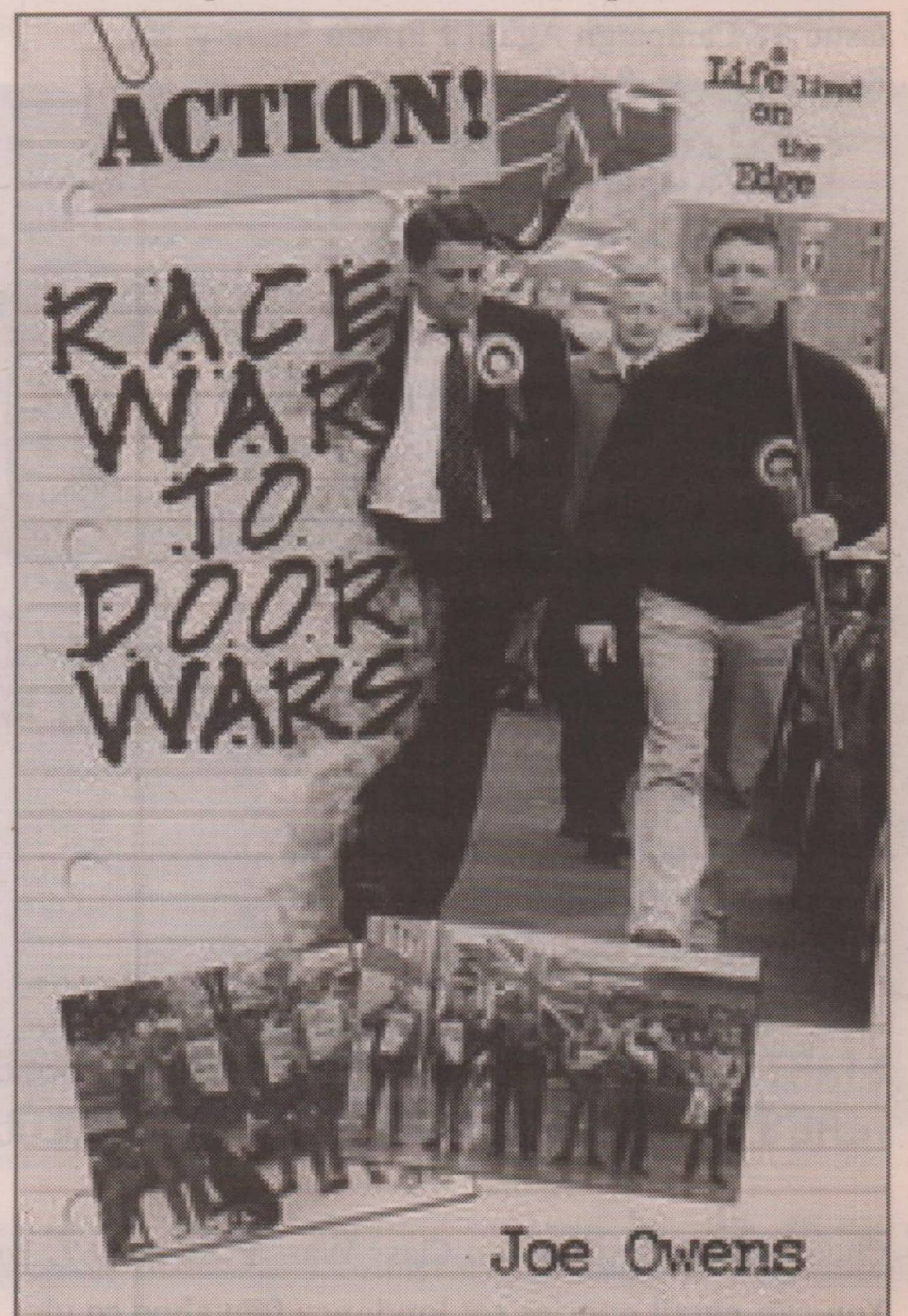
Somewhat reluctantly Owens admits that the size of opposition (if not the quality) eventually wore down the Liverpool BNP group and their fellow travellers in other fascist groups. When most of his friends dropped out of politics, so did he.

DOING THE DOORS

The chapters devoted to working in Liverpool's clubland are the most violent, and arguably depressing of the book. Here violence is instinctive, routine and tends not to follow the Queensbury Rules. And right in the middle of the gang wars, drug dealers and club owners are people trying to simply enjoy themselves on a night out. It is not hard to imagine that Owens is almost talking about himself in this era, when he says: "Without social goals to aim for, is it any wonder that a large section of young people turned to dance music like a new religion".

Joe Owens has been arrested by police investigating three Liverpool gangland murders - that of Stephen Cole, George Bromley and the double shooting of Kevin Maguire and Nathan Jones. Whilst on remand in Strangeways for the Bromley shooting, as a Category A prisoner he met many of the regions best known criminals. Here at least he seems to have put his racism to one side - at least in his formal dealings with other prisoners - but the reader is again left with an image of a man slightly out of his time, longing for a world that has long gone. Discussing a Manchester gangster called Gary Shearer he comments

"Shearer was the type of guy who, a hundred years ago, would have been out building the empire. Now he consciously regarded himself as one of the Hip Hop generation, modelling himself on the gangster rappers from the American ghettos". We are even told of another major Manchester figure who "was married to a Jamaican woman". Whilst the book is quick to condemn examples of black criminality or violence towards whites as proof that integration can never work, examples that contradict such positions (such as



the above) tend to be mentioned but never seriously analysed.

Discussing one Liverpool doorman – a black criminal called Negus – it strikes home that Owens racism is of the old-fashioned variety. When a person is white and does a bad thing, it is because they are a bad person. When a black person does a bad thing, it is because they are a bad black person. It is a viewpoint common to anyone who grew up in England in the 1970s and 80s. That it is rarely articulated today does not mean it does not still exist. It does – you just don't get to hear it in the UK media.

RETURNING TO FASCISM

Unable to work in clubland, Owens appears to have drifted back into politics as much as anything else (p.255). Yet he was soon at the centre of the BNP, driving and guarding its leader Nick Griffin, and making significant contributions to party funds. Owens even witnessed Griffin offering to shake Abu Hamza by the hook before their Cambridge debate, an incident that surely could not be made up! His doubts about Griffin's leadership appear to have begun when old Nick failed to listen to advice during Jean Marie Le Pen's visit to the UK in 2004. Protestors nearly trapped Le Pen in the hotel hosting the BNP's press conference, leading Owens to conclude "*Griffin had dropped a right clanger*".

Indeed Griffin appears to have been dropping them ever since, failing to deal properly with the bizarre approach made by his long term associate, Tony Lecomber, to Owens, that appears to centre on the

shooting dead of members of the British establishment. Whilst Owens loss of the BNP's security remit, and subsequent critiques of those who replaced him can easily be seen as sour grapes, it has to be said that the public reaction towards the BNP's security team, as currently constituted, is virtually entirely negative. No other political group in the UK – even in Northern Ireland – carries on in such a manner. And Class War would bet on a fair few anti-fascists in a fight ahead of BNP Head of Security Martin "Fatty" Reynolds!

FIGHTING THE FILTH

It is fair to say Joe Owens is unlikely to receive a Christmas card from Merseyside Police. Telling criminal figures in Liverpool that Owens intends to shoot them (e.g. p.248) is a carbon copy of some of the old 'bad-jacketing' tricks used by the FBI in the COINTELPRO operations against the Black Panthers. Liverpool doormen have a record of winning major court cases against Merseyside Police that marks any of them out for future retribution. The violence and dirty tricks will continue, whether or not Joe Owens is there.

Where the police tread, crime correspondents are never far behind. This has been a book with a long and difficult gestation. Heavily trailed on the Internet, it was originally to be co-authored with big-hitting crime author Graham Johnson, published by Edinburgh's Mainstream and even had the subtle title "The Nazi Assassin?" A website with that name promoted the book for several months, but Johnson and Owens fell out, with other changes following. Graham Johnson's role in the affair leads to Owens concluding he was

looking to get taped confessions from him, to specific murders. If these had been made, and ended up in police hands, Merseyside Police may well have finally got their man. It will be interesting to read Johnson's response to these accusations.

SUMMING UP!

Anyone who had followed the Nazi Assassin website closely, may feel a tad short changed. Some of the 'exposes' promised have not appeared in "Action!" Whilst some of these were no doubt frivolous – Purple Aki and his press up fetish for one – an account – from the fascist side – of Ricky Tomlinson's time in the National Front would certainly have been of interest, especially as Tomlinson has failed to name the fascist whom he accuses of hawking his NF past around the media, and sending him poison pen letters on the subject.

Whilst left with a clear understanding of Joe Owens personal morals and principles, the book oddly enough lacks ideology, especially given its author has spent a large chunk of his life involved in politics. What he thinks about many issues away from loyalty to one's peers, crime and race are not mentioned. Whilst the NF's blind activism is often decried by Owens for failing to get its message across, he chooses not to lavish praise on the more serious political direction in which Nick Griffin did take the BNP, A contradiction.

For all those minor gripes, this is a serious book. Much can be learned from it – it should not be ignored.



THIS ISSUE CLASS WAR IS DELIGHTED TO INTERVIEW THE LONG RUNNING CELTIC FANZINE TIOCHFAIDH AR LA.

Can you give a brief history of TAL and where it's going now so much is changing at Celtic Park?

The formation of TAL and Celtic Fans Against Fascism was really the culmination of our reaction against the racism of our own supporters towards Rangers' signing of the Mark Walters in the late 1980's. In the first game that Walters played for rangers at Celtic Park, many of our fans made monkey chants and threw bananas on to the trackside. That day was one of the most depressing for the militant anti-fascists and republicans among our support.

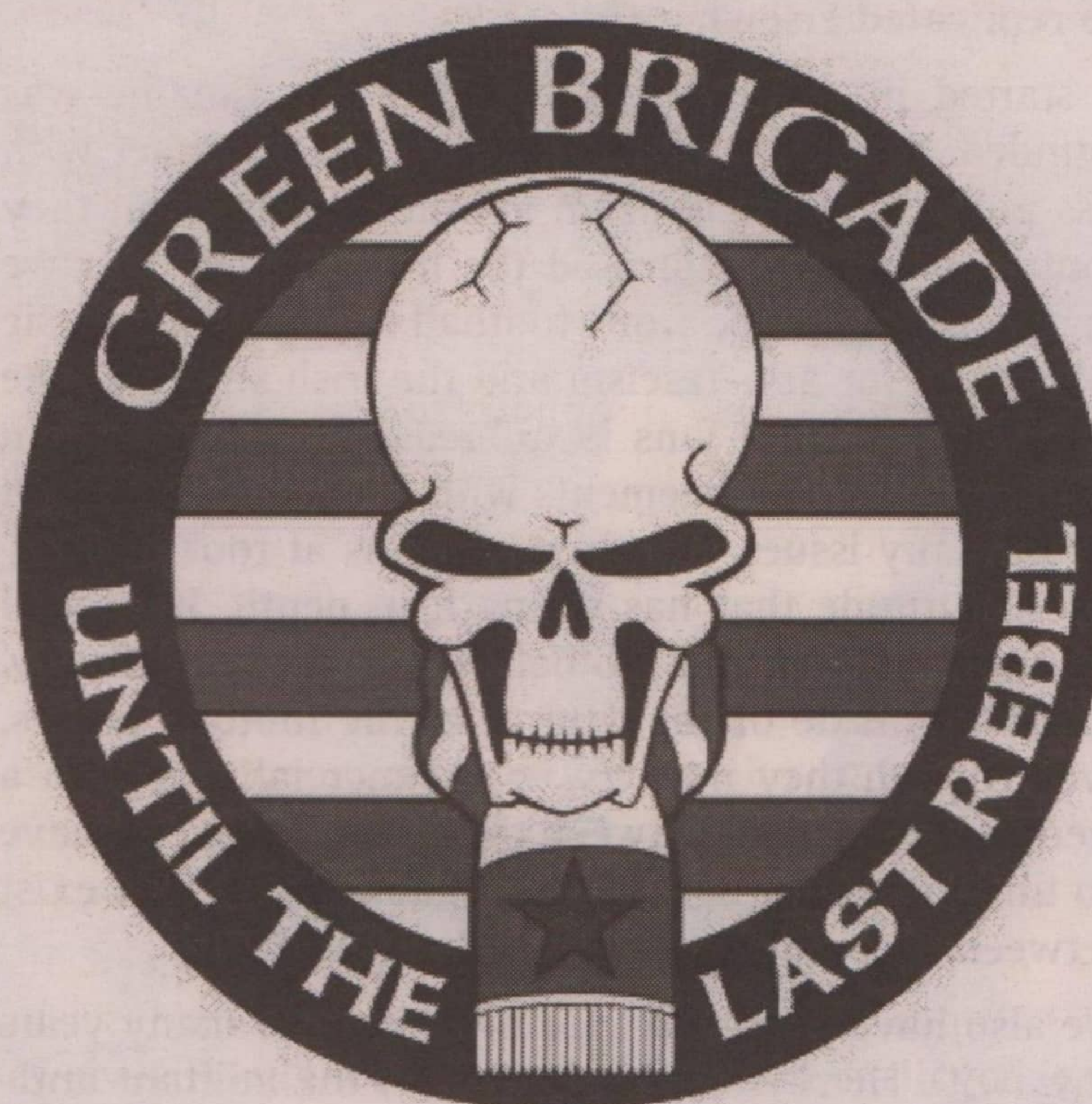
Although it took another couple of years before the fanzine was established, it was our determination to address that kind of racism among our own fans that spurred us on. Our approach was simple. We were supporters of the Irish republican struggle and identified with the militant approach of AFA. We also sought to champion the idea of democratising of the club, campaigning to put the most important people – the fans – in control of the club. It was also important from the anti-racist point of view to highlight the history of the club as a football team that grew out of an immigrant community. The Irish in Scotland were themselves the victims of racism and discrimination. Therefore, it was hypocritical, to say the least, for the second and third generation of that immigrant community to be the perpetrators of racism.

Within a short space of time the situation was transformed with the majority of our fans recognising this incongruity and identifying with the victims of racism. This in turn led to large sections of Celtic supporters either drowning out or directly confronting the racists within our own support. Within a relatively short space of time the situation had been completely reversed with the anti-fascists and anti-racists now in the majority and any public displays of racism stamped out quickly and efficiently.

The most important aspect of all of that period is that we won the political argument with the majority of fans, as well as any physical confrontations with racists that resulted. In the end, it really became 'anti-Celtic' to be a racist, with our fans now taking a pride in

their progressive attitudes to politics and struggle. Our reputation grew as a result and we established good relations with like-minded supporters from various clubs such as St Pauli, Athletic Bilbao, Bordeaux, Juventus, Anderlecht and Manchester United.

An equally important issue for us was our support for the Irish republican struggle, which impacted upon Celtic supporters because of the Irish family backgrounds that so many of us shared. For us, the war in Ireland was a litmus test of political mettle. Some of us had been involved in conservative left-wing groups



in the past and had broken from them largely because of the Brit Left's cowardice and inability to take the side of the oppressed people of the 6 Counties against the British occupation. It was therefore essential that TAL clearly expressed its support for the republican people and their struggle to get the Brits out, by any means necessary.

To bring things up to date, we had decided on the publication of our 40th issue in 2005 to call it a day after 13 years. One reason behind that decision was the changed political situation in Ireland; another was the

changing nature of Celtic as a club, with it becoming a global capitalist institution, making it more and more difficult for the politically motivated fans to maintain our identity and organisation.

However, after about 18 months there was such a demand for TAL to refill the political vacuum that we had left that we felt it our duty to return to the fray. In that short time, however, we had gained allies from a new, younger generation of Celtic fans who had formed the Ultras group, Green Brigade. These were young fans who had grown up reading TAL and whilst maybe not being as militant in every way as ourselves, still identified clearly with the Irish republican and anti-fascist culture that TAL promoted.

In addition, we recruited more people to take part in the Editorial Group of the fanzine. The fanzine editorial group includes Green Brigaders, anti-fascists, republicans, communists, militant trade unionists and those with no political affiliation. The things that bind us all are the love of our football team, the political culture of the supporters and our commitment to anti-sectarianism, anti-racism and anti-fascism. So, we decided to republish the fanzine in a smaller 32 page A5 format and have produced 2 issues in the last 6 months, moving to it coming out every 8 weeks during the season. The comment in the fanzine is still hard-hitting politically and, from a club and football point of view, we are still the biggest thorn in the side of Celtic PLC and their globalist ambitions.

How have you been able to maintain your group/fanzine when others – such as Red Attitude at Manchester United, have collapsed?

I think we were different because we had a bigger political sea in which to swim at Celtic Park. Celtic fans are generally quite liberal, which you'll have witnessed if you've ever been away in Europe with our supporters! TAL was going through an already open door because there are a lot of our supporters who are politically aware and who have opinions across a range of issues. Politics is part of the club's foundations with the link to Michael Davit and other Irish republicans being there at the start and continuing throughout its history, certainly among the fans, if not among the hierarchy of the club today.

To be talking about the future of our club and its heritage alongside articles about the latest moves in republican political strategy is completely natural to us. We have heated discussions about the last game on our website, where almost no-one agrees. We have Che Guevara articles and posters in our fanzine alongside what many might see as football tittle-tattle, but then

GREEN BRIGADE



AGAINST FASCISM

we also have serious analysis of our club, it's identity, the slow bleeding of the working class base of the support. Plus there are always articles and interviews with anti-fascist ultras groups from around the world and the occasional hooligan interview like the Cliftonville Lunatic Fringe in our current edition. We still play our part in the fan culture at Celtic, politically and socially. TAL was re-launched last season and so far the response has been great. Our fanzine sales at the ground are usually pretty good.

Gerry Adams sees the peace process as a step towards a united Ireland, whilst Ian Paisley argues it settles the question of the union - permanently. How can they both be right?

Well, they can't both be right and that's the dilemma that they will both have to face up to at some point. I don't have any big analysis to offer of Irish politics. Republicans are in government in the six Counties. Had they not taken their eye off the ball in the recent 26 County Election they might also be in government there too.

It's important that the working class base of republicanism is maintained and that, in addition to all the grand talk about national consensus and the reunification of the country by 2016, bread and butter issues are put to the fore of republican politics, or the working class composition of the movement will diminish. That aside, Sinn Fein are now in seats of power in Stormont and they'll be judged on what they achieve there.

Ireland is changing so drastically, is it likely to lead to denying it's own history and identity or is it a positive. Recent events at Croke Park seemed to suggest that many of the Irish rugby fans were oblivious to what had even happened there in the past, others seemed to prefer to forget and let bygones be bygones.

Father Jack might say, "That would be an ecumenical matter..."

Ireland is changing in many ways, but it's unfair to describe those changes as drastic, it is a process that has been going on over many years and owes more to its membership of the European Union than it does to any new political thinking on the part of Fine Gael or Fianna Fail. The growth of Sinn Fein in both the six and twenty six counties is undoubtedly a major factor in that change and a real and welcome challenge to the political status quo on the island of Ireland.

The decision by the GAA to open up Croke Park for use by other sporting bodies such as the Football Association of Ireland and Irish Rugby Football Union along with the implementation of the Good Friday Agreement is seen by many as an example of a 'New Modern Ireland'. However, to use such a term simply panders to negative stereotypical visions of an 'Old Ireland' full of Shamrock and Shillelaghs.

If the GAA's decision to open up Croke Park has contributed to the education of those who were unaware of the historical significance of the venue during the war of independence then it is welcome. And those who choose to disregard the events that took place there on 21st November 1920 are as much the enemy of Irish Republicanism as British rule in Ireland.

As for the country's history and identity, quite simply, too much was invested by those who fought for an Ireland that they would never live to see, for it to be denied. However, it's history and identity can only be truly recognised when the aspiration of a United Ireland has finally been achieved, until then we will continue to honour its past and help in whatever way we can to shape its future.

What groups would you recommend to anti-fascist football fans today?

Well, to our own supporters we'd obviously recommend Celtic Fans Against Fascism, which we started ourselves and which has been at the forefront of anti-fascist, anti-racist and anti-sectarian campaigns at Celtic for about 16 years.

The Independent Working Class Association; because we have to rebuild our communities from the bottom up and the IWCA seem to have an approach to the working class that is unique on the left and which seeks to politically empower our communities. An organisation like the IWCA can politically compete with the fascists for 'hearts and minds' in working class areas, as well as the obvious benefit that their democratic approach puts political space between their methods and those of the old left; fighting for the rights of all and facilities for the use of all, not for sectional interests based on the racial segregation of our communities, something that the left's attachment to the philosophy of multiculturalism has shamefully encouraged rather than fought against.

I've met some people from Antifa and they were sound. It all depends on the political circumstances in particular areas, the threat posed by the fascists and the calibre of the anti-fascist activists available - you have to tailor your strategy and tactics accordingly. Fight when you can win... and if you can't win, don't fight! There will be other days. It's a simple formula that brought AFA a lot of success against the fascists.

I don't believe in ghost-hunts or wild goose chases for invisible fash or NFers that go around with double the numbers of police guarding them. There's very little street presence of fascists on parade anywhere, so it's important to be fighting them in working class communities where they are politically active. That means anti-fascism must learn to politically adapt.

Football Without Fans Is Nothing



LET
THE
PEOPLE
SING

So why treat Celtic fans like criminals?

There is such an amazing bond between Celtic fans and St. Pauli fans, why has this happened and can it be replicated elsewhere?

It started in 1992 very soon after our fanzine was founded. Some of the St Pauli fans had contact with less political elements from another fanzine, but they contacted us and expressed the many things that we shared in common, from football culture and music to support for anti-fascism and the Irish struggle. The bond between the fans is unbreakable now. We can have political disagreements with them and they with us on many issues, but there remains at root an anti-fascist attitude that has strength in depth. It's social attitudes, politics and football that is the real affinity. And it's outside of the control of the football bosses, even though they now try to commercialise it with a merchandising deal between the clubs. Celtic PLC have no understanding of the unbreakable bonds that exist between TAL and the anti-fascists at St Pauli.

We also have good links, going back over many years now, with Herri Norte Taldea (HNT) the militant anti-fascists from Athletic Bilbao. We went over to Bilbao earlier this year to help celebrate the 25th Anniversary of their group. These are solid working class football fans with militant anti-fascist attitudes combined with a strong support for the independence struggle in the Basque Country.

Do you ever see events like those at Manchester United occurring with sections of fans leaving to set up their own club?

No. A similar situation to that of FC United, where an 'FC Celtic' might be started up by a section of disgruntled fans, just won't happen at our club. The

essential belief among our supporters is - regardless of share deals and big business interests - that the club belongs to the fans. That sentiment is still very strong at Celtic; that we are a working class club, founded by Irish immigrants, whose sons, daughters and grandchildren have had to put with a lot of shit just to get on in life. The experience of Celtic supporters is very much tied in with the whole experience of being part of a 'minority community' in Scotland. The club is seen to be an extension of that community.

Whatever happens in future with regard to supporters' movements at Celtic Park, I believe it will happen inside the club, not outside of it. It was the commitment of our fans that saved this club in the past and we still want to see OUR club democratised. Ultimately we have the Barcelona model to work towards. It's not a perfect solution, but it does provide an example where its supporters can at least partially democratically control a club; a club that can embrace with pride its Catalan identity and relate to the political and cultural aspirations of its fans. That's what we want to see at Celtic; a club based in Scotland that is at ease with its Irish identity and the working class politics and culture of its fans.

You can buy TAL's fanzine outside Celtic Park at home games for just £2. If you can't wait until then, visit the website at www.talfanzine.com. Thanks to TAL for the interview and good luck to Celtic - with Walter Smith back in charge at Rangers, they might need it!

WHO'S THE BASTARD IN THE BLACK?

WELL THERE'S A very good chance he's a fucking copper! Class War can exclusively reveal that no less than four Premiership referees are serving police officers.

Lets get booing these bastards before they make a mistake! The four porcine officials are:

- PC Chris Foy, Liverpool South Planning Unit, Merseyside Police. 23 years of "service".
- PC Alan Wiley, Community Safety officer, Walsall, West Midlands Police. 20 years "service".
- DC Martin Atkinson, Intelligence Officer, Leeds North, West Yorkshire Police. 13 years "service".
- Sgt Howard Webb, Safer Neighbourhoods Sergeant, Rotherham, South Yorkshire Police. 14 years "service".

Oddly Webb claims his "excellent communication skills" as a referee have been developed as a Policeman.

Curiously he does not say that being a Policeman prepared him for being abused by large numbers of people, running around a lot for no real purpose, being seen as dishonest and making rash decisions that ruin other people's enjoyment.

With those core "skills" what's the betting that by the end of the decade there will be more than four pigs referring in the Premiership?



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