

So why do we keep on backing these parties and politicians when everytime they win and we lose? Because its the only say we are allowed to have in the way our society is run.

#### THE ALTERNATIVE?

The rich and powerful have never given us anything without a fight. If we want:--an end to crappy jobs or the dole blues, more money, better housing, better health care or just to be able to live a life that isn't as pointless and frustrating as it is for most of us now, then we are going to have to take it with our own hands.

There has always been the lucky few in the working class that earn a lot compared to the rest of us, even though it is nothing compared to the profits our rulers make. But for most of us things are going to get harder in the years ahead whoever wins this election. Just to defend what we have we are going to have to organise to fight back at work and at home in the community. This organisation must be from the bottom up without leaders parties or politicians.

So, what do we in Class War stand for? In one word its **UNITY**. A Working Class that is united is strong, this is what the Ruling Class hate and fear and this is why they set us against each other, men against women, white against blacks, young against old and so on, its divide and rule--the oldest trick in the book. What unity that is left they want to destroy so they can grind us down even further. What we are faced with is a creeping Fascism disguised as democratic government that one by one is destroying all the gains made by the working class in the last 100 years.

**WE NEED UNITY IF WE ARE GOING TO PROTECT OURSELVES AND GET STRONGER**

IN THE COMMUNITY We must fight to keep out the cops, fascists, social workers, bailiffs, politicians and all the other scum who work for the Boss. It has been done at times in Northern Ireland and South Africa and just like in those places we are going to have to deal with anti-social behaviour like wife battering, rape, bullying and burglarly. A good kicking for these people is far better than calling the cops.

AT WORK More work and less pay is the order of the day and the TUC and Union Leaders are going to do fuck all for you except put the boot in for the Boss, look at Brenda Dean and Norman Willis for example. Only solidarity from other workers in the form of Blacking, Sabotage, Slow-downs, picketing and so on can do the buisness now.

# **POLITICS: DON'T DIE OF IGNORANCE.**

For more Info.  
contact Box CW  
37 Stokes Croft  
Bristol 1

# “ THE DOWNING ST HURDLES ”



## **JUNE 11TH 1987.**

*exciting tips inside!*





# STAR FORM



GOING Firm after a hard frost of law and order.

RUNNERS AND RIDERS	FORM	FENCES	TIPS
<p>LABOUR New mount "Red Rose" ("Red Flag" had to be destroyed after the race in '83). New jockey Neil Kinnock.</p>	<p>Made a poor showing in '79 and '83. Carrying a heavy handicap of "Loony Lefties".</p>	<p>Likely to refuse at the 'nuclear fence'. But is going strong at the 'law and order' fence.</p>	<p>Don't believe this ones sweet promises remember the 'Winter of Discontent' in '78</p>
<p>ALLIANCE "Push-me-Pull You". An interesting entry carrying 2 jockeys hoping to double their odds.</p>	<p>Has improved Greatly at By-Election training sessions due to Media Hype treatment.</p>	<p>No excess weight of policies to carry, so should jump well.</p>	<p>A safe each way bet. Could come from the back to upset the favourite.</p>
<p>TORIES "True Blue" Only woman jockey in the race but no softy.</p>	<p>Romped home in '83 when the going was perfect for them due to the "Falklands Effect".</p>	<p>Only problem for this horse is the 'Unemployment' fence. She hopes to clear it by dirty tricks like YTS, CP and the Restart scheme. Not forgetting the blatant fiddling of the figures-19 changes to the way unemployment is calculated since '79!</p>	<p>Evens favourite. A bad bet for the ordinary punter, a strong following in the 'Snobs Enclosure'</p>
<p>OUTSIDERS GREEN PARTY "Gilbert"</p>	<p>Prefers very wet conditions as they are riding a whale this year.</p>	<p>As long as the turf's the right colour they are happy</p>	<p>What can we say? No jockey and they think bottle banks will solve everything. A safe bet for the middle class.</p>
<p>"FASCIST BULLY BOYS" ridden by National Front British Socialist (Nazi) Party League of St. George' etc.</p>	<p>Rumoured to be owned by the Bookies. This one has always proved to be a bad bet for the punter as proved in Germany.</p>	<p>Hopes to clear all fences using Race Hatred and the Union Jack.</p>	<p>We recommend that this horse is put down straight away, preferably kicked to death.</p>
<p>"MARX BROS." Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP). Socialist Workers Party (SWP). etc. etc.</p>	<p>Long overdue for the Knackers yard, little form to speak of. Again a bad bet for the punter as proved around the world (Russia, Cambodia etc.).</p>	<p>Unlikely to Finish the course, despite a lot of hard work.</p>	<p>A real donkey.</p>
<p>MONSTER RAVING LOONY PARTY</p>	<p>Has no problem with the course but only ever backed by a small number of faithful punters, do they know something we don't?</p>	<p>No problems here as they are only doing it for the crack.</p>	<p>We like their style. Only party with consistent policies!</p>

In horse racing the real winners are the bookies and the owners. Well, it's just like that with the election only the bookies in this case are the rich, they win whoever gets to No.10, and the owners are the politicians who are all trying to get their horse to the post first.

Just like at the races an awful lot of ordinary punters are going to lose out no matter who gets into No.10.



# HOW LOW CAN YOU GO?

## THE POLITICS AND THE PRACTICES OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

**The Socialist Workers Party is a self-proclaimed 'revolutionary party'. In its 'Where We Stand' column in the weekly paper, it is stated that "the present system...has to be overthrown", that "only the mass activity of the workers themselves can destroy the system" and that "a new society can only be constructed when the workers collectively seize control of that wealth and plan its production and distribution". So the words might sound fine – but what about the reality?**

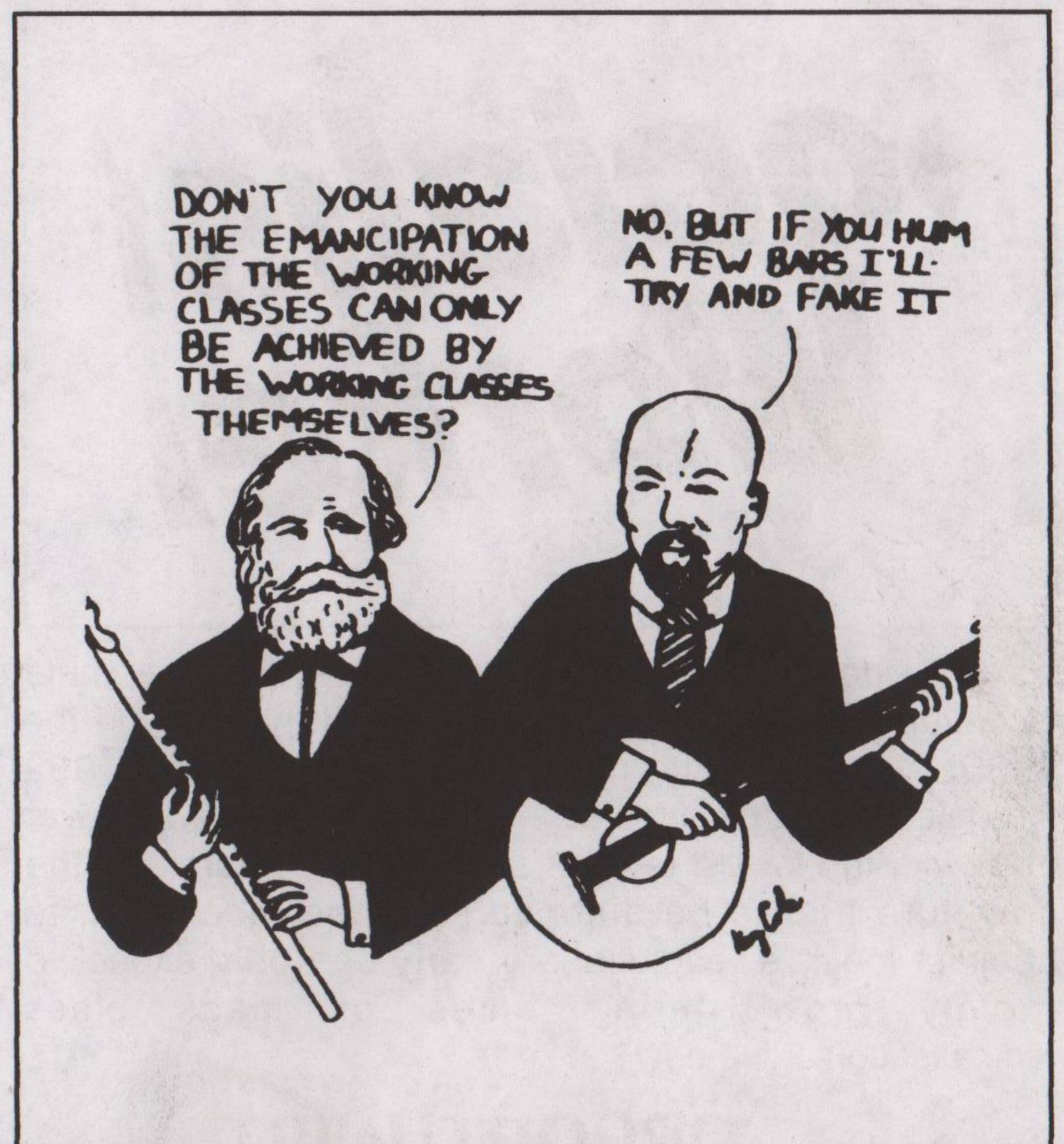
### LENIN

The SWP is a Leninist organisation: this means that it substitutes the actions of the party for the class in a revolutionary situation. In effect this means where the word "worker" appears in the above quotes it should be replaced by "party". It also means that it operates through democratic centralism – democratic centralism supposedly ensures the most effective and efficient form of organising for a revolutionary grouping.

But in practice it means the perpetuation of control within the party by a long-standing elite. In the words of one disillusioned SWPer: "Have you ever had a vote on who should be the leader of the SWP or on the central committee? The way this is decided at SWP conferences is very dubious. You are given a list of the new proposed CC and asked whether you agree or disagree. I've never

heard of anyone not agreeing". ('Republican Marxist Bulletin', Nov. 1992).

Democratic centralism is inevitably a contradiction in terms because of the psychological effects it has on the ordinary members. It results in the leadership being put on a pedestal and being virtually worshiped – so it is very



difficult to build any dissent from below against a CC member. The election of the CC by solely voting on slates also ensures that unpopular members of it are re-elected.

The reality of this situation was clearly shown last year when an article submitted to the SWP Internal Bulletin (1993, No. 2) was censored. The grounds for this

censorship was that the article contained criticisms of the leadership! There is a complete lack of internal democracy within the party. How many party members have ever seen the SWP constitution for example? Dissent is tightly controlled and debate dominated by the agenda laid down by the leadership.

## TOP HEAVY

This top-heavy and centralised structure makes it extremely hard to put local decisions into practice. Not only this, it also ensures that local situations are ignored – for example, the folding of the Anti-Nazi League (ANL) in the early 1980s when in places this activity was still necessary. This particular change led to the expulsion of the group that became Red Action.

Essentially, what happens in the SWP is that the line comes down from on high and members are supposed to work themselves into the ground promoting that line – until the line changes as it does with frightening regularity. It is this naked opportunism that reveals the heart of the SWP: the party first and last mentality, regardless of political analysis.

The Marxism upon which the SWP is based is nothing more than advertising copy. Time and time again the SWP have changed their line purely on the basis of what is good for the party. This might mean a few more recruits but on what basis are these people recruited? Certainly not on any political analysis of the current situation.

# Socialist Worker

A good example of this was the way that the whole 'downturn' theory (which had dominated the party in the 1980s) was literally dumped overnight in the 1992 struggle against pit closures – at a time when it was never truer with the lowest level of strikes for 50 years! But the downturn had to be dumped because, according to Leninist logic, a revolutionary party can only expect to rapidly grow during times of mass class radicalisation....like now?

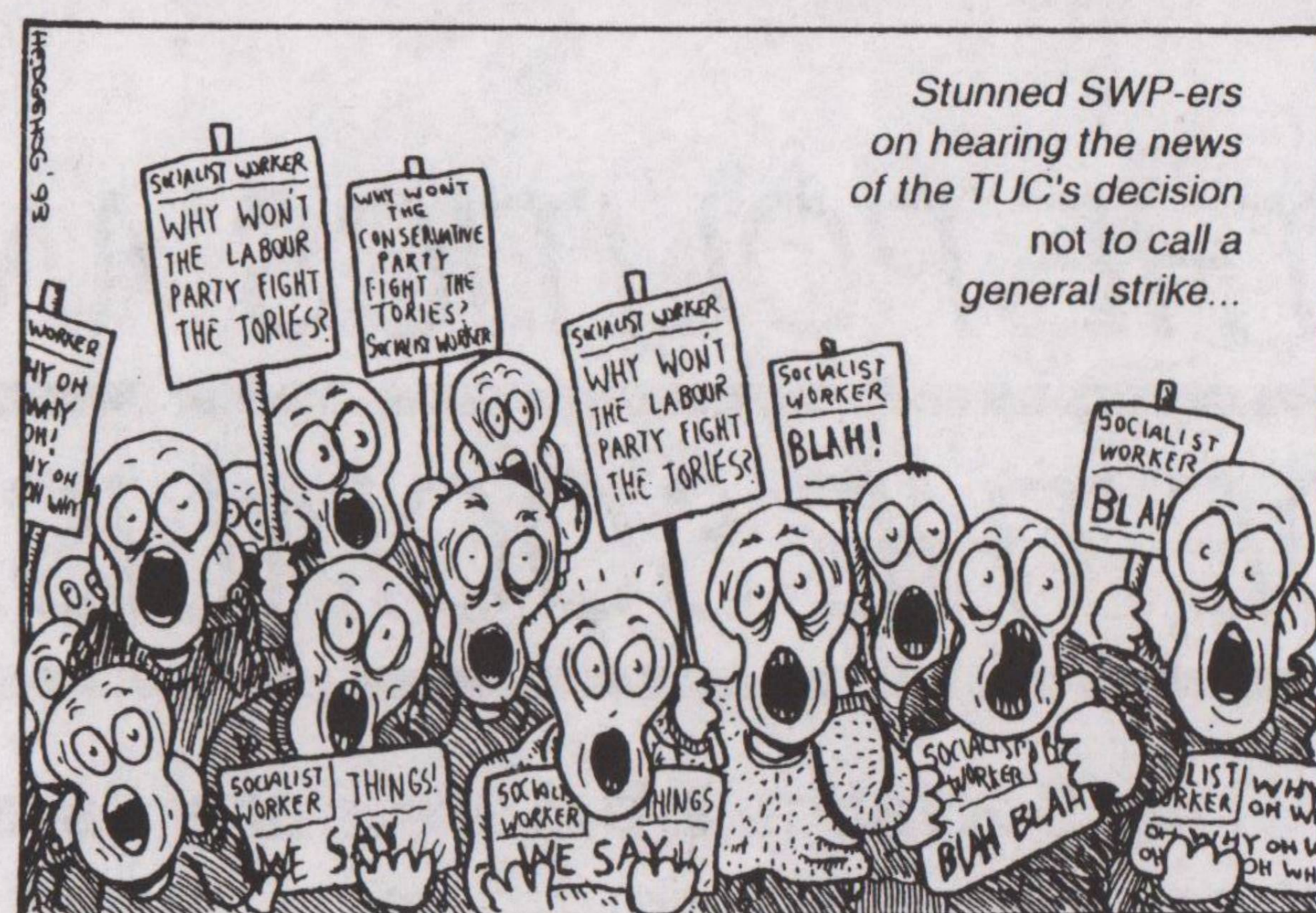
## OPPORTUNIST

The SWP is not only an opportunist and centralist organisation – its politics are up the creek as well. It is inextricably tied to the labour movement and the pages of its publications are continually filled by calls upon this bureaucrat or that bureaucrat to "do something". When

the bureaucracy (inevitably) fails to do anything, then the SWP cry out "cowardice", "betrayal" and bemoan lost opportunities.

'Socialist Worker' might be full of indignant outrage but it always misses the real question: for how much longer are the SWP going to pretend that the labour bureaucracy are going to do anything other than betray the working class?

The TUC and the Labour Party are thoroughly capitalist institutions that have nothing to offer the working class. Yet it is organisations like the SWP who help to bolster the collapsing credibility of these dinosaurs by



their endless calls upon them. As an Armthorpe miner said in May 1993: "A lot of the lads were saying even then (back in October 1992) we should have ripped the heads off those bastards (the TUC General Council)". But it is no good putting this in the pages of 'Socialist Worker' after six months of increasingly frantic calls for the TUC to call a general strike.

## VOTE LABOUR

The SWP is desperate to maintain its radical credibility – but at the same time maintain its links with the labour bureaucracy. One thing that the SWP never like to mention is the last Labour government (from 1974 to 1979) – and this is virtually true for all the other Leninist outfits. It is because this period shows the futility of labourism and the nonsense of even indirectly supporting it. If the Labour Party and the TUC always betray the working class, what's the point of supporting them?

Yet still the SWP bleats on: "Vote Labour with no illusions", "The TUC must act". The party calls for a vote for Labour because of its links to the labour movement – but has refused to drop this analysis even though the Trade Union block vote has been abolished. This displays conservatism and an inability to adapt to changing circumstances.

Not only is the SWP at heart conservative, it is also willing to twist historical facts for its own sake. For example, in Cliff and Gluckstein's 400 page plus 'The Labour Party – A Marxist History', the Winter of Discontent (a massive working class movement against a Labour government) merits a mere 5 paragraphs. We wonder what the leadership are so keen to cover-up?


As well as the very limited analysis of Labourism, the SWP also has a very poor understanding of the state. They have continually called upon the police to act against the fascists – as one ANL leader stated after a recent Brick Lane demonstration when the police had

**Socialist  
Worker**

KEEP  
VOTING  
LABOUR!

**MONKS MUST ISSUE  
AK47s NOW!**

**WHY WON'T  
THE TUC  
ARM THE  
PROLETARIAT?**



arrested the fascists: "We welcome the police action, but it should have really come sooner". It's this analytical poverty that led the SWP to support the troops being sent into the north of Ireland in August 1969. And 25 years later little has changed.

## ANAL FIXATION

The recent reformation of the ANL shows the SWP's opportunism, centralism and lack of revolutionary analysis. Only a month before the ANL was set up, the SWP had declared that there was no threat from fascism – and then suddenly in January 1992 everything had dramatically changed and there was this massive threat that needed to be opposed.

It was much more than there was a massive opportunity to recruit people on the simplest programme. The ANL is supposed to be a 'united front' but in reality it is controlled by the SWP – nothing more than a transmission belt into the party. And the ANL's main purpose in life seems to be to become loved by liberals so physical combat is avoided at all costs (don't want to lose support of all those bishops) and things are kept very passive. After all, it is a lot easier to be loved by liberals than to have a revolutionary analysis of society!

A good example of this was the October 1993 demonstration against the BNP in Welling. First of all, the

ANL demanded that the demonstration be led by Holocaust survivors in the vain hope that a good media image would be presented. Then after the subsequent riot, the ANL chief steward (and, unsurprisingly, leading SWP member) Julie Waterson declared: "We never wanted injuries on either side. We wanted both the police and ourselves to leave having enjoyed the day and united against the Nazis. If a policeman's head hurts half as much as mine, I feel really sorry for him". And this from a leading member of a 'revolutionary' party?

The ANL/SWP attitude over the annual Bloody Sunday commemoration also reveals their weak liberalism. Despite it being a focus for the largest fascist mobilisation in 1993, they refused to organise for its defence and were notable for their absence on the actual day.

The SWP relies on recruiting people through a very basic political analysis. These individuals are subsequently driven into the ground and led around like sheep. The party does expect a very high turnover of membership. But the result of this manipulation and party-sanctioned lying is that many of the people who leave are disillusioned and disgusted with political activity. The number of people that the SWP has politically ruined is enormous.

For all its talk, the SWP is not a revolutionary organisation. Its politics are fatally flawed and its form of organising is based upon the discredited methods of Lenin where centralism counts for a lot more than democracy. It has nothing to offer the working class and will only play a reactionary role in any revolutionary movement. But this does not mean that we are against SWP members – many members are very good political activists. What we are opposed to are the politics and the institution of the SWP.

**It is for this reason that we have put out this leaflet and want to engage in discussion with anyone who partially or mostly agrees with what we have written. If you are sick and tired of being lied to, treated like robotic sheep, given little chance to properly debate political ideas, nuzzling up more to liberalism than to revolutionary analysis – then get in touch.**

*If you want to read more about the SWP, try 'Carry On Recruiting', published by Trotwatch/AK Press - available at bookshops or write to AK Press, 22 Luton Place, Edinburgh, EH8 9PE.*

**The Class War Federation is working for the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism and the state. Our aim is a communist society based on collective decision making that will ensure the proper planning of the production and distribution of resources. This will be without hierarchical structures that lead to elitism and done on an equal basis: no gods, no masters. We can be contacted at PO Box 467, London, E8 3QX - or telephone our hotline on 0272 870050.**

# DO WE NEED LEADERS?

## CLASS WAR

*versus*

## SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

**Having a leadership automatically ensures an undemocratic institution, and as happened after the Russian revolution (and elsewhere) results in a new ruling class which will, if given the opportunity, continue to oppress the working class. The SWP has such a leadership, the Class War Federation is firmly opposed to it.**

Speakers: **Alan Pullen** (ex-Secretary of Bristol Anti-Nazi League in the 1970s and ex-District Secretary of Bristol SWP, now member of Bristol Class War); representative of **London Class War**; and an invited speaker from the **Socialist Workers Party**.

**THURSDAY 14th JULY, 7:30pm**

THE FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

EUSTON ROAD

(OPPOSITE EUSTON BR STATION) NW1

# CLASS WAR

**WE HAVE FOUND A  
PEACEFUL  
SOLUTION**



The Gulf War was a war between capitalist states over the main Kuwaiti raw material, oil. It provided an ideal opportunity for the American ruling class, under the guise of the United Nations, to show it will not tolerate any nation standing in the way of its control.

## HYPOCRISY AND LIES

- If this war was about self-determination, why are British troops still in Ireland and American troops still in Grenada?
- 20 years ago a U.N. resolution similar to the one about Kuwait was passed telling Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories. No withdrawal followed, and no action was taken by the U.N.
- The censored TV coverage would have us believe it was a nice clean war. Over 100,000 civilians and soldiers were killed.
- Burning oil wells causing black smoke clouds for 500,000 sq. km. over Kuwait and Iraq, coupled with a 200 km. oil slick along the Saudi coast add up to an ecological disaster of horrific proportions.
- The Emir and his entourage left Kuwait at the first sniff of trouble leaving the Kuwaiti people to suffer occupation; then, returning on a tide of victory, they imposed martial law.
- The Emir moved into his restored palace with a jacuzzi and gold bath taps: the people of Kuwait were without running water.
- America encouraged the Kurdish revolt against Saddam yet gave no arms for them to fight with. The Kurdish rebellion was short-lived; now they have nothing and rely on paltry handouts from the countries which brought about their demise.

The ruling class will pursue its interests at any cost, both in lives and damage to the environment. It will bend its own rules to suit its needs and will protect its profits, no matter what the price.

## THE BATTLE CONTINUES

The war over oil ended in thousands dead *and* the Kuwaiti oil supplies decimated. It was a war about major capitalists coming together to defend their interests: it's alright for Saddam to gas Kurdish people, it's alright for Israel to oppress the Palestinians, *as long as it doesn't affect the bosses' interests.*

War is the inevitable outcome of governments arguing over raw materials, money and power. The anti-war movement should concentrate its efforts on destroying the social system that creates war: the ruling class rely on us going quietly to work, quietly to war and always obeying their orders. We have the power to end all wars by refusing to fight, work or follow orders under a capitalist system where we are always at the bottom of the shitheap.

That power lies in us when we come together as a working class movement to take on the ruling class in the only war worth fighting - **the class war.**



**ANGRY!**  
**CLASSES**  **WAR**

YOU ARE NOT NEEDED  
YOU ARE NOT WANTED  
AND YOU WILL BE THE FIRST  
AGAINST THE WALL



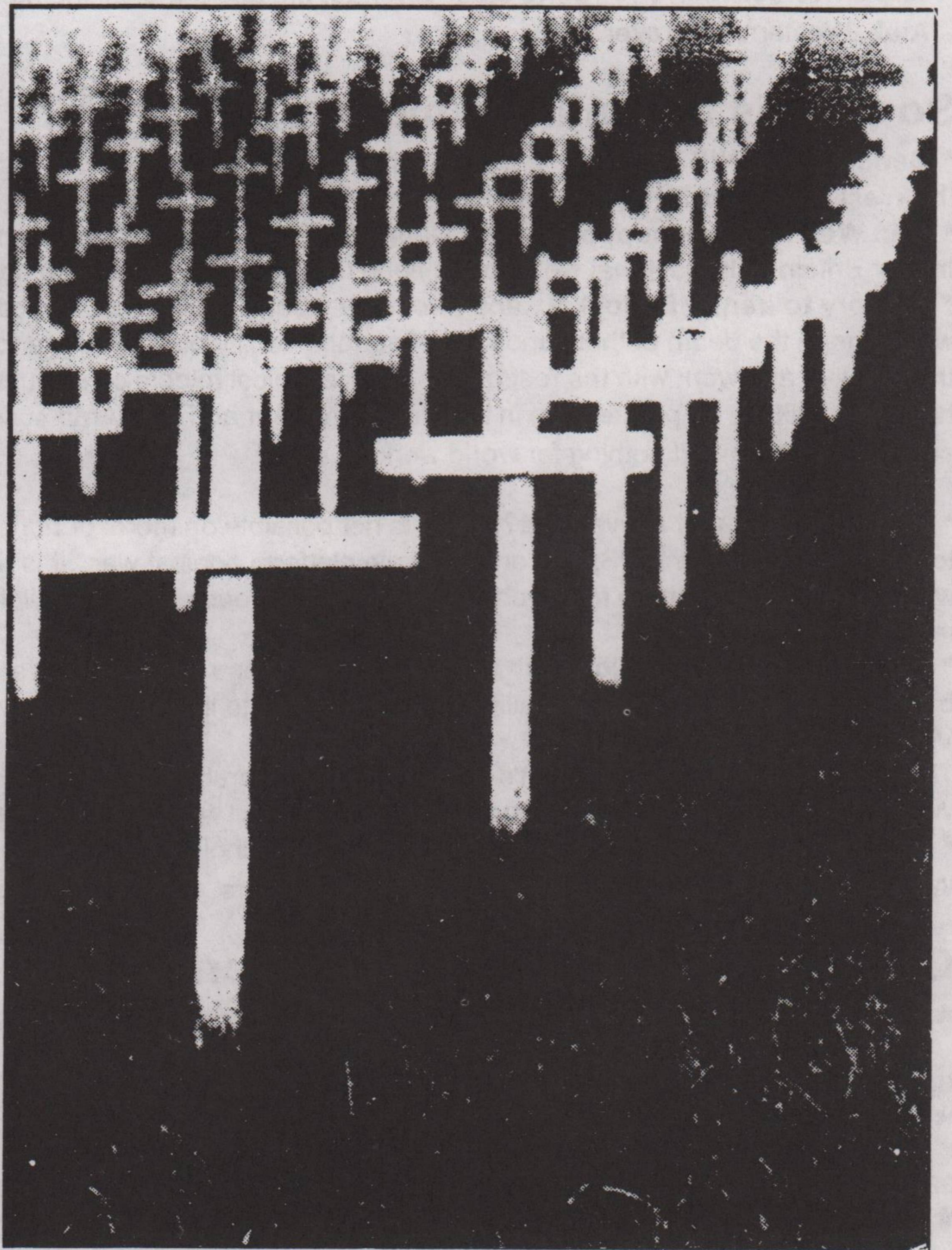
LET THE BLOOD  
RUN BLUE 

# CLASS



# WAR

# NO



# WAR

# BUT THE CLASS WAR



# CLASS WAR! NOT GULF WAR!

## CLASS WAR FEDERATION'S rough guide to the Gulf War and the anti-war movement....cutting through the bullshit!

Well, of course we're against the war! Another example of the working class being massacred for the interests of their rulers!

- \* It is not a war for Kuwait, but for **control of oil**. The West cares nothing for 'sovereignty' - the West Bank, Namibia? Not for people, just for their own profits.
- \* **It is not a war for freedom**. The USA has caused more misery and death than any other country, from Chile to Cambodia, through war. But mostly through money.
- \* It is not a war for the Palestinians or Iraqis. Hussein, though insignificant compared to the USA, is a murdering bastard, who has the blood of a million workers - Arabs, Kurds, Iraqis - on his hands. He is using the Palestinians to hide his own crimes. It is not an Iraqi workers' fight against the West.
- \* **It is a war between two ruling classes**: Iraq, the upstart, challenging the establishment. Victory for either side is defeat for workers - Arab, Western, wherever.

### So what is the anti-war movement saying?

- \* **Sanctions! UNI?** Death by starvation or death by bullet - some choice! The UN has always been a subtle, or not-so-subtle, tool of the West. While CND has been marching for decades and achieved piss all. Some strategy!
  - \* **No War! But we support war.....Class War!** Why? We have no choice, because 'class war' is the daily reality of workers - in Iraq or Britain - It's just that we've often been losing, fighting with both hands tied behind our backs.
  - \* **Victory to Iraq! Bollocks!**...apart from the small problem that Iraq can't militarily win (though it may not lose) an Iraqi victory would mean the death of thousands of UK squaddies. Could you argue for that where you live and work? Do the people who chant this line live and work with the rest of us? This is typical middle class bullshit with no place in reality. And would the defeat of the West, however unlikely, be progressive in the world? Nasser and Pan-Arab success in the '50s did nothing for Arab workers, while the US pullout of Vietnam did nothing for world workers either.
  - \* **Build the anti-war movement?!** This is not possible on moral or nonsense demands. Working class people will only be won over to a clear, anti-rich, anti-US, and anti-Hussein platform against war. It is also not possible to build a mass movement when the left-wing groups are just there to out-chant and out-recruit each other - building their corrupt organisations on the backs of a genuine movement.
  - \* **Slogans! Slogans! Slogans!** Stop the War! Troops Out! - these are aimed at the government. Do we really expect those who bomb the shit out of Iraq, send bailiffs into our homes, to listen to us? It was the cost of GIs, not protests, that pulled the US out of Vietnam.
- The pathetic, middle class, far left's politics and membership have put us in a weak position: There is only one practical solution: Class War. Why? Because it's something we can really affect **AND** what frightens the state most.
- \* **False choices** - all our lives we are offered false choices ... Labour or Tory, Utd. or City, capitalism or state socialism...Iraq or the West is the latest. There's a different choice: of workers' autonomy and class war. In the long term, they are our only salvation.

### Class war - anytime, any place, anywhere

- \* Everyday we fight the class war - at school, at work, every go-slow and strike, every poll tax resistance, every clash against police attacks. This is the ground we fight best on, not the streets of Westminster.
- \* The best way to fight our state is to pump up the class war. Push the poll tax struggle further. Refuse to accept any sacrifices - don't accept pay freezes for the war. Billions will be spent on this war - we must refuse to pay the price!
- \* We can organise against the war, where we live and work, on the basis that our class will pay - in blood and money. Our tradition is that of the Red Clydeside strikes during the First World War. Already, in Spain and Turkey, millions of workers have struck against the war.
- \* Class war is the only real strategy we have - the only thing we can do in the long-term interests of both the British and Iraqi working class: **Class war - the only war worth fighting \* Class war - the war to end all wars.**

For more info about Class War  
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CLASS WAR HOTLINE:  
(061) 226 12 93

# CLASS WAR



**THE  
BEST  
CUT  
OF ALL**

Produced by London Class War to the Commission  
written by PG Box 671 London E8 3QY

# WE NEED MORE BANDAGES NOT MORE CUTS...



IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT anyone with enough money to make it as a Tory MP is unlikely to ever see the inside of an NHS hospital.

The only time they're likely to show their faces is when they're being followed round by loads of TV reporters, trying to get us to vote for them.

Yet it is these scum with their private health scheme and luxury private hospitals who presume to tell us how much (or how little!) will be spent on hospitals, nurses' and ancillary workers' pay, and all other aspects of the public health service.

It is a sick joke that these parasitical bastards are allowed to rule over an NHS they rarely, if ever, use!

While we watch our service collapsing around our ears, they are sitting

around working out new cost cutting schemes.

It's good to see that at last thousands of nurses and other health service workers have joined together to tell the government exactly what they think of them.

So far all the publicity has been about nurses going on strike, obviously, because it has never happened before. However, this is not the only form of action that health workers can and are taking.

In some areas workers and in some cases patients have occupied empty wards and theatres. And what about picketing out side the private hospitals where the rich go?...Or doing both at Number 10!!

We totally support nurses going on strike, but it shouldn't be left up to them and their colleagues to defend the NHS on their own. Any drop in standards or conditions affects us all.

Meanwhile, however, perhaps we should start asking ourselves why union chiefs have told ambulance workers not to join in any mass action. Surely all workers should be out in support. What are these people afraid of?

The only way this battle will be won is by solidarity action. Not just from other health workers but from the whole working class.

And what about our wonderful Labour Party? Oh yes, they'll stand up and make stern speeches in Parliament and put out heart rending posters during the General Election, but wasn't it Denis Healey who started the health cuts back in the '70s?

The Labour Party are only interested in this fight for what they can get out of it - votes. They couldn't give a toss about the NHS. Things are bad today, but don't think it'll be all fun and games under Kinnock & Co.

We've got the best support of all - the Working Class. The level of support for nurses amongst the vast majority of people in this country should not be underestimated. Their support will decide who wins the battle, not the Labour Party's or the union boss's. The government is on the run, so let's not waste that support.



THATCHER said the NHS was safe in her hands...We all know that was crap. But the health service will never be safe while the schemers of Westminster - whatever their political colour - are left to decide how it should be run.

The only people who can run the hospitals for the benefit of us all are the people who work in them and the communities they serve.

SOD THE TORIES ,LABOUR AND THE REST. WE DON'T NEED ANY OF THEM!

Produced by London Class War, for more information  
write to: PO Box 467, London, E8 3QX.