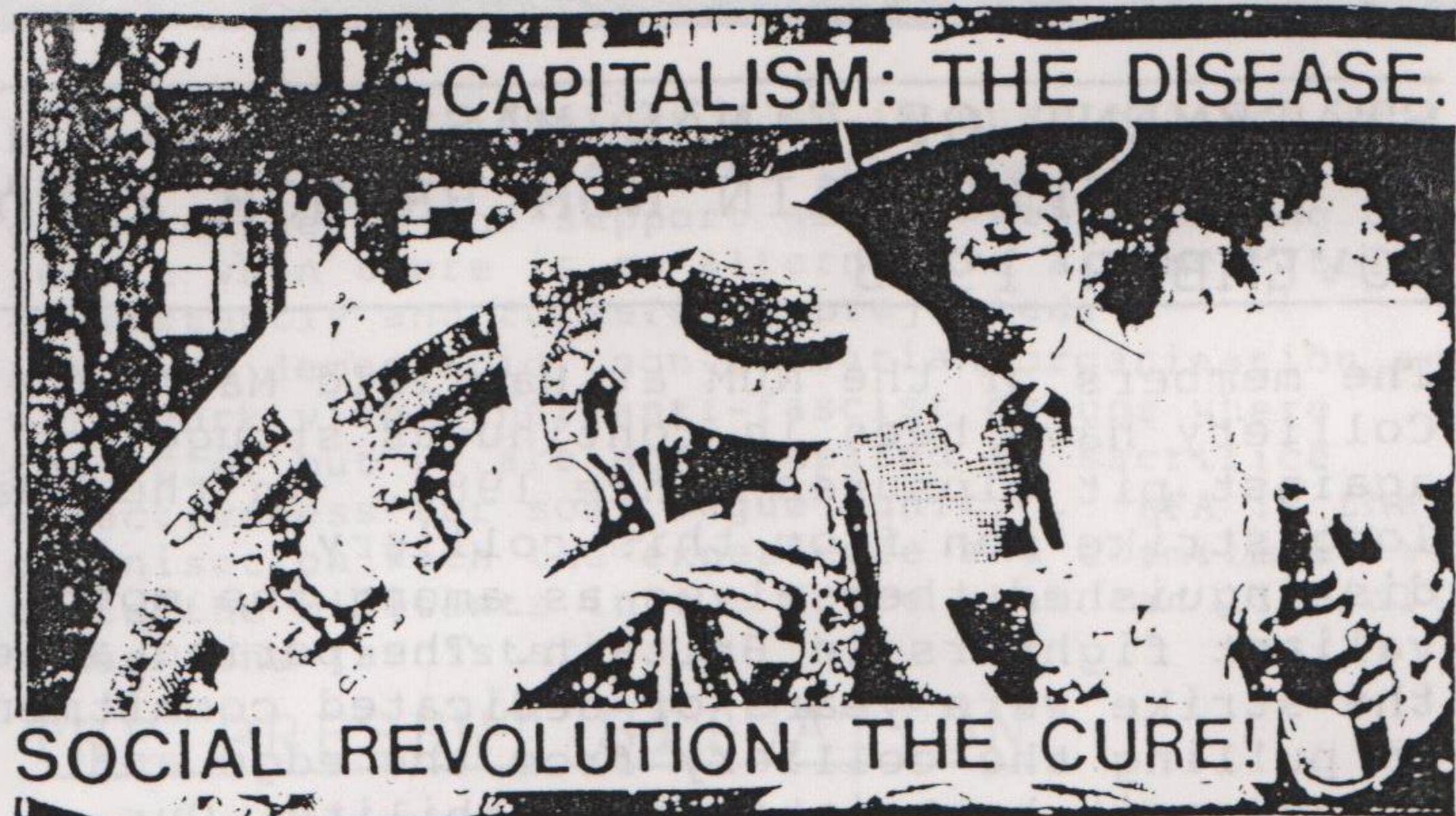


NEWS FROM NOWHERE



Yorkshire, Humberside and the North East
NUMBER 7 FEB 1994 FREE/DONATION

NATIONAL HEALTH SCANDAL

The news that 5 businessmen "lived like kings" (Daily Mirror Feb 2nd '94) by swindling the NHS of nearly £400,000 by submitting invoices for non existent goods and services should surprise nobody. The men, millionaire Arthur Tully, his side kick Richard Haver, consultant William Baillie and senior Health Authority officers Hamer Norman and James Lewis are currently on trial at Winchester Crown Court. The money that should have been spent on vital NHS hospital equipment to save lives was squandered on lavish holidays abroad and even on a trip to a German beer festival! As these bastards pissed up our money- money we are told is in short supply for such trivialities as health care for the 'common' man and woman- people were, and are dying due to lack of funding! Today the Health Service is collapsing due to the governments lack of funding and the so-called 'Reforms' which have created a massive bureaucracy and management system that seems to have more to do with the creation of top well paid "jobs for the boys/girls" than it has to do with the running of an effective health care service. As yet another 'manager' is appointed on a grossly inflated salary, another hospital ward is closed, nurses sacked and ambulances taken off the road.

This will carry on until there is NO Health Service worth the name at all - which is what the Tory scum want, despite their halfhearted denials- or until we fight back. These people don't give a damn about us, they care only for themselves- the rich and privileged- the rest of us are just here to work and maintain their system. They only ever gave a thought to the health care of the working class in the first place when disease started to spread into the avenues of the wealthy- or when they realised they could squeeze more work from a healthier population. We owe them nothing and we should expect nothing other than the blatant thievery of Tully and his ilk and the destruction and abuse of all our services, industries and communities by a class and a system that has always hated and exploited us.

We need a properly funded and supported NHS - with treatment available for everyone, regardless of how much money they have and when they need such treatment... this will only happen when hospitals are run and managed by and for those who work in them at

FIVE businessmen lived like kings by milking nearly £400,000 from the National Health Service, a court heard yesterday.

They used money for vital hospital equipment to take holidays in Turkey, America, Egypt and Holland, trips to rugby internationals and a German beer festival.

He added: "The owner of the company, Arthur Tully, is a charismatic and awesome businessman who had fingers in every pie and was puppet master of the operation."

Millionaire Tully, his employee Richard Haver, 47, Hamer Norman, 55, and James Lewis, 56, both senior officers with the health authority, and William Baillie, 43, a consultant, allegedly hatched the plot.

Tully: Just one more Capitalist Scum Bag growing fat by Robbing the Poor.



a basic hands-on level and also in cooperation with the communities for whose service and care they exist. Like the coal industry, our hospitals are being deliberately mis-managed into oblivion by a boss class whose hatred and bigotry are matched only by their lust for wealth and power. To Hell with the bureaucrats and those they serve and onwards with the fight for a self-managed economy and health service and industry based on need and not profit!

Crisis? What crisis?

Politicians, the Police and the Media are all agreed today that their society is in crisis. They say that it is a crisis of social responsibility, a crisis of law and order, a crisis of morality. In other words it is your crisis!

We say that the name of this crisis is CAPITALISM. Unemployment, lack of decent housing, poor health care and grinding poverty are the facts of life today, as we are asked to pay for the crisis of their economy and of the State which underwrites it. Anarchists have always argued that human beings can never be free with a society founded on authoritarian principles. Today, the need to transform society is glaringly obvious. After the historical failure of Marxism, we suggest that the Libertarian principle is a tool and a weapon for working class people seeking to resist the day to day attacks on our living standards and liberties, and to take up the revolutionary challenge of running society tomorrow.

Direct Action Movement-International Workers Association

STATEMENT OF FINAL MASS MEETING OF HATFIELD MAIN NUM BRANCH 27th NOVEMBER 1993

The members of the NUM at Hatfield Main Colliery have been in continuous struggle against pit closures since 1983. In the year long strike men from this colliery distinguished themselves as among the most valiant fighters in Britain. The period after the strike were years of dedicated commitment to pulling the colliery from the edge and bringing it back into profitability. Our efforts were frequently bedevilled by NCB management pursuing a different agenda, one that included ever greater attacks upon union rights and democratic working practices. In resisting this we fought along side our comrades who had been victimised in the Kent coal field and struck with them, as well as Frickley and Bentley when they had their disputes.

Despite our agreement to new incentive schemes and multi-skilling our co-operation was never enough and management persisted in attempts to break the workforce from the union, resulting in Hatfield leading the South Yorkshire coalfield strike of 1990, in which our officials were prosecuted in the high court, received damage writs for millions of pounds and had wall to wall injunctions.

With a new manager the branch attempted again to find new relations for the sake of our mutual survival, only to be met by a government plan to wipe out 31 of the remaining collieries including ours and the rest of the Doncaster coalfield. It is to their upmost that the members of this branch responded once more to the call for action balloting 75% in favour with an easy majority among British Coal as well as our contract members. The Hatfield banner together with our wives and children have marched the length and breadth of Britain in protest at the massacre of our collieries. Women from Thorne and Moorends in particular have taken initiatives of the most heroic kind; while the chambers of parliament have rang to our voices. Our delegates have lobbied and picketed union branches of all descriptions in an effort to bring around a generalised strike action against job losses; but with the exception of our comrades on the railways and in local government we failed. As miners born and bred of generations of miners we were not surprised at the inaction of the TUC general council or the leadership of the labour party, but our failure to mobilise the rank and file of big and powerful trade unions is what has ultimately damned us.

On the production front, our men have toiled in the most horrendous of conditions to turn coal and make the pit profitable. In this endeavour we have failed entirely due to managements acceptance of a scrap chock line which has crippled 122's face just when we needed it most, producing an £8 million loss. Despite this in the few weeks of operation of 105's and with renewed efforts on 122's the pit was knocking off the debt at a rate of nearly £¼ million per week. To stop the pit at this stage when we could clearly be in a

break even position by May at the latest; when new well equipped faces would be waiting and access to over 200 million tonnes of prime reserves would be in sight, is nothing short of an act of wanton criminal vandalism.

Hatfield had fought hard to get out of the power station market and had been totally successful in establishing new high proceed markets: indeed Hatfields proceeds are already the highest in Britain. To be told by the area director that this collieries markets will be filled by BRITISH COAL importing foreign fuel for our own customers is a national scandal.

The new director says we are closed in part because of our "attitudes", he should know that faced with the murder of our communities and the loss of our livelihoods that attitude is one of deep disgust. His lack of faith in us is mutual given that in 2 months he has wiped out an entire coalfield and one with the cheapest coal and most productive collieries as well as those with the best commercial markets. Far from facing the sack for gross inefficiency he appears to be just the stuff of British Coal senior management in the 1990's.

So we come today to decide on whether to take the colliery through the extended review procedure, knowing that no pit has ever been spared even in the event of winning the appeal, and threatened with the loss of £7000 + more favourable bonus assessments: the imminence of privatisation and even more thorough going attacks upon terms and conditions with the repeal of the 1908 hours of work act, and mines and quarries act: we reluctantly agree to withdraw from the review procedure. Under no circumstance do we agree with the closure of this colliery or the loss of our jobs.

We thank our men and their families for the magnificent support and strength of conviction they have given this branch and the union at large. We know that whatever they do, wherever they go they will keep proud to our heritage, always join the appropriate union, never crossing a picket line of any worker in dispute.

Exhausted and demoralised the present has been taken from us: the past and future however belong to us and we shall guard them jealously. Mr Houghton. John Major, Margaret Thatcher and the rich folk you represent, this moment is yours - you shall never take from us our dignity as workers who have fought for justice and a better world. You may disperse us from this spot, this moment in time, but our conviction shall remain wherever we go and in the generations of post miners children who follow us.

THE FUTURE IS OURS!

This is the unanimous decision of this branch
27th November 1993
Signed for Hatfield Main NUM Branch.

David Nixon	SECRETARY
L Carlin	PRESIDENT
D Douglass	DELEGATE
K Robinson	TREASURER



ANTI-



FASCIST

ACTION

A BRIEF HISTORY

Anti-Fascist Action was founded in 1985 to fight the fascists both physically and ideologically.

In the 1970's the National Front was the biggest fascist organisation, beating the Liberals into third place in many elections. When the Tories won the general election in 1979 they attracted many of the racist votes that had previously gone to the NF, and the NF split into several smaller groups. At this point the Anti-Nazi League, the main anti-fascist organisation at the time, was disbanded, its leadership claiming that the fascists were now a distraction, the real fight was against the Tories.

The reality was different, with a dramatic increase in racist attacks and regular fascist attacks on left-wing activities. Left unchallenged the fascists were able to reorganise unopposed. AFA understood it was not a question of either fighting the Tories or the fascists, you had to fight both.

Early AFA successes included stopping the NF from marching in Stockport and inflicting so much damage on the 'political soldier' wing of the NF (now called the International Third Position) when they tried to march in Bury St Edmunds in 1979, that the leadership of that organisation abandoned the tactic of marches altogether and soon collapsed.

The annual NF Remembrance Day parade to the Cenotaph has been reduced from thousands to a pathetic 150 in 1992 due to a variety of tactics adopted by AFA since 1985.

1991 saw a major national AFA mobilisation, with 3,500 people marching against racist attacks through London's East End. 10,000 people attended the first Unity Carnival that year, and it has now become an annual event, this year having been held in Newcastle in June. Blood and Honour's much publicised return to London, after AFA ruined their last effort in 1989, resulted in the now famous Battle of Waterloo (Sept '92) as an expected 2,000 strong neo-Nazi rally turned into a complete rout.

Alongside these activities AFA works hard to get its ideas across. We produce our own magazine 'Fighting Talk', work with schools, speak at Trade Union and other meetings and made a 1/2 hour film for BBC's Open Space programme.

WHY ANTI-FASCIST ACTION?

AFA stands for militant anti-fascism. We are not a Liberal protest group like the ANL or ARA, we are not fighting the fascists to maintain the 'status quo'. Fascism has nothing to offer working class people, it is an entirely reactionary movement. Our goal is to clear the fascists out of working class areas and create the space for progressive movements to operate. Unlike some groups who pay lip-service to the slogan 'No Platform' our activities are planned to disrupt the fascists as much as possible. Our record speaks for itself.

There is a time and place for peaceful protests, but when the fascists are on the streets they must be stopped. Controlling the streets is an essential

part of fascist ideology - so it must be just as essential for us to prevent it. The fascists only gain influence and support among white working class people when there is no alternative argument being consistently and forcefully projected.

AFA is a democratic, non-sectarian organisation and will work with other anti-fascist groups where possible, but we are not prepared to sacrifice effectiveness for some vague 'unity'. AFA is the organisation with the experience and commitment to unite the militants into a force that can literally "smash the fascists".

THE PRESENT SITUATION

As unemployment rises and more people face financial hardship, the conditions are ripe for a progressive (socialist/anarchist) working class movement to be built. It is the very absence of this movement that allows the fascists to become the radical alternative for some sections of the white working class. The 20% vote for the BNP in the Isle of Dogs local election (Oct '92) shows the weakness of the Left. Because the Left has lost the arguments AFA will have to continue its rear guard action of confronting the fascists in areas where they have nothing positive to offer.

The fascists are often mistaken for just a racist party, but fascism is opposed to all progressive movements. They attack Trade Unions and gay people in Scotland they prioritise support for Ulster Loyalism; in Nottingham they have been trying to attract miners from the breakaway (scab) UDM.

Fascist solutions to economic hardship are gaining some support. Simple, but false, arguments like "if we stopped all overseas aid we could provide decent facilities for 'our' old people can, and must be answered if we are going to stop the spread of their influence in working class areas.

THE FASCISTS

- * The main fascist organisation in Britain is the British National Party (BNP). Developing out of one of the splits in the NF in the early 1980's, it now has about 3,000 members.
- * The NF is a shadow of the organisation that came to prominence in the 1970's, down to about 300 members. Many of its members have left to join the BNP and in some cases the Tories.
- * The connection between the Far Right of the Tory Party and the open fascists is still maintained through Western Goals, who invited Le Pen over in '92, and the newly formed Revolutionary Conservative Group, which includes a number of former BNP and NF members.
- * The Holocaust denial campaign is spearheaded by David Irving, whose meetings are protected by the BNP.
- * Blood and Honour is the neo-Nazi music and fund raising organisation, with extensive international links. They have about 2,000 supporters in this country, mainly boneheads.
- * The KKK now recruit over here, mainly within existing fascist organisations, and the British Movement has been resurrected as the British National Socialist Movement.
- * C18, which stands for Combat Adolf Hitler, are the

new Nazi heavy mob. Made up from members of all different organisations, including the UDA, they are responsible for a number of violent attacks.

NATIONAL AFA

AFA has branches in many parts of the country, and organise the most effective response to the fascists. These branches are co-ordinated at a regional and national level. We have found this works better than having a centralised 'national leadership' and helps keep control of the organisation in the hands of the activists.

For details of AFA membership, publications and stickers etc, write to LEEDS AFA, Box 151, 52 Call Lane, Leeds, LS2 6DT. or National AFA, c/o BM 1734, London WC1N 3XX.

Anti-Militarism

Anti-Militarism and internationalism have always been basic tenets of anarcho-syndicalism and remain so in a world where supposedly inexplicable and intractable wars like those in Bosnia and Northern Ireland rage and new ones seem to break out everyday. Wars will rage as long as the State, imperialism and nationalism exist, and anarcho-syndicalists will always respond with the watchwords "No War But The Class War!"

Below we report an initiative by anti-militarists in Italy in response to the carnival of reaction in ex-Yugoslavia. Meanwhile for British anarcho-syndicalists there remains the matter of the most highly militarised part of Western Europe (alongside the Basque country and Sicily) here on our doorstep, Northern Ireland.

In the light of the blatant hypocrisy of the British government as revealed in the recent furore over discussions with the IRA, and of the fact that the IRA is incapable of forcing a British troop withdrawal, it is more than ever obvious that a real and just resolution of "the troubles" depends upon the Irish and British working classes having something to say on the matter. The alternative is to leave it in the hands of Mayhew and his class, ie, the very people who created the mess in the first place. Troops out of Ireland Now! Desert the State!

LIBERTARIAN ANTI-MILITARIST SOLIDARITY CO-ORDINATION NETWORK.

Various groups and individuals (from Fano, Rimini, Padova, Pordenone, Jesi, Querceta, Verona, Recale, Torino, Mestre, Bitonto, Trieste, Bologna etc) meeting informally at the 10th Anti-Clerical Meeting in Fano on 27th/8/93 launched an anti-militarist solidarity network with the aim of helping refugees from ex Yugoslavia, in particular deserters and anti-militarist comrades, and to try to actively support the groups and individuals in ex Yugoslavia who oppose the war.

The need for this network arose in light of the fact that individual comrades and even groups who have worked in this field have often had to rely on religious or lay associations and institutions which can indirectly legitimise, through their conception of aid, the State, economic and military structures which are behind this war, as they are behind all wars.

We require therefore the co-operation of all in agreement to:

- Widen and strengthen contacts with all the social and political forces (groups and individuals) in ex Yugoslavia which are opposing the present war.

- Build a libertarian reception network. For this we ask all comrades who can guarantee the permanence in Italy or abroad of those who escape, with the offer of accommodation and/or work, to inform us of their willingness. We therefore ask for the collaboration of social centres, communities, co-operatives and other bodies (not excluding individuals), and of all those who in one way or another with their political and economic support, or even "merely" with counter-information, want to contribute to the realisation of this project.

For us it seems unnecessary to underline the political importance of all this should it take off.

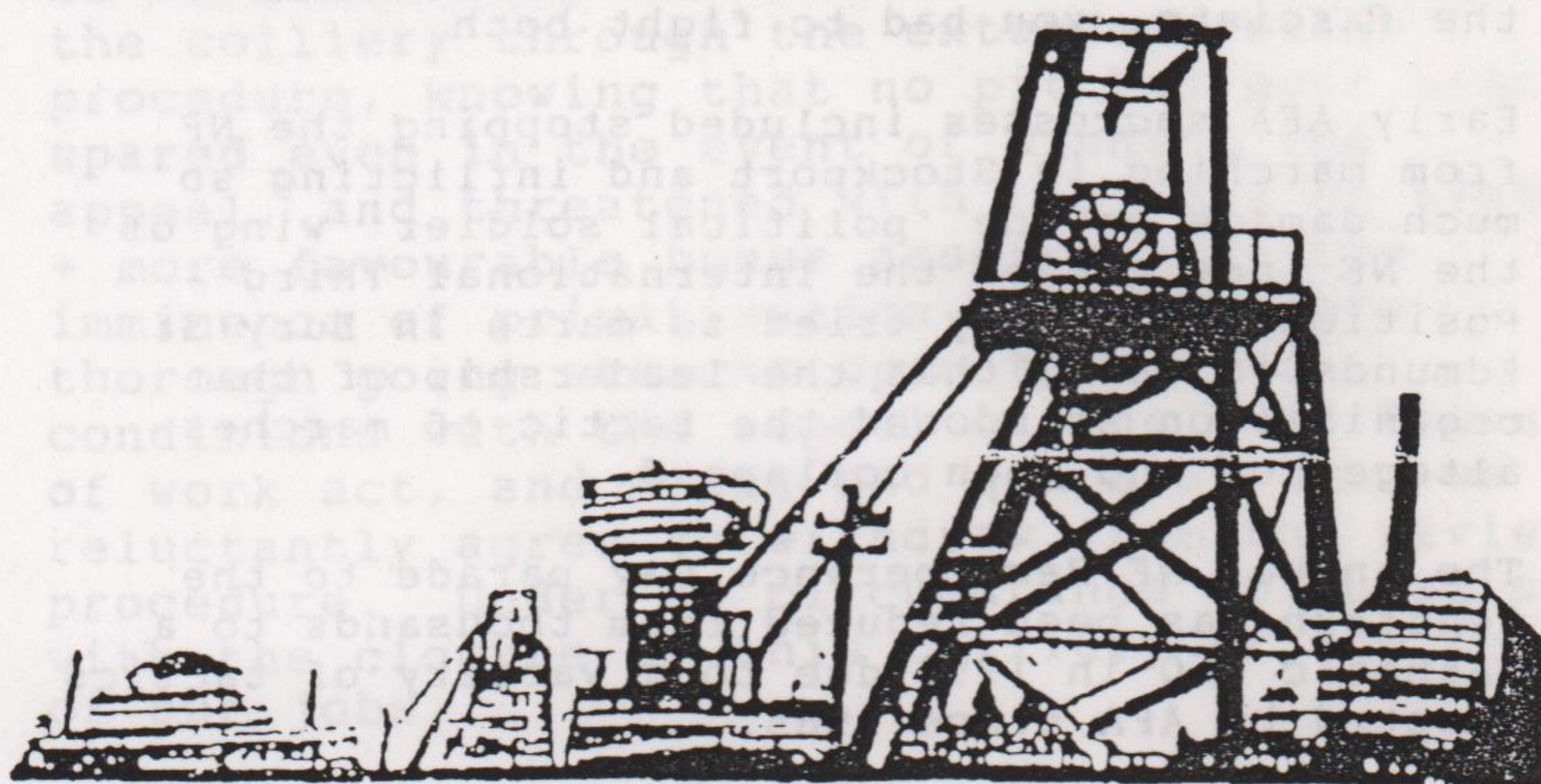
For affiliations, advice, offers of help, clarifications etc. contact:

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WORKERS CONTROL!



In the light of recent events it's become obvious that British Coal has decided it no longer needs miners or mines and has destroyed the UK coal industry leaving huge reserves to rot in waterlogged pits while filling its orders (and lining their pockets) by buying coal from abroad mined in subsidised pits or by child labour in South America- but then that's Tory ethics for you. What is REALLY obvious to me is that it's the management of British Coal who are surplus to requirements, what we need is what we've needed all along; Takeover the pits and run them ourselves and kick the managers out on their overstuffed arses! (and i'm being restrained now- i'd much rather string them up- which is what they deserve!) If they think that they don't need us, we certainly don't need them, and that goes for all industries! How about it?!

GET IN TOUCH

- D.A.M. Regional Secretary, PO Box 122, Doncaster.
- Scunthorpe, c/o Regional Secretary.
- Leeds DAM, Box DAM, 52 Call Lane, Leeds.
- Middlesbrough DAM, PO Box 23, Middlesbrough, TS1 4YZ.
- For contacts in Newcastle and County Durham please contact Regional Secretary.

DAM supporters in the Doncaster area take part in the activities of the local SOLIDARITY GROUP with other anarchists, socialists and libertarian Marxists, and hold meetings every month - for details write to the Regional Secretary.

