

membership form

I'm already a supporter... and quite honestly CLASS WAR could do with me as a member

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

Fill out and return this form and your local organiser will contact you about becoming a member.
Send to: The Secretary, Class War, P.O. Box 467, London, E8 3QX.

Paper subscription

Fill in the relevant details.

10 issues - £10 Starting from issue

5 issues - £5 Starting from issue

A new paper and 2 back issues for a friend - £2

This is an **introduction pack** to Class War, including some of our leaflets and stickers.
So please add their address in your letter.

Mega Sub - £20 Mega sub includes: A copy of "Unfinished Business",
"21st Century Class War", stickers, 3 back issues, a 6 issue subscription and a badge.

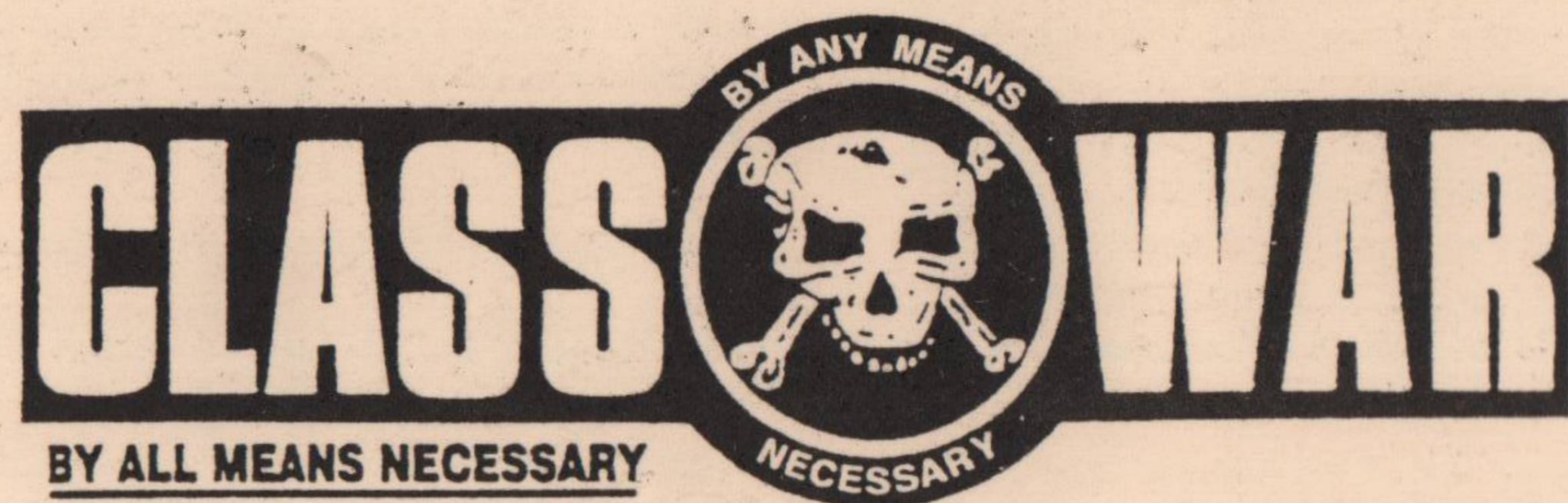
Total £..... Enclose well wrapped up cash, or Cheque/postal order
made payable to "London Class War"

To NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

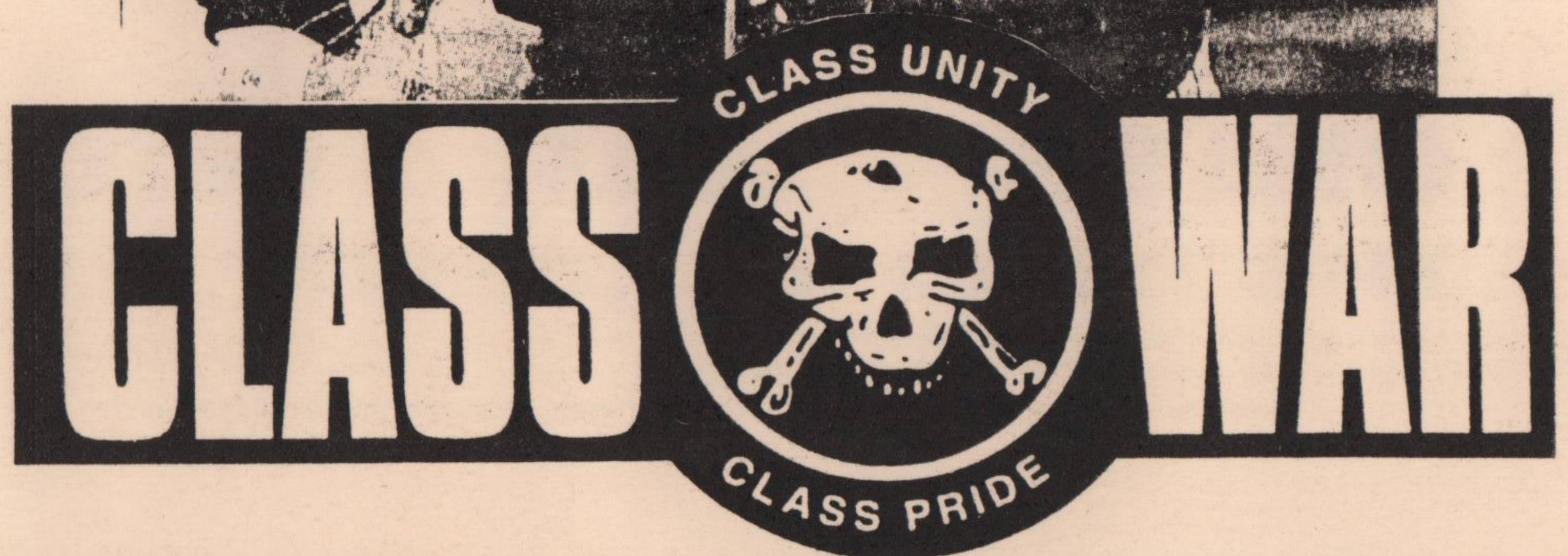
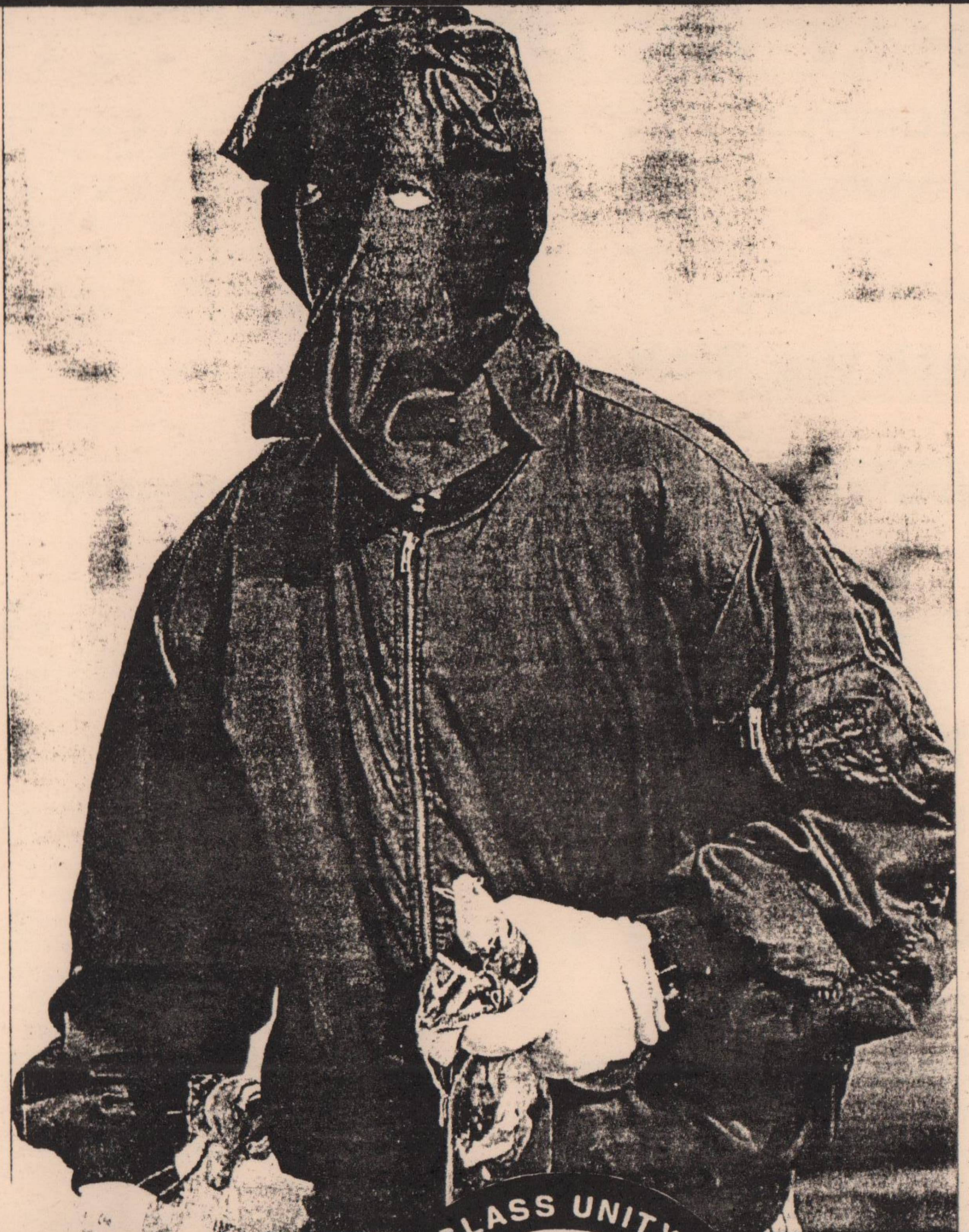
Free badge and back issue with every new sub!

From issue no..... With my first issue please send me 1 back issue, no..... Mega sub choose three.



21st CENTURY CLASS WAR

£1



210
51

WHAT WE DO 1

Humour 2

Populism 2

Violence **3**

Action History 4

Bash the Rich 4

There's Trouble and Class Struggle ... 8

We are Class War 10

How the Federation Acts 11

Then and Now 12

Capitalism 12

 The State 12

Class 14

 Now and then 14

What we mean by *class* . . . 14

 THE RULING CLASS 14

 THE MIDDLE CLASS 15

 THE WORKING CLASS 16

CLASS WAR INTO THE THIRD MILLENIUM 19

Prepared for those interested in the good of the people and planet.

Published by the Class War Federation. P.O. Box 467, London, E8 3QX.

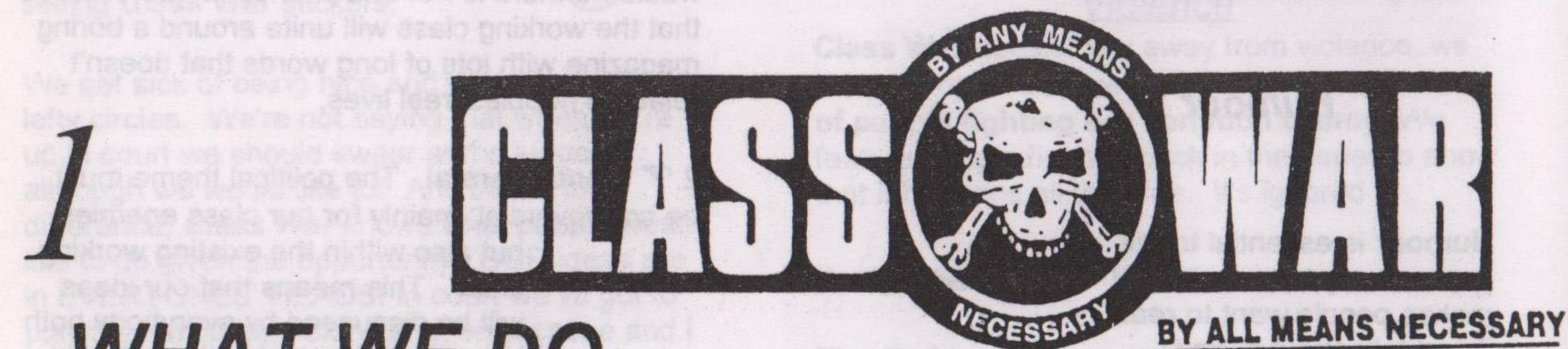
Autumn 1999

Thanks to M.R. & T.G. & J.L.

Ipswich, Preston, Portsmouth, London and Yorkshire Class War

JUST DO IT!

21st Century Class War aims to explain the basic background and politics of the Class War Federation, and is meant as an introduction to Class War. It is also a guide to our ideas as we enter the third Millenium as there are a lot of people who want to know what this millenium will bring. This is our input to the debate about capitalism and opposition to it in the years ahead. Obviously a booklet this short can't say everything we would like, but we hope it gives some idea of who we are and what we do. We hope you are involved in the class war wherever you live, and you can always become a part of our network.



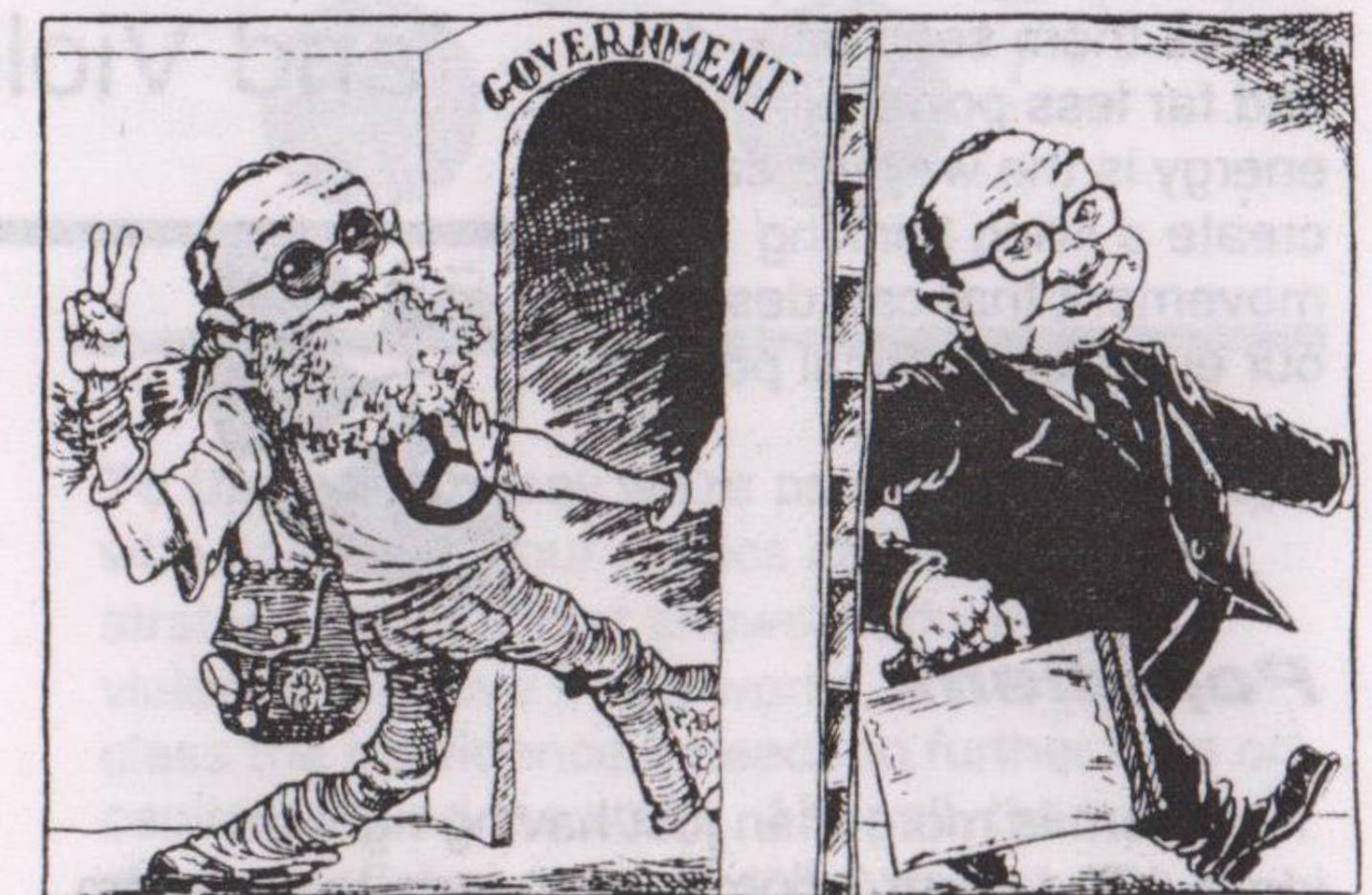
1 WHAT WE DO

The **Class War Federation** doesn't pretend to have all the answers. We are not in it for the money (there is none) and we don't get a career out of it. Unlike the rest of the left and some anarchists we don't see ordinary people as mindless with no political brain of their own who we must seek out and educate with our 'superior' political beliefs. We believe that **ordinary people have our basic politics already** - that of suspicion of authority and political leaders, and a hatred of the privileged elite and the rich. The role of our activity is to champion and develop working class ideas as we encourage class struggle.

Our propaganda is fundamentally different from all other political groups. While the left and the anarchists whinge and moan about the power of the state, injustice, write garbled theory or copy the dated writings of intellectuals or concentrate on building the party. **Class War tries to increase the confidence, autonomy, initiative and solidarity of working class people.** This is

done in everyday life and in the context of struggle.

Moaning on and on about how terrible things are



is depressing, boring, and it encourages division and feelings of defeat - 'How can we ever win'. That the working class is on the losing side is **NOTHING** new - **we always have been** otherwise there would have been a succesful

revolution. It also encourages **reformism** - Green politics for example. In Germany [March 1998] 8,000 people blockaded a nuclear storage site near Ahaus to stop a train carrying radioactive waste. 18,000 police attacked protesters using anti-terrorist units, CS gas, batons, water cannons, and 16 helicopters. The man who ordered the attack is a Green Party councillor and Chief of Berlin police!!

We know that however many reforms are made, the ruling class will be in direct or indirect control of our lives. They will still control where and how we live and work, and to a large extent what we think. Apart from sheer physical force, the ruling class controls us by demoralisation, pacification, apathy, and dividing us at every opportunity from working class unity. Through our activity we try to combat this.

Humour

Humour is essential to the paper, firstly because it makes people want to read it and talk about it, and secondly it is a very good way of making our point. People remember witty one liners and repeat them to their friends taking with it the political content. They want to show **Class War** to their friends and relatives. It also shows our enemies up, makes them seem stupid and far less powerful. This energy is the way we can create a living thinking movement that can destroy our enemies political power.

Populism

Populism is more than just having right on ideas. There are 3 component parts to populism as a political approach.

1. **Easy to understand.** Class War goes straight to the point, we don't use big words or

theory which only some people understand. A basic approach is essential as most working class people have little or no **formal** education. They have a **working class education** which shows no mercy towards time wasters or would be intellectuals. What's more, a basic approach stands the best chance of uniting people around a common cause. Of course **many working class people** are capable of reading intellectual material - and Class War is aimed at them as much as those who aren't. Class War appear to be unique on the left as we seem to have been the only ones who've realised that the majority of the working class leave school with little or no education. **As recent as the late 1980s half of the children leaving school had no**

qualifications. ☹️ Also, however ideal it would be there is not one chance in 100,000,000 that the working class will unite around a boring magazine with lots of long words that doesn't relate to peoples' real lives.

2. ☞ **Controversial.** The political theme must be controversial, mainly for our class enemies but also within the existing working class. This means that our ideas will be discussed by everybody both in newspapers and in the pub and other **centres of working class life.** Therefore it stands the most chance of being understood and of uniting the working class as a revolutionary force. No one will want to be like you unless you are talked about.

Working class people swear a lot in our everyday lives, and so swearing is part of our newspaper and leaflets. **Class War** talks to people in a language they both use and understand, as if we were down the pub. This is not to 'annoy our parents' as some patronising lefties say, but to talk in a confident manner to people as we would on the streets of Newcastle or Plymouth and so on. Swearing often separates the middle class goody goody from working class people. Other lefties say we are "not responsible by swearing, therefore we are not serious". Our reply to them is that they are responsible for not having their politics taken seriously in working class culture. In actual fact we are very serious about having working class credibility, and this is the crucial difference.

There are three ideas central to **Class War.**
Humour,
Populism,
and Violence.



Lefties often mould their politics separate from everyday mass working class life. This means that although it appears to lefties that they have working class politics, in effect they have produced their middle class values as they appear to working class people.

Sometimes "FUCK OFF" can be more direct, more meaningful and more sophisticated (!! than skirting around the subject trying not to offend people. We have no time for middle class moralism. Language is only valid and useful if it is used by people, so we are. reclaiming OUR language by saying "Fuck off" and not having our language dictated to us by politically correct middle class arseholes. "Fuck the Police" has been one of the all time best

selling **Class War** stickers. 😊

We get sick of being nice and polite in boring lefty circles. We're not saying that when we're up in court we should swear at the judge - although we would like to! And this is the difference; **Class War** knows what people would like to do given the opportunity. OUR ideas are in EVERYONES' HEADS! In court we've got to play the 'I'm sorry' I didn't do it on purpose and I won't do it again' line, or the true classic "Not guilty", but really we're wanting to kill the rich judge. So we vocalise the inner thoughts of the working class in a revolutionary direction.

Populism is essential as well because if you're not popular you're nothing. It is a waste of time, money and effort to produce politics that nobody in the general public can come into contact with, or if they come into contact with it, understand. Those earnest people out there with a grasp of working class politics should not be wasting their time with obscure causes presented in a dull manner.

3. **Feel and spirit.** It's important that every part of any campaign takes with it something that any working class person can turn onto as if it was the first thing political they'd ever done. Or as if they had just realised that they were working class and who their class enemies were. This means that we are always undefeated, always wanting to change things for the better, and always with confidence as a motivating factor.

Any revolutionary situation always has thousands of active working class people doing good things. For example in Portugal in 1974 the streets were covered with home made

propaganda, and this surge in enthusiasm is what we want to achieve. Anything which dents the combative confidence of the working class is a reactionary and bourgeois idea. It is confidence which is the key to the working classes revolutionary potential.

Generally left wing publications seem one or a combination of the following to ordinary working class people:

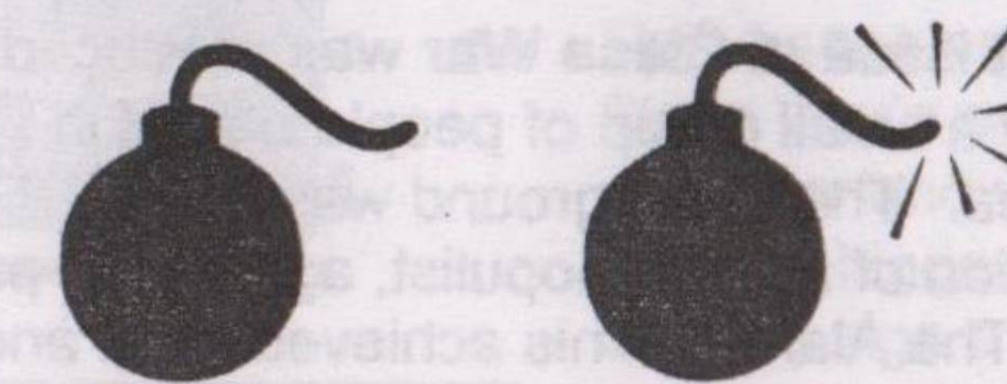
- A. Obscure.
 - B. Irrelevant.
 - C. Difficult to understand.
 - D. Boring.
- So these are the things to avoid.

Violence

Class War doesn't shy away from violence, we promote open class violence - the idea of a **lot of people fighting our common enemy.** We feature people fighting back in the paper to show that it happens all the time. It's ignored or

trivialised by everyone else.

The Right say we're all criminals and that there can be no political justification for violence. These are the same two faced gits who are the ones who have dropped a million more bombs than we ever have when they've been in government.



To the left who say we're psychotic thick thugs who don't know our politics and who have no strategy. **Class War** shows working class violence to prove that it works, and it gives our class the confidence it needs to further take on capitalism and the state. After all, the ruling class aren't just going to roll over and give up their power like some oddballs say. The ruling class have never given up their power or money without a hard fight. Without class violence the working class degenerates, and becomes decadent and corrupt. Violence is the key to

working class confidence. Where the class is confident it fights back and becomes a **class for itself** which means it asserts its power against its enemies, for example in the miners strike or the Poll Tax.

Revolutionary strategy is one that talks about practically putting the working class as a whole into a better political position. Reactionary ideas are those which seek to divide the class within itself. Whether it's racist ones or those theories of defeat from within the left and anarchists when they try to slag off our and other peoples activities. Examples of attempts to divide the active parts of the class are the SWP's stupid comments after the June 18th Carnival Against Capitalism/ Smash the City, or Red Actions' constant slag off of class war anarchism. Hippy/green talk of non-violence and the 'moral high ground' deflects attention from the real issue. When it comes to violence remember - THEY STARTED IT!

Class War uses the moral high ground to throw bricks down on coppers!! Remember - the police have murdered loads of black and white people over the years. We have killed no-one, yet it is us who are labelled 'violent yobs'!! This is real capitalist/media **double speak** George Orwell would have been aware of.

Action History

The first issue of **Class War** was produced in 1983 by a small group of people based in Swansea. Their background was in the production of a local, populist, agitational paper called "The Alarm". This achieved local and national notoriety by exposing the corruption of local council leaders (this is also something we all could be doing today).

The first issues of **Class War** were aimed at the large punk, anarchist and pacifist movement of the time, for instance followers of bands like Crass. The articles in **Class War** slagged off pacifism and the peace movement and encouraged the idea that violence is necessary. They put forward a straight-forward analysis, identifying the enemy not only as 'the system' or 'the state', but as the ruling class (not only as a class, but also as individuals within that class).

The **Miner's strike** started in 1984 and the paper and its followers reacted swiftly. The

We have a chance of winning against the capitalists when our struggles unite and show solidarity to one another. As long as we are divided we are defeated. So our task is to fight the divisive prejudices [racism, sexism and so on] which breed selfish behaviour, and encourage unity based upon our needs and backgrounds as working class people.

Politics is not separate from everyday life, it is life. The idea that politics is just the preserve of the corrupt existing political parties is an idea they want you to hold because it encourages despair. The idea that politics must be boring and serious encourages despair as well. **Class War** tries to have fun and a laugh with what we do. We are the only ones who regularly enjoy a good drink with our activities on the streets.

There are reasons why people like to read the Sun. It's not because they're stupid and ignorant, it's because a lot of the time all you want is a light entertaining read. This isn't saying that The Sun doesn't talk crap. It just means that there is a lot to be said for a paper that is simple, entertaining and easy to read, and that's what **Class War** should be like if we want people to read it. The idea that if you enjoy reading a paper like that, or watching soaps or sitcoms on the telly, means you're thick, is just Bullshit.



writers of **Class War** had wanted to see the anarchist/punks take up the rebellion unleashed by the inner city riots of 1981. Now that anger was taken up by thousands of miners throughout the country. To a large extent the paper dropped its articles about 'How useless CND was' and called for direct physical support for the miners. **Class War** alone supported the direct action of the strikers. Readership soared, especially in mining areas where miners queued 20 plus deep for the paper at the big Mansfield demonstration in 1984. **Class War** was now a paper with readers and supporters well beyond the wildest expectations of its first producers.

Bash the Rich

The **Class War** collective decided that the time was ripe to go beyond the paper and called a "**Bash the Rich**" march in 1985, from Notting Hill

to Kensington. The "**Stop the City**" demonstrations of the early 1980's had reflected the new mood in the anarchist scene, and around 500 people took part in this first incursion of a hostile working class mob into a rich area since the 19th century.

Another "**Bash the Rich**" march took place from Camden to Hampstead (but the police stopped

us halfway) and a very enjoyable day out to Henley Regatta took place in 1986. This year the media are talking about it again, and a TV programme has had one of our people on it. What was significant though, was that WE went to them, to the areas where they lived to make them uncomfortable - if only for a short time.

The first **Class War** conference of around 50 people took place in 1985, and a rally of over 200 people was held in Holloway. The inner city riots of late 1985 proved to be another boost for **Class War**, with appearances on "News at Ten" and 12,000 papers being sold each issue that autumn. Some people felt that after the Bash the Rich marches and an increasing number of people interested around the country that we should try to consolidate the gains of the last three years.

A national conference in Manchester supported their proposal that the groups and individuals who wrote and sold the paper should form "**Class War**" groups as part of a national federation with common aims, principles and activities. The reason we chose to federate was that it is the most democratic form of organisation, whereby groups within the federation have a large degree of freedom within an agreed set of politics and strategy. Some people could not accept some details of this type of organisation and left.

The end of the Miner's strike saw the British left in disarray. They had failed to come to terms with the changing political climate and the

strongest Tory government since before the first world war. The Labour party went to the right, and groups like the Communist party and the Workers Revolutionary party faded due to petty personality politics.

The traditional **workplace** areas of class conflict had all but disappeared. Instead of full employment generating large workplaces and a convenient place for working class people to organise against their enemies, we saw the dismantling of much manufacturing industry, shipbuilding, steel, printing, coal and others by a right wing libertarian politician called Margaret Thatcher. With the emergence of mass unemployment, and 'inner city regeneration' (by the forces which destroyed it) we saw new battles taking place in the streets and

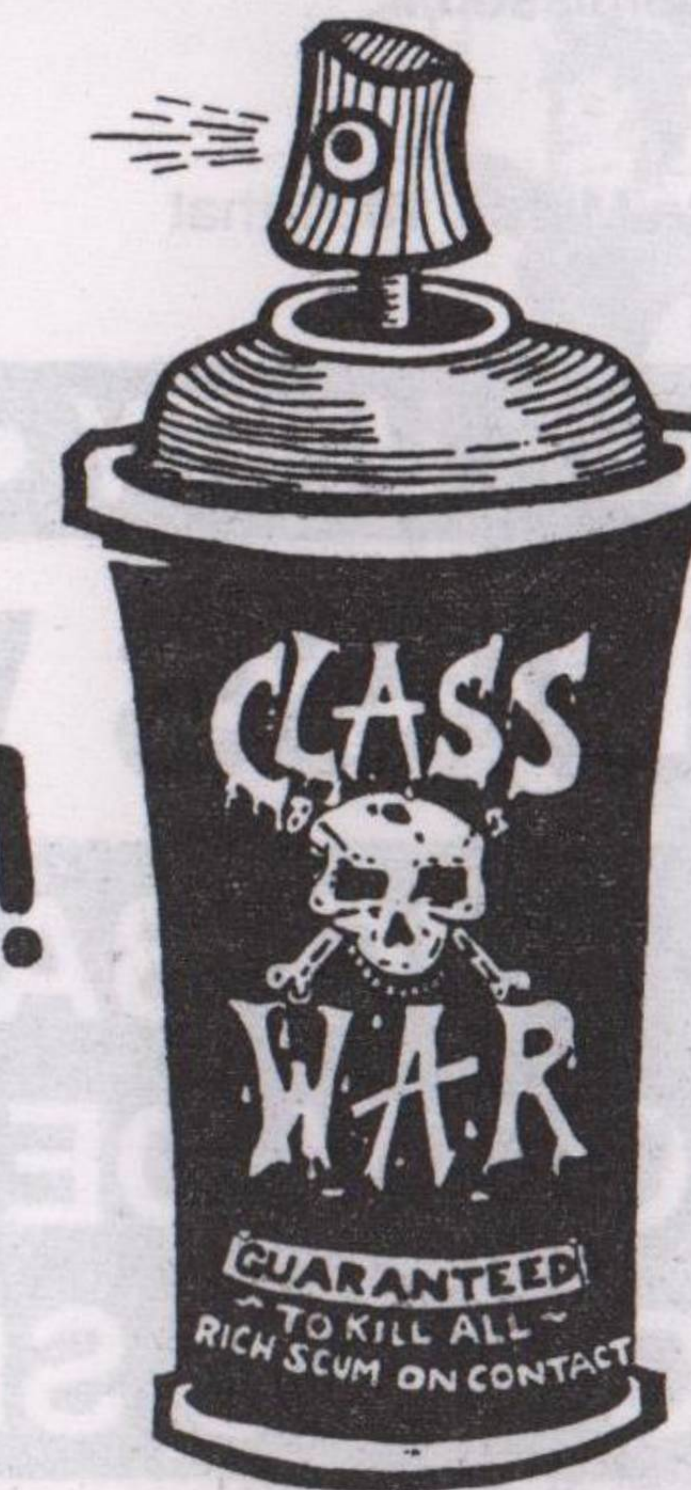
communities of our towns and cities, like the yuppification of traditional working class areas (also going on today, for example in Salford Quays, Brixton and Ladbroke Grove) This is where **CLASS WAR** politics came into the forefront. We thrived!!

In 1988 we launched an ambitious national tour called "**Rock Against the Rich**" with ex-Clash singer **Joe Strummer**. This was to promote **Class War's** politics and name far and wide. It was the biggest event or campaign ever put on by an organisation like ours in this country.

Spring 1989 saw the production and distribution of **Class War** start to change. From being an eight page, bi-monthly we went to being a six-weekly, sixteen page, full colour tabloid.

After a lot of local work around the country in the anti Poll Tax unions, and the fierce battles outside the Town Halls around the country as local councils set the Poll Tax levels. The Federation shot to prominence after the 1990 Poll Tax riot in Trafalgar Square where the **Metropolitan Police got a well deserved beating** at the hands of tens of thousands of people from all over the country. In stark

ROB
THE
RICH!



contrast to the left, particularly Militant and Tommy Sheridan, who all rushed to condemn the rioters, a **Class War** spokesman said they were "working class heroes" on national TV and radio. The media was gobsmacked, questions were asked in Parliament and **Class War** was read out in the House of Commons and the Lords.

At the Autumn 1990 national conference in Manchester the Federation voted to become a membership organisation, with membership fees, and straightforward constitution. We decided to do this to pull together the Federation's resources more efficiently to make us a more effective national organisation, and to bring in increased democracy with the proper election of officials and delegates. Anybody elected to do a job can be instantly called to account for their actions and dismissed if necessary.

At the Victory celebration in late March 1991 that saw the back of the **Poll Tax**, the **Class War** Federation contingent was by far the biggest. With thousands of people marching with us, much to the annoyance of Militant and the police, who thought they were going to have it all their own way. In association with grass roots anti-Poll Tax groups and prisoner

support organisations the Federation organised a successful **anti - Bailiff Day of Action**, in July 1991, which saw Poll Tax bailiffs intimidated and harassed all over the country, turning the tables on those scum who profit out of misery and poverty.

Class War has also taken off internationally in our time, with a large week long international conference in 1991 at Hackney Town Hall, and continued interest from all around the world.

Class War then published a book about our political ideas and family tree in 1992, and a major book company then published a large

book containing the best articles from the first 50 copies of the **Class War** newspaper - "Class War - A Decade of Disorder". You can still get the first one from us, but the second is increasingly hard to get your hands on.

The autumn of 1992 also saw the end of mining as a mass activity in this country with the announcement by Michael Heseltine that they were going to close 50 pits.

Class War took part in the Wednesday demonstration where a number of activists and a large **Class War** banner went running around the heart of London, and also at the largest demonstration of working class people in this country ever. Around 500,000 people went from the Embankment to Hyde Park, and the **Class War** contingent was surrounded by riot police 4 or 5 deep. **Class War** alone was applauded into Hyde Park by the mining communities while the left looked on jealously.

Class War produced a newspaper for this demonstration which ultimately led to the organisation dividing in two. Instead of a popular front page like "Michael Heseltine - Wanker", the faction in control at this time put "Bring Back the Hit Squads" on the cover.

The problem was, however politically correct and apt for the mining communities themselves it was, it wasn't as **popular to the masses** as it could have been.

In 1992/3 there was a brief split from the **Class War** Federation to form the **Class War Organisation**. They were becoming increasingly frustrated by the bureaucracy created by a few gobshites in the **Class War** Federation who wanted everything to be politically correct. However they soon ran out of steam due to personality squabbles. The class war continued though.

The **Class War Federation** with others it had influenced took part in the anti fascist activities at Welling in 1993, against the British National Party where thanks to the police we spent most of our time fighting them [as they were protecting the fascist headquarters]. **Class War** had a new lease of life during the campaign against the Criminal Justice Act 1994, where many of our comrades were fighting the police yet again in Hyde Park and rioting and looting down Oxford Street.

By 1996 a review process was set up to try and examine what was going on and how we could do things better. Two years before Tony Blair announced to the Labour conference that "Class war is dead" some people in **Class War** tried to argue 'Class War is dead - long live the class war'. However, the people who had the brainchild that 'Class War is Dead' then proceeded to let their imaginations run wild, and organise secret meetings which the majority of members of **Class War** were not invited to. A meeting on "women and **Class War**" was held in London, the discussion document was written by a man(!) and **some women in London Class War** were not invited to it!! Things couldn't go on.

In March 1997 at a Nottingham conference a significant number of **Class War** members and others walked out in protest at the shameful proceedings. It had become clear that the original aims and principles of **Class War** were not being followed. Far from everybody having an equal say, certain elitist tendencies were prioritising their own ideas above everybody else's, and the rest of the working class. The group which wanted to close down **Class War** now are in disarray, not working together, and a couple of them are doing things for Reclaim the Streets.

What is left of the **Class War Federation** have now produced several editions of "**Class War**" the newspaper, and this pamphlet.

Some independent activists, old members of **Class War** and current members of **Class War** have also helped to set up the **Movement Against the Monarchy**. We helped to write a BBC TV programme broadcast in April 1999, called "**Death to the Monarchy**" (the video is available from us for £8). We also helped to organise the **largest march against the Royals this century** on the 31st October 1998. We also

took part in the June 18th 1999 Global Day of Action against Capitalism, and helped to make Trafalgar Square a **Royal Free Zone with three thousand people in attendance on the eve of the Royal wedding**. The **Daily Mirror** had a screaming front page to greet 'Sloane ranger' Sophie and Prince Edward on the day of their wedding - "**RIOT THREAT TO WEDDING**", which we are very proud of. They closed the massive gates of Admiralty Arch to stop rioting spreading up the Mall towards Buckingham Palace.



This history is missing out thousands of relevant and useful activities people have got up to, both those within and outside of **Class War**. Respect due to all, but we couldn't mention everything. Unlike others who showed no respect towards those who put their liberty and life on the line fighting for **Class War** we know that one part of working class politics is No Apologies and No Surrender - EVER. Those of us who regularly put our neck on the line have no time for the armchair theorists who preach from the rear.

The day will come when the rulers and the rich will tremble on their knees and beg for mercy.

2



There's Trouble and Class Struggle

As we said earlier, once you are aware of 'how crap society is' you either:

1. Do nothing about it cos it goes in your favour - you rich bastard.
2. Take a cynical 'why bother' attitude, only try to improve your lot and believe that this is the way it will always be and go and stick your head in the sand.
3. Or you believe things should change and that we must do something about it together.

How you go about doing number three depends on how much 'change' you actually want, and what exactly you are prepared to do. Some people feel they are changing society by voting Green, joining CND, becoming vegetarian or voting Labour. There is nothing wrong with any of these things but it is stupid to think that it will actually change the structure of society. The same goes for those living some sort of alternative lifestyle or dropping out. If listening to music and taking drugs changed society we would have had a revolution in the late 1960s. It's a threat to no one, although its a good laugh at times.

The state can tolerate millions of it's citizens wandering off and living in teepee's on their fathers land or at Glastonbury, and would probably prefer them to do so since they would then be harmless, and no threat to the status quo.

But the best times of most of our lives are when we've been fighting with friends, comrades and lovers during the Poll Tax, against the Criminal Justice Act, the June 18th Carnival Against

Capitalism and so on at loads of other events.

Others think that by voting Labour they'll achieve change -ha ha ha. **Class War** didn't whinge on when the Tories were in power about how we should vote Labour or wait for a socialist government, because the Labour party is not an alternative. It's political aims and ideas are just a 'soft' version of capitalism. Now, we like a welfare state and a good National Health Service. The point is, as it's always been, that their politics means we are fighting over the scraps off the table, about how much resources we can afford to fund the NHS and so on.. There is never a vote on how it should be equally distributed is there? Our politics means so much more.



More to the point some people actually believe we live in a democracy. Democracy idealised as government by the people through parliament. BUT, many of us can't see the point in voting because the politicians are all the same, corrupt and divorced from our lives. Also millions of us

disappeared from the electoral roll because of the Poll Tax, and are afraid of being tracked by the state. So we have a situation where once every 5 years we can vote and we might affect things slightly in Britain. 150 years ago the **Chartists** in this country had a better idea, they demanded annual votes and this is the only Chartist demand today that remains unfulfilled. Politicians though are corrupted by power, once they've **tasted power** they want theirs to continue so we can't expect this to happen. Don't get us wrong, a vote is worth having but you're deluding yourself and everybody else too if you think it could change

anything.

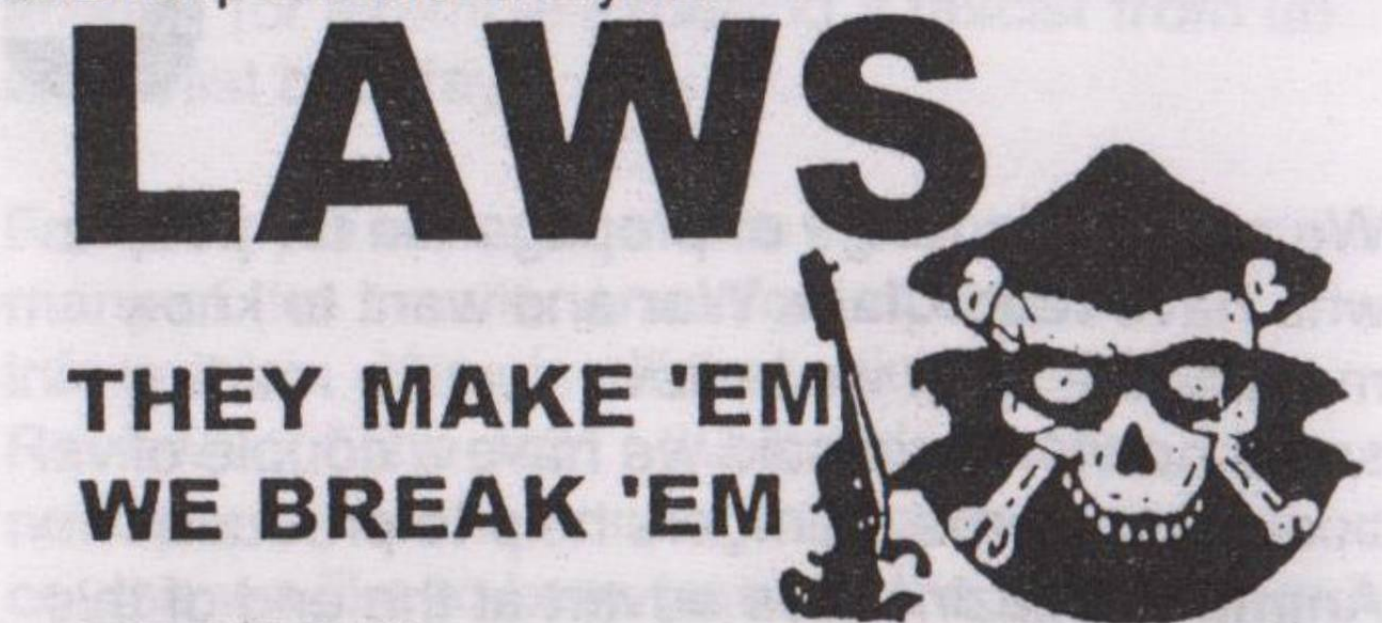
Class War wants to improve society and we're best doing that by getting rid of the parasitical idle rich, politicians and bureaucrats who take a living at our expense. Unfortunately, because if they were any use it would save us a job, the reality is the Labour party is run by a motley collection of bloated, corrupt councillors and union officials. Trendy lefty social worker types who are nothing more than a load of careerist bureaucrats, easing their 'radical consciousness' by naming tower blocks and roads after obscure Latin American Freedom fighters and drinking Nicaraguan coffee at their smart dinner parties in their posh houses in Highgate and Holland Park.

Just like the next lot of 'not so radicals', the Socialist Workers Party or the Socialist Party. They do want to change society and realise (well some do!) that it will only change through a revolution. **Class War** believes this too, but how these groups see the coming about of a revolution and what type of society will be formed, and by who, is fundamentally different to what we think and want.

Firstly **Class War** is not another corrupt party, trying to gain power. We don't want to swap one set of bosses for another, no matter how "radical and progressive" they pretend to be. They talk about 'democratic centralism' and about how the working class needs 'their leadership' because we are too stupid to fight for our own interests. What a joke! We don't need them anymore than we need the Tories or Labour - THEY NEED US! We have no intention of destroying capitalism just so that it can be replaced by a NEW state, and new laws. Quite apart from anything else, the very nature of these tiny bands of 'revolutionaries' who seem to form new groups, and splinter groups, at the drop of a hat means they usually have an exclusively middle class membership. The working class members soon leave.

As a result they launch endless new 'front organisations' such as the Anti-Nazi League to normally recruit student members. Based around issues such as the events in Ireland, gay rights, sexism etc. The damage being done by their guilt ridden attempts at anti-racism and anti-sexism, in particular, is a disgrace to see. In reality, these obscure left wing and green groups are little more than a talking shop where their members prattle away to their hearts content about 'the political relevance of one legged tea-pickers in Tibet' while the real world passes them by....

Unlike the left, **Class War** see the community as of crucial importance to our class. It is obvious now that any major workplace battles will not succeed without massive community support, such as the miners strike. Crime and other anti-social behaviour, racism and sexism must be fought from within our communities, we can't sit back and wait for someone to do it for us. And neither should we. This is what the left want us to do, leave everything to them and they will sort it out for us. But what usually happens is that as soon as something else appears on the horizon, a better recruiting opportunity - they're off like a shot! A good example of this was the Poll tax - as soon as it was scrapped they dropped it like a hot potato, probably relieved that there would be no more riots in Trafalgar Square that would threaten their safe and respectable analysis.



CLASS WAR PRISONERS

To the left the working class are seen as dumb potential recruits, rather than as people who are capable of articulating and achieving their own objectives, their own revolutionary aims and possibilities. Seeing people just as unintelligent beings, rather than as capable activists in their own right. The new concerns of the left in this country reflect the political, economic and cultural hopes of the middle class more than ever before. Tragically any decent revolutionaries within these groups usually become burnt out, disillusioned and are wasted.

Class War makes no 'revolutionary demands' on behalf of the working class. But we do see the need to play up the revolutionary elements within our struggles, towards an objective of creating a popular 'culture of resistance'. This is the popularisation of working class ideas, struggle, pride and identity, and the values of solidarity and self management. Fundamentally this is about bringing conscious working class politics into all areas of peoples lives.

This development will become the foundation and energy behind any possible revolutionary movement. In areas of the world where this has happened, like Spain, Italy and Russia, the traditions have lingered on generations after the

original movements were crushed - it's powerful stuff!!

3

CLASS WAR

We are

CLASS WAR

We produce a range of propaganda for people who have read **Class War** and want to know more about what we believe - you're reading some now! As we said we have a couple of books and some members help to produce **Animal** magazine [see advert at the end of this booklet], and get other articles printed elsewhere - from football fanzines or music fanzines to theoretical journals. We do active research on our classes enemies, for example fascists, racists, capitalists, Special branch, the police, and some journalists. Some of our members go shoplifting for the cause, but we'd better not say any more about that!! Others enjoy football, Karate, raves, pubs, lager and real ale, swimming, Kung Fu, boxing, music, travel, booze and tobacco cruises to Calais and visiting stately homes to see where our class enemies live or used to live.

☛ **In short we are well aware of how our class lives, works and enjoys itself.** 😊

We are not weirdos or loony lefties. Our politics are common sense and straightforward not the intellectual ranting of university professors, (although we can justify everything in detail if we have to) We strongly believe that everyday life and politics are the same thing. Many of our members and supporters take stationary from work and use the photocopier - **taking back time from the bosses and making it our time.** ☛ If your politics aren't part of everyday life than they are worthless. This is not to say we always attack a passing boss or copper; that

would be individualised - but we won't condemn it. If people are desperate enough to take on our enemies on their own then fair play to them.

We do believe in mass working class activity as a way to create change and a better world.

☛ Our political activity must be as open to a 30 year old housewife, as to a 40 year old miner as to an OAP. We are not idealistic enough to demand that everybody fights on the front line, though you can if you want!! Everybody has a role to play. We need all sorts of people, from chemists, doctors and nurses - to dustmen and electricians, and everything in between.

Class War is not arrogant like the left or your everyday politician. Yes we do have ideas and we do stand firm behind our views, but we don't think we are perfect, we don't put forward a theory and say that if everyone followed it to the letter than everything would be fine and the sun would always shine! Our politics come from our lives and the real world; they are a necessity NOT a 'pie in the sky' theory. We don't believe we can turn the other cheek so we can find salvation in the heavenly afterlife - we want to create a life as good as we can get it now and today because its the only one we will have. 😊

Class War thinks there should always be debate within the working class. Because we come from there we are able to respect and work with working class people who are entering 'Political' activity for the first time, who may have different views from our own or who may not have

'sophisticated' right on opinions. They may even express some dodgy and prejudiced ideas, but it is because they are working class that we can live with them.

The attitudes of some lefties and anarchists to working class people is like a religious sect - 'you can only join our gang if you have beautiful ideas'. ☛ Their anarchism becomes just an idea or an ideology, and it is irrelevant as a working class revolutionary tool. Nobody is born into this world a **pure faithful working class revolutionary hero** - people must want it, and our task is to get as many people onto the road that can lead us forward as we can. That necessarily entails talking and working with people who may have controversial opinions from a purist anarchist or lefty point of view. **This is also a two way process - ordinary people have a lot of good and valuable stories and scams to tell us.**

How the Federation Acts

We work on a Federal system - each group and individual members come together to achieve commonly agreed objectives. The Federation is a membership organisation, it obliges you to participate and also to contribute a small part of your income. Basically you need an understanding of **Class War** politics and be able to promote them. We have a straightforward constitution and members are expected to abide by it. **Class War** contains people who describe themselves as trade unionists, anarchists, communists, working class activists, socialists, punks(!) and autonomists. What is important is not what we call ourselves individually, but what **Class War** actually represents as a whole.

Federalism is a method of organising that provides a large degree of freedom for groups and members within a broadly agreed set of politics and strategy. The only limit to this freedom is that what every individual does will have an effect on the rest of the Federation. Members have a great amount of freedom in what they do locally or regionally, but their overall responsibility is to the rest of the members. When the Federation as a whole takes decisions affecting the whole membership, it is done through National Conferences. Every member has a vote, no-one has more say than anyone else - we are all equals and there are no 'secret' leaders. Decisions may be hotly debated but at the end of the day the conference decision is

final and our activity is then an effective force with the majority of people enthusiastically behind a particular set of ideas. This is called tactical and theoretical unity. Those who disagree are always free to leave or have an holiday for a while or perhaps campaign on other class war issues if they want.

The national conferences are the prime decision making body of the Federation. Though we also have a group who writes and edits the **Class War newspaper**, and asks other people to write for it. You can to, if you send your ideas to The Paper group, C/O **London Class War**, P.O. Box 467, London, E8 3QX. We also take security very seriously, whether it's noting what our class enemies are doing or saying, or whether we need to put the **Class War Security** team into action - for example expelling a fascist from an anarchist bookfayre....

For example we read all the national papers and many of the smaller ones for important information. We also like reading the "Police Review" or "The Job" (the London police newspaper) or the hunting magazines, and of course we like to keep track of the Nazi bastards who think it's big and clever to target bombs at black people in Brixton or gay people in Soho and by doing this they attack ordinary working class people. David Copeland you are a dead man, there's no way you will survive on the inside unless protected on rule 43 segregation like the other child abusers. And even then attacks are mounted on particularly odious pervers.

Nobody occupies a permanent post and activists are called to account for their actions. The Federation is divided up into geographic regions where members are encouraged to form local and regional groups, with their own campaigns and newsletters. Fighting off the dead weight of Labourism, the left, liberalism, and pacifism, and active fighting against the rich and ruling class we are one of the most dynamic and ambitious groups in the fight back. We ask you to get involved in the resistance, and perhaps join with us. Or we could go for a drink and work alongside each other. Don't sit on the sidelines, everybody has a role to play and can take part in class war activities whether its doing essential leafleting, research, paper selling or general distribution of good ideas...

4

Then and Now

'What's Going On?'

Class War is not a party seeking to gain power for itself or a new way of telling people what to do. **Class War** is what happens when ordinary people have had enough of being pushed around and decide to fight back. There are two kinds of class war, one from above and the other from below. Our **Class War** is from below, generally in response to the class war waged from above upon us by the bosses and politicians.

If you're one of the people who've swallowed the crap about "we're all middle class now", or that we live in a classless society, then this is the time to stop reading. The liberals who say "everything's not so black and white" had better fuck off now as well. **We live in a society severely split along lines of class**, where capitalism and money, the state and the ruling class run our lives and the economy for their benefit. SO what do we mean by this?

Capitalism

Capitalism is an economic system run purely for profit in the interests of a small class - the capitalists - at the expense of a large class - the working class. The whole of our society and it's history is geared to the needs of capitalists. It is the mechanism whereby we sell our labour, in exchange for money, to buy the goods and services we need, which we happened to produce in the first place!! But, we only get a proportion of the wealth that our labour produces, the rest goes to the capitalists in the form of profit. Those who do not work and just own, end up with large amounts of money. This is theft from the working class, but it is legalised theft. When we steal from the rich or posh shops it is crime. This is important to remember.

Profit is fundamental to capitalism - in order for it to work the many must always produce wealth for the few. Now this has an international relevance, whereas generally in the past the British rich took the wealth from the British working class, now it takes it from wherever it can, and to secure loyalty pays the British working class more than in Africa. This is more **divide and rule**. ☹

It also explains why the British institutions like the police as well as some members of the working class have also sorts of nationalist and racist ideas. It also shows why it's important not just to tackle the political expression of this which is the Nazis but also the harder work of changing peoples ideas within the working class.

The State

Although capitalism is the major form of social organisation in terms of production, there are things that it can't do. Broadly speaking it cannot supply the 'social' organisation of society, this is filled by something else - The State.

The State is the means by which a tiny minority control and dominate the rest of us, in the interests of the ruling power in our society - the capitalists. To give you an idea of how small a minority we are talking about, the often quoted figures are still true - that 5% of the population owns 90% of the wealth. And these figures are getting worse all around the world.

The state is a set of institutions and individuals through which government is exercised eg. Parliament, local government, ministries, civil service, police, law, education, and the church. There was a time when the church was the state, but thankfully its role has dwindled (this is not to say that we shouldn't be against all gods and mysticism). The aim of government is to keep the

lid on class conflict, and to control competition between capitalists, to run society smoothly. It does this by enforcing laws of private property, and the right of capitalists to buy and sell it. It doesn't matter whether that property is land, food, health, sex, factories, houses or anything else that takes their fancy.

But the state came before capitalism, and it has always been a form of control and oppression in the interests of whatever ruling class is in power, and whatever economic system they choose to use. In Britain we are given the 'choice', every five years or so, of what Party we'd like to govern us. It's like asking sheep how they would like to be killed. This is no choice, its a false one to fool us into thinking we can change things through the vote. It also gives us politicians as figureheads, to blame for capitalism's economic problems.

The reality is that the power of the State lies with the capitalists, and the State's own officials - they pull the strings. With power concentrated like it is there is always the risk that a small group can attempt to gain control of the state. For example fascist or Lenin inspired communists - this would be nothing more than swapping one set of bosses for another - we want to sweep the whole lot of them away.

In order to protect wealth it was necessary for the capitalist state to introduce the police in the mid 1800's. The Police were first introduced in the 1830's in London, and then around the country from 1856 onwards. Adam Smith, one of the foremost capitalist thinkers wrote "when... some have great wealth and others nothing, it is necessary that the arm of authority should be continually stretched forth, and permanent laws or regulations made which may protect the property

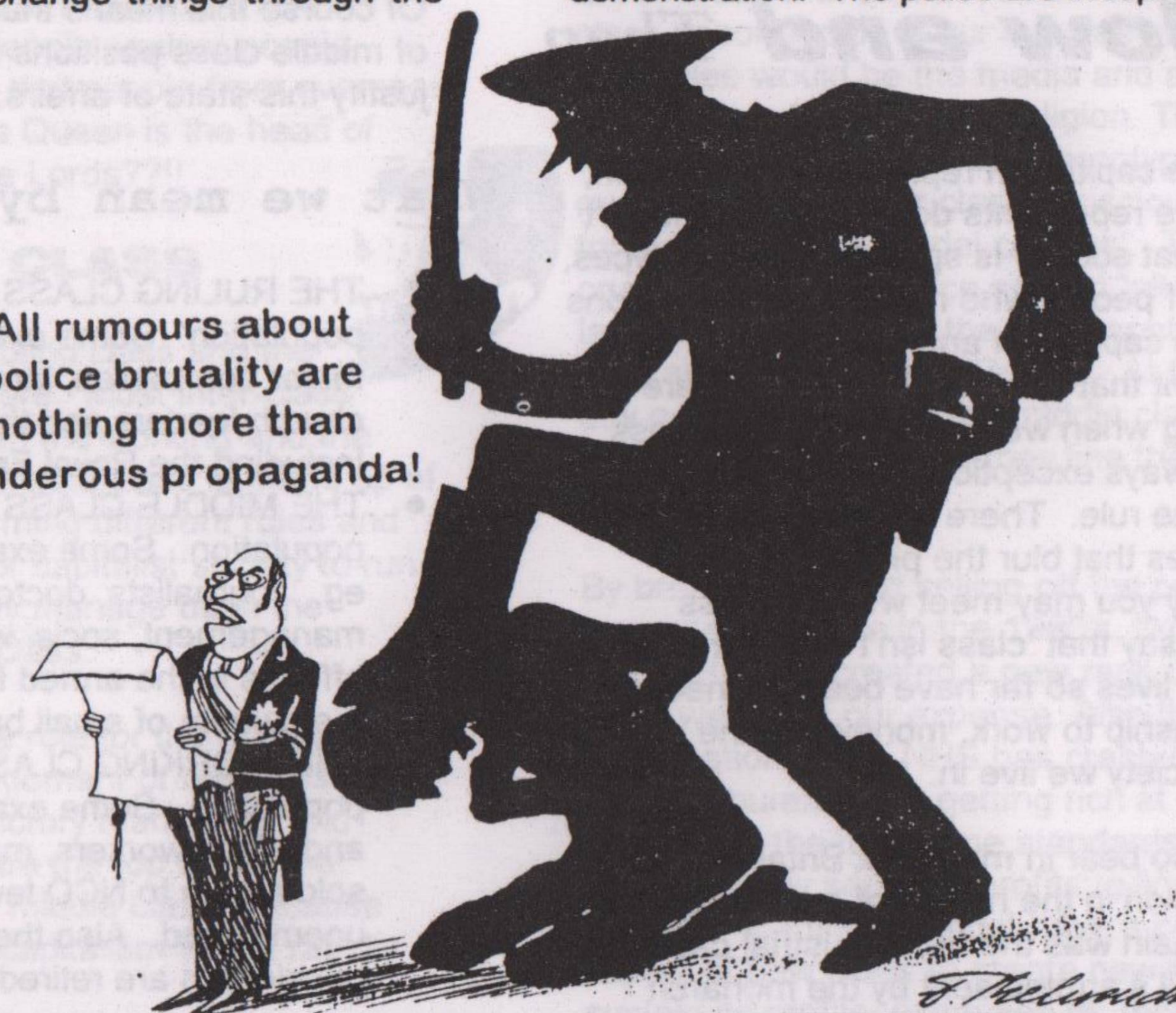
of the rich from the inroads of the poor... Laws and governments may be considered in this and in every case as a combination of the rich to oppress the poor, and preserve to themselves the inequality of the goods which would otherwise be soon destroyed by the attacks of the poor, who if not hindered by the government would soon reduce the others to an equality with themselves by open violence." These words are important because Adam Smith's ideas were the ones which helped shape British capitalism as it escaped from Feudalism.

It is not surprising that the Police are the first to try and stop the working class asserting its own rights. Whether this be on a picket line or on a demonstration. The police are incapable of radical change.

Their entire organisation functions on capitalist terms and it is their submission to the boss class which makes them snakes in the grass. Their organisation takes capitalist ideas as the only

ones that are worth thinking about and they view 'ordinary people' as only those working class people who don't question their lot in society. You know - the cap doffing, respect your betters, arse lickers. Word of warning here - it is very difficult to fight the police on your own; when they stop you on the streets you are likely to be outnumbered and if you fail what they call the "attitude test" they will probably nick you for little more than insubordination. So the best way to play them is the 'respectable' one - appear as respectable as possible.

All rumours about police brutality are nothing more than slanderous propoganda!



5 Class

Now and Then

It is because capitalism represents exploitation, and the State represents domination that it isn't surprising that society is split into different types, or classes of people who hold different positions in relation to capitalism and the state. It is important that we recognise that we are **generalising** when we are talking about class, there are always exceptions, but then exceptions can prove the rule. There are also sub-sections within classes that blur the picture, and occasionally you may meet working class people who say that 'class isn't important' even though their lives so far have been defined by their relationship to work, money and the capitalist society we live in.

We must also bear in mind that Britain is in a special position in the history of capitalism. It is because Britain was the first industrial capitalist country and it's armies sent by the monarch ruled around a third of the world surface, that we are in the historical political picture we're in today. British wealth is based on imperial plunder of the rest of the world, and today we have economic imperialism whereby we let the logic of capitalism take the money from the third world, instead of directly plundering it like the rulers used to. Capitalism is a global system now, far more than it ever was due to "Space-time" compression. "Space - Time" compression means that until the modern technological computer age time passed very slowly. Capitalism did exist on a global level although it could be controlled within the a single nation state. Now a financial decision in one part of the world instantly affects another part of the world.

WORKING CLASS AND PROUD! CLASS UNITY CLASS PRIDE CLASS WAR



Of course this means that there have been a lot of middle class positions to administrate and justify this state of affairs.

What we mean by class

- **THE RULING CLASS.** About 5% of the population. Some examples: owners of major companies, landowners, judges, church leaders and the aristocracy. Including the Royal Family.
- **THE MIDDLE CLASS.** About 20% of the population. Some examples: professionals eg. Journalists, doctors, teachers, management, social workers. Also priests, officers in the armed forces, top cops and the owners of small businesses.
- **THE WORKING CLASS.** About 75% of the population. Some examples: factory, shop and office workers, many self employed, soldiers up to NCO level and the unemployed. Also the sick are 'ill workers', pensioners are retired workers, and so on.

The above figures are not the invention of **Class War** - they come from the State's own research, the census. And this is for one of the richest capitalist countries in the world.

THE RULING CLASS

In general there are two main factors that give you your place in the class system: wealth and power. This can be seen in any individuals relationship in the economy.

This has been mainly hereditary in Britain until the past 15 years or so, when new money has appeared. Perhaps best illustrated by the likes of Rupert Murdoch who is not differential to the

old one nation aristocracy. This is not to say that the aristocracy didn't produce it's share of fascists. The Queen's sister in law married an SS General. New money tends to be meaner and uglier than the old school tie.

Did you ever think why is it that people are born equal in this life, and yet the ownership of land is concentrated amongst an undeserving elite? Why is it that Prince Charles owns 100,000 acres of Cornwall, and as Prince of Wales he's got half of Wales too?? The Royal family has 5 palaces and land all over the country. The justification being that they increase tourism. This is a pathetic excuse if we let people from overseas determine the way the country is split up in such an unequal and divisive way - setting people against people. Also it's pretty strange that people from overseas are the reason why the Queen is the head of state, with a vote in the Lords??!!

THE MIDDLE CLASS

Contact between the ruling class and the working class is very rare. Most inter-class contact comes between the working and the middle classes. The middle class is made up of many layers, all performing different roles and functions necessary for capitalist society to run. Basically speaking they manage us in the interests of the ruling class.

The most recognisable role for the middle class is the economic management of business and industry. Eg. Work/factory managers, and accountants. These are the top dogs, the highest earners in the middle class, because without their services capitalism would rapidly collapse.

By it's very nature capitalism is filled with brutality and inequality. If left to it's devices it would end in either barbarism or class revolution. Neither is good for profit, so this must be prevented by capitalism putting on a 'human face' - the caring side of capitalism!

A large section of the middle class provide this function. With the running down of the welfare state over the past 20 years or so, charity has



increasingly taken on the mopping up of the casualties of class society, and providing a 'buffer' for class anger, and sometimes channelling it into minor tinkering with social conditions. They also provide vital services we need, but at a cost to us - they have virtual control over whole areas of our lives. What's more, charity and appeals for charity are a way of depoliticizing what is going on. What passes for British culture is largely a middle class paternalist one. You don't have a good way of life unless you conform to middle class ways of doing things.

A not so obvious role of the middle class is to provide an intellectual and cultural framework in which ideas that serve the interests of the ruling class become part of our everyday thoughts. Examples would be the media and advertising industries, education and religion. The endless repeating of certain ideas, stereotypes and myths try to stifle our class consciousness and try to turn us into 'model citizens'. These can be crude lies like the police spread "all blacks are lazy and criminals" or the more sophisticated crap about 'opportunity Britain'. At the end of the day government is by the middle class for the rich, and in the process they line their own pockets.

By breaking up and selling off the people's necessities of life in the 1980's, like water and electricity they created a new rank of middle class wealth at our expense. Also the partial privatisation of the NHS has created a class of Quango bureaucrats getting rich at our expense as well. In the meantime standards and services suffer as they squeeze profits to line their own pockets. Capitalism must have a constant supply of new ideas to create new markets to sustain its profits, examples of recent large profit making industries would be the mobile phone industry and computers/Internet.

This is part of the 'Information technology' revolution which has changed the basis of capitalist production. Middle class researchers and intellectuals provide the information necessary to make this possible. This is true right from university professors to the so-called 'green' entrepreneurs.

Because of the varied roles of the middle classes there is often conflict and contradictions within it's ranks. When the class struggle comes to a head it would split them, forcing them to take sides. As a general rule those near the top

would side with the bosses, having the most to lose. Those who come to our side can only do so on our terms. Which is to join as equals, and not in their usual role as leaders.

THE WORKING CLASS

The briefest way of describing our class is to say that we are everyone who is not in the middle and ruling class. This is not just a smart arse remark!! In general the working class are people who live by their labour, the ownership of property that generates wealth (the means of production) is the dividing line. If you have enough property or money not to work indefinitely then you are not working class.

The lies spun by The Sun and Tony Blair talk about a middle class property owning democracy, but this is crap. **Class War** defines **homelessness** as those who would be kicked out of their house if they didn't pay the rent or mortgage, for example if they became ill or unemployed (as well as the street homeless). Those who cannot afford NOT to work are the working class. They may have all sorts of contradictory and capitalist ideas in their heads but it does not alter their working class position or life chances. All the evidence shows that it is the working class who go to their graves far earlier than the idle rich, due to all sorts of reasons.

The other part of class identity is 'social power'. The working classes do not have power in the economy or wider society, we are the ones who are told what to do. We are the creation of capitalism, but this doesn't mean we are powerless - far from it. The state spends vast amounts of money and energy to keep us in our place. Also, because our work is at the very centre of everyday practical economic activity it is fair to say that everything hinges around whether we want to 'play the game' or not. At school we are disciplined, on the sports field we are disciplined, at work we are disciplined, to tow the line, and if we step out of line we are bad people who will end up in the gutter. Even in our attempts to escape the confines of everyday life when we want to 'Reclaim the Streets' from the police, the middle class 'thought police' say 'don't fight back' and try to take our glass bottles from us when we are trying to oppose the police violence. We don't see them trying to take the

weapons from the police!! Or stopping the police hitting people.

Class is a much disputed topic. The ruling class need to confuse the issue in order to survive. If the majority of people had a clear idea of the workings of a class society, social control would be impossible and the ruling class would be toppled from their positions of wealth, privilege and power.

As capitalism developed and class society became a feature of people's lives, the ruling class found it necessary to stifle class consciousness, and even to get working class people to identify with capitalism. Myths like "I'm only looking after my family", "we're all middle class now" or "we live in a classless society" are laughable and contradictory. These are the rantings of middle class journalists, students, ad-men and politicians, who want to wish away class conflict to create a false idea of equality. These are the trendy types who need a healthy dose of working class reality forced down their throats.

The police are a good example of people bought off in capitalist society to betray their class position. These mainly white men from certain sections of the middle class have a way of seeing the world coloured by the restrictions of their job, canteen culture and the large earnings possible if they tow the line.

With the rise of the 'Consumer society' and the easy availability of credit, more and more working class people can afford things like their own house, car, holidays abroad, etc. But this increase in personal wealth does not alter your social power. At the end of the day these extra goods all rely on your ability to work. The day you lose your job or can't keep up the payments, they all go out of the window along with the easy credit that made them available. And at the same time when we can afford a few extra goodies, the wealth of the already rich and powerful rises fantastically. What counts is not token improvements in our life-styles but the gross inequality in the overall distribution of wealth and power.

This is now true on an international level. Where a large amount of the basic industries which

Britain used to have, like coal and steel, are now produced by cheaper labour in the Third world to lower prices over here. It is not **them** who have taken **our** jobs either, it is capitalists moving factories and setting them up where they can make larger profits. Nationalism and racism are a big problem amongst the working class in Britain, and we need to do a lot of work to dispel these myths and prejudices as these are a barrier to a revolutionary working class consciousness.

With the running down of traditional heavy industries, the old image of the working class has dramatically changed in the past few years. The new workers are now more likely to be white collar ones working in call centres set up in the former industrial heartlands of the North and South Wales where land and wages are relatively cheap. So we have a rise in the service industries which are generally high-tech, and also flexible, temporary, part time, and contract work has been encouraged throughout Britain. Agencies have blossomed! BUT its ridiculous to say that just because we have more diverse jobs that the working class has disappeared!! It hasn't, nor will it ever as long as capitalism runs society. It's just that it appears to the middle class politicians, media people and journalists that if you don't wear overalls, a cloth cap and get your hands dirty you aren't working class. That's how thick they really are!!

Whereas after the Second World War British economic growth was based upon mass production of consumer goods like cars, TVs and fridges, it is now based upon information technology. The changes in the working class reflect this - after the war workers generally were in large factories or mines which enabled Trade

Unions to organise easily. Now we have a labour market which is more 'flexible' for capitalists - this means that capitalists can **flexibly** increase their profits and screw us.

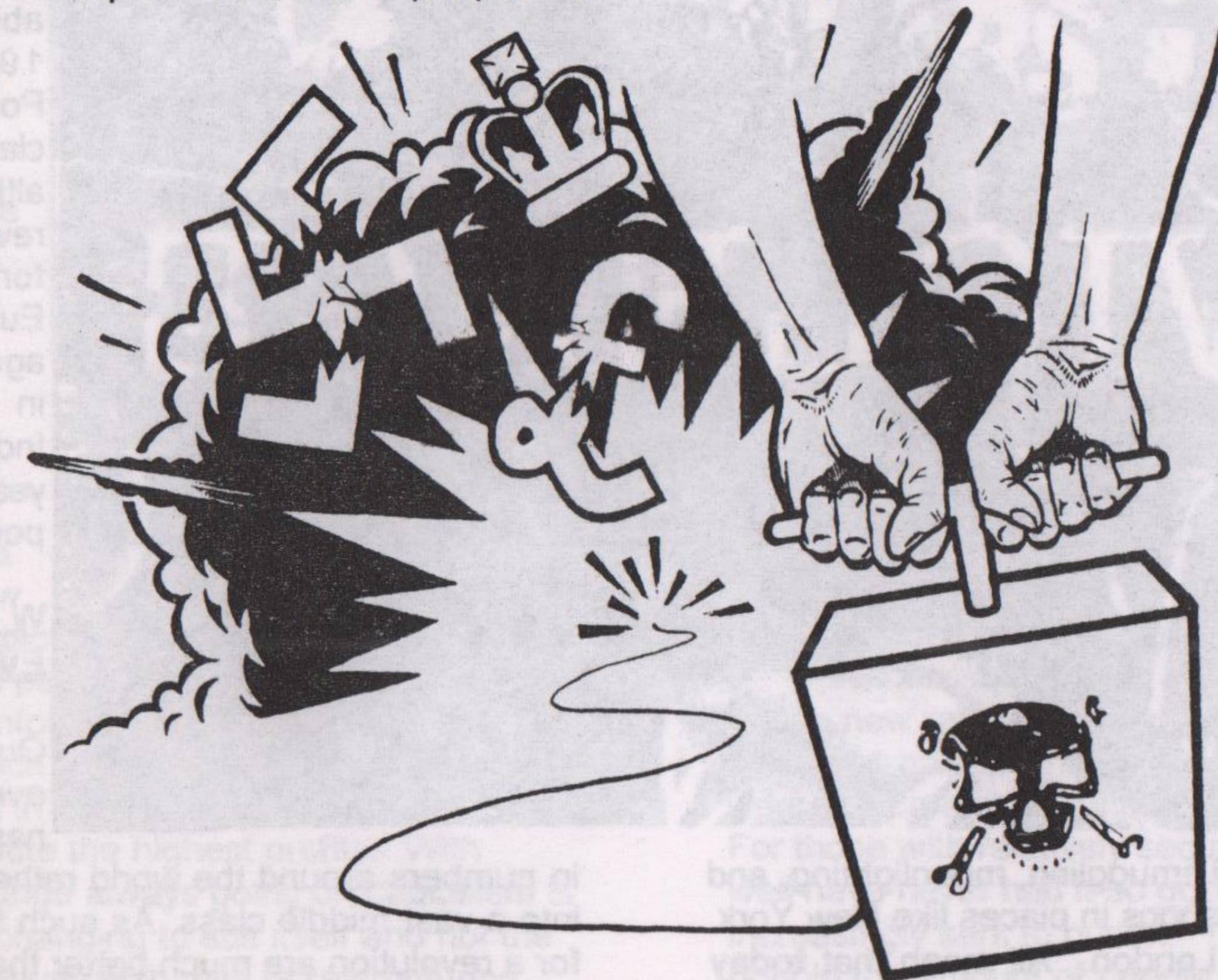
Before, capitalists needed workers in one place to speed up production. Since globalisation what capitalists do in one country immediately effects those in another. Where the goods are made is no longer as important to the capitalists as they frequently have homes all around the world anyway.

The best way to look at the current and future economic situation is to look at the publications of capitalists. The Institute of Personnel Management published a description of the labour market as it is now found.

Basically, there is a **Core group** of workers who the system needs on a regular basis - these are the safer full time jobs, enjoying greater job security, generous pensions, good promotion prospects and other assorted benefits. They are central to the long term future of organisations, and are expected to be adaptable, travel and re-train if necessary. But even here there are attempts to weaken working class strength, for example the recent disputes with the firemen.

The second group of workers are the more marginal, but they are **needed** some of the time. These are full time employees with skills that are **readily** available in the labour market, such as clerical, secretarial, routine and

lesser skilled manual work. With less access to career opportunities, this group tends to be characterised by high labour turnover which "makes work force reductions relatively easy by natural wastage". This last sentence of course was



written by our enemies who look at us as things with no feelings.

The third group of really marginalised workers are those the system really doesn't need that much. They provide "even greater numerical flexibility and includes part-timers, casuals, fixed-term contract staff, temporaries, sub-contractors and public subsidy trainees". With even less job security than the last group, these workers suffer because they are not paid for holidays, illness, and even in their retirement they will be poorer because of the lack of pension rights. And we all know it is the poor who go to their graves the fastest, the idle rich living the longest.

None of this is accidental, it is done deliberately at our expense.

Apart from the above there is enormous evidence of the growth of the 'Black' economy. A recent European Union report (1999) estimated that at least 10% of the British economy was like this, and 40% of the economy in Greece!

These figures mean that virtually all of the people in Greece know something of the 'Black' economy, and lots of people in Britain do as well.

The booming drugs economy, tobacco and alcohol smuggling, moonlighting, and the growth of sweatshops in places like New York, Los Angeles, and London. All mean that today there is what has become known as the "diffused" or "widespread" factory. That is a factory with no boundaries which is spread

throughout society. Within this factory there are bosses, the middle class and lots of workers like in traditional factories. But it means that we have to organise ourselves in a different way. It is harder to organise workers given these economic relationships. The union organiser cannot travel round hundreds of different sites collecting dues. So our organisation must be in the communities and on the streets as the new working class is far more flexible than before.

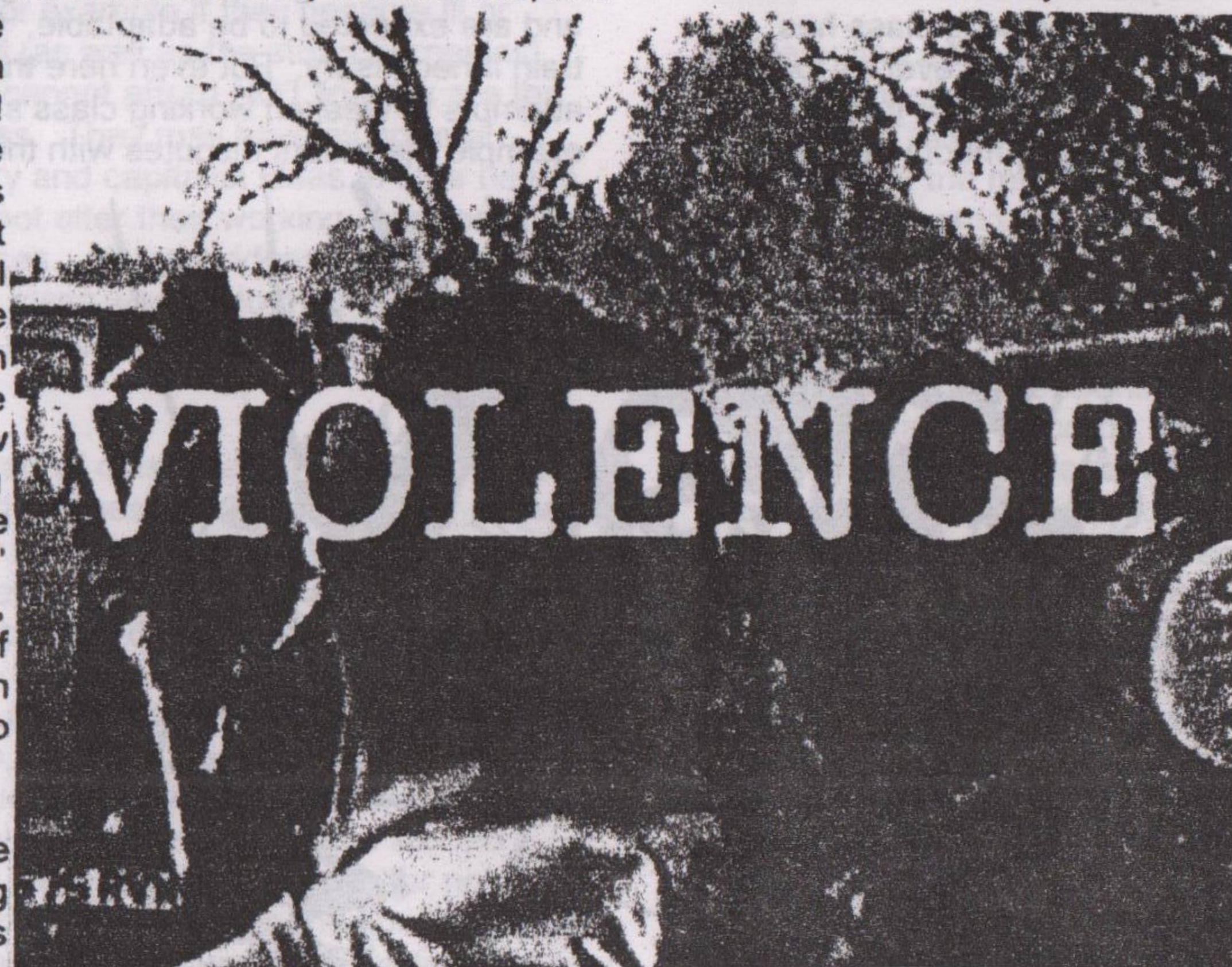
This is not to say that good work cannot be done in the remaining workplaces, with around 7,000,000 people still in unions. But as a revolutionary strategy we have to look beyond these traditional areas. This means recognising that the new working class is by no means 'marginal', rather our 'marginalisation' is political. The end of class society can only come about through working class revolution. This is because the working class is the only social group capable of this massive transformation of society, by virtue of the fact that we are the overwhelming majority and because we have the interest, motivation and ability to do so. History has shown

us many examples of the working class's revolutionary ability, Paris 1968, and Portugal 1974 are classic examples, although the revolutions in former Eastern Europe 10 years ago, Los Angeles in 1992 and in Indonesia last year show what is possible.

WE ARE EVERYWHERE

Our class is everywhere and has been growing

in numbers around the world rather than blurring into a vast middle class. As such the possibilities for a revolution are much better than before.



6

CLASS WAR INTO THE THIRD MILLENIUM

As we enter the third Millenium there are several things which affect the political situation and potential in Britain. The past weighs like a dead weight on the present. Historically some British anarchists were excluded from the London

Trade Union movement in the late nineteenth century. This meant that when the movement should have been involved in workplace organisation because of the boom in factory based workers, it was not.

After a period after the Second World war which saw nearly full employment, the welfare state and relative social peace. We are now in a period of a worldwide information technology driven economy, which is mainly ran by the financial sectors. This in turn helps to locate other sectors to create the highest profits. With economic change always going on capitalism is permanently changing to suit itself and not the workers. In Britain with a lot of restructuring already completed [1968-1994] it appears that we are entering aperiod of relative stability again, as the working class appears to have accepted the new employment relationships. Although

there are many signs that it hasn't - for example look at the sickness levels and the level of theft from work.

Around the world there are economic difficulties,


but Britain's imperial wealth means the economy can manage without them. Britain cannot manage without the American economy which is the worlds financial centre, and although it appears to be heading for an economic

downturn the extent of this is unknown.

These new relationships mean that the working class has paid for the higher profits by a far worse welfare state, and less employment rights. For those with relatively secure jobs they may well have never had it so good, but the poor are increasingly sent to prison. There are roughly double the amount of people in Prison now (65,000), as there were in the post war period.

**NO MUGGERS!
BURGLARS!**

**THIS IS A WORKING CLASS AREA.
DON'T RIP OFF YOUR OWN.**

CLASS WAR 

BM BOX 357 LONDON WC1N 3XX

With the decline of trade unions and the traditional factory based working class the left has declined as well. Their demoralisation has meant that independent and anarchist inspired politics has thrived. Groups such as Reclaim the Streets and the Movement Against the Monarchy are now making a lot of the political headway. Whereas before it was the opportunist sects of the left such as the SWP who did a lot of the running.

The death of unions in many workplaces is a cause for concern yet this could also be an opportunity. In the recent past, unions in many cases have stifled workplace resistance. With no union bureaucracy, workers have a much more varied arsenal at their disposal. Although strikes and sabotage are now effectively illegal they were never viewed favourably by the state. With no union rep to go to workers will have to take matters into their own hands, go-slows, sickies, sabotage, and unofficial/wildcat strikes will be the order of the day as well as intimidation and harrasment of bosses.

In a growing high tech age computers present many opportunities for sabotage as do causing 'accidents' and getting the Health and Safety reps in. Workplace struggle will be harder in the future and will need to be more imaginative and therefore potentially more succesful. There are many parrallels today with 200 years ago when our forefathers and mothers stuggled in harsh conditions. The weapons they turned to then were poaching to feed themselves, arson, smuggling, and other things. In August 1999 a gamekeepers conference reported poaching is going up again when historians said it was a thing of our "Pre-industrial past", we will do well to learn from the past.

The political issues that are popular in Britain today are mainly environmental of one sort or another eg pollution, animal rights, foxhunting and **Class War** engages in these campaigns from a working class point of view. We see the original sin as belonging to the capitalists who

are the ones who are stoking global temperature around the world. You only have to look at the behaviour of certain American firms who

relocated over the border into Mexico where the working conditions and environmental controls are non-existent.

So big business today profits out of our environmental living conditions, as it always has done. There was a time not very long ago (around 200 years ago) when the majority of people lived on the land, and we all had a share and looked after it organically. It was the enclosures which took the land from our forefathers and mothers and moved

people into the towns and cities to live as workers in the new industrialising capitalism. These Land clearances were most bitterly fought and there were some massacres of people in Scotland.

You only have to read Charles Dickens "A Tale of Two Cities" or Frederich Engels "The Condition of the Working Class in England" to read about the barbaric conditions and brutalising effects this had on people.

Campaigns for the environment cannot be seperated from the campaign against capitalism. To ignore it is a partial story. Destined to failure because you cannot unite everybody with only a partial campaign.

Class War emphasises that only campaigning for one aspect of our liberation, whether that is the environment, our ethnic origin, our sexuality, or so on - is **only part** of our liberation. We must fight all divisions in all parts of the class struggle and in the process create a mass movement of working class people.

Our Task

Class War takes part in any mobilisation or behind the scenes political activity **which can**

**"CONGRATULATIONS"
RICH SCUM, YOU AND
YOUR HIRED THUGS
HAVE JUST BEEN
SABBED BY
CLASS WAR HUNT SABS**



**STOP THE RICH FOXHUNTING
CLASS WAR BM BOX 357 LONDON WC1N 3XX**

increase the militancy and self awareness of the working class in defending its interests and solving its problems. There is a lot of hard political work creating the networks that can mobilise large numbers of people. It is not good enough to merely turn up at events, **it is the political work that must be done now both in our communities and workplaces.** We've had enough of the 'know it all' and 'it'll never work' sad cases who don't want to put in the hard graft. Real change can only come about by working class people organising ourselves to deal with the problems that we experience and to provide for ourselves. **We do this** through participation in struggle, with propaganda, activity and debate as equals.

This is us on the front foot; on the offensive making our own political action agenda. Injecting some life, and exitement that is revolutionary in action. Imagination, spontaneity, resourcefulness and action will be our currency, not sleep inducing bureaucracy and stagnation in the company of political dinosaurs or tree hugging irrelevances that do not motivate people in working class areas. We must activate the class that can devastate the areas where the wealthy live. We know that most people want the same, so lets kick over the old beliefs and in doing so take the present and the future into our own hands.

This can be in routine workplace activity, struggles against the DSS or Child Support Agency, campaigns for prisoners release, closing Hillgrove Cat farm, or against the Countryside Alliance or Nazis. In short any struggle which can unite people on a working class basis against our common enemies is worth participating in.

We have to get on the road 'to god knows where', and get as many people with us as we can. The new world may not be as rich as it is in places now, but together with social justice as our guide we can create a situation where our people do not go to the grave early, starving or lonely. Where everybody is valued as a person and not because of the wealth they have in their bank account or how big their palace is. This world will not breed the chaos and destructive selfish individualism found in some people and places today. It will be based on respect, cooperation and mutual aid.

**This is the end of this
booklet but the
beginning of the next
wave of working class
struggles as we enter
the 21st Century.**

JEHOVAS WITNESS

Ring my Bell and
l'u Ring, your neck



CLASS WAR



Class War Merchandise

"21st Century Class War" - A basic outline of the political situation today, who **Class War** are, and ideas about revolutionary activity and organisation. Into the Third Millenium with **Class War!** £1.30 inc. p & p.

"Unfinished Business". **Class Wars** most detailed (so far) description of our politics and pedigree. £3.50 inc p & p.

"Power to the Imagination". The new book by David Douglas - about the miners struggles. What is revolutionary working class political activity and what is irrelevant posturing. £5 inc p & p.

"Death to the Monarchy" BBC video. £7 inc p & p.

"Riot Against the Royals" C4 video £7 inc p & p.

Cheques/postal orders payable to "London Class War" and send to P.O. Box 467, London, E8 3QX.